

IMPORTANT EVENTS PENDING IN THE EASTERN WAR THEATRE

Russians Have Renewed Offensive Against Malwa—Plan to Envelope Enemy Holding Line of Mazurian Lakes—Germans Reinforced Near Pont-a-Moussan Begin Battle to Recover Ground Lost Last Week—Holland Asks Germany to Explain Report of Violation of Neutrality by Airships on Way to England.

London, Jan. 21.—The battle for the trenches in Flanders and France continues, almost without cessation, from the sea to the Swiss border. In the main of Flanders, the floods of the Aisne Valley and the snows of the Argonne and the Vosges the soldiers of Germany and the Allied nations keep up a continual fight, to hold what they possess and take something from that held by the enemy. According to a long official report of the fighting during the past two months, issued by the French war staff today, this method of siege operations has largely favored the Allies, who, while they have gained ground on almost every part of the front, have been forced to give way in only one region—that of Soissons. They are being put to a test, however, similar to that which obliged them to retire from north of the Aisne, near Soissons, because the Germans, realizing the danger to their communications with Metz as a result of the French advance near Pont-a-Moussan, have sent reinforcements there, and have begun a battle for the positions which they lost during the past week. The Germans apparently have regained a portion of them, and fighting for the remainder is now in progress.

At other points, particularly near St. Mihiel, and in Alsace, there have been infantry engagements, but on the whole, the artillery continues to be the busiest arm.

The Russians have renewed their offensive operations against Malwa, a town which has changed hands often since the commencement of the war, and it appears as if they will again attempt to envelop the German forces which are holding the line of the Mazurian Lakes, and avenge themselves for the defeat at Tannenberg.

On the rest of the Polish front, and in Galicia, the Austro-German attacks are becoming more intermittent, according to the Russian report, which is generally brief when big events are happening. The Russians continue to make progress against the Austrian outposts in the mountains, between Bukovina and Transylvania.

Holland Asks Germany to Explain their airships in dropping bombs on towns and villages in Norfolk, England, by saying that they had been fired on. British airmen, in turn, have been busy in Belgium, and according to a report from Holland have ventured as far as Essen, Rheinfelden, where they destroyed some buildings.

Holland has asked Germany for an explanation of the report that the German airships passed on their way to England over Dutch territory.

Archduke Charles Francis, heir to the Austrian throne, has arrived at German headquarters on a visit to the Emperor, and Baron Burián, the Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, is due there within a few days.

It is expected that the conference of the Germanic allies will decide whether the Austro-Germans will go on with the expedition for the subjugation of Serbia, or turn their attention to the Russian armies which are invading Hungary from the north and east.

With all her other occupations, England has found time to deal with the "Mud" Mullah, who has been stirring up the tribes in Somaliland and attacking those friendly to Great Britain. The Mullah adherents have been defeated and scattered.

FIRST PROMOTIONS IN RANKS OF PRINCESS PATRICIA REGIMENT

London, Jan. 21.—Captain Cuthbert Fairbanks Smith, of No. 4 Company, Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry, whose interesting experiences in the trenches were related by him to the Montreal Gazette on Tuesday, has been gazetted a Major. At present he is recuperating at his country home while awaiting an operation on his injured leg, his nervous system having been unequal to the ordeal after he was brought back from the trenches.

Other promotions in the regiment are: Major C. W. Ward, formerly of the Rifle Brigade; Captain Fitzgerald, formerly of the Royal Irish Fusiliers; Captain Carr, formerly of the Eighth Gurkhas. This list is interesting as being the first promotions since the formation of the regiment.

Major J. H. McKinney is invalided on sick leave.

JEOPARDIZES NEUTRALITY OF UNITED STATES

German Paper Points to Proportions Which American Trade With France and England in War Materials Has Assumed.

Berlin, Jan. 21 (By Wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—An official communication given out this evening contains the following article published in the North German Gazette:

"As reported by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives, referring to a memorandum of the German government at a meeting of that committee, credited the impression that Germany had composed, with America, the question of supplying war contraband to her enemies. This is a gross mistake.

"The memorandum quoted by Mr. Flood admits only that the prevailing principles of international law do not entitle Germany to supply her enemies with war materials to her enemies by neutral private persons, the United States being, as was said at the close of the memorandum, properly speaking, entitled to tolerate such supplies.

"According to the principles of international law, the United States is, of course, entitled to forbid all contraband trade with all the belligerents by proclaiming a prohibition of the exportation of war material, and all the more so as the trade in war material with England and France has assumed such dimensions as to jeopardize the neutrality not only of the American government, but indeed, of the American nation.

"Furthermore, and this is a fact of the greatest importance to us, the supplying of our enemies with war material will most surely be cause for the prolongation of the war. It is consequently in contradiction of the United States repeated assurances that it wishes an early conclusion of peace and that it would be ready to co-operate for that purpose."

NO SPANISH WARSHIP AT PANAMA OPENING

Fearful Presence of Admiral Dewey May Lead to Unpleasantness—International Situation Necessitates Presence of All Spanish Warships in Home Waters.

Madrid, Jan. 21, via Paris, Jan. 22, 12:45 a. m.—At a cabinet meeting today, which was presided over by King Alfonso, it was decided not to send the battleship Espana to the opening of the Panama Canal.

It is understood that when at the instance of Joseph E. Willard, the American Ambassador, the government agreed to send the Espana to the official inauguration of the waterway, it was not aware that Admiral Dewey would be present at the ceremony. On

learning this fact the government became apprehensive that the presence of the American Admiral might occasion some manifestation which would be unpleasant for the Spanish sailors, and after certain negotiations the government came to the conclusion that it would be better to withdraw from its original agreement. An additional reason for cancelling the engagement is said to be that the international situation necessitates the presence of all Spanish warships in home waters.

COUNT TISZA TO BE AUSTRIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Baron Burián's Appointment Only Temporary and Hungarian Premier Will Occupy Post.

NEARLY EIGHT THOUSAND EARTHQUAKE REFUGEES IN ETERNAL CITY

Rome, Jan. 21 (8:25 p.m.)—The telegram here registered a fairly

MORE EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS AT AVEZZANO

People in Terror—Three More Victims Rescued Uninjured From Ruins.

Avezzano, via London, Jan. 21.—Slight earthquake shocks continue to be felt here. The disturbances are causing the walls which were cracked in the earthquake of last week to fall, and the populace is in a state of terror.

Three persons, two women and a boy, eight years old, were taken from the ruins of a fallen building today. They were uninjured.

strong shock of earthquake at 12:30 p.m. today. The people, however, scarcely felt it. The number of refugees now in Rome is estimated at 8,000. A checking of the names of the refugees registered has resulted in the discovery of many persons who were supposed to have been killed at Avezzano and other places.

King Victor Emmanuel spent the entire day visiting the wounded, some of whom have been placed in hospitals, which have been set up in garages owing to the overcrowded condition of the regular hospitals.

SUSPICIOUS OF KRUPP FIRM'S APPLICATION

Seek Patent Rights in London for a Gun Mounting and Another for Projectile Fuse.

London, Jan. 21.—The official journal of the patent office contains two applications relating to armaments from the Krupp firm of Germany. One patent is sought for a gun-mounting, another for a projectile fuse. The fact that the Krupp firm should thus reveal secrets of the great plant at Essen to a hostile government has aroused much comment. Patent agents suggest that some hidden motive may lie back of the applications.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT OFFERS U.S. TWO ALTERNATIVES

Cannot Promise Immunity of Steamer Dacia From Seizure, But Will Purchase Cotton Cargo at German Prices or have it Forwarded on Another Vessel to Rotterdam at Britain's Expense—Compiling Figures for Final Reply to American Note of Protest.

London, Jan. 21.—Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, today submitted to Walter Hines Page, the American Ambassador, the reply of the British government to the State Department's request that the former Hamburg-American Line steamer Dacia, which now flies the American flag, be permitted to make a special trip to Germany with a cargo of cotton, without establishing a precedent as to the validity of the change in the vessel's register. As soon as it could be put in code the reply was forwarded by Mr. Page to Secretary of State Bryan.

While Great Britain, in the reply, does not find it possible to promise that the Dacia would not be thrown into a prize court on her first trip, concessions are made concerning her cargo, in that two alternatives are offered. Great Britain offers either to purchase the cotton at the German prices upon the seizure of the Dacia, or to have the cargo placed on another boat and forwarded to Rotterdam at the expense of the British government.

Great Britain Cannot Abandon Her Position.

Every effort is made in the reply to reassure the United States about the Dacia's cargo, and a full explanation is made that Great Britain wishes to expedite the cotton movement, but that she cannot abandon the position that belligerent ships must not be permitted to escape the effects of belligerency by transferring to another flag.

The English papers recently have reported many instances of shipping both Greek and Italian firms are negotiating for the purchase of interned German and Austrian ships in the Mediterranean. The Greek legation in London says it is without any prospect of securing such prospective purchases, and the British Foreign Office has received no information on the subject. But Great Britain and her allies, it is stated, would do everything possible to prevent any enemy ships escaping the penalties of war.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT OFFERS U.S. TWO ALTERNATIVES

Washington, Jan. 21.—The British government announced tonight, through its embassy here that if the former Hamburg-American liner Dacia proceeded to sea she would be captured and taken to a prize court. Her cargo of cotton will be purchased by the British government, or forwarded to Rotterdam without further expense to the shippers, according as the owners may prefer.

The State Department had communicated this information informally to the owners of the Dacia as a result of a message from Ambassador Page, and was notified, in reply, that the vessel was loading at Galveston and would put to sea, notwithstanding the British government's position. It was said that the owners had resolved to test the issue in a prize court. Incidentally the War Risk Bureau of the American government today issued a policy, insuring the cotton cargo at four per cent, but declined to insure the vessel itself. The statement from the British embassy was similar to one handed to United States Ambassador Page in London today.

AUSTRIAN RESORTS TO CASE TACTICS

Circulars With Czar's Signature Forged to them Distributed in Russian Ranks Calling on Men in Emperor's Name to Stop Fighting.

Petrograd, Jan. 21.—The general staff of the commander-in-chief has issued the following order of the day: "Our adversaries have, of late, resorted to all kinds of proclamations to the troops and appeals to the people of the regions visited by the war, inviting them to cease fighting and make peace.

"The Austrians, in this respect, exceeded the limits of the utmost insolence and baseness.

"Some Austrian soldiers, especially selected for that work, are spreading among our troops proclamations, in which our enemies are impudent enough to address you as 'the noble sons of holy Russia,' invoking the respected name of the Emperor, alleging his signature.

"Every loyal subject knows that every Russian, from the commander-in-chief to the private soldier, is obedient only to the sacred will of our highly-venerated Emperor, who alone has the power to declare and to stop war.

"Our enemies, relying no longer on the strength of their arms and on success on the battlefield, have committed a vile forgery and an infamous crime.

"You must know, brave soldiers, that only complete demoralization and full consciousness of the fact that they are incapable of continuing a loyal fight could incite our enemies to stoop to such a despicable and extraordinary crime.

"I have the unshakable belief that with God's help our victorious army will give, in the coming battles, the proper reply to our unworthy adversaries.

"Consequently, every person captured under these proclamations in his possession will forthwith be brought before a military tribunal and arraigned as guilty of a felony.

(Signed) Aide de Camp General, "To Grand Duke Nicholas."

The general staff reports on its part, that an Austrian soldier, entrusted with the distribution of these proclamations, declared that the abettor of the crime was Captain Sumner, of the general staff and Cavalry Captain Pollak.

Supreme on Left Bank of the Yser

Results obtained by the French.—From the sea to the Yser capture of the market of the Yser between Knocke and Pottas and an opening on the right bank between the sea and St. Georges. The installation of the region of 4 kilometers in the Argonne, along the front of 800 metres at a point near the Brook of the Marais, and the capture of a chateau at the camp of a hospital at Thamm.

Berlin Looks For More Raids On England

Berlin Press Gives Recent Air Raid Most Prominent Position—Well Satisfied With Results.

Berlin, Jan. 21.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The first page of all the newspapers published in Berlin this morning was given to news of the attack made by Zeppelins on the English coast, and the scanty reports from the eastern and western war theatres occupied inconspicuous places on inside pages.

With remarkable unanimity the German press appears to expect that this raid will be followed shortly by others. While the amount of damage done by the bombs dropped from the airships is not yet known here, satisfaction is expressed in the fact that all the Zeppelins returned safely, and the belief that the moral effect of the bombardment cannot fail to be very great, especially as it follows so closely the recent bombardment of the Harbours and other points on the eastern coast of England by German cruisers.

ensive continue in Galicia, and in the Carpathian mountains; third, the Turkish army in the Caucasus has been in large measure annihilated; fourth, Germany has exhausted her resources in officers (an average of twelve officers to a regiment) and will not in the future be able to develop her resources in effective men except at the expense of the existing units; fifth, the armies of the Allies, on the contrary, are finding it possible to further strengthen themselves to a measurable degree.

It can consequently be observed that to attain final victory it is sufficient to say that France and her allies know how to wait for it and at the same time to prepare for it with inexhaustible patience.

"The German offensive has been broken in its turn."

VON FALKENHAYN RESIGNED AS WAR MINISTER

Two Jobs Too Arduous For Him Now—His Successor a Comparatively Young Man.

Berlin, via London, Jan. 21.—General Von Falkenhayn has resigned as Minister of War.

The Emperor, in relieving Lt. General von Falkenhayn, at his own request, of the office of Minister of War, sent him the following order: "I agree with your reasons regarding the appointment of a new War Minister, and relieve you, according to your wish, from the office of Minister of War.

"My hearty acknowledgement of your excellent services in this important post I will express by leaving you in your office of Chief of General Staff of the Field Army and appointing you a General of Infantry."

Major Gen. von Hohenborn, the new War Minister, will remain for the present at main headquarters.

The retirement of Lt. Gen. von Falkenhayn from the office of Minister of War, one of the dual functions of the Minister of the Chief of Staff with which he was entrusted after the withdrawal of Lt. Gen. von Moltke, was occasioned by the fact that the work of the two posts was far too arduous for any one man. His retirement would have taken place simultaneously with his appointment as Chief of Staff of the Field Army if there had not been various important questions of organization, with which von Falkenhayn as Minister of War was familiar, then awaiting settlement. These questions have now been arranged.

The new Minister of War, Major General von Hohenborn, has seen considerable active field service as a division commander in Flanders, before his appointment as a Quartermaster-General, November 27. He, like von Falkenhayn, is a comparatively young man.

TWO HAWSEERS PARTED IN ATTEMPT TO TOW CAMINO TO HALIFAX

Crippled Relief Ship Expected to Make Port Before Sunday—The Lady Laurier and U. S. Revenue Cutter Giving Aid.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 21.—Two hawseers, one a stout wire rope, have already parted in the attempt to tow the Belgian relief steamer Camino, before reported in distress south of Sable Island, to Halifax and the steamer is not expected to arrive in port until Saturday night. Yesterday afternoon the second line, at which the Furness liner Kanawha was pulling gave way, a strong blow having sprung up from the northwest. Three hours later the United States revenue cutter Andocoggin, which had been sent from Halifax to the Camino's assistance, succeeded in attaching another and heavier hawser to the disabled ship and the slow voyage was resumed. The Canadian government steamer Lady Laurier on the end of a line, leading from the Camino's stern, continues to steer the ship. When last heard from, the Camino was still three hundred miles south of Halifax.

WILL USE "MOVIES" TO FIND SOLDIERS BELIEVED TO HAVE DESERTED

Moving Pictures of Military Wedding of Pte. Bryant to be Shown in Canada and U. S.

London, Ont., Jan. 21.—The military authorities propose to undertake a search for Private Sydney Bryant of the 15th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, who, it is claimed, has deserted the ranks and left the city with his bride.

Moving pictures were taken of the big military wedding of the pair here, and these may be shown throughout the United States and Canada in an effort to bring the alleged deserter to court martial.