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## FRENCH WIN TWO VILLAGES IN UPPER ALSACE; RUSSIANS MARCHING ON CRACOW AGAIN; GERMAN PORT SHELLED

### Germans Spend Strength in Capturing Steinbach Church, Then Swept From Village Altogether—Russians, With Southern Galicia in Firm Grip, Make New Attack on Cracow Front—Albanian Rebels Shelled by Italian Warships—Formidable Was Sunk by Submarine off Plymouth.

London, Jan. 4, 10 p. m.—The latest news from the battlefronts indicate but little activity, the front being held by the bad weather. Steinbach, a village in Upper Alsace, is now in the hands of the French, after house-to-house fighting. This loss Berlin admits.

The day was marked by artillery duels, with occasional infantry dashes for slight gains, but the line from the Oise to the sea was almost completely calm.

German headquarters declares that the situation on the eastern front remains unchanged, and nothing has reached London to contradict this statement.

Politically the American note still occupies a prominent position, dividing attention with speculations as to what Roumania and Italy intend to do. The answer of the British government, it is expected, will be sent to Washington late this week. It is understood here that Great Britain has reached a good understanding with Italy with regard to the trans-shipment of contraband that no cargoes destined for that country have been stopped since December 4.

British officials declare that the relief of American shipping from the present regulations depends largely on the assurance of neutral states bordering on belligerent countries that they will not assist in supplying Germany, Austria or Turkey with food products and munitions of war.

#### STEINBACH COMPLETELY IN FRENCH HANDS.

Paris, Jan. 4, 10:40 p. m.—The following official communication was issued by the War Office tonight:

"The only reports which have been received up to the present have reference to Upper Alsace, where engagements of a very violent nature continue in the region of Cerisy."

Last night our troops lost, then regained, the territory around the church at Steinbach. This morning they occupied the entire village.

"The German works to the west of Cerisy, captured by us yesterday, were lost for a brief period following a very violent counter-attack, but the Germans were not able to maintain it, and this position remains in our hands."

#### RUSSIAN LINE SOUTH TO ROUMANIA.

Petrograd, Jan. 4.—The official communication issued from general headquarters tonight follows:

"During January 3, no important change took place on the left bank of the Vistula. In many sections there have been the usual artillery engagements and secondary action."

"More desperate fighting took place on the night of January 2-3 in the region of Bolimow, where the Germans, after an energetic attack, forced one of our trenches, but were immediately dislodged from it by our counter-attack, abandoning six machine guns and a number of prisoners."

"In West Galicia, on January 2, we made progress again, taking more than 1,000 Austrian prisoners and several cannon and machine guns. In the region of Usok Pass we took an equal number of prisoners, and captured several guns and rapid-fire. In this action an entire Austrian battalion, with eleven officers, surrendered. In this region the staff of a column of the enemy, with the chief wounded, and all documents fell into our hands."

"On our extreme left wing, our troops passing through the woods of Bukovina, have occupied the town of Soczawa, two-thirds of a mile distant from the Austro-Roumanian frontier."

#### AUSTRIAN REPORT VAGUE IN CLAIMS.

Vienna, via Amsterdam, to London, Jan. 4, 10:22 p. m.—The following official communication was issued this evening:

"In the severe battles in the district south of Galicia, which were fought under the worst weather conditions, our troops asserted themselves, through getting possession of an important line of hills, of a favorable base for further operations."

"In the Carpathians there has been no change."

"In the Upper Ugol Valley there have been only small engagements."

"During the battles in the northern theatre at Christmas time we captured thirty-seven officers and 12,498 men."

#### GERMANS OPERATING BELGIAN RAILWAYS.

Brussels, via The Hague, to London, Jan. 4, 9:55 p. m.—The Germans have placed the entire Belgian railway system in operation, and are employing about 8,000 railroad men, of which 1,100 are Bavarians. Many of these men have just been brought into Belgium.

#### JAPANESE NURSES ON WAY TO FRONT.

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—Seventeen Japanese nurses and three Japanese surgeons, headed by Dr. Jiro Suzuki, surgeon-general of the Japanese army, are leaving here today on the liner Shinyo Maru, and took the first train for the east. They will embark for the European battlefront.

These nurses are the pick of the Japanese Red Cross, and all have been decorated for bravery under fire. Some have been service both in the Boxer rebellion and the Russo-Japanese war.

#### COMFORTS FOR PRISONERS AT LARGE IN SIBERIA.

Washington, Jan. 4.—To relieve German and Austrian prisoners of war, a committee of missionaries, principally Americans, will start tomorrow from Peking for the interior of Siberia, bearing medical supplies and clothing furnished by the American Red Cross, and to plan an extension of their work of mercy.

The prisoners are not confined, but generally have been paroled under pledge not to leave the neighborhood. Their only wants are food, clothing and medicine.

In explanation of the parole of the prisoners, it is said that with its absolute control of the Siberian railway, the country in winter affords the only possible access from Siberia. The Russian government feels there is little possibility of escape.

#### WOUNDED PRISONERS EXCHANGED THIS MONTH.

London, Jan. 5, 11:1 a. m.—A despatch to the Daily Chronicle from Berlin, by way of Amsterdam, says the first exchange of wounded prisoners of war will take place in Geneva this month.

#### FROM DEATH SENTENCE.

London, Jan. 5, 2:57 p. m.—The morning Post's Switzerland correspondent says he learns that the death sentence on Private Wm. Lonsdale, the English soldier who was tried by court martial in Germany for an attack on one of the guards at the prisoners' camp at Doberitz, will not be carried out.

Lonsdale, when convicted, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, but on reviewing the testimony, a superior

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO MEET TOMORROW.

Fredonction, Jan. 4.—(Special)—The provincial government will meet tomorrow at 10 a. m. Wednesday. The board of education will meet in the afternoon.

## War Summary Reply Depends On Other Countries

Upper Alsace seems to be the centre of the most important fighting in the western area of the war. Engagements of a violent nature are being fought out in the region of Steinbach, which the French call Cerisy, lying about eight miles northwest of Mulhouse.

The French forces have occupied the heights around Steinbach, and in addition have driven the Germans out of Steinbach, a village farther to the north.

At other points along the front, extending to the North Sea, there has been virtually only intermittent cannonading.

Both Russians and Germans admit that no important change has taken place of late along the front along the left bank of the Vistula. In West Galicia the Russians are making steady progress, and according to their official statement, have captured many Austrian prisoners.

Russian troops have crossed the Crown Land of Bukovina and occupied the town of Suczawa, within a short distance of the Austro-Roumanian frontier. A correspondent of the Berlin Tagblatt with Austrian headquarters, explains the recent change in the situation in Galicia by the statement that the Russians have been heavily reinforced from Kiev. Another German correspondent says that the Russians are sending every effort to reach the fortress of Cracow, but have met with repulses and heavy losses owing to the well selected Austrian positions.

British warships have bombarded Dar-Es-Salaam, capital of German East Africa, where, it is reported, much damage was inflicted and all the German vessels in the harbor were disabled.

The British government will reply to the American note concerning contraband probably will be sent before the end of this week. An outline of the reply has been submitted to France, which is greatly interested because of the activity of French ships in searching Mediterranean cargoes.

Probably there will be a statement shortly, showing that Italy and England and her allies have arrived at an understanding concerning contraband, satisfactory to all the countries affected.

It can be authoritatively stated that only five cargoes destined for Italy have been stopped at Gibraltar since November 15. Two of these were released within three days, and the others as soon as the alleged contraband in their cargoes could be removed. Since December 4, no cargoes destined for Italy have been intercepted by the Allies.

Rubber cargoes, held in English ports, destined for American firms, probably will be released shortly, or purchased by Great Britain, which must meet rubber for the manufacture of tires, bed blankets and boots.

Constant negotiations are in progress between the Allies and the neutral European countries near Germany looking to a tightening of the export regulations which will prevent American shipments from reaching Germany and Austria through neighboring countries other than Italy.

A loosening of the regulations applying to American cargoes, it is said by British officials, will depend largely on the assurance received from neutral countries that they will not assist in supplying Germany, Austria and Turkey with munitions of war.

#### EXPORTERS URGED TO SPECIFY CARGOES.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, called at the State Department today for the first time since the American note of protest on shipping was sent to Great Britain. He conferred with Counselor Robert Lansing.

Spring-Rice had received no instructions as yet concerning the answer which it is to be made to the American note, the British ambassador indicated that it would be of a most friendly character. It is understood that Sir Cecil regards the American note as moderate in tone, compared to the usually preemptory and mandatory tone of notes of this kind passing between neutrals and belligerents in times of war.

That Sir Edward Grey in his talks with Ambassador Page similarly showed that England received the American note in a most amicable spirit, and intended to ameliorate the shipping situation, so far as was possible to do so, was learned today from high officials here.

Another development which is regarded as affording a solution of one of the points under dispute between Great Britain and the United States is the decision of the Washington administration to certify American cargoes as to their exact contents before leaving American ports. Secretaries Bryan and Redfield and Acting Secretary Peters, of the Treasury Department, conferred today on the formulation of a circular to be issued tomorrow urging co-operation between American exporters, shippers and the government in regard to the manifests of neutral ships used to carry American cargoes.

Exporters will be urged to accompany their products with affidavits, telling exactly the contents of their shipments. Treasury officials will be instructed to certify that the manifests contain the articles mentioned in the manifests, but they, of course, will not endeavor to rule on the subject of whether a product is or is not contraband or what its ultimate destination may be.

#### ITALIAN GOODS IN ITALIAN SHIPS IMMUNE.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Developments in the negotiations to stop British inter-ruptions of American copper shipments have reached a point, it was understood today, where Great Britain will not interfere with shipments to well-known Italian firms if they are made in Italian ships.

Shipment to well-known manufacturers in Sweden and Holland, it also was understood, would be uninterrupted, but it has not been made plain if they must be made in ships of those countries.

#### GERMAN SYMPATHIZERS RAISE THEIR VOICES.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Hearings on pending resolutions to restrict the export of arms and munitions to the belligerent nations of Europe began today before the House Foreign Affairs committee.

Delegations from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Baltimore representing German-American and Irish-American organizations, appeared before the committee. All urged immediate action on the resolution of Representative Bartholdi, of Missouri, which would empower the president to prohibit the exportation of war supplies. They insisted that at present the United States was not observing strict neutrality, because Great Britain was able to secure supplies in this country, and to prevent Germany and Austria from deriving from the same source.

#### REPORT THAT GERMANY CALLS YOUNG BELGIANS TO HER ARMY.

Amsterdam, Jan. 4.—A remarkable telegram from Overpeit, in Belgium, states that all young Belgians available for 1914, 1915 and 1916 levies have been ordered by the German commander to present themselves at the town hall today for enrollment in the German army.

## GERMAN PORT IN E. AFRICA SHELLED

### Dar-Es-Salaam Bombarded and German Shipping in Harbor Disabled

### Berlin Reports Submarine Sank Formidable and That It Escaped—Swedish Steamer Lost With 20 Men—Curious Story of General Beyers' Capture and Release Before His Drowning.

Nairobi, British East Africa, via London, Jan. 4, 11:17 p. m.—The British battleship Goliath and light cruiser Fox have carried out successful operations against Dar-Es-Salaam, capital of German East Africa. The warships bombarded the town, inflicting considerable damage. All the German vessels in the harbor were disabled. Fourteen Europeans and twenty natives were taken prisoners.

The British loss was one killed and twelve wounded.

Dar-Es-Salaam, the best built town on the coast of German East Africa, is a military station with an excellent harbor, situated forty miles south of Zanzibar. It is the terminus of an important caravan route, the residence of a Governor, and has large commercial interests. The white population in 1904 was estimated at 1,000; the total population at more than twenty thousand.

Early in the war a British expedition was sent against Dar-Es-Salaam, but met unexpected resistance and was forced to retire with heavy losses. Among the casualties was Capt. B. Carr-Harris, of the Royal Engineers, a son of Prof. Carr-Harris, of Bathurst (N. B.).

The Goliath, a battleship built in 1898, 12,950 tons, with a speed of 18 knots, 700 men, and carries four 12-inch and twelve 6-inch guns.

The Fox is one of the old type of light cruisers, built in 1893, 4,360 tons, with a speed of 19.5 knots, 312 men, and carries two 6-inch and eight 4.7 guns.

#### BERLIN SAYS SUBMARINE ESCAPED.

Berlin, Jan. 4.—(Via Wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—An official announcement, made public through the official press bureau today, says:

"A German submarine boat reports by wireless to the Admiralty in Berlin that it has torpedoed and sunk in the English Channel, off Plymouth, the British battleship Formidable."

"The submarine was pursued by British destroyers, but escaped undamaged."

#### SWEDISH STEAMER LOST WITH 20 MEN.

London, Jan. 5, 2:59 a. m.—According to advices received here from Stockholm, the Swedish steamer Carma has been lost in the North Sea with her crew of twenty men.

It is presumed that the Carma struck a mine.

The steamer Carma, a coasting vessel, was built at Sunderland in 1882. She was of 1,058 tons and owned in Helsingborg.

#### BEYERS RELEASED ONLY TO MEET DEATH.

London, Jan. 4.—(Gazette Cable)—How ex-Commandant General Beyers was arrested while motoring on the Veldt, then released by the police, only to meet his fate by drowning later on, is a strange story, which comes from South Africa.

According to the story, published in a South African paper, Beyers was in a motor car with three companions near Bloemfontein, when the car was challenged by a motor-cyclist patrol. Beyers wearing a red handkerchief wrapped around his face, suggesting toothache.

The party first tried to bluff but, with rifle facing them, they produced a safe-conduct document, signed by Commandant Lemmer, of the Transvaal Union, allowing passage to the residence of ex-President Steyn, of the Orange Free State. Not satisfied with this the patrol insisted that the party proceed to the nearest farm, where he handed them over to the Cape Mounted Police, but, to his surprise, the police allowed the party to go to its destination, yet within a few weeks Beyers was again fighting Union forces, and lost his life while crossing a river.

The Eastern Province-Herald strongly criticized the Union government on the matter.

#### BRITISH DRAG-NET GATHERS IN "SMART ALECK."

London, Jan. 5, 2:07 a. m.—The Daily Telegraph's Copenhagen correspondent says:

"A Norwegian merchant captain, who has just returned here from Gibraltar, says the Hamburg-American liner Graecia attempted to cross the Atlantic, flying the Norwegian flag and under the name of Bjoergvin, but that she was stopped by a British cruiser, which discovered that her real name had been painted over. The cruiser thereupon took the steamer as a prize to Gibraltar. The steamer carried a cargo of provisions for the German warships in the Atlantic."

#### ITALIAN SHELLS CHECK ALBANIAN REBELS.

Paris, Jan. 5, 1:25 a. m.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Durazzo, Albania, dated Monday, says:

"Yesterday the rebels sent a letter signed by the Mussulman committee to Essad Pasha, provisional president of Albania, demanding that the French and Serbian ministers be handed over to them. At 12:30 a. m. they began an attack on the city. Essad Pasha immediately went to the trenches, at the same time asking the Italian legation to give him all possible help."

"In view of the gravity of the situation the legation communicated with the warships in port and at 2:30 a. m. the battleship Sargdema and the coast guard ship Misurata fired shells, which checked the rebels."

"The staff of the Italian and French legations and the members of the Italian colony then embarked on the warships."

#### GERMAN SPIES USE AMERICAN PASSPORTS.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The attention of state department officials was drawn today by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, to several cases in foreign countries in which American passports have been fraudulently obtained.

In one case cited an American consul sent an American citizen his passport by registered mail, and British officials here claim Germans intercepted the letter, and that the passport subsequently was found on a German spy. Strict regulations are now in force by the state department, requiring applicants for passports to obtain them in person.

is the balance sheet on the flank, west of the Argonne. In one day, the 24th, we repulsed five attacks. "From the west of the Argonne the heights of the Meuse, in the night, showed an activity from the 16th to the 24th, often crowned with success, and that, in spite of the condition of the rain, more suitable to the defensive than to the offensive. Our artillery, and especially our heavy artillery, inflicted notable damage upon the enemy's lines. On the 17th two batteries were destroyed, two batteries demolished on the 19th, and one reduced to silence; a machine gun shelter destroyed on the 20th, and one blown up; a battery damaged on the 22nd, to the northeast of St. Mihiel, and two destroyed near Beaucourt."

Infantry attacks developed especially in the region of Bourcelles and Vauquois, in that of Cuisy and the woods of Forges, and in the woods of Consuey. At Bourcelles the French lines were warmly disputed. We entered the village, were obliged to abandon it, and then retook it. On the outskirts of Vauquois we progressed as far as 100 meters. We advanced likewise into the woods of Melancourt on the 20th, and made progress the 21st in the region of Beaucourt, and in the woods of Forges, December 21, 22, 23, with a gain of from 200 to 800 metres in these three days. We gained 150 metres on the 21st in the woods of Consuey, where, in spite of a violent bombardment and of counter-attacks, we maintained the conquered position.

"In the woods of Chevalliers, finally, we gained 100 metres, and took 100 prisoners, remarkable for their sordid dirtiness. They were from head to foot a mass of vermin."

"Between the Meuse and the Moselle the action has been more than that of the rest of the front. It has permitted us to register progress slowly, but this progress continues in the forest of Apremont, and in the woods of Apremont, we succeeded in destroying or silencing several batteries of the enemy's artillery in the Woivre district, and in the forest of Apremont on the 20th. We demolished trenches in the same region on the 23rd and 24th. We effectively bombarded the railroad station of Amelville on the 18th and 22nd, and gained 230 metres in Le Ban De Sept, and maintained at every other point our gains of the preceding week. Near Amelville, 1,200 metres have been established within 1,200 metres of the city."

#### AERIAL WARFARE WON BY ALLIES.

"In spite of the extreme difficulty resulting from rain, wind and fog, our squadrons of aeroplanes and our dirigibles have done excellent work. One of the latter, on the night of the 17th, dropped fifteen bombs upon the railroad station of Sarreburg, six upon a train and a thousand arrows upon a train in the railroad station of Heilmig. The damage done was important, and was acknowledged by German headquarters."

"On several occasions, the 18th, 20th, 21st and 22nd, our aviators gave chase to some German machines, and obliged them to descend. On the 18th one of our aviators shot and killed a German pilot, whose machine crashed to the earth. On another occasion, near Arras, an aviator was shot by two German machine guns. On another, one of our officers was pursued by an 'Albatross', which succeeded in crossing our lines. The German machine was destroyed by a fusillade of shells. In spite of the state of the atmosphere some of our aviators, on the 18th, successfully dropped bombs on an enemy trench, on the enemy's trenches; upon a concentration of troops on the 19th and 20th; upon railroad stations and trains the 20th and 21st; upon a cattle balloon the 21st; upon the port of Strasbourg on the Rhine, and the railroad depot of Dieuse on the 22nd."

The Prince of Teck has expressed his warm thanks to the chief of the air squadron which has operated upon the Belgian coast with the English aviators. This squadron has, in fact, effectively contributed toward the regulation of the fire of the battleships, and in surveying the sea for the enemy's submarines."

Sarreburg successfully attacked by French aviators, to give the place the German spelling, is the historic place in Lorraine at which the Emperor Napoleon took up his residence in 1870 just after the catastrophes of Welsenburg and Worth. It is just across the present German frontier from Nancy and Luneville and is not far from the dull little frontier town of Zabern that has in the last three years become the very expression of offensiveness in Prussian militarism. The river Saar runs down from Sarreburg towards Splehern Heights where was fought the very first engagement of the Franco-German War on August 6, 1870, where a woman first won the Iron Cross. But more important still, Sarreburg is on the main line of the railway in Alsace.

"Our artillery never loses time or opportunity when the weather is clear enough to shoot. Our guns succeeded in blowing up a depot of munitions at Metz, to the north of Arras, and several caissons at a point to the east of Blangy."

#### GERMAN EFFORT IN POLAND EXHAUSTED.

(Continued from page 1.)

"Further west the enemy attacked some of the passes with small forces. North of Gorlice (Galicia), northeast of Zaklęzyn, and on the lower course of the Nida, the Russian attack failed. In the region to the east and southeast of Tomaszow (Poland) we and our allies have made progress."

"In the Balkan war theatre all quiet on the Serbian frontier. Night attacks by the Montenegro on Gat, near Antovaca, and Hasva, near Trebinje (Herzegovina) have been repulsed."

#### VANCOUVER MEN TO REINFORCE THE PRINCESS PATRICIAS.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 30.—One hundred and twenty-seven officers and men of the Sixtieth Overseas Battalion in training here have been ordered to the front to reinforce the Princess Patricia's Regiment.

#### ITALIAN PREMIER HONORED BY KING.

Rome, Dec. 30.—Victor Emmanuel has decorated Premier Salandra with the Order of the Annunziata, the highest Italian decoration, which entitles the bearer to call himself a cousin of the king.

The king decorated the premier during the ceremony of baptism of the newly born Princess Maria. He spoke warmly of the services rendered to the state by the premier.

court martial condemned him to death. The Lord Mayor of Leeds, England, the home of Lonsdale, appealed to Henry Van Dyke, the American minister to the Netherlands, last week, asking the minister to endeavor to save Lonsdale. Dr. Van Dyke replied that he was doing everything possible, and also had requested the American Ambassador at Berlin to take up the matter.

#### MORE CANADIANS SERIOUSLY ILL AT SALISBURY.

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—The following casualties in the Canadian forces at Salisbury Plain are reported to the militia department:

Seriously ill—No. 24,616, Private F. W. McGuinness, Thirteenth Battalion, at Bulford Hospital, of meningitis. Next of kin Mrs. E. W. McGuinness, 50 Verdome avenue, Notre Dame De Grace, Montreal.

No. 8, Regimental Sergeant-Major Alexander G. Fraser, Princess Patricia's Light Infantry, at No. X Stationary Hospital, Next of kin Catherine Fraser, 46 Grant street, Toronto.

Fredonction, Jan. 4.—(Special)—The provincial government will meet tomorrow at 10 a. m. Wednesday. The board of education will meet in the afternoon.