

BERLIN SAYS DECISIVE BATTLE IS IMMINENT THE WEST

RUSSIAN REGIMENT WADE ICY WATERS OF PETER AND TAKE GERMAN POSITION

Under Hot Fire of Enemy Wade Bounaets River After Bridge Had Been Blown Up — Charge Heights and Rout Germans — Petrograd Official Statement Says Defence of Lodz Meant Destroying Contour of Front and Embarassing Rear Communications.

Petrograd, Dec. 8.—An official statement given out today by the general staff of the Russian army indicated that the Russians were considering the abandonment of Lodz. This statement says: "During the fighting in the second half of the month of November, Lodz acquired great military importance, but the German offensive on the Lodz-Lowicz line having failed, the defence of Lodz lost its urgency. The defence of this large city presents many difficulties from the military point of view, and gives to our front an abnormal contour, which is embarrassing to our communications with the rear. It may therefore be expected that with the setting in of a lull on the left bank of the Vistula the Russian lines in the region of Lodz will be reformed."

SECOND DAY OF FAIR DREW LARGE CROWDS

Throngs of Visitors in Amherst Yesterday — Live Stock Judging Continued and Interesting Addresses by Prominent Speakers.

Amherst, N. S., Dec. 8.—The attendance at the fourteenth Maritime Winter Fair more than doubled on the second day of the show. Crowds poured into Amherst on every train from all parts of the country sides, and points through the Maritime Provinces. The judging of the beef cattle was concluded today and the swine classes were also completed.

The principal winners in the beef classes were B. A. Snowball, of Chatham; Forest Bros. Amherst; Hazen Eter, Westmorland Point; Harold Eter, Westmorland Point; J. C. Alrod and Son, Kilmory Grove, P. E. I.

The W. W. Black cup for the best animal, any age, in any class was won by Forest Bros., of Amherst Point. The entries in the swine department were numerous. J. A. Colbeck, of Summerside; Fowler Bros., of Amherst Point; Geo. A. Colbeck, of Summerside; A. H. Boswell, Little York; Peter Bony, York, P. E. I.

The silver cup donated by the Atlas Stock Company, Amherst, for the best animal was captured by Stewart Bros., Murray River, P. E. I. The cup of P. B. Evans, St. John was taken by J. A. Colbeck. The judging of sheep was carried on today, but not concluded.

The evening speakers were Hon. Murray McKinnon, Minister of Agriculture for Prince Edward Island, Dr. James of the Farm Department of Ottawa, Prof. Cummings of the Agricultural College at Truro, and J. N. M. Parker, Lennoxville, Que. Dr. James and Mr. Cummings, the two principal speakers of the evening, dealt on the soils and on actual resources in Canada. Improved methods of farming necessary to the preservation of the humus and chemicals in the earth.

Dr. James spoke on the agricultural education established in Belgium and Denmark. Canada as a young prosperous and growing nation could do no better than emulate the example set by these two nations who support their entire population from the produce of their own soil.

Claims Russians Repulsed in Northern Hungary Budapest, Dec. 8.—An official communication issued here today stated that the Russian forces which were invading Northern Hungary had been repulsed. The statement follows: "The enemy who entered the counties of Szaros and Miercip are in full retreat. Our troops are already in Galician territory at several points. Only two or three communities in Hungarian territory are in the hands of the enemy."

tachments of German troops also were concentrated. For this reason the region of Czenstochowa lost, for the moment, the importance it held in the beginning of the operations.

All these things impelled us, in the line of the more advantageous locations for our forces, to move forward from the occupation of certain other points. On December 6, the Germans made a tentative offensive movement in the direction of Miawa and Prasnysch, but they were repulsed with serious losses. To the south of Cracow we perceived recently a turning movement on the part of the enemy, directed against our left wing. Reinforcements which arrived for our forces found that the bridge over the Bounaets, near Kourovo, had been destroyed, and that the heights on the left bank of the river were occupied by the enemy. Under a sustained fire from the Germans our own divisions were forced to cross the Bounaets at a ford. They made their way through the icy water up to their necks, and coming out on the other side they charged the heights by a vigorous assault. They assured and made safe the passage of the river for our Russian troops."

DUTCH KINDNESS IS DESCRIBED BY A FRENCH WRITER

London, Dec. 8.—The kindness shown by the Dutch to the Belgian refugees who have entered Holland in large numbers, is described by a French journalist writing in L'Aspet. Arriving in Flushing early one morning he finds the quays and the streets of the little town already crowded with people. Among them are some Belgian soldiers who have just crossed the frontier. There are 23,000, he says, actually in Holland, interned in the camps of Loosduin, Amersfoort, Gasterland, Zwolle, Assen, and Hardevijk, whilst 2,000 English marines are at Leewarden and Groningen.

The Dutch treat them with the greatest kindness, putting them on parole for several hours a day when they are allowed to go where they please, and providing them with comforts. There is nothing more touching than the way the Dutch peasants in the smallest villages hasten to meet refugees and provide them with food and drink.

The committee appointed to deal with the Belgians have sent numbers of them to the large towns in the north of Holland in order to relieve the pressure in the southern provinces. In Amsterdam well-known actors are organizing free representations and the soldiers are making collections of money. In the village of Koudekerke, which has 3,000 inhabitants, 500 Belgians have been given shelter, thanks to the devotion and ingenuity of the mayor, the doctor and the pastor.

On the market place the Belgian children are playing with the little Dutch girls in their woden shoes, white skirts and lace bonnets. These Dutch are a kind-hearted people, is the comment of the Excelsior's correspondent.

Montreal, Dec. 8.—Fifty cases containing charitable gifts of the French Canadian people to the war-stricken citizens of France and Belgium are being shipped daily from the headquarters of the Franco-Amerique, Montreal, to New York, the total contribution being estimated at eight hundred cases, the whole to be loaded on the White Star steamer Rochambeau for transportation to Havre. The steamer will sail on Saturday.

When the steamship Calcutta, chartered from Halifax at the end of this week, she will have on board the largest and most valuable gift cargo for the starving Belgians yet sent from Canada. The contents of her hold will represent \$313,000, of which \$133,000 is the price of wheat bought by the Central Committee here.

WILSON'S TRUST LEGISLATION COMPLETED

Firm Road Any Honest Man Can Confidently Travel, He Says — Opposes Large Standing Army for Peace Times—Urges Passage of Bill for Government Owned Mercantile Marine.

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Wilson in his annual address to Congress today coupled with a defense of the country's military preparedness a word of assurance to business that it would not be embarrassed by further legislation. He said the trust and currency legislative program of his administration virtually had been completed, leaving no conjecture as to what was to follow, and that there was a clear and firm road ahead on which honest men might travel with perfect confidence.

For passage at this session the President urged measures to meet the changed conditions due to the war, particularly the government ship purchase bill, measures to unlock resources of the national domain and to encourage improvement of navigable waters for generation of power, and the bill already passed by the house to give "a larger measure of self-government to the people of the Philippines."

When he entered the house chamber, where Vice President Marshall and Speaker Clark presided over a joint session, the President was greeted with an uproarious ovation which continued for several minutes. Throughout his address he was frequently interrupted by applause, particularly from the Democratic side, demonstrations of approval reaching a climax when, referring to recent agitation over national defense, he declared that the administration had "not been negligent of national defence," that the attitude of the government would not be altered "because some amongst us are nervous and excited" and that a policy of defence could "easily and sensibly be agreed upon."

Government Don't Intend to Monopolize Field In advocating the Ship Purchase Bill, the President said the war in Europe had left foreign nations more dependent upon the United States for supplies, and that the government should provide ships that the nation's goods might be carried "to the employer's markets."

It is not a question of the government monopolizing the field," he said. "It should take action to make it certain that transportation at reasonable rates will be promptly provided, even where the carriage is not at first profitable and then, when the carriage has become sufficiently profitable, to attract and engage private capital, and to permit it to withdraw."

The Philippines Bill, the President asserted, "would nobly crown the record of these two years of memorable peace."

Concerning rural credits legislation, sought by so many, he expressed regret that difficulties of the subject "to render it impossible to complete a bill for passage at this session."

Members of the Senate and House listened attentively to the outline of the President's programme as they did also on his discussion of economy, and the assertion that "there should be a systematic reorganization and re-assembly of the parts of the government to secure greater efficiency."

President Wilson spoke with great emphasis and deliberation when he began discussion of the military situation, and was enthusiastically cheered, the galleries joining in the applause, when he said: "It is said in some quarters that we are not prepared for war. What is meant by being prepared? Is it meant that we are not ready upon brief notice to put a nation in the field, a nation of men trained to arms? Of course we are not ready to do that; and we shall never be in time of peace so long as we retain our present political principles and institutions."

ALLES REPULSE GERMAN ATTACKS NEAR YPRES

The Germans are attacking the Allied line to the south of Ypres in Belgium, but the French announce that they have been repulsed. At some point along the battle front in Flanders and Northern France, the Germans have each day of late made a concerted movement with a view to pushing their advance farther west, or to the coast.

The bombardment of the Belgian coast by the Allied warships between Ostend and Nieuport began Tuesday afternoon, in conjunction with land operations, according to a late despatch from Rotterdam.

In the east, conditions remain as previously reported, the occupation of Lodz by the Germans being considered certain, as well as a general movement of the Russians against Cracow. German troops have come to the aid of the Austrians at the Cracow fortresses, thus stiffening the defences of the garrison against Russian attacks.

In West Galicia activity along the battle line is increasing, and the Austrian troops, an official statement from Vienna asserts, have driven the Russians from Doboszyce and Wieliczka, taking more than five thousand prisoners.

The Japanese Minister of Marine, Vice Admiral Yahire, makes the announcement that while the war in Europe lasts, the Japanese navy will continue and that the Japanese fleet in conjunction with the British warships is seeking the Germans in South American waters.

The Colombian government has ordered the high-powered wireless station at Cartagena dismantled. This action follows protests made recently by Great Britain and France of alleged violation of neutrality by Colombia.

COSSACKS SUPPRESS UPRISING OF KURDS

New York, Dec. 8.—Russian Cossacks have suppressed an uprising of the Kurds in Persia, according to mail advices received here by the British Foreign Mission of the Presbyterian church, letters from the mission at Urumia give details of the fighting. Russians are now in complete control of that section of Persia, it is said.

The fight which resulted in the ultimate rout of the Kurds started at Elir, where the Cossacks occupied the English mission house. Their allies, the Syrians, were the sole occupants of the American house. The Syrians, after a serious fight, were forced to retreat to the English mission house which they and the Russians managed to defend until reinforcements of Cossacks arrived. The Kurds were then driven off.

SIR ADAM BECK GERMAN CRUISER IS REMOUNT COMMISSIONER KEIL CANAL?

For Eastern Canada — In Charge of Purchases of Horses in Ontario, Quebec and Montreal.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—Sir Adam Beck has been appointed chief remount commissioner for Eastern Canada. The appointment is made by the Dominion government, on recommendation of the war office. Sir Adam Beck is also created a full colonel, and attached to the headquarters staff, relinquishing his hitherto honorary and unattached military title.

Sir Adam Beck will be in charge of all purchases for the Canadian forces in the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and is entering on his new duties at once.

Sir Adam was appointed, within the next few days, some fifteen expert purchasing agents, and an equal number of veterinary surgeons, for the purpose of covering the large territory in quest of horses for the army.

He expects to purchase between 8,000 and 10,000 horses during the next couple of months.

60,000 WOUNDED IN VIENNA HOSPITALS

Official Report from Austrian Capital Admits Heavy Losses in Recent Fighting—Vistula River Freezing Over.

Venice, via London, Dec. 9.—Reports received from Austrian official quarters admit that sixty thousand wounded soldiers are now in the Vienna hospitals, and that at least double that number are slightly wounded or convalescent.

By order of the police, all public resorts in the Austrian capital are closed at one o'clock, and no music is allowed after midnight. The official order declares that it is unbecomingly the residents of Vienna should be dancing or otherwise amusing themselves by night, while the young manhood of the nation is fighting at the front.

Endless trains of military convoys, continues the despatch, are passing through Warsaw westward, with new regiments of fresh troops, for the most part Cossacks and Siberians. The Vistula is beginning to freeze. Seventy thousand fugitives are reported to be in Warsaw. Four months of the war has caused fearful devastation in Poland, and the inhabitants are suffering terribly.

THE HOUSE FAMED FOR MILLINERY

Your Last Chance to Buy \$3.00 Hats for 98 Cents

Another lot of these Smart Winter Hats, which have proven so popular, has just been received, and, further supply is impossible.

They are shown in Hatters' Plush Tops, with Black Velvet Brims, and in all Black Plush.

at 98c. each

Sent by mail, postage paid, to any address, on receipt of price. Cash must accompany all orders.

This is positively the last lot of these hats to be had.

MARR MILLINERY CO.

1-3-5 Charlotte St.

WHAT WAR IS COSTING RUSSIA

Paris, Dec. 8.—(11.55 p. m.)—According to a Petrograd despatch to the Havas Agency the Russian minister of finance in a report appended to the 1915 budget, estimates the cost of the war to Russia up to November 13, as \$892,500,000. The expenses have been met by various issues of short term bonds, treasury notes and loans totalling \$925,000,000. Further issues, both interior and foreign, will be made as the conditions arise.

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

FRANCE

Paris, Dec. 8, 10.35 p. m.—The following official communication was issued by the French war office tonight: "In Belgium a violent German attack on St. Eloy, south of Ypres, has been repulsed. The struggle at all times is very lively in the forests and to the east of the Argonne."

AUSTRIA

Vienna, via Amsterdam, Dec. 8.—An official communication issued by the Austrian war office says: "The battles in West Galicia increase in severity. Austrian troops also attacking from the west drove the enemy from his position at Doboszyce and Wieliczka. More than five thousand prisoners among them twenty seven officers were taken."

MOVING PICTURE SHOWS

HIM MOTHER EVICTED FROM HOME BY GERMAN

London, Ont., Dec. 8.—At a local motion picture theatre last night Joseph De Wolf, a Belgian attached to

Imperial Theatre Today

Lubin's Mammoth Dramatic Triumph in Five Parts—Wonderful in Scenic Effect.

"THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR"

— By J. Hartley Manners —

Very Acts of Realism. Better Than "The Third Degree" Superb Cast of Stars. Powerful and Compelling.

SHOW AT 2 P. M. 3.30; 7 and 8.45

BERNARD & SCARTH—Eccentric Vaudeville

LOUISE DALY—Child Impersonator

FESTIVAL - ORCHESTRAL - MUSICALES

OPERA HOUSE

Tonight AND ALL THIS WEEK

THOMPSON'S MUSICAL CO. COMEDY

—PRESENTING—THE BATTLE-SCARRED HERO

MATINEES WED. AND SAT. GORONA CHOCOLATES FOR THE LADIES WED. MAT.

MORE

Vermelle, Taken in Fighting for Activity Along

bornly Resist A Have Begun in Still Looking H

— French Now

Paris, Dec. 8.—The French in the region of Artois is announced, of Verme nearly two months the occupation footing there, on ceased in forcing us back, sapping and mining operations in close contact, and on the chateau of Vermelle.

"In the region of the some army engagements gatherings of the enemy."

"In the Argonne forest Mousson, forest of Lepret rest of the front there is

Paris, Dec. 8.—Greater of the German in the of Ypres and along the Yser ed in the official commun by the War Office today.

indications of the Germans are to the effect that they are with a counter offensive, in Flanders may be expected assume the desperate character marked the early stages of "The enemy became more active in the vicinity of Termonde, his old home."

The man broke down completely and sobbed like a baby.

The sight but served to intensify eagerness to get at the enemy however, and today he got transferred to the machine gun section of the battalion, that he might stand a better chance of working greater havoc among the Germans when he reaches the firing line.

Operations in the Champagne regions are marked by artillery duels. The French have gained some ground in the Argonne.

London, Dec. 8.—The German has again concentrated under the command of General Von Kluck, ed forces of the empire, at the main route to Paris, the yet grown to formidable an Amsterdam via London, according to telegrams from land, fierce fighting has been on the Yser.

The Germans, according to despatches, are taking new cautions against the bombs Zeppelins by British warships down and balloons in the the assault there are being with sand bags and machine order to reply to such an attack.

London, Dec. 8.—Official from Berlin today confirm that the Allies have assumed offensive in France and Belgium do not indicate the most yet grown to formidable an. The attacks, it is declared, few in number, and have been Private despatches from to the effect that they are in progress along the Yser reports are in partial agreement the latest official French of the forward movement, lies is being attempted at along the line. Berlin is also ing toward the possible invasion of the Russian Poland.

Amsterdam, Dec. 8.—The troops have captured Passcho the railroad midway between and Roulers. This represents advance of allied lines, and ing of a way for a flank mov on Menin.

Paris, Dec. 8.—By constant along the Paschondale, French, operating from sources, have today all but rears in their flanking movement cover Menin, an important

HEARING IS RESTORED TO

Without Mechanical or Artificial Devices, Deaf Hear With Own Ears. A Wonderful English Discovery

Thousands of people suffer from partial deafness or poor hearing. They have tried specialists, treatments, artificial ear devices, electric vibrators and mechanical appliances with little or no result. They have at last regained their "world of silence" thinking that they were forever to be normal hearing. Yet their hopelessness, a remarkable scientific discovery a little more than a year ago in England is making unequalled for quickly and distressing head noises, and often the companions of hearing. This discovery is mint and has attracted wide fame throughout Europe who of the remarkable results seen to deaf people have come hundred.

The effect of Parmit is a tonic action to produce a necessary to reduce all inflammation, enlargement of the organs of hearing and to the entire auditory tract.

Parmit is now being sold drug stores in St. John and a speedy trial upon all who suffer from deafness or headaches in a Ask the druggist for 1 oz. (Double Strength) and take with 1/4 pint of hot 4 oz. of granulated sugar solved. Take one tablespoonful three times a day and you will see a remarkable improvement hearing.

IMPORTANT—In ordering always specify that you want strength; your druggist can get it for you; if not, to the International Labor St. Antoine Street, Montreal who make a specialty of it.

