

BERLIN CLAIMS GERMANS HAVE TAKEN LODZ; ALLIES PUSHING FORWARD IN WESTERN THEATRE

Possession of Lodz Would Give Enemy Key To Railways In Northern Poland—Russians Take Advanced Positions at Przemysl and are Pushing Across Plains of Hungary—Heavy Fighting Again in Argonne Region Where French Claim Progress—Austrian Capital Being Strongly Fortified—Opium Smoking Banned In Japan.

London, Dec. 7.—It is officially announced in Berlin that the Germans occupied Lodz Sunday. Lodz is a city of some 150,000 population, is the chief manufacturing centre of Russian Poland. It has numerous textile mills, the majority of them for the manufacture of cotton goods. In addition, it has flour mills, brickyards, machinery plants and breweries. The population is made up of Poles, Germans and Jews.

London, Dec. 6.—An official announcement from Berlin declares that the Germans have occupied Lodz, where a series of battles have been in progress for some time. Lodz is the centre for the railways leading through Northern Poland.

There is no news from South Poland beyond a German denial of a success reported to have been achieved by the Russians at Czenstochowa. The capture of one of the advanced positions at Przemysl is regarded as conferring a valuable advantage to the Russians in their attack on the fortress. Leaving this city to the attentions of the besieging armies, the Russians are pushing, in small bodies, steadily across the plains of Hungary, and fugitives are said to be pouring toward Budapest.

In the face of the Austrian advance in Serbia there has been talk of the removal of the capital from Nish to Mitrovitza, but Serbia denied that step actually has been taken.

FIGHTING AGAIN IN ARGONNE REGION.

The Allies continue to push forward in Flanders and in Northern France, but the Germans explain that they are giving ground for tactical and strategic reasons. The advance, as far as Flanders is concerned, seems to have been checked on the outskirts of Langemarck.

There has been a recrudescence of hard fighting in the Argonne district where the French claim they are making progress. On the whole, however, in these siege operations, these successes and reverses mean only a gain or loss of a few hundred yards, and a slight readjustment of positions.

Seemingly, more important is the unofficial statement that the French have seriously interfered with the German communications between Metz and the Woerwe district in France, for here, as elsewhere, command of the roads is of the greatest importance to the armies. It was officially announced tonight that during his visit to France King George conferred the Order of Merit on Field Marshal Sir John French, and also pinned the Victoria Cross on the first Indian soldier to win that decoration.

AUSTRIANS FORTIFYING VIENNA.

Venice, Via London, Dec. 6.—Advices received here from Vienna say that the work of fortifying the capital is proceeding rapidly. Several thousand men are reported to be employed in digging trenches. Eighty-eight railway cars filled with wounded men are said to have arrived in Vienna one day last week. Among the wounded was an Austrian general.

Seoul, Korea, Dec. 7.—The government has suppressed the opium monopoly, and put an end to the smoking of opium. These steps of the government were advocated by American missionaries.

TRENCH WARFARE IN EAST FOR WINTER GERMAN PLANS?

London, Dec. 7.—Delayed despatches to the Daily Telegraph from Petrograd indicate that the situation at Lodz Friday, the day of the despatches were filed, was then serious. "For the past three days," says one of these despatches, "the Germans in Russian Poland, around Lodz, have been strenuously aggressive. Their wedge, which already has been driven into Russian Poland, is being pushed with tremendous reinforcements. The base of this wedge is in Thorn and Kalisz. The apex is Lodz. This gives the Germans control of all the railroads in this triangle. They are using the railroads to pour in an unceasing stream of fresh troops and engines of war. The enemy's plan around Lodz involves the cutting of some of Warsaw's most important lines of communication. The Germans plan to hold this wedge all winter, inaugurating an elaborate trench warfare system like that on the west front."

SIR EDMUND OSLER RESIGNS FROM BOARD OF TORONTO UNIVERSITY

Toronto, Dec. 6.—Sir Edmund Osler stated tonight that he had resigned from the board of governors of Toronto University, as a result of their action in the matter of the three German professors. The action of the board of governors of Toronto University in granting leave of absence, with full pay, to the three German professors has elicited considerable protest among a large section of the community, and a movement is on foot to hold a public meeting in Massey Hall to discuss the governors' action. It is proposed to ask Sir Edmund Osler, one of the governors, to preside.

WOODSTOCK MAN ATTEMPTS SUICIDE AT MOOSE JAW

Moose Jaw, Sask., Dec. 6.—W. F. Brown of Woodstock, N. B., tried to cut his throat in the Windsor Hotel here Saturday. Brown was formerly a telegraph operator at the C. P. R. and afterwards in C. N. R. commercial office, Winnipeg. He was on his way to Calgary seeking employment, but lack of funds forced him to get off here. He will recover.

TURKISH CRUISER STRUCK MINE

Petrograd, Dec. 6.—The Turkish cruiser Hamidieh has struck a mine and returned to Constantinople considerably damaged, according to the Russian official news agency's Constantinople advices.

UNABLE TO TAKE YPRES GERMAN DESTROY TOWN

Failure to Fulfill Boast Exasperated Them and Belgian Town was Bombarded.

London, Dec. 6.—The official "eye witness" with the British army headquarters on the continent, in a message dated December 2, says that the destruction of the Belgian town of Ypres by the Germans suggests that it was "very likely the outcome of disappointment and exasperation at its resistance, and at the failure of the much advertised plans for its capture. The writer points out that up to the end of October, the Germans had contented themselves with bombarding points where the British headquarters was believed to be situated, and other places such as the railway station where destruction would be of military value. The shelling of the town itself began in earnest on the night of November 5, since which date it was maintained intermittently. That the town escaped so long apparently was due to the fact that up till November 5 the Germans had contented themselves with capturing it. Later the attacks were simply in the nature of forlorn hopes, the narrator says, which called for all the assistance that could be obtained by artillery co-operation, even at the risk of the destruction of a historic place which might become German. The last attack in force was delivered on November 17. Four days later, the Germans commenced to pour a stream of shells into the central market place and whereas the Cloth Hall and the Cathedral had had escaped material damage up till then, these two historic buildings were blazing before the day closed. In order to do this, it is stated, the Germans brought up a train armed with heavy guns. After the Cloth Hall and the Cathedral were destroyed, the eye-witness says, the fire of the Germans no longer was directed on them. The writer states on good authority that the Germans re-named Ostend "Kales," which he says was done with the object of deceiving German soldiers into the belief that the Cloth Hall and the Cathedral were in German hands. A few minor local successes are recorded by the eye-witness, both the French and British forces, he says, having advanced slightly and taken some German trenches.

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King Peter Visits Troops Paris, Dec. 6.—King Peter of Serbia has visited the theatre of war and has communicated to the troops an order of the day in which he thanks them warmly for their efforts. This information is contained in a despatch from the Nish, Serbia, correspondent of the Havas Agency.

DECLARES FOR GREATER PROTECTION OF LIFE AT SEA

Hon. Mr. Hazen Has New Regulations Adopted Affording Greater Measure of Protection to Passengers.

Ottawa, Dec. 6.—The question of life saving appliances on steamships has been occupying the attention of Hon. J. D. Hazen for some time and as a result new regulations have been adopted. In the case of coasting and inland ships it is provided that passenger steamers must carry lifeboats, life rafts, approved buoyant seats or other approved buoyant apparatus sufficient to accommodate all the passengers carried. Where on a summer daylight trip these vessels are allowed to carry more passengers than permitted by their ordinary passenger certificate, there must be lifeboats, etc. for at least eighty per cent. of the passengers. If a ship is under 200 feet in length at least six approved lifebuoys shall be carried and if 200 feet or over, at least ten approved lifebuoys. One approved life jacket must be carried for each person on board and in addition a sufficient number of a size for children.

THE GOEBEN LOST 126 MEN IN BLACK SEA FIGHT

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AN UNKNOWN WARSHIP AGROUND

Shore in Thick Fog off Maryland Coast—Has Four Funnel and Not American Warship.

Ocean City, Md., Dec. 6.—An unknown warship is reported aground one mile off shore, three miles north of North Beach Life Saving Station, and six miles south of Ocean City. A high sea and northeast gale prevents assistance being rendered. Assistance has been asked from the navy yard at Norfolk. Observers nearest the vessel say she has four funnels, and that they can see the fighting tops.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 6.—The revenue cutter Itasca was speeding tonight from Hampton Roads towards North Beach, Md., to assist an unidentified vessel, said to be a man-of-war, in distress.

The Norfolk navy yard received a message from the North Beach Life Saving Station, on the Maryland coast, saying a vessel, apparently a warship, was in distress, and was off shore. There was a dense fog and there were high seas. Naval officials here do not believe the vessel is an American warship. The Itasca is not expected to reach North Beach before tomorrow morning.

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FRENCH AIR FLEET RAIDS ENEMY'S SHEDS, FRIEBURG

Drop Bombs Into German Aviation Station—Allied Fleet Try to Break Through Dardanelles?—Ostend Reported on Fire.

London, Dec. 7.—A despatch to the Daily Chronicle from Dunkirk says: "Ostend is reported to be on fire. It is believed the conflagration was caused either by a British bombardment or German incendiaries." These advices say also that Russian warships have sunk six Turkish sailing vessels which were carrying war supplies. Washington, Dec. 6.—Aerial raids on Freiburg in Brisgau were acknowledged as the work of French aviators today in an official report from the German foreign office to the embassy here. The message said: "French aviators yesterday were successful in dropping bombs on the aviation hangars in Freiburg, in Brisgau." London, Dec. 6.—The Central News correspondent at Copenhagen says the following despatch has been received in the Danish capital from Berlin: "Forty British and French warships are gathered outside (name deleted by censor) with the evident intention of forcing their way through. This, however, will be impossible, as the fortifications have been greatly strengthened, and the water is thickly strewn with mines."

FRENCH TROOPS CAUGHT IN TRAP AND KILLED

Sleeping in Church and Betrayed by Spy—Cut to Pieces by Exploding Shells or Burned to Death Before they Could Escape—Berlin Reports Australian Battle Cruiser is Missing.

London, Dec. 6.—How 500 French troops were betrayed by a spy on Tuesday last, is told in despatches from Dunkirk. The French soldiers were sleeping in a church at Launper, Frankfurter Zettung. The submarine's presence was discovered, however, the message adds, and the vessel apparently was hit by wireless fired by the Turkish forts. Berlin, Dec. 6 (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—Information given out to the press yesterday by the German official press bureau says that according to a report received by the Italian newspaper Corriere Della Sera, the Australian battle cruiser Australia apparently is missing.

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The Goeben was reported in a despatch from Petrograd on November 19 to have been badly damaged in a battle the preceding day between a division of the Russian Black Sea fleet and a Turkish detachment consisting of the Goeben and Breslau near the coast of Anatolia. It was said a series of explosions were seen in the hull of the Goeben, which opened fire slowly. After the battle had continued forty minutes, the Goeben was reported to have withdrawn and disappeared in the fog, taking advantage of her speed. The Russian losses were given as thirty-three men killed and twenty-five wounded. A Berlin despatch on November 27 stated that the Goeben lost only eleven men killed and that the ship was struck by only one shot which took effect above the water line.

WOULD BE PLAYING INTO GERMANY'S HANDS

Undergoing Repairs After Being Battered by Shells From Russian Ships on Nov. 18.

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