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RUSSIAN ARMY CROSSES CARPATIAN MOUNTAINS

Hardest Fighting on Galician Side Tukholdka Pass—Slopes Littered With German Dead—Little or no Fighting in Flanders, France or Aesc

London, Feb. 15.—Under midwinter conditions the Russian and Austro-German armies are fighting another series of battles for possession of the Carpathian passes which will decide whether the Russian troops will commence another invasion of Hungary or be compelled to evacuate part of Galicia, as they have done in Bukovina. The Russians have issued two official reports of the operations, according to which they have thus far had all the better of the fighting. Their right wing has at any rate succeeded in crossing the mountains, for it has been engaged in a battle near Bartfeld and Svidnik which are on the Hungarian side of the Carpathians and on the edge of the plains which sweep down to Budapest.

This army, too, threatens the rear of the Austro-Germans, who, having entered Lupkow pass to the east, have suffered severe losses in a battle with another Russian force which was waiting for them there.

The hardest fighting, however, has occurred on the Galician side of Tukholdka pass, where, on Sunday, the Austro-Germans captured the heights in the region of Kozulowka, only to be driven from them after a bayonet fight, which the Russian report describes as being "without precedent in history."

The battle is said by correspondents to have been terrific. The Germans brought up their best reinforcements to aid the Austrian army, and they repulsed the attack. Backed by heavy artillery they assaulted the Russian position on the heights of Kozulowka, but found themselves under an enfilading fire from the Russians on parallel hills and were cut off from the main German column. They were then attacked by the Russian infantry who drove them back at the point of the bayonet.

Attack followed counter-attack until the Russians had regained their old positions, leaving the slopes, according to their report, "littered with bodies of dead Germans."

Fighting here seems to have been as desperate and sanguinary as that

which occurred on the Warsaw lines during the last week, and so far can be judged by official and unofficial reports, has been just as unsuccessful for the Germans. The latter have now assumed the offensive on the southern border of east Prussia and as a result another important battle is developing in that region. Of the battle in the northern part of east Prussia neither official communication speaks.

At the other extreme end of the line, in Bukovina, the Russians are falling back before Austrian forces, but still hold the greater part of that province.

From Rome comes the report that the Russians have reached Wloclawek on the lower Vistula, 35 miles south-east of Thorn. If this is correct it suggests that the Russians who were last reported at Sierpee, have made a move which may enable them to interfere with the transfer of troops from Poland to east Prussia, as Wloclawek is on the railway from Lodz to Thorn.

There has been little or no fighting in Flanders, France or Aesc, although the artillery and airmen continue active. It is believed that the Germans are preparing for another attack on the British line near La Bassee which, if successful, could open the door to the French coast, from which the Germans hope to threaten England.

Meanwhile the allies are reported to be making slow progress along the coast of Belgium, the capture of the great dune being of considerable advantage, as from it almost the entire coast as far as Ostend can be controlled by artillery.

While the German press as though it is assured the Bulgarian sympathy toward the Teutonic allies, it is pointed out that the loan was arranged before the war, at a time when there was no expectation that Bulgaria would throw in her lot with the triple entente. The defata which Turkey has suffered, according to the viewpoint here, are sufficient to induce Bulgaria to maintain her neutrality.

Russian Duma Compliments The Allies

Members Arise and With Cheering Greet Ambassadors of France, Great Britain and Japan

Petrograd, Feb. 9, via London.—(11.52 p.m.)—The short session of the Duma opened this afternoon in the presence of a throng that filled the balconies of the chamber.

President Rodzianko, in his formal opening address, made a complimentary reference to the work of the Allies in the war, whereupon the entire body of members rose and faced the box in which sat the ambassadors of France, Great Britain and Japan, and gave them an ovation with handclapping and cheering.

Foreign Minister Sazonoff repeatedly was interrupted by applause during his discourse.

The present sitting of the Duma is a continuation of the adjourned session of last August.

Premier Goremykin, addressing the House, said: "Now that the successful issue of the war is becoming more than ever apparent, the profound confidence of the Russian people in our final triumph is becoming an absolute conviction. The army, notwithstanding all its losses, is stronger than ever. Its exploits and the valuable services rendered by the Allies, bring ever nearer the desired goal."

"The close union of the Russian people brought about by the war has been rendered stronger by the conquest of Galicia, the only jewel hitherto lacking in the Imperial crown. No less satisfactory is the fraternal rapprochement between the Russian and the Polish peoples. The latter have supported, without murmur, the trials to which they have been subjected."

"Since last I addressed you a great event has taken place. Turkey has marched with our enemy, but her resistance already has been shattered by our glorious Caucasian troops, and the radiant future of the Russians on the Black Sea is beginning to dawn near the walls of Constantinople."

Foreign Minister Sazonoff, who followed the Premier, recalled how, in the place he stood, six months ago he had explained why Russia, "in the face of the brutal attempt of Germany and Austria," upon the independence of Serbia and Belgium, had been able to take no other step than to bear arms in the defense of the rights of nations.

Russia, he said, standing closely united and unanimous in her enthusiasm against an enemy which had offered provocation did not remain isolated, because she was immediately supported by France and Great Britain, and so on afterwards by Japan.

In a review of the progress of the war, M. Sazonoff said "The Allies' goal was assured. It was useless for Germany and Austria to say they were forced into the war, or to repeat the story that King Edward had sought to surround Germany with enemies, for he declared, the whole world knew that the agreements entered into or projected by that monarch were fundamentally defensive."

"The world knows," M. Sazonoff says, "that the union of the Allies is immutable; that it is becoming daily closer in the common task to destroy the military power of the enemy in order to protect Europe to enjoy an enduring peace."

"All the Allies are virtually helping each other."

"I take this opportunity to express gratitude for the Allies' active assistance."

TOTAL BRITISH LOSSES TO DATE

London, Feb. 8.—Premier Asquith speaking in the House of Commons to-day, said that British casualties in all ranks in the western arena of the war from the beginning of hostilities amounted to total approximately 104,000 men. This includes killed, wounded and missing.

"After this it was that Caillaux was appointed to an important position in the pay corps, but was relieved from this position and sent on a mission to Brazil."

Airmen Raid German Positions

French and British Plans to Bombard Ostend and other German Positions

London, Feb. 16.—Forty British and French aeroplanes and sea-planes attacked the German positions at Ostend, Middlekerke, Ghisteltes and Zeebrugge, in Belgium, and according to an official report, with good results.

Bombs were dropped on gun positions, trawlers and barges, and also on an aerodrome. The official statement concerning the raid says:—

"In an operation of our naval wing against Bruges, Ostend and Zeebrugge districts this afternoon, forty sea-planes and aeroplanes bombarded Ostend, Middlekerke, Ghisteltes and Zeebrugge. Bombs were dropped on heavy batteries situated east and west of Ostend, on gun positions at Middlekerke, on transport waggons at Ostend and Ghisteltes road, on a mole at Zeebrugge, to widen the breach damaged in the former attacks, on the locks at Zeebrugge, on the barges outside Blankenburghe and on the trawlers outside Zeebrugge."

Eight French aeroplanes assisted the naval machines by making vigorous attacks on the Ghisteltes aerodrome, thus effectively preventing the German aircraft from cutting off our machines. It is reported that good results were obtained."

Instructions are always issued to confine attacks to points of military importance, and every effort is made by flying officers to avoid dropping bombs on any residential portion of the towns. The official reports make no mention of who took part in the raid, and it is presumed they all returned safely.

Strained Relations Greece and Turkey

London, Feb. 17.—Relations between Greece and Turkey are apparently becoming more strained, although Turkey offered reparations for insult to Greek Military Attache at Constantinople.

It is reported that the Greek Minister left the Legation in charge of Secretary, being dissatisfied with Turkey's attitude. The Turkish Minister also left Athens.

It is believed in some quarters that the first step in the rupture of the diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey, which it is said have been affected by Albanian invasion of Serbia.

The British Parliament to-morrow will debate the motion of the Labor Party calling on the Government to fix maximum prices for food.

Don't tear your old roof off because it is old, worn out or leaky. Use Elastic Roofing Paint. P. H. COWAN, Agent.

Holland and Italy Protest German War Zone Threat

London, Feb. 17.—Norwegian Danish insurance companies have given instructions that steamers insured by them shall have their national colors, name of ships, country and their origin painted on the sides of all vessels.

Holland and Italy, like the States, have protested to Germany against her sea war zone threat and have asked Britain not to make free use of neutral flags.

Similar representations are expected to be made to two countries to-morrow in a joint note by Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

No Govt. Help For Steffansson

Ottawa, Feb. 17.—Because three ships are already in Arctic waters capable of giving assistance that may be required the Government does not plan to send any rescue expedition to Explorer Steffansson this Spring.

No word has been received from Steffansson since last August, but in any event he had not planned to return to land this winter.

Sydney, Feb. 17.—John West, a native of Halifax, convicted of murder of Miss K. C. Dunn, sentenced to be hanged April 19.

The murder was committed at or near Sydney on December 1.

Uncle Sam Has His Trouble, Too

A Conspiracy to Seize Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Part of California

San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 10.—After the private examining trial of Alvaro Gutierrez here to-day, one of two arrested by United States officers on a charge of seditious conspiracy against the United States, Federal officials said they were in possession of documentary evidence which they alleged revealed further details of a plot to seize the States of Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and the lower half of California for the formation of an independent republic.

Without annexation to Mexico was contemplated, it is said, the document declaring that Mexico had been robbed of this territory.

Gutierrez was held in \$5,000 bond for trial. Basilio Ramos, Jr., was held under the same bond after preliminary hearings Saturday. Other arrests are expected.

GERMANY OFFER WITHDRAW BLOCADE

If British Navy Permit Free Movement Food-Stuffs to German Civilians—Cabinet's Military Consider the Question

London, Feb. 17.—Britain received to-day through Walter Hines Page, American Ambassador, Germany's offer to withdraw her threat of submarine blockade against Britain, if the British navy would permit free movement of foodstuffs to civil populations of Germans.

There is no expectation here that the offer will be accepted. In fact Britain is already preparing to retaliate against Germany by placing under more stringent control ships destined for German ports and a proclamation momentarily is expected,

declaring the blockade of the German coast or at any rate the prohibition of foodstuffs destined for Germany.

The Cabinet with its naval and military advisers considered this question to-day. It is understood the decision is awaiting formal confirmation of the Privy Council, from which all proclamations emanate.

Meanwhile the British and neutral vessels are moving as freely as usual with the exception of those belonging to a few Dutch lines which have reduced their number of sailings.

Diplomacy's Tangled Skein

Exercises Statesmen More Than Actual Fighting—Big German Offensive Along E. Prussia Frontier

London, Feb. 17.—For the time being questions of diplomacy are arousing more interest than actual fighting, although military movements of first importance are taking place, especially along the Eastern line. German offensive, strongly supported by fresh troops, are being pushed with great vigor, both along East Prussian frontier and Poland, north of Lower Vistula.

Russians now have evacuated East Prussia except for a small area near Lyck, where they are opposing German advance. Also apparently falling back in North Poland for the Germans to-day announced they have occupied Plock and Bielsk which the Russians recaptured from them a short time ago.

While the Germans claim to have inflicted heavy losses on the retreating Russian armies, military men here, and newspaper correspondents in Petrograd, continue to refer to Muscovite movement as a strategic retirement to the fortified line, which lies along the Niemen River, through Kovno, Grodno and Lomza and thence Southwest to the fortress of Novoe Georgiewsk.

Heavy fighting also continues in Carpathians and Bukovina. In Bukovina the Russians also are falling back but they continue to hold Carpathian Passes further West and are putting up a stubborn resistance against the Austro-German offensive in that region. Here fighting is taking place in deep snow, both sides suffering severely.

Large number of troops the Germans are using in the East it is believed here will prevent for some time any attempt by Germany to break the deadlock in the West.

General French in the first of the promised by-weekly reports, pays high tribute to the Patricias, Indians and Territorials. He says they have "far more than justified the most sanguine hopes entertained of their value in the field."

In the region of Labassee, where Germans are said to have suffered severe losses and that British artillery have shown marked superiority over that of Germans.

Canadians At the Front

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—At the opening of the Commons, Sir Robert Borden read the following message received by the Duke of Connaught from the Colonial Secretary, dated Feb. 16.—"Your Ministers will be glad to know that the whole Canadian Contingent are doing well at the front, having safely crossed over to France."

The announcement was heartily applauded.

One of the most important enactments for the aid of women workers is that which goes into effect in Washington state Feb. 20. It is the establishment of the minimum wage scale for women at \$10 a week.

Good Health Of Canadians

London, Feb. 10.—In reference to exaggerated reports of heavy losses from disease among the Canadian troops encamped on Salisbury Plains the war office to-day issued a statement to the effect that only 95 Canadians had died in this camp and that the total losses from meningitis has been 24 men out of forty cases reported. It had been reported that the entire Canadian battalion was suffering from meningitis and the inference had been drawn that the epidemic was due to bad camp conditions.

According to the War Office the disease was brought with the contingent from Canada. In reference to the report that 70 per cent. of the Canadian horses are suffering from mud fever the War Office declares that only ten per cent. of the Canadian horses are sick and that only a proportion of these had mud fever. The war office also denies the report that it had received applications to billet the men instead of leaving them in camp.

CANADIAN FLIES AMERICAN FLAG

New York, Feb. 10.—Passengers of the Cunard line British steamer Orduna, which arrived here to-day from England, said that the steamer flew the American flag for nearly 24 hours on January 31 while passing through the Irish Sea. The stars and stripes, they said, were hoisted on Sunday about an hour after the Orduna left Liverpool and not hauled down until early Monday morning.

Peace Party In France Before "The Marne"

Premier Joseph Caillaux Ready to Sign Peace Treaty—Germans Would Give up Alsace-Lorraine For Slice North Sea Coast

Paris, Feb. 10.—Certain French newspapers to-day reprint with the consent of the government censors an article published in the Democratic Delmont stating that previous to the battle of the Marne, a party existed in France which was ready to sign a peace, at the same time ceding to Germany the towns of Briey and Nancy, French Lorraine, the island of Madagascar, the protectorate of Morocco, as well as paying an indemnity. The article continues: "General Joffre, the French commander in chief, President Raymond Poincare and most of the cabinet ministers were opposed to the plan, but the situation became so tense as to necessitate the resignation of Adolphe Messimy as minister of war and the formation of a ministry of national defence."

"After the battle of the Marne, Germany proposed peace through Premier Joseph Caillaux, offering to give up the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, with the exception of Strassburg, receiving in exchange a small zone on the North Sea coast extending from Calais to Dunkirk. France, in addition, was to acknowledge the annexation of Belgium by Germany."

"The answer to this proposal was the signing of a convention by the allies to make no separate peace."

A. English