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RUSSIAN ARMIES STILL RETREATING HARD PRESSED BY AUSTRO-GERMANS

Grand Duke's Forces are Being Driven Deep Into the Pripet Marshes Where Enemy Hopes to Repeat Success that Attended Them at Mazurian Lakes—Town of Lipsk, West of Grodno, Has Fallen Into Hands of Germans

Equinoctial Storms Now the Hope On Which Military Experts Rest—It is Hoped That the Coming of Wintery Conditions May Put a Check to Austro-German Push—Desperate Fighting on Gallipoli Near Sulva Bay, Where British Made Recent Landing.

London, Aug. 30.—War reports from the Eastern war theatre, embracing the region from Courland to South-eastern Galicia, indicate that the Germans and Austrians are still pressing the Russians hard in combat, or tenaciously following them on their retreat, military observers here are hoping the approaching equinoctial season will limit any further forward movement of the Teutons, and force them to content with the fruits of their past successes when winter season falls upon them.

Both Berlin and Vienna lay emphasis on the statement that Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's forces along the Dvina River and Courland, have renewed their activities, which were brought to a sudden halt recently with the success of the Russians holding Riga as a menace to Von Hindenburg's rear. In South-western Russia, in the Brest-Litovsk region, the Austrians and Germans are chiefly concerned in driving Grand Duke Nicholas's armies further into the Pripet marshes, evidently with the purpose of repeating the early success of the Germans in the Mazurian Lakes in the region of East Prussia.

To the north-west, in the sector lying only a short distance east of the

East Prussian frontier, Berlin reports the advance of the Teutons and the capture of the town of Lipsk, lying just west of the fortress of Grodno, upon which the aims of the Germans now are evidently centered.

With the opening of the autumn months military observers are directing attention to the fact that the Russian equinoctial storms are soon due to begin. They assert that they are in the danger limit of military operations in the eastern field. It is recalled by some of these observers that the autumnal equinox marked the turning point of the Napoleonic campaign. The first warning was the light snowfall, preceding the equinox, but soon afterwards heavy snows fell and with them came disaster to Napoleon.

Desperate fighting continues in the Dardanelles, in the vicinity of the spot where the British recently made their landing. Turkish reports claim the recapture by Ottoman forces of allied trenches with heavy allied casualties. These claims, however, have not been conceded by Britain.

Military operations in the Western field have been confined to trench fighting.

On the Austro-Italian frontier, Italians claim their forces are slowly advancing northward.

Germany Takes Conciliatory Steps In Arabic Case

Berlin, Aug. 30.—It was understood to-day that Germany's course with regard to the Arabic case has been decided upon, and that it is in line with the recent conciliatory statement made by Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor.

This development followed the return to Berlin of Chancellor Admiral Von Tirpitz and other participants in the conference with the German Emperor at his headquarters on the Eastern front.

No official statement was made regarding the German decision, but there seems to be good ground for the belief that the Government have adopted the viewpoint set forth by the Chancellor.

French Artillery Seriously Damages German Trenches

Paris, Aug. 30.—Violent artillery fighting took place yesterday evening at many points in the Argonne district, as a result of which the trenches of the Germans were seriously damaged, according to the French official reports this afternoon.

To An Enemy's Mother

And did my son kill thine? Alas Alas!
But I have my boy safe at home again,
His wound is healed. God! if there could but pass
From my soul's vision sight of thy son, slain!

Nothing can heal thy wound, thy bitter smart;
No prayer of mine can bring thee back thy boy.
Yet, my son thrust the sword-blade in thy heart,
And trampled out the flame of all thy joy.

No Fighting On Western Front Worth Noting

London, Aug. 30.—A report from Field Marshal Sir John French was given out by the British War Office to-night, as follows:—

"Since my last communication of August 18th, there has been no fighting on our front to record. There has been a certain amount of mining activity, but conditions generally have been normal.

"Both on the 18th and 21st we succeeded in shooting down enemy aeroplanes.

"On the 25th our heavy artillery set fire to a railway train at Langemark Station (about five miles north-east of Ypres). The same evening our Royal Flying Corps co-operated with our Allies in an aerial attack on Fous, south of Hurst, which was successfully carried out, without loss to any machines."

British Detain Norwegian Steamer At Kirkwall

London, Aug. 30.—The Norwegian steamer Salonica from Galveston for Denmark has been detained at Kirkwall by the British authorities.

Prize Court Sitting at Hamburg Gives Decision

In the Case of the Steamers Maria-Batavier Taken by Germans

ON THE HIGH SEAS

And Carrying Contraband to British Ports—Court Sustains Action—No Indemnity Goes to Owners

London, Aug. 30.—The British Foreign Office to-night issued the following statement:—

"Judgments have recently been delivered by the German prize court at Hamburg in the cases of the steamships Maria and Batavier.

"The Maria was a Dutch vessel carrying a cargo of wheat shipped from Portland, Oregon, to Belfast and Dublin. She was captured by the German cruiser Karlsruhe, on the Atlantic September 21st last, and sunk. The Batavier was a Dutch vessel bound for London, and was captured in the North Sea on March 11th, and taken to Zebrugge on suspicion of carrying contraband.

"The sinking of the Maria is justified by the German prize court on the ground that having regard for the place of capture, the commander of the Karlsruhe was unable to take the vessel into a German port or a port of the allied powers, and so acted in pursuance of article 113 of the German naval prize regulations. This was said not to require any further explanation, and payment of indemnity to the owner was refused.

"Judgments show that considering the question and destination of conditional contraband, the German prize court held that it is to be guided by a communication of the chief of the general staff of the navy, addressed to the Court on August 17th, 1914, concerning ports to be regarded as fortified places or as bases of operations or supply for British armed forces, issued by supreme command. As the court in other cases held that such places as Ipswich, Poole, Barrow-in-Furness and Grangemouth were bases or fortified places, it may be inferred that these were also included in the list referred to. In order to rebut the presumption set up, and that conditional contraband destined for such places is intended for military, not for civil use, the Court held that counter proof must satisfy the most rigorous condition, and it would only be possible to furnish it in rare cases.

"With regard to the cargo of wheat aboard the Maria they held there was no means of ascertaining—with the least certainty—what use the wheat would have been put to arrival of the vessel at Belfast, or whether the British Government would not come upon the scene as purchaser.

"The effect of these decisions appear to be to abolish the practice of distinction between absolute and conditional contraband of war."

National Union Of Paper Workers Refuse Invitation

Go to Switzerland Attend Conference International Union

NEVER AGAIN

Will They Agree to Meet Representatives Germany or Austria

London, Aug. 30.—The National Union of Paper Workers has taken the initiative among British Trade Unionists in refusing to maintain relations with German and Austrian Labour federations. The decision was taken in connection with an invitation to a conference at Switzerland with the object of reviving International Trades Unions.

The Executive of the Paper Workers' Union replying to the invitation, said the organization decided it would never again agree to sit in conference with representatives of a nation which applauded the wholesale murder of 1,400 unarmed men, women and children when the Lusitania was sunk without a moment's warning.

The executive of the Union proposes calling a conference in London or Paris for the institution of a new international Secretariat from interest in which German and Austrian organizations shall be excluded.

In 1913 there were 574,859 trees felled in Ireland.

Kitchener Holds Key to Question Of Conscription

Will be Able to Lead Country to His Views

SIR EDWARD GREY AND BAD RECORD

Is Commented Upon by Gibson Bowles—Demands Explanation of Grey's Reply to German Chancellor

London, Aug. 31.—The Globe asserts that a certain majority of the Cabinet, led by Lord Curzon, Lloyd George and Winston Churchill favor conscription. Those still opposed are Premier Asquith, Sir Ed. Grey, Simon, Harcourt, McKenna, Rudman and Balfour, while Lord Kitchener is undecided. The Press generally is of the opinion that Kitchener holds the key to the situation, and that he will be able to convince Parliament and people for which ever side he declares.

Gibson Bowles, the well-known naval expert, leads an agitation, daily becoming more insistent, demanding an explanation of Sir Edward Grey's remark in replying to Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg, that the freedom of the sea may be a reasonable subject for discussion between nations after the war. Mr. Bowles undoubtedly carries the nation with him when he contends that those seas should be free to all during peace. It is vital to Britain to maintain that freedom for herself during war, while denying her enemies such freedom. Bowles further comments on Grey's bad record in this matter, being chiefly responsible for the declaration of London, 1907, limiting the right of search and abolishing the right to confiscation in connection with contraband, which the House of Lords defeated, but which Sir Edward Grey invited the late Government to enforce under an Order in Council at the beginning of the war, until compelled by force of public opinion to rescind it by a further order on March 11th, since when the order has been evaded in various ways.

It is evident that the majority of the Liberals are opposed, like the Unionists, to gag this question.

Disaffection Grows Among Coal Miners In South Wales

Many Meetings at Board of Trade Consider Matter

HOPES FOR SETTLEMENT

Are Expressed in Some Quarters, While Others See No Solution to Trouble

London, Aug. 31.—Efforts of the Government to avert the spread of South Wales coal strike led to protracted meetings in the Board of Trade Chambers to-day between Walter Runciman, President of the Board of Trade, David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions and representatives of the miners and coal owners. At the conclusion of the conference no official announcement of the result was made.

According to one report the coal owners agreed to the inclusion in Runciman's recent award those workers to whom the award did not extend, which would mean the strike settled.

According to another report a hitch has arisen in the negotiations which will render necessary another meeting with Runciman on Tuesday morning. Twelve thousand miners are now on strike in the coal fields.

Africa has 276 spoken languages.

Austrians Retreat Before the Italians

Milan, Aug. 31.—The Austrians are in full retreat at two points. One is in the Valsugano, where they are blowing up bridges and viaducts, and destroying all roads and railways as they retreat.

The other is in the region of the Upper Isonzo, where Italian Alpines have wrested an important mountain summit from the Austrian grip.

Russians Report Some Successes Against the Turks

Petrograd, Aug. 31.—The following official statement has been issued at the headquarters of the Russian army:—

"On the entire front there have been only minor engagements and changes during the recent fighting. Up to August 22 we made prisoners of 84 officers, 3,000 men, while our cavalry pursuing the Turks on the roads to Boutak sabred over 2,000. We also captured 12 guns and a quantity of war material.

Germany Closes Arabic Incident

London, Aug. 31.—The German Government considers the Arabic incident closed and has declared its willingness to punish the commander of the submarine which sank the steamer, according to a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Amsterdam.

The correspondent says there has been received from Berlin a report of considerable feeling in German military circles because of Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg's so-called weakness towards the United States.

Merely Drifted Says Military Critic London Times

London, August 31.—The Times' military correspondent makes an attack on the higher direction of the campaign from the British side, which he declares is the subject of severe criticism in the fighting services, pointing to Antwerp fiasco, the Dardanelles mistakes and the failure to organize a munition supply.

The correspondent says the Cabinet has shown no genius for war. To put it brutally the correspondent says, we have not been governed in a strategic sense, we have merely drifted.

Massing Troops On Serbian Border Merely a Bluff

London, August 31.—The Chronicle's diplomatic correspondent says: It would be only fulfilling the malicious intentions of the Central Powers to accept the present military demonstration on the frontiers of Serbia and Roumania at its face value. Its purpose in the most favorable circumstances must be more political than military. The expense of the suggested German plans to break thru Serbia, even if it prove successful, which is decidedly improbable, would be out of all proportion to the military value of the achievement. Any fresh attack on Serbia would certainly recreate the Balkan League, and such a contingency, bringing into action against the Teutonic Powers over 1,250,000 men, German diplomacy cannot possibly contemplate.

IS SWITZERLAND WITH GERMANS?

American Minister at Berne Foreshadows Such Course as Likely

Washington, Aug. 20.—In a report sent by mail to the state department, Pleasant A. Stovall, the American minister at Berne, Switzerland, indicates that he has been given a very strong intimation from official sources that the Swiss government is preparing to take sides in the European war with the Germanic alleged interference with Swiss trade by the governments of the quadruple alliance.

NEW TORPEDO, A DEADLY WEAPON IS 23 FEET LONG

Weights 2,800 Pounds and Will Tear Hole in Protected Ship

Washington, Aug. 21.—The up-to-date torpedo is a loaded automobile, shaped like a cigar, made to run in a certain direction in a fixed time and explodes when it strikes something that offers sharp resistance. A reliable one, properly equipped with explosives and running gear, costs from \$3,000 to \$9,000, according to size. A large torpedo is 23 feet long, 21 ins. in diameter and weighs 2,800 pounds and it tears a hole 30 by 10 feet in the bottom of a ship of two skins.

"The torpedo," said an expert of the navy, "has four principal parts—the warhead, which carries the explosive; the air flasks, or fuel chamber; the engine and the steering gear and the balance chamber. The explosive head is filled with some high explosive—gun-cotton, etc.—and is provided with a percussion detonator. This strikes a hard or solid substance, and the explosive goes off instantaneously."

Gun-Cotton or Nitro-Glycerine

"The explosive head is the foremost compartment of the torpedo and contains the deadly charge and the pistol with which it is fired. Gun-cotton and nitro-glycerine are the high explosives generally used for submarine purposes. There are many others, but these form the foundation for most of them. Gunpowder of the sort used by the country boy to shoot a rabbit or squirrel is no longer used.

"The high explosive is more powerful than gunpowder. Gunpowder burns quicker than the high explosive, and it splutters around if scattered on the ground, but it explodes if confined in a close place. The high explosive will burn if you stick a match to it, but not so easily as gunpowder. A sudden blow will apply heat to an explosive and set it off.

This Is What Happens

"What happens when the explosive head strikes?"

"A detonation follows instantaneously and blows the outside of the ship in, making a hole about thirty feet by ten feet in size. There is no rule about the extent of the damage to the side of the boat; it may be twice thirty by ten feet. The bow drives in both the outer and inner skins of a vessel like the Lusitania. The double bottom is not sufficient to break the force of the torpedo if it strikes well. A glancing blow may not cause an explosion.

"The torpedo would have about the same effect on a collier that it would on a big merchant vessel. We have never tested thoroughly the effect of a torpedo blown on an oil tanker such as the Gulfight. We are doing that now.

"After the torpedo struck it would be blown to bits, and most of the pieces would go to the bottom of the sea. Some fragments might go inside and become entangled in the splinters made by the detonation."

Effects on Trade.

Minister Stovall's report deals with conditions in Switzerland, with particular reference to the effect of the war on trade and commerce. He says that on account of the blockade instituted by Great Britain and her allies, Swiss trade has been very largely cut off, and there has been a shortage of food, with consequent suffering.

A Confidential Report.

Officials of the state department and the department of commerce decline to give details of its contents. The report was marked "confidential" and is supposed to have been sent by mail instead of by cable on account of its length. Officials are understood to have been surprised over Minister Stovall's statement that Switzerland was preparing to get into the war.