

SMALL GAINS FOR ALLIES ALL A LOG LINE IN WEST; RUSSIANS DRIVE ENEMY INTO EAST PRUSSIA

INDIANS AS STEADY AS THEIR WHITE COMRADES BEFORE SHRAPNEL FIRE

Their Fearlessness in Recent Fighting Dispels All Doubts of Their Ability to Stand Against Artillery Fire — Their Endurance and Fortitude in Severe Climate Astonish Allies and Enemies Alike.

Boulogne, Dec. 21.—The great endurance and fighting ability of the native troops from India who have come to take part for the first time in history in a war against white troops on European soil have astonished those against whom they have been pitted as well as all the allied commanders except the British.

The only question which arose in the British officers' mind was whether the Indian would be able to stand against artillery fire, to which they never had been subjected in the frontier wars. This has been answered in the affirmative, and they have proved as steady under shrapnel fire as the best of their white comrades. Not only this, but the commanders of the allied armies aver that they show dash and fearlessness to a remarkable degree and have on many occasions displayed great initiative under the most difficult circumstances.

In a suburb of Boulogne before the entrance of a great field covered with many regular rows of tents stood a figure as still as a statue. It was a Sikh in his uniform of khaki guarding the sanatorium in which

some hundreds of his slightly wounded or ailing comrades from the battlefield of Flanders were recuperating from the hardships of the campaign. These warriors from the Punjab and Bengal, as their fellow soldiers, the little hardy Gurkhas and Pathans and Jats from the mountains on the Afghan frontier, generally bear the variations of climate with the greatest fortitude. They declare they are fighting for their "Raj" or Emperor, and it is not for them to complain.

Confident of the Outcome.

Just as well drilled and disciplined as the soldiers of any European power, they go into battle with the full assurance that they will be victors. When they first went into action they distinguished the protection of the shelter trenches and darted across the open at their opponents with their bayonets and knives, much to their cost, they have since learned, like all the other troops engaged in this war of rabbit warrens, to bore their way through the earth to get at their foes and they have proved even more adept at this kind of fighting than their European comrades.

SYDNEY WOMEN MURDERED; NEGRO HELD ON SUSPICION

Miss Cassie Dunn Found in Cellar With Gash in Head and Blood-stained Axe Near Body—Evidence of Brutality of Slayer—Prisoner Admits He was at Victim's House Last Evening.

North Sydney, N. S., Dec. 21.—Miss Cassie Dunn, one of the best known residents of this town was murdered in her residence on Queen street about six o'clock this evening. A negro named West who lives opposite on the same street is held on suspicion.

Miss Dunn was found in a kneeling posture at the bottom of the stairs leading into the cellar. A deep gash in the head and a bloody axe nearby told the nature of the tragedy. Life was extinct when the body was found.

The discovery was made by Mr. Adam Ross. On reaching home in the evening he found the table laid for supper but nobody in the house. After waiting for some time he began a search which finally led him to the cellar stairs and he was horrified to find Miss Dunn's prostrate body at the bottom, her head in a pool of blood. Beside her was the axe used by the murderer. He at once summoned Dr. Rindress and soon after the police authorities were notified. An examination of the body by Dr. Rindress disclosed the fact that death must have been instantaneous.

Later in the evening the coroner empanelled a jury and viewed the remains as well as examined the premises. It was found that the murderer must have been committed to the

sitting room, and the body afterwards carried down into the basement. Besides the axe, a piece of broken water pipe with blood and hair upon it was also discovered. This instrument possibly dealt the first blow. Blood was also found upon the knob of the front door, which would indicate that the murderer had left the house by the main entrance. The back door was found to be locked. There was evidence also of a struggle in the sitting room. Suspicion rests upon the colored man West, owing to the fact that he frequently went to Miss Dunn's house for water, and on his own admission had been there at five o'clock this evening.

The amazing part of the crime is the complete absence of motive. There was no evidence of robbery in the house, Miss Dunn's jewelry was untouched.

The inquest has been adjourned until eleven o'clock tomorrow. The remains were taken to the undertaking rooms to await the completion of the investigation.

Miss Dunn, who was highly respected, was about 70 years of age, and had been a life-long resident of North Sydney. She conducted, for many years, the jewellery business which had belonged to her father, and which some years ago she sold to A. W. Ross.

ALLIES AIRMEN SET FIRE TO ZEPPELIN SHEDS AT BRUSSELS

London, Dec. 22, 2:56 a. m.—A Dunlop despatch to the Daily Mail says that aviators of the allies paid a visit to Brussels and dropped bombs on the Zeppelin sheds which were set afire. In a night raid, airmen of the allies flew from Dunkirk over the German coast positions and dropped twelve bombs doing considerable damage. They then returned there in safety.

TWO MORE WAR PRIZES TAKEN BY BR. CRUISERS

London, Dec. 22, 2:23 a. m.—It is announced that British warships have captured near the Falkland Islands two German owned steamers which were acting as store ships to the German cruisers. They were the Baden and Santa Isabel, both flying the flag of the Hamburg-American line.

British and French Have Advanced on Whole Front, Particularly Between Argonne and the Meuse — Better News From the Eastern Theatre — Russians in Strategic Positions and Austrians Admit Czar's Men Back Again in Galicia and South Poland in Great Numbers — More Rumors of Italy Joining in Struggle—Middlekerke Again Reported Evacuated by Germans.

London, Dec. 21.—In Poland and Galicia battles are being fought between the Russians and the Germans and Austrian allies amid deep snow in bitter cold. In Belgium and Northern France the French, British and Belgium allies are contesting the thick mud fields foot by foot. No news of any decisive gain comes from either arena today. The Russian and German claims continue to be directly contradictory.

The Germans in Poland again are making a fierce attack toward the capital, and the Russians are making a stand against them on the east bank of the Bzura river, thirty miles west of Warsaw. Grand Duke Nicholas' army here holds a natural strategic line fifty miles long, running, roughly north and south along the east banks of the Bzura and Rawaka rivers.

The Petrograd report claims that the German force in North Poland has retreated across the boundary into East Prussia in a northwesterly direction. It asserts also that the Austrian advance through the Carpathian Passes to the north has been checked, and the attempts of the Pzemysl garrison to break through the lines repulsed. According to this report the Austrians have been driven into the fortifications with heavy slaughter.

The Austrian communication, on the other hand, claims successes in the Carpathians, but admits that the Russians again occupy Galicia and South Poland in force. Apparently, therefore, the Cracow and Przemyśl investments are proceeding and have not been broken.

SNOW AND COLD HALT FIGHTING.

Serious fighting between the Russians and Turks around Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, has been stopped by snow six feet deep and the intense cold, from which the Arabs are suffering bitterly.

Berlin publishes what purports to be an order issued by General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the allied forces in the west, dated December 17, exhorting the soldiers and telling them the hour has come to clear the invader from France.

A late Paris official bulletin describes small gains all along the line particularly in the centre between the Argonne and the Meuse. British ships have again been bombarding Zebrugg and Heyst, as well as the coast beyond Ostend, where the Germans have established many shore batteries hidden in the grass and sand.

political developments in Hungary, whose people are reported to be deeply discontented because they think that Germany and Austria are failing to give Hungary a fair share of protection, are the subject of much speculation and deep interest in England.

Claims Austrians Advanced 30 Miles Some Days.

Berlin, Dec. 21.—(By wireless to Saville, N. Y.)—While a German bulletin issued yesterday gave only scant details regarding the military operations in Russian Poland, the Austrian official communication supplies data showing that the eastern movement of the Germans through Poland and the northward movement of the Austrians through Galicia are proceeding steadily and in some portions rapidly.

Despatches from the Austrian general headquarters say that the Austrians advanced some days as much as thirty miles, yet the official statement states that the Russians are resisting an Austrian advance with heavy forces on the lower Donajec, in Galicia, where heavy fighting is now in progress. This

HALF MILLION MORE MEN BEFORE THE SPRING

Lloyd George Says England Will Have that Many Fresh Troops in Field.

London, Dec. 22, 3:05 a. m.—In an interview given to the London representative of the Paris Humanita, David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, says:

"Before spring half a million fresh British soldiers will join these already in France and Belgium. England has at present more than two million men under arms.

"Although our army at the front is now scarcely one-sixth the size of the French army, our monthly war expenditure is \$225,000,000, which is a larger amount than France's total. In addition to the enormous resources which we shall command, through the new income tax we are turning into the war treasury a new loan amounting to the colossal sum of \$2,250,000,000."

RAID ON COAST TOWNS STIMULUS TO RECRUITING

Mayor of Scarborough Expects 1,000 Recruits for Every Victim of Raid — Kipling's Reference to Canadian Troops.

London, Dec. 21.—Canadians at Salisbury Plain are greatly interested in Rudyard Kipling's article in reference to their corps which appeared in the Daily Telegraph of Saturday. Kipling warns them that their equipment, which is so excellent may tempt the British troops to commander some when they appear on the firing line.

Canadian officers in town today declare that they are willing to assist those who have been fighting a long time as far as possible but they are determined that nothing will be taken without consent.

Recruiting has been abnormal

PART OF THE FIRST CONTINGENT NOW SERVING IN EGYPT?

Montreal, Dec. 21.—That at least one Canadian regiment is in Egypt would appear to be proved by a letter received by Honore Bertrand today from his brother, Louis Bertrand, a private in the First Royal Montreal. In this letter Private Bertrand describes the life of the men in Egypt and says that they expect soon to be fighting.

NO WAR HAD ROBERTS' ADVICE BEEN FOLLOWED

Vice-Admiral Sturdee Says in Reply to Welcome at Montevideo.

GERMAN SAILORS TO ENGLAND AS PRISONERS

British Navy May Meet Some Reverses but Will Live Up to Traditions.

Montevideo, Dec. 21.—German sailors to the number of about one hundred who were saved during the fighting of the Falkland Islands December 8 when the British squadron under Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee defeated and sent to the bottom a German squadron composed of the cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Nürnberg and Leipzig, sailed from here today for England on board the steamer Crown of Galicia. They were brought into port yesterday by the British cruiser Invincible, with Sir Frederick on board.

It was learned today that the Invincible showed signs of having been struck by six different shells.

Nine men on board of her were wounded, including Commander Richard H. D. Townsend.

In the course of the reception tendered the British officers in Victoria Hall yesterday, an address of welcome was made by the British Minister in response Admiral Sturdee spoke as follows:

"I thank you for this reception. I hope our little victory will improve conditions for British, French, Russian and probably for Japanese commerce during this titanic conflict which has just begun. We may suffer some reverses, but our sailors will maintain their high reputation and all will go well with our army and with our French allies.

"Lord Roberts recommended military preparations. Had he been listened to, the war would have been avoided. English business men, forgetful of their true interests, employed Germans for reasons of economy but I hope that their merchants and British steamship companies will profit from this lesson."

Continuing Admiral Sturdee said that the Germans fought well and were excellent citizens except when they invaded neutral countries and attacked unprotected towns. He declared that the British squadron had suffered eight men killed and fourteen wounded in the battle of December 8. The engagement commenced at 1 o'clock and the German cruiser Scharnhorst, the flagship of Admiral Von Spee went down at 6 o'clock. Unfortunately the German admiral lost his life.

The admiral lost two sons. "War is a sad thing," added Admiral Sturdee. "The vessels of the enemy menaced our commerce. Now they are at the bottom of the ocean."

throughout Yorkshire since the east coast of England was bombarded.

Lord Scarborough, chairman of the County Territorial Force, expects a thousand recruits for each victim killed in Scarborough and Whitby. This would mean a total of 19,000.

AUSTRIA ANXIOUS TO BREAK WITH HER ALLY?

Washington Learns of Dissatisfaction at Vienna at Failure of Austrian Army and Defeat at Hands of Servians and People Urging Peace Proposals — Rumored that Italy Will Join in Struggle at Beginning of the Year.

Washington, Dec. 21.—A despatch from a prominent neutral diplomat in Vienna to his government of which officials here learned today, states that leading financial and commercial men in Austria are urging the making of peace.

The diplomat in a cipher telegram confirms recent press reports from Rome of the dissatisfaction which the Austrian population feels at the lack of success of its army, and states moreover, that indignation has been stirred up among all classes because of the recent reverses suffered at the hands of Servia. The Austrian government, he adds, through a strict censorship of the press has withheld details of these defeats from an anxious public.

The same diplomat states that reports are persistent in well informed circles in Vienna that Italy will declare war against Austria about New Year. These reports emanate, the despatch says, from prominent Italians, but Austrian officials are still confident that Italy will remain neutral.

CHILEAN GOV'T PROTESTS TO GERMANY AGAINST BREACH OF NEUTRALITY

Washington, Dec. 21.—After a searching investigation of the activities of the German fleet in the Southern Pacific recently, the government of Chile has made formal protest to Germany against alleged violations of neutrality by the German navy in Chilean waters.

The protest transmitted by the Chilean minister at Berlin sets forth that the German ships prior to their entering the waters of Chile, were demanding reparations from Chilean vessels.

At the same time, the Chilean government has protested to Great Britain, charging that the British cruiser Glasgow recently took mail from vessels in Chilean waters.

GREECE SAFE FROM ATTACK BY BULGARIA

In Event She Joins Servia and Does Not Attack Bulgaria.

London, Dec. 21. (6 p. m.)—Following on the categorical assurances of the Bulgarian government of its intention to maintain strict neutrality in the war, the Entente powers, Great Britain, France and Russia, have given guarantees to both Athens and Bucharest, that Bulgaria will not attack Greece, in the event of the latter country assisting Servia, and will not attack Roumania, should that State actively participate in the war.

This is taken to foreshadow the approaching participation of Roumania and Greece.

REPORT OF SINKING OF THE THUNDERER NOT TRUE, HE SAYS

Story Received in New York of Loss of British Dreadnought On Nov. 7.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 21.—The report sent out of New York last night that the British dreadnought Thunderer was sunk in the North Sea November 7, is incorrect, in the opinion of Harry J. Davis, of this city, who has a brother serving on the battleship. Davis said today he had received a letter from his brother, Fred W. Davis, dated November 15, stating that the Thunderer was about to go into drydock to have her bottom scraped.

The letter was postmarked London, but it did not reveal the location of the ship at the time of writing. No mention was made of contact with a mine or torpedo as reported in New York.

GIVE MEN GOING TO THE FRONT A CHANGE TO VOTE

Government Has Under Consideration Question of Making an Arrangement by Which Men Can Send Back Their Votes.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—The government has under consideration the question of making arrangements to allow all Canadian troops who leave for overseas service to register their votes at the next general election. This was done by New Zealand in the recent general elections.

In any case the government will take steps to see that the names of the men who go to the front will not be removed from the voters lists although they are absent. It is possible, however, that the government may go further and pass legislation at the next session of parliament to enable the men who have joined the contingents to send back their votes. They would be counted, of course, in the constituencies from which they came and in many evenly balanced ridings might be a deciding factor.

The holding of an election in New Zealand was not attacked on the ground that it was an introduction of party conflict during an imperial crisis and therefore unpatriotic.