

British lost fifty thousand men that day, out of one hundred and twenty thousand engaged; the French and Belgians lost seventy thousand; but the Germans lost three to one of the Allies, and failed to break through the slender line that held them back from Paris and from Calais, and kept the last narrow strip of Belgian territory from falling into their hands. There have been other severe and critical engagements before and since, on that part of the line from Belgium to Switzerland which is held by the French alone; the full story of which, perhaps, will never be told. The decisive action at Ypres was the British share in the defence, and it was worthy of the best traditions of the British army. The British are still holding their portion of the line in Flanders, about thirty miles out of the whole front of four hundred miles. Here many of the Canadian soldiers are stationed, and the British have made a notable advance within the last month, defeating the Germans at Neuve Chapelle, about ten miles south of the Belgian border.

The Dominion Parliament has voted an additional appropriation of a hundred million dollars for carrying on the war. The special war tax stamps will come into use on the fifteenth of this month. In addition to the postage stamp, a one cent war stamp will have to be affixed to letters and post cards before they are mailed; and bank checks and other documents must also bear the war stamp. These stamps will probably continue in use for some time after the close of the war.

The French have occupied strong positions in the Vosges (vozh) Mountains during the winter, and are in readiness to advance into the valley of the Rhine, which lies but twenty miles beyond.

In the east, the great event of the month has been the fall of Przemyśl, (approximately pronounced pshem-ish, with the accent on the first syllable, the r being silent and the l nearly so.) The capture of the fortress of Przemyśl after a siege of exactly six months gives the Russians possession of the whole of Galicia north of the Carpathians and east of Tarnow. It also sets free the large investing army for service elsewhere, and with this reinforcement the Russians are pressing through the mountain passes towards the plains of Hungary. Though great battles have been fought along the Russian border, Germany has not yet taken any of the Russian fortresses. Przemyśl is the first stronghold taken by the Russians.

Little progress has been made by the allied fleets in their efforts to force the passage of the Dardanelles. One French and two British ships of the attacking fleet were sunk by floating mines. The Allied fleet has been reinforced by ten more warships, and an army of British and French troops has been landed on the peninsula of Gallipoli, which forms the northern side of the strait and divides it from the Aegean Sea. The peninsula is eight miles wide; but the leading British ship can throw shells over it to destroy the forts on the strait, her gun fire being directed by wireless messages from the ships at the mouth of the strait. A Russian fleet is approaching the Bosphorus, to bombard the forts at the Black Sea entrance.

Reports from all parts of Mexico tell of anarchy, murder and destruction, with no prospect of any of the leaders in the field being able to establish a settled government.

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