

# RUSSIA SHATTERING ANCIENT EMPIRE

## London Press Calls Attention to What They Term "Astonishing Achievement of Czar's Armies in Galicia"

### Servia Roused to Highest Pitch of Enthusiasm by Capture of Semlin, From Which First Shots in Great European War Were Fired—German Report Says Russians Met Reverse at Lyck—Tomaszow Occupied by Russians After Bloody Conflict and Austrian Army Routed.

(Special Cable to Daily Telegraph and Montreal Gazette.)

London, Sept. 11.—The Times says editorially: "If we are to observe due proportion in examining the various phases of this spacious war, there can be no doubt that pride of place must be assigned today to the astonishing achievements of Russia."

"While the allies in the west have been steadfastly battling against mighty and highly efficient armies, she has been shattering an ancient empire. No smaller result can follow the brilliant operations of the Russians in Galicia and southern Poland."

The Morning Post says: "It seems hardly possible for Austria to recover her military strength, and if the Russian armies in Galicia can continue their rapid advance, Austria must in a short time be considered off the board."

#### RUSSIANS RE-TAKE TOMASZOW.

Petrograd, Sept. 11.—Tomaszow has been taken after a desperate fight. The German troops near Myszynek and Chorzele, Russian Poland, have been repulsed with heavy losses.

The Russian troops have taken by assault the fortified positions of Opole and Tourbine, Russian Poland, and pursued the enemy for a distance of twenty-five miles.

Tomaszow, or as it is sometimes known Mazowiecki and sometimes as Fabryczny, is a town in Russian Poland in the province of Piotrkow and is situated about forty-one miles from the city of that name. It is noted for its large woolen mills, steam flour mills and its mechanical works. In 1900 its population was 25,000. Its recapture means the repulse of the Austro-German army invading Russian Poland.

#### AUSTRIAN LEFT WING ISOLATED.

Petrograd, Sept. 11.—It is announced that the Russian troops have succeeded in separating the left wing of the Austrian army from the troops which were operating around Tomaszow and Rawa in Russian Poland.

#### SERVIANS MADE DARING ATTACK.

Rome, Sept. 11, via Paris, 7.18 p. m.—The capture of Semlin by the Servians had long been prepared for and the operations were conducted with great ability, according to a despatch received here today by the Servian minister.

"Several Servian divisions," the despatch says, "camped in the hills extending from Topchider to Resnik, occupying all the heights about Mount Avala. The Austrian garrison in Semlin did not suspect the presence of the Servians, and continued the bombardment of Belgrade daily, without causing great damage, until the Servians surprised them."

"The audacity of the Servian movement was extraordinary, as in order to reach Semlin the Servians were compelled to cross the Save and Danube rivers on pontoons built during the night. They also took heavy artillery with them."

#### BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR AUSTRIA.

London, Sept. 11, 10.40 p. m.—Reuter's Rome correspondent sends the following message received in Rome from Nish, Servia:

"The taking of Semlin has caused great enthusiasm throughout Servia. The people are proud that their army, after seven weeks of war, not only has prevented a powerful enemy capturing Belgrade, but has inflicted humiliation upon them by forcing them to evacuate their base of operations against Servia. The victory has had a most wonderful moral effect upon the army and people."

Semlin is an important town of Austria-Hungary in Slavonia.

It was from Semlin that the Austrian infantry and artillery, in conjunction with the monitors on the river, began their fighting on July 29 against the Servians. The Servians early that morning blew up the bridge connecting Semlin with Belgrade. An intermittent bombardment, according to reports, has since been kept up by the Austrians in Semlin on Belgrade.

#### GERMAN ESTIMATE OF RUSSIAN ARMY.

London, Sept. 11, 9.02 p. m.—The following official German statement was received here tonight, by the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company:

"In the eastern theatre of the war the battle has been recommenced, and the Austrians have assumed the offensive in the region of Lemberg."

"During the nine days' fighting it is estimated that the Russians have had engaged 560,000 infantry, 40,000 cavalry, 1,500 machine guns and 2,000 field guns."

London, Sept. 12, 1.55 a. m.—A Reuter despatch from Berlin says:

"The general staff announced that the 22nd Russian army corps of Finland has tried to force a entrance into East Prussia by way of Lyck. The Russians were defeated at Lyck."

#### GERMAN CENTRE ALSO RETREATING.

Paris, Sept. 11, via London, 8.05 p. m.—It is officially announced that the German centre as well as their right wing is retreating.

#### BRITISH TAKE ELEVEN CANNON AND PRISONERS.

Paris, Sept. 11, 11.20 p. m.—The Germans continue to retreat. The British have taken eleven cannon and many prisoners."

This was the gist of an official report issued here tonight.

#### RETREAT MORE THAN FORTY MILES.

Paris, Sept. 11, 4.43 p. m.—A review of the recent fighting east of Paris, from the standpoint of the French war office, is made in an official communication issued this afternoon. The offensive move-

ments of the Allies are described as successful. The statement follows: "As we already have announced, a battle has been taking place since Sept. 6 over a front extending, in a general way, from Paris to Verdun."

From the very outset of this action the German right wing, the army commanded by General Von Kluck, which on Sept. 6 had reached the district to the north of Provins, was obliged to fall back, because of the danger of being enveloped. By its clever and rapid movements this army was successful in escaping from the Allies' grip, and was throwing itself with the greater part of its force against our enveloping wing, to the north of the Marne, and the west of the Ourcq rivers. But the French troops which were operating in this region, powerfully aided by the British, inflicted considerable losses on the enemy, and gained the time necessary to allow our offensive to press forward, and at present on that side the enemy is in retreat toward Aisne and the Oise."

"He has thus fallen back more than sixty or seventy-five kilometres (37 to 46 miles) in four days. In the meantime the Anglo-French forces which had been operating to the south of the Marne have not ceased to pursue their offensive. Starting some of them from the district south of the forest of Cirey, and others from the region north of Provins and south of Esternay, they opened out from the Marne on the left, the army of General Von Kluck as well as the army of General Von Buelow falling back before our troops."

#### THREE ARMIES ATTACKING HERE.

"It is in the region included between the plateau to the north of Sezanne and Vitry Le Francois that the most desperate fighting occurred. In this region there have been operating, besides the left wing of the army of General Von Buelow, the army of Saxony, and a part of the army commanded by the Prince of Wurtemberg."

"The Germans have tried to break our centre by repeated and violent attacks. Our success on the plateau to the north of Sezanne enabled us, in our turn, to take the offensive, and in the course of last night the enemy stopped fighting on the front, between the marsh of St. Gond and Sommesons district, and fell back in the region west of Vitry Le Francois."

"On the Ourcq river, as between the Argonne Forest and the River Meuse, where the armies of the Prince of Wurtemberg and the Crown Prince of Germany were operating, fighting was still going on, with alternate advances and retreats, but without any great change in the situation."

#### FIRST PHASE IN FAVOR OF ALLIES.

"Thus the first phase of the battle of the Marne is turning out in favor of the allied armies, since the German right wing and centre at present are in retreat."

"On our right the situation remains without notable change in the Vosges and around Nancy, which the Germans have tried to bombard with some long range guns."

"The general situation thus has been completely transformed during the last two days, both from strategic and tactical points of view. Not only have our troops stopped the Germans' march, which they thought was a victorious one, but the enemy has fallen back before us at nearly every point."

#### BRITISH BORE BRUNT OF ATTACK.

Paris, Sept. 11, 4.40 p. m.—The French military authorities who heretofore had confined the information made public concerning the military operations east of Paris to laconic statements very general in character, today gave a lengthy description of the most important battle since the beginning of hostilities."

Evidently the left wing of the allied armies facing the northeast have borne the brunt of the preliminary engagements in which the British took such a prominent part, and they are the object of the highest compliments on the part of the French military men."

The combat, according to the official announcement, seems to be developing into an abandonment of at least the advance position held by the Germans who, it is announced, are retiring along a greater part of the line. This retirement is said to have been for forty-five miles at some points."

Furious onslaughts sometimes by the French and again by the Germans occurred about the centre of an extensive line in the neighborhood of Vitry Le Francois."

Three great German armies, commanded by General Von Kluck, the Crown Prince Frederick William and the Duke of Wurtemberg, effected a junction and repeatedly hurled themselves against the French positions with the greatest vigor, but they were not able to achieve the seeming object of breaking the allies' centre and thus dividing the Anglo-French armies."

The French and British offered an equally vigorous resistance, eventually compelling the Germans to withdraw. The fighting continued throughout last night and the allies' position, it is understood, was improved today."

A rain storm caused great difficulties in the marshy districts but did not stop the operations. The fusillades of the troops and the artillery duel proceeded all day. It is believed that the retiring Germans suffered more than the allies from the storm, as their withdrawing columns were encumbered with baggage and ammunition wagons."

## RETREAT OF GERMAN ARMIES MEANS SECOND PHASE OF WAR

(Continued from page 1.)

in East Prussia before overwhelming forces of Germans who threatened Gen. Rennenkampf's left wing.

It is possible that the German commander, Gen. Von Hindenburg, pushed his advance a little too far and found that the Russians were stronger on the frontier, where Milawa is situated, than had been expected.

The Servians after taking Semlin, over which they had great rejoicing as it relieved Belgrade from a continuation of the bombardment, are taking advantage of Austria's weakness on that frontier to push into her territory."

#### RETIRING INTO BELGIUM AND LORRAINE.

Paris, Sept. 14—5.11 p. m.—Unrelenting pursuit of the rapidly retreating German army by the British and French forces continued today with extraordinary vigor according to the French view.

Despite the great numbers composing their various armies which operated together against the allies, the German withdrawing movement is being carried out with great rapidity and despatch. The main body appears to be approaching the Belgian frontier while the German left wing seemingly is gaining shelter in German Lorraine."

So far as known the leading invaders who, after wonderful forced marches into France, made such a stern attempt to break through the solid lines of the allies defending Paris, have abandoned more than sixty cannon of various calibre and thirty machine guns because their exhausted horses were unable to drag them fast enough to keep up even with the foot weary infantry."

Enormous amounts of ammunition and war stores also were left on the route of the Germans which is through a difficult marshy country, rendered almost impassable in some places by the heavy rains of the past few days and which threaten to continue."

The allies on the other hand, it is said, display no signs of fatigue. They are represented as stirred by unexpectedly great victories to such a state of elation that they are able to keep close on the heels of the enemy whom they harass day and night, cutting off detachments and attempting to place forces between the retreating armies and the comparative safety of the frontier."

In Lorraine the pursuing detachments are keeping, as everywhere else, in touch with the Germans."

The morale and sanitary conditions of the allies' armies continue excellent. NO RUSSIAN TROOPS IN WEST.

London, Sept. 14—11.25 p. m.—The official press bureau issued tonight a denial of the reports that Russian troops have been landed in Belgium.

"There is no truth whatever," says the bureau, "in the rumors that Russian soldiers have landed or passed through Great Britain on their way to France or Belgium. The statements that Russian troops are on Belgian or French soil should be discarded."

#### NEXT BATTLE IN GERMAN TERRITORY.

Paris, Sept. 14—5.26 p. m.—It is generally believed here that the next phase of the gigantic war, in which hundreds of thousands of men are engaged on the western field alone, will take place in German territory. The allies, according to the military experts, doubtless will endeavor to prevent the German armies, should they succeed in doubling capture, from taking strong defensive positions near the frontier."

## GERMANS' STAND ON RIVER AISNE SHAKEN

(Continued from page 1.)

sixth army against the line of Ourcq and the advance of the British their own flanking movement in considerable danger of being taken in the rear and on its right flank, the Germans on this day commenced to retire towards the northeast."

"This was the first sign that these troops had turned back since their attack at Mons a fortnight before, and from reports received the order to retreat when so close to Paris was a bitter disappointment."

"On Tuesday, Sept. 8, the German movement northeastwards was continued. Their rear guards on the south of the Marne were being pressed back to that river by our troops, and by the French on our right, the latter capturing three villages after a hand-to-hand fight and the infliction of a severe loss on the enemy."

"The fighting along the Ourcq continued on this day and was of the most sanguinary character, for the Germans had massed a great force of artillery along this line. Very few of their infantry were seen by the French."

"The French fifth army also made a fierce attack on the Germans in Montmirail, repelling that place."

"On Wednesday, Sept. 9, the battle between the French sixth army and what was now a German flank guard along the Ourcq continued."

#### MET OBSTINATE RESISTANCE ON WEDNESDAY.

"The British corps, overcoming some resistance on the river Petit Morin, crossed the Marne in pursuit of the Germans, who now were hastily retreating northwards. One of our corps was delayed by an obstinate defence made by a strong rear guard with machine guns at La Ferté-Sous-Jouarre, where the brigade had been destroyed."

"On Thursday, Sept. 10, the French sixth army continued its pressure on the west, while the fifth army, by forced marches, reached the line of Chateau Thierry and Dormans, on the Marne. Our troops also continued the pursuit on the north of the latter river, after a considerable amount of fighting captured some 1,500 prisoners, four machine guns and fifty transport wagons."

#### WOODS DOTTED WITH GERMAN STRAGGLERS.

"Many of the enemy were killed or wounded, and the numerous thick woods, which dot the country north of the Marne, are filled with German stragglers. Most of them appear to have been without food for at least two days."

"Indeed, in the area of the operations, the Germans seem to be demoralized and inclined to surrender in small parties, and the general situation appears to be most favorable to the Allies."

"Much brutal and senseless damage has been done in the villages occupied by the enemy. Property has been wantonly destroyed. Pictures in Chateaux have been ripped up and houses generally have been pillaged."

"It is stated on impeccable authority also that the inhabitants have been much ill-treated."

"Interesting incidents have occurred during the fighting. On the tenth of September, part of our second army corps advanced into the north, and found itself marching parallel with another infantry force at some little distance away. At first it was thought this was another British unit. After some time, however, it was discovered that it was a body of Germans retreating."

"Messengers promptly were taken to head off the enemy who were wounded and trapped in a sunken road where over four hundred men surrendered."

#### STRONG INSTANCE OF BRITISH VALOR.

"On Sept. 10 a small party under a non-commissioned officer was cut off and surrounded. After a desperate resistance it was decided to go on fighting to the end. Finally the non-commissioned officer and one man only were left, both of them being wounded."

"The Germans came up and shouted to them: 'Lay down your arms.' The German commander, however, signed to them to keep their arms, and then asked permission to shake hands with the wounded non-commissioned officer, who was carried off on his stretcher with his rifle by his side."

"The arrival of reinforcements and the continued advance have delighted our troops, who are full of zeal and anxious to press on."

#### SUCCESS OF AVIATION CORPS.

"One of the features of the campaign on our side has been the success obtained by the Royal Flying Corps. In regard to the collection of information it is impossible either to award too much praise to our aviators for the way they have carried out their duties or to over-estimate the value of the intelligence collected, more especially during the recent advance."

"In due course, certain examples of what has been effected may be specified and the far-reaching nature of the results fully explained, but that time has not arrived."

"That the services of our flying corps, which has really been on trial, are fully appreciated by our allies is shown by the following message from the commander-in-chief of the French armies received Sept. 9 by Field Marshal Lord Kitchener:

"Please express most particularly to Field Marshal French my thanks for the services rendered every day by the English flying corps."

"The precision, exactitude, and regularity of the news brought in by its members are evidence of their perfect organization and also of the perfect training of the pilots and the observers."

"To give a rough idea of the amount of work carried out, it is sufficient to mention that during a period of twenty days up to the tenth of September, a daily average of more than nine flights of over 100 miles each, had been maintained."

"The constant object of our aviators has been to effect an accurate location of the enemy's forces, and, incidentally, since the operations over so large an area, of our own units."

#### GERMAN PILOTS BROUGHT DOWN.

"Nevertheless, the tactics adopted for dealing with hostile aircraft are to attack them instantly with one or more British machines. This has been so far successful that in five cases German pilots or observers have been shot while in the air and their machines brought to the ground. As a consequence the British flying corps has succeeded in establishing an individual ascendancy which is as serviceable to us as it is damaging to the enemy."

"How far it is due to this cause it is not possible at present to ascertain definitely, but the fact remains that the enemy have recently become much less enterprising in their flights."

"Something in the direction of the mastery of the air already has been gained in pursuance of the principle that the main object of military aviators is the collection of information."

"Bomb dropping has not been indulged in to any great extent. One on occasion a petrol bomb was successfully exploded in a German bivouac at night, while from a diary found on a dead German cavalry soldier it has been discovered that a high explosive bomb, thrown at a cavalry column from one of our aeroplanes, struck an ammunition wagon, resulting in an explosion which killed fifteen of the enemy."

#### SURPRISED AT DEADLINESS OF SHRAPNEL FIRE

ing passed along, tinkling across the country as the car moved between the lines and being still plainly audible for another half hour."

Like all line officers, my informant sees in Russia the achievement of the triumph of his own order. Adored by the army, praised for his personal courage, as much as for his genius of a leader, the general is a product of that Russian middle class which gains no social advancement by army rank. He is a typical Russian officer, dark-bearded, a little above the middle height, and wearing a new uniform of khaki with shoulder straps, in the simplest form."

## RUSSIANS ADD TO ENORMOUS WAR CAPTURE

(Continued from page 1.)

Reports from Petrograd received in official quarters here say that a few German contingents which assisted the Austrians in their last encounters with the Russians were so exhausted that they could not fight."

News received here from Austria says that the Austrian army is everywhere rallying and will make a strong stand against a further Russian advance."

Nish, Servia, Sept. 14, via London, 5.10 p. m.—The following official statement was issued here today:

"On our northern front, after taking Semlin, our troops still continue successfully to pursue the offensive."

"The hurried nature of the flight of the enemy at Semlin can be estimated by the quantity of provisions, equipment, arms and ammunition and other war material found in the town. Our troops were received with incredible enthusiasm in Semlin. A Te Deum was sung for the victory of the Servian army."

The railroad as far as the station in Belgrade has been repaired and is ready for use in transportation of troops. A continuous artillery duel is taking place on the northern front."

St. Petersburg, Sept. 14.—The advance of the Russian troops in Russian Poland continues steadily. The desperate battle at Semlin resulted in their capture of that city and they have followed up this victory by taking the fortified positions of Opole and Turobin. The siege of Grodek continues."

"The capture of the route of the Austrians along the Austrian frontiers and the despatch of German reinforcements is given by Col. Shumsky, a military critic in an article in the Bourze Gazette. He expresses the belief that the 300,000 Germans transferred from France are intended for service on the Austro-German front, rather than in East Prussia."

"The number of prisoners now in Russia has grown to such proportions that many are being sent inland from the frontier stations. A large number are being taken in the direction of Siberia. A detailed plan of march which the Austro-German armies proposed to make through Russia to Perm, on the extreme eastern border of European Russia, about 700 miles east of this city, has been found on the body of an Austrian cavalry commander who was killed at Grodek in the fighting there three weeks ago."

"The Austrians completely overestimated the strength of their army. Two of the latter were practically exterminated, only thirty men surviving."

"The capture of Grodek, the correspondent at Warsaw gives the following account of the fighting beyond Lublin, Russian Poland:

"The Russians were compelled to take several lines of fortification step by step, ejecting the Austrians from the trenches. I rode along twenty miles of abandoned trenches and saw many guns and much equipment which had been thrown away by the Austrians. Taking up a position near our artillery I watched the progress of the fight."

"The enemy was deluged with a hail of shrapnel alternating with gunfire, and his line of retreat was marked by burning and deserted villages. Along the road in the direction of Lublin were marching Austrian prisoners, who were surrendering in companies and battalions."

"After six hours I watched the battle. The artillery fire was maintained in the distance above a wood, shrapnel bursting and white clouds rising over the position. Suddenly from the wood appeared a black mass which, on approaching closer, was seen to be an Austrian battalion, which fled and surrendered at night the thunder of the cannon alternating with the crack of rifle fire. The enemy's artillery was located and silenced by ours."

"The Bourze Gazette tells of a Russian general, Novos, who, alone, captured twenty-six Austrian troops. He was walking on the steppes outside of Lemberg when he was confronted by a patrol of twenty-five Austrians. He ordered him to describe the position of the Russian troops. When he found the troops were all Slavs the general delivered an impassioned address, emphasizing the sin of killing their Slav brethren. At the end of the address the troops followed the general into the Russian camp."

GERMAN FORCE CAUGHT IN TRAP.

London, Sept. 14.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Morning Post, telegraphing yesterday's date, describes the position of the Austrians near Tomaszow:

"The Austrians have been routed and are fleeing in the utmost disorder. The Russians took advantage of the temporary loss of contact between the enemy's right and left wings to make a drive between and cut them off. The Austro-German army is surrounded on the front and one flank, the other being retained by the Rivers San and Vistula, with many of the retreating rivers and fields."

"The Russians have surrounded this army to surrender. The Russian cavalry have got behind the retreating cavalry with guns and the situation is now desperate."

"To cross marshes and rivers with cavalry and guns facing them from the opposite bank is more than any better army has accomplished since the days of Napoleon, when military affairs were on a much smaller scale. Moreover, the Austro-German forces have lost the bulk of their supply train and must be starving. The Opole-Turobin line, forty miles of which the Austro-German forces had strongly fortified to keep open their line of retreat, has been broken by storm, thus removing the last obstacle to Russian pursuit to the south."

"This operation has been nearly accomplished, for the Russian cavalry core, yesterday twenty miles, fighting all the way with the rear guard of the enemy."

"On the east, the Austrian army is cutting back the fortified centre of Grodek and still keeps up a stubborn fight against the Russian attacks, but the end must be near."

"A Russian who has just returned from the front says the Austrian regular troops fight with marked bravery and, unlike their German allies, do not retreat to face the bayonet. Their officers, although served well, is technically very good, but they are not so good as the Russians. As regards infantry line discipline the Austrians are a considerable distance behind the Russians."

"The latter have been trained to eye measuring range finding in a prone position. The Austrians, on the other hand, are in a kneeling position and they therefore present a much better mark. They also receive more deadly wounds."

## VOL. LIV. GERMAN ARMY

Shorter Battle With Heavy Losses Are Fought By French Lord Success of British Dire

While no direct France, it is apparent other sources, that up for a great battle several days.

The Germans allies, as well as the French are using the gains during into the hills north of the official statement has been no change in the centre they continue entrenched.

That the German artillery is admitted that they have used the late account of the operation 10 to 13, has been British troops had with the French, it and offered many of Field Marshal's again urged the necessity of keeping the army's movements.

German official German defensible has been destroyed and that the subsequent.

London, Sept. 14.—The countries concerned line extending from Paris, to the west of the front is the Marne, but this will of troops throwing very concentrated in line.

The Germans, endeavor to destroy have now fortified through which the for the battle of the from the north and the allied troops, from entrenching.

According to the H.E.A.V.I.E.S. It would appear right and the allies the armies of Germany, the rest of the German, and, besides another attempt of.

These German Othe, along the dis with the Scluppes, directions, which the and Maastricht; so the allies, on through Rouen and the whole of north ing withdrawn mo.

Field Marshal full knowledge of "used," so that he appears to be H.E.A.V.I.E.S.

The little Brit toward to support the Englishmen, son follow it, no the French to Soissons—the engine ways are being reti of forces, the opp vantage of the all.

The situation between Rheims a while between Ar. Montaucau.

The French of prepared for defeat be slow.

The Germans force superior to of the main army,