WEATHER CONDITIONS PREVENT OPERATIONS ON LARGE SCALE, BUT SOME GAINS RECORDED

VON HINDENBERG ADMITS GERMANS FIND RUSSIANS ARE TOUGH PROPOSITION

Germany's Military Idol Gives Details of Mid-Winter Campaign In Poland—Occupation of Warsaw Would Not Mean End of Campaign—Concedes Russians Still Have Some Fight Left In Them.

German Army Headquarters, Posen, Dec. 19—(Delayed in transmission—via Lohdon, Jan. 8.)—"Even the occupation of Warsaw and of the Vistula line, would by no means signify the end of the campaign. The Russians, with their immense territories, can fall back indefinitely. Defeated at Warsaw they can fall back on Kiev, from Kiev on Moscow and eventually even on Vldivostok. Of course we cannot follow that far."

Thus spoke Germany's popular hero, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, to the Associated Press in the course of a four hour conversation today. He explained how the mid-winter Poland campaign in which the Russian advance was checked and rolled back had involved frightful blood-letting. Never in the days of the battle of Tannenberg, and the retreat of the Russian General Rennenkampf's army from the Mazurian Lakes, did the Russians lose so heavily, as in the sanguinary fighting around Wloclawek, Kutno, Lodz and Lowicz, said the Field Marshal.

He added that at least 140,000 Russians had been killed or wounded since November 13, and that, besides, 110,000 Russians had been made prisoners.

The contest, according to Von Hindenburg, had been proceeding everywhere favorably to the Germans and Austrians since the fall of Lodz and the commencement of the Russian retreat. Yet Field Marshal Von Hindenburg declared that all the fighting had not been taken out of the Russians. So large of frame is the Field Marshal that he seemed under, instead of over, the average height. He has a large head and rugged shoulders and wears a heavy sweeping mustache, less aggressive in curve than the Emperor's but equally characteristic.

The Associated Press correspondent dined with Von Hindenburg and during the meal the conversation was informal, the cares of the army leader seemingly having been forgotten. In the workroom of Von Hindenburg was a staff map of Poland, overflowing from the table on all sides to the floor.

Russians a Tough Proposition.

Von Hindenburg said that while the war situation was very favorable there was not much to justify the extravagant hopes based on the announcement of the collapse of the Russian offensive.

"The Russians are tough opponents, and are not easily brought into motion," he said, "they have prepared a long series of positions. All the way from Lodz to the Vistula they are falling back slowly, with all the advantage of position on their side. Yet I think they are hardly able to bring on many more troops of quality to oppose us.

"To raise armies corps on this front, the Far East, and the Caucasus have been stripped of regular troops, and undrilled militia, good only for guarding communications and other services, are in the rear."

Asked as to the fighting qualities of the Russians, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg said it was hard to make a general statement in this respect, as the quality of the men varied with the different races and nationalities. Some of these, he said, furnished inferior fighting men, but the real Russians were of excellent material. Answering another question Von Hindenburg said:

"The fall of Lodz was the turning point in the present campaign. The Russians fought desperately for possession of this city, on which the centre of their line rested. The Russian line was bent, not broken, in this battle. The Russian leader, like a wise man, did not wait for that, but when he saw how affairs were going, withdrew.

"The battle was the most bitter and sanguinary of this war, the Russian killed and wounded far exceeding the figures at Tannenburg. The dead lay in heaps on the battlefield. There were 878 bodies on one small hill."

The Battle of Tannenberg.

The mention of Tannenberg evoked the comment that little was known of this great battle. Von Hindenberg then took a pencil and paper and drew a rough sketch of the battle.

"Our army," he said, "was drawn up to the north of the Mazurian Lakes region, here." Then he sketched the East Prussian frontier and the position of the troops to the north and south of the line.

"When I took command," the Field Marshal continued, "the order already had been given to retire. The Russian army, under Samsonoff had moved at right angles to the German line. I withdrew our troops before Rennenkampf's army, and swung them around to the right and rear; the corps from the extreme left I sent around by the railroad; the others had to move by forced marches.

"Had Rennenkampf followed we should have had to turn and face him. But he did not move from his entrenchments and so we marched in here, and here, and here (drawing a series of arrows in a circle), until we had them completely surrounded. Without Rennenkampf's inaction there would have been no Tannenberg."

"Is it true that so many thousands of Russians perished in the Mazurian Lakes swamps?" Von Hindenburg was asked.

"Not at all," came the reply that destroyed another cherished legend of the war. "There are no swamps in Tennenberg into which we might have driven the Russians, whose losses were chiefly in prisoners taken."

"The conversation ran a wide range of topics. The Field Marshal talked of the changed tactics of the cavalry, to whom he said he would give bayonets; of the bravery of his Austrian ally, of the clothes basket full of letters he received daily, and, with special amusement, of the quantities of gifts that were being forwarded to him. Today he received five thousand pints of beer for his personal use, 1,000 cigars and an immense cake, which was brought in during the dinner and which bore in icing an advertisement of a ladies blouse which had been named in his honor.

At ten o'clock the field marshal excused himself and went into his office with his chief of staff for the nightly consultation.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

Continued from page 1.

danger to be expected from the military notions which had laid hold of the mind of the German people that, while at the war office, he had set himself during the years of peace to frame a military organization capable of the necessary expansion.

As to the suggestion of compulsory service, Lord Haldane said he thought this was a bad thing, although in the time of a grave national necessity, it might be necessary to resort thereto. That time, however, he said had not yet come and the government could not adopt such a system without the gravest considerations.

No Victory Which Does Not Preclude Recurrence of Present Situation

Referring to some of the technical problems of the war Lord Haldane remarked that the Allies at an early period in the fighting had been behind in respect to great guns. This condition has since been rectified, he declared.

"We are fighting for nothing less than the life of the nation," the Lord Chancellor said, "in circumstances which make it the duty of every man to put everything he possesses and values most into the scale for success. No victory can be sufficient which does not preclude the recurrence of the situation in which we are now. The task is an enormous one and it varies in the case of each of the Allies, but on us rests a burden which is larger than that of either France or Russia—the burden of keeping command of the sea."

"I am glad there has been an appreciation of the obligation the allies are under to the navy for establishing that remarkable control of the sea which, with comparatively little loss to our commerce and supplies, has enabled us to use the navy to carry on operations which otherwise would have been impossible."

The Marquis of Crewe, government leader in the House of Lords, replying to the criticism with regard to the recruiting in Ireland, and a statement by Lord Middleton that desertions and discharges in Ireland were quite phenomenial, said recruiting there was going on to the satisfaction of the war office. In addition to this fact regular drafts had been supplied for the Irish regiment, and every Irish infantry regiment in the army was now at the front.

The division in political opinion in Ireland, the Marquis said, admittedly had made the recruiting problem a difficult one. There were in Ireland, he added, a number of revolutionary Irishmen, who were vocal out of all proportion to their influence. The Marquis declared that he had received no particular information concerning the movement of Sir Roger Casement, who was reported to have proposed an alliance between Germany, Ireland and America to the Berlin government but if Sir Roger had done what he was reputed to have done the Marquis said his conduct ought to be followed by severe penalties.

Dealing with the question of the the veto which was placed on the Irish volunteers force by the Home Rule Bill undoubtedly would not survive the changed state of things that would follow the war.

Asked whether Great Britain had promised the allies to resort to universal service in case of necessity, the Marquis of Crewe said he could make no statement on the subject. It must be remembered, he added, that the end of the war might depend on economic factors, as well as military ones, and that it might be better therefore to keep certain industries fully occupied than to send a few thousand extra men into the field.

PORTE EFFORTS FAILURE, SAYS MUHAMMADAN

Ahmed Hafiz Bey Awad Declares Hostilities Against Allies Have as Yet Aroused Neither Enthusiasm Nor Fanaticism.

London, Jan. 5.—In a leter to the Morning Post, Ahmed Hafiz Bey Awad, a well-known Egyption journalist and until recently editor of Al Moayad, the leading Muhammadan newspaper of Egypt, writing from Cairo, makes an earnest affirmation of the loyalty of Egyptian Muhammadans to Great Britain.

After stating that the fact that Turkey has been used by Germany for her own ends is becoming "increasingly clear to the Moslems," the writer insists that the hostilities against the allied powers have as yet utterly failed to arouse either enthusiasm or fanaticism throughout Islam.

"Indeed," he continues, "the action of the Moslems in India, Egypt, Algeria and elsewhere has shown the world that we are in no wise inclined to cast in our lot with Turkey at the present juncture, merely because that power is of the same religion as we are.

Great Advance Made.

"That there should have been any anxiety on this head in England shows that the great advance that has been made of late years among Moslems all over the world is little appreciated. It is here that German policy came to grief. That power calculated upon us being so foolish as to take up the cudgels for the Ottoman, merely because he had chosen to be the tool of England's enemy. Surely Germany must have thought we were absolutely blinded by religious fanaticism, to entertain such an idea even for a moment!

"The advanced classes among the Moslems, so far as my experience goes, are all for liberty of thought and action, and in no way inclined to support the unfortunate political tendencies which have brought the Turkish empire to the verge of ruin. They have discovered in the course of years that they are far better off under British than Turkish rule, and that they are far more free to develop along their own lines under the former administration, however alien it may be to our way of looking at things."

Proceeding, Ahmed Hafiz Bey Awad declares that to the leaders of Moslem thought and religion, who are fully alive to the tremendous problems that Islam will have to face owing to the folly of the Turk, the outlook is an anxious one.

"Hitherto for centuries past," he says, "the Moslems have accepted the Ottoman caliphate as an historical necessity, which, though invalid from a legitimate point of view, need not be seriously questioned, since for all practical purposes it worked more or less well. Now, however, we have to face a most revolutionary state of affairs, for it is impossible that the caliphate can still be suffered to remain in the hands of a member of the house of Othman, who is under the thumb of a handful of renegade Salonica Jews while Germany pulls the strings.

Question of Caliphate.

"This question of the caliphate is of the most vital importance for England, France, and Russia, who between them have about 200,000,000 Moslem subjects. There is no need to discuss who is eligible for such an exalted position at the present moment, but it would be well for England to ponder this problem betimes, so that it may be faced when the time comes, with all due consideration.

"There is one important point," the writer continues, "which, as an Egyptian, I should like to make clear. The whole scene is changing and soon the political center of Islam may have to move from Constantinople, but whither? Now Egypt is geographically the center of the Islamic world. It is also the linguistic center, since our faith is essentially bound up with the Arabic language, and nowhere is that tongue spoken and taught better than here.

"Again, Egypt is the educational center, for Al Azhar is the greatest Moslem university in the world, with its 12,000 students drawn from every country between Morocco and Malaya. Moreover, since education with us is so intimately connected with religion, the Ulema of Al Ashar are the only body in Islam which can be regarded as an authorized intellectual hierarchy.

"Cairo, historically and architecturally, is preeminently the city of cities of Islam, and its convenience as a central point between the holy places of Arabia and Constantinople marks it out for the ideal center of the caliphate. Great Britain, he adds, could pay no greater compliment to Islam in general and Egypt in particular than by reviving the glories of the Fatimites Caliphs and Ayoubite sultans in their own city, while at the same time helping to regenerate the Moslem peoples by the selection of such an unique site for the headship of our faith."

—Christian Science Monitor.

B. F. SMITH M. L. A. GIVEN GREAT RECEPTION

Continued from page 1.

ing hit the hard hitter of Carleton County a knock-out blow, and effectually silencing his campaign of personal abuse.

"THE HARTLAND BOYS.
St. John, N. B., Jan. 7.
B. F. Smith, Florenceville, N. B.
"Good boy, you poked it into Carvell for fair.

"G. EARLE LOGAN."
St. John, N. B., Jan. 7.
B. F. Smith, Florenceville, N. B.
"Hearty congratulations. Your worth and good government appreciated by Carleton County.

"JOHN A. BARRY."
St. Stephen, N. B., Jan. 7.
Frank Smith, Woodstock, N. B.
"Heartiest congratulations on your splendid victory. No one rejoices more.

"J. M. FLEWELLING."

W. B. Smith, M. L. A.

Mr. Smith said he wished to express his pleasure at again meeting and greeting a Woodstock audience. He was particularly pleased at the large number of ladies present. He was glad to see so many young men present. While he was glad to get votes of the older men, he was delighted when the young men stepped up to him at the polls in Bath, grasped him by the hand, and said, they were giving him their first vote. He had received a stronger support than he had ever received in Woodstock. This might be accounted for by the fact that the fair sex of the town, while they could not vote, took a hand in his favor, or that Carvell's presence here excited the enthusiasm that rolled up such a big majority. The fact that this was a pure election, and the Conservatives rolled up such a heavy vote, shows that the in the past elections the impurity was on the other side of the house.

This, he said, has been nothing else but a campaign of slander and abuse of himself and Mr. Flemming, and but little criticism was aimed at the government, consequently he much appreciated the verdict rendered. He was at all times at the command of his party. "You men first elected me to the Legislature, and then once again you asked me to resign my seat and meet Carvell for the Federal House. I did so and was defeated. You asked me to face Carvell in the Federal election when the question of reciprocity came up. It seemed a hopeless contest as Carvell was strongly entrenched, and this county lies along the United States border. I accepted and won out, although my seat was stolen from me. You asked me again to step aside so that Mr. Flemming could meet his traducer in the contest for the Commons. I did so and accepted the nomination to the Legislature, which has now resulted so happily for us all. I have received the largest majority ever taken out of the county, with one exception, Northampton and Brighton formerly were Liberal strongholds; we captured both. Peel, my home parish, where I have done business for twenty years, and where I am known better than Mr. Carvell, The Sentinel or the Observer, know me, gave me a majority of 183 votes. The Scotch parish of Aberdeen gave me as large a majority as ever before. I came out of Kent, including Johnville, with 102 of a lead. Wicklow, a strong Liberal parish, the former home of David Irvine, ex-M. P., gave me 50 of a majority. Wilmot, where Carvell was born, and where his relatives live, gave me a majority of 75, and never before has a Conservative carried Wakefield. We cut down their majority in Richmond and Simonds was lost by three otes, owing to local conditions. The parish of Woodstock rolled up a majority larger than before, and Woodstock did itself proud.

He closed by a general defence of the government.

Hon. Mr. Flemming.

Hon. Mr. Flemming followed and received a royal reception. He went into the history of the Conservative party—the party of Macdonald, Cartier and Sir Leonard Tilley—showing that it was the party of progress as well as the party of the common people. Continuing he said he was pleased at the result of the election. Mr. Smith had retired to oblige him and retired willingly. He was doubly happy for that reason.

If ever a man sought to destroy another, Carvell sought to ruin him and disgrace his wife and children with his slanderous statements. He vilified and slandered me, and now he has his anwer from the people. I hope he is satisfied. It am. I would like to tell you people that I forgive him, but that would be quite impossible. I'll do it as near as I can, but I will not forget his conduct until after we drive him from political life in the next federal election.

Donald Munro, M. L. A., M. L. Hayward and Thos. Noddin made rousing speeches, after which the ladies retired and the meeting was turned into a "smoker," and the victory of yesterday, as well as the coming defeat of Carvell in the federal election, was happily discussed

BELGIAN PEOPLE ARE CALLED WORLD'S WARDS

Sir Gilbert Parker's graphic description of conditions in War-stricken Kingdom.

London, Dec. 31.—In an account of the Belgian refugees in Holland contributed to the London Times, Sir Gilbert Parker states that at Eysden, he watched refugeees crossing the frontier into Holland with all their worldly goods upon their shoulders or in their hands, or with nothing at all, seeking the hospitality of a little country which itself feels, thought it is neutral, the painful stress and the grim cost of war.

Holland has gallantly done what is possible, but the salvage is more than she alone can accomplish. "We in England," he continues, "must throw out the life line, we must invite and select and transport, not merely receive the exiles. We must organize on a large scale the shipment of the refugees to this country. It is our clear duty to do so.

"I met at Maastricht representatives of Belgian municipalities and communes who said that they had only food for a fortnight longer; and what was the food which they had? It was a little over a third of a soldier's rations for each person per day. At Liege, Charleroi and Namur there was only food for three days on Dec. 5. What is it the people of Belgium ask for? They ask for bread and salt, no more, and it is notf orthcoming.

Accept Official Charity.

"In Brussels alone, 250,000 people daily accept official charity administered by the Belgian commission for relief, which must presently rely entirely on the food sent from the United States through the American commission, so splendidly managed by H. C. Hoover and his colleagues in London.

"When the first shipments of food from American arrived in Brussels there were only 900 sacks of flour left, while 3000 sacks per day are needed to feed the capital in normal times."

Continuing his account of the straits of the refugees, Sir Gilbert Parker says that in a lighter on the river Maas at Rotterdam, without windows, without doors, with only an open hatchway from which a ladder descends, several hundred fugitives spend their nights and a great part of their days in an iron hold forever covered with moisture. . . . Iron lighters without fires are not fit homes for cattle, and these are human beings of a high civilization.

"Holland has sheltered hundreds of thousands," he continues, "but she cannot in a moment organize even adequate shelter, much less bare comfort, and she cannot deal with the problem alone. We must for humanity's sake and for honor's sake bring over here, not thousands, but tens of thousands of Belgians.

"Since the fall of Antwerp there have passed through Bergem op Zoom which I visited on December 2, 250,000 refugees with no resources except what they carried with them. The little town of 15,000 people did its best to meet the terrible pressure and its citizens went without bread themselves to feed the refugees. . . .

Visited Flushing Camp.

"I visited the refugees camp at Flushing and found British local government board officials studying the means of transportation of the refugees, showing that the government is not content for England to be a mere haven for the exiles, but has begun to take active steps to relieve Holland of a burden cheerifully, but of necessity inadequately, borne by her.

"The most touching part of it all," Sir Gilbert Parker concludes, "is to see the patience of every Belgian whatever his estate. In the long stream which crossed the frontier at Maastricht and besieged the doors of the Belgian consul while I was there, none railed or declaimed. One fortunate man from Verciers who did odd jobs for his neighbors and so had a little cash, told me that he was permitted to purchase as much as 2s. 8d. worth of food for himself, his wife, and child in one week. He was only allowed to purchase that much food, even if he had the money, because, if he bought more, he would be taking from some one else, and they were all living on rations for a week which would represent the food of an ordinary man for a day.

"Around Belgium is a ring of steel. Into that vast camp of the desolate only the United States enters with adequate and responsible organization upon the mission of humanity, but the fugitives from Belgium, numbered by the million, may be helped by all the world; and if there is a people from wrom they have a right to ask help, shelter, work and temporary or permanent homes, it is ourselves. The Belgian people are thew ards of the world.

—Christian Science Monitor.

CANADA LED U.S. IN RAILWAY BUILDING

Canadian roads constructed 1,978 miles while American Railways built only 1,531 during year 1914.

For the first time in the history of railroading in the United States some other country has exceeded this country in the mileage of new railroads built during the year, according to statistics compiled by the Railway Age Gazette and published in its annual review.

In 1914 the total mileage of new railroad constructed in the United States was 1,531, as compared with 3,701 in 1913, while the Canadian roads built 1,978 miles, as compared with 3,010 in 1913. Not only is the total for the United States only about half of that for the year before, but it is the lowest for any year since 1895, and only about 25 per cent. of that for 1902, the high record year.

Cars and locomotives were built in the United States as follows: Freight, 104,451 against 207,684 in 1913; passenger, 3,691, against 3,296; locomotives, 2,235, against 5,332.

The number of cars ordered is lower than for any year since 1901, except 1908, when only 62,669 freight cars and 1,319 passenger cars were ordered. The number of locomotives ordered was also less than for any year since 1908.

On December 31, 1914, 21,048 miles of road, with a total funded debt of $830,728,790 and a total capital stock of $434,599,738 were in the hands of receivers. In no year since 1896 has there been so great a mileage in the hands of receivers.

The number of men employed on twenty railroads on June 30, 1914, was 809,929, a reduction of 69,563, or 7.9 per cent. from the corresponding date of 1913. On August 1, 1914, the number was 764,827, a reduction of 90,934, or 10.8 per cent. from the similar date the year before. The total number of employes in thirty-four railroad supply companies in December, 1914, was 32,266, a reduction of 57,378 from the normal force, or 64 per cent.

"By applying the percentage of reduction shown by the railroads entering Chicago as of August 1, to the total number of employes reported by the Interstate Commerce Commission for June 30, 1913, which was 1,815,239," says the Railway Age Gazeete, "it may be conservatively estimated that over 192,000 railroad employes were laid off during the year ended August 1, 1914."

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

FRANCE

Paris, Jan. 8—The following official communication was issued tonight:

"To the north of Soissons we have captured a German redoubt, taking two successive lines of trenches and reaching the third line. Three counter-attacks by the Germans failed.

"In the Argonne a very violent German attack on the summit of the heights of Chevauchee was made. We were at first forced to retire on one kilometre (about two-thirds of a mile) of this front, but later made counter-attacks and re-occupied our positions."

DIED.

GODARD—At the residence of Capt. David Fitzpatrick, St. John West, on Friday, Jan. 8th, 1915, Mary J. Godard, wife of Deacon LeBaron Godard of Elgin, Albert county. Funeral will be held Saturday at Elgin, N. B., on arrival of the noon train.

WRESTLING
OPERA HOUSE
Saturday Night JAN. 16
Prokos vs. Ludecke
Catch as Catch Can to a finish for the 165 lb. champion of the world.
PRELIMINARY BOUT
Matterson of Carleton versus The Bulgarian
Preliminary starts at 7.30
Main bout about 8.15.
Doors open at 7 p.m.
PRICES—
Entire lower floor, 50c.
Balcony, 35c.
Gallery, 25c.
Special ringside seats, $1.
Reserved seats on sale in advance, starting Thursday.
'Phone 1363.

OPERA HOUSE
Today at 2.15 and 8.15
Last 2 Times The Silver Girl
Children's Prize Matinee Today
STARTING MONDAY
FAREWELL WEEK
OF THE
THOMPSON MUSICAL CO.
MON.—TUES.
THE TRAVELLING MAN.
Wed—Mat and night—THUR
THE FOLLIES OF THE DEVIL AND TOM WALKER
SPECIAL THUR. NIGHT
CHORUS GIRL CONTEST.
10, 20, 30c
SEATS NOW ON SALE
'Phone 1363.

BE HAPPY
in using moderately the good things of life.
FOUR CROWN SCOTCH, a wonderfully mild, mellow whisky, is made for the man who is careful of his drink—who wants the best he can get every time.
FOUR CROWN possesses all these desirable qualities you would expect in the highest priced brand—yet it costs no more than the ordinary.
FOSTER & COMPANY,
Agents for New Brunswick, St. John, N. B.

Little River Dairy and Supply Co.
154 CHARLOTTE STREET
will this afternoon and evening give a glass of
Buttermilk Free of Charge
to every soldier who visits our store.
H. E. BEYEA, Proprietor

Don't Miss Our New Serial Opening!
OPENING CHAPTER "THE MASTER KEY" SERIAL STORY
Globe-Imperial Feature
"The Widower and His Child"
OPENING CAST:
JOHN DORE—Manly Mining Engineer .. .. .. Robert Leonard
RUTH GALLON—Little victim of fate .. .. Ella Hall
JAMES GALLON—Prospector, honest and square .. .. Wm. Highby
HARRY WILKERSON — Gallon's unfaithful partner Harry Carter
"MAKING A CONVERT"—Safety-First Story.
"REAL THING IN COWBOYS"—Western.
Cushman and Sunderland—Vaudeville.
Gertrude Ashe—Popular Soprano.
Festival Orchestra.
MONDAY
A STUNNING PICTURE
Alice Joice
—IN—
"The Thought of the Crown Jewels"
WEARING
1,000,000 WORTH OF DIAMONDS
AND A GOWN
Designed By
LADY DUFF-GORDON
"Lucille"
Mon. Also: Third of "Hazard of Helen" Series