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Strong Russian Offensive Is Forcing Back Germans In The East at Many Points

Czar's Forces Make Gains Which Enable Them to Threaten the Flank of Von Hindenberg's Armies

GAIN AT TARNOW IMPORTANT ONE

Safeguards Main Communications of the Russian Armies Operating in Western Galicia

READY FOR THE TURKS

Cairo Correspondents Say British Ships and Troops Have a Warm Reception Prepared For Them

London, Feb. 6.—Coincident with the arrival at the front of Emperor Nicholas the Russians have assumed the offensive directly West of Warsaw and according to a Russian official statement, have crossed the Bzura River and taken some German positions.

This, in the opinion of military experts, will, if the Russians have sufficient forces at their disposal, break the deadlock which existed after the battle of Central Poland for so many weeks since it threatened the flank of Gen. Von Hindenburg's army, which is engaged in a violent struggle immediately South-west in an effort to break down the Russian defensive in the region of Borjow.

Important Gain. The Russians, it would appear, according to reports from Petrograd, have crossed the Bzura near its junction with the Vistula, and are working Southwards which was the point at which the Germans made their original attempt to break the Warsaw line.

This new offensive on the part of the Russians explains their anxiety to clear the right bank of the Lower Vistula of Germans, for, having accomplished this, they are then free to threaten an outflanking movement from that direction.

Still, there has been no slackening in the desperate fighting which has been proceeding for some days in the woods near the road along the right bank of the Rawka River from Borjow to the Skirnewice-Warsaw roads.

Violent Artillery Fire. Here the attacks of the Germans alternate with those of the Russians, under artillery fire, with a violence that has never been exceeded.

Meanwhile the Russians are making slow progress in East Prussia and are withstanding the attempts of the Austro-Germans to take the offensive on the River Nida, in Southern Poland and on the Dunajec river in Galicia.

The Austrians admit the loss of Tarnow in Galicia, an important centre, possession of which by the Russians hampers their main line of communications in Western Galicia.

In the West. Artillery engagements and a few small infantry attacks make up the sum of operations on the Western front. There are indications, however, that the Allies are preparing the way for an offensive movement in Arras region, where their artillery, has been very busy and where they have captured some German trenches.

In Argonne region, too, the French claim they have improved their positions. The failure of the Turks in their preliminary attack on the Suez Canal gives a good deal of satisfaction in England as it is felt the Territorial and Australian troops engaged there have proved their mettle.

Only a Feeler. Military men have expressed their belief that the Turkish attack was only in the nature of a feeler and that an organized assault will be delivered by the Ottoman army when it is able to collect its main strength within striking distance.

Correspondents at Cairo say that a very warm reception awaits it from ships and troops.

Germany's threatened submarine

German Navy Makes Threats Against British

Kaiser's Admiralty Talks of Sinking Transports Conveying the British Forces

Berlin, Feb. 6.—The Chief of the Admiralty Staff of the German Navy has issued the following official statement: England is on the eve of shipping numerous troops and a large quantity of war material to France. Against these English transports we will proceed with all means of warfare at our disposal.

Neutral shipping is cautioned against approaching the Northern or Western Coast of France, as in these waters such vessels would run a serious danger of being confounded with ships whose purposes are warlike.

The best route for the North Sea is around Scotland.

Authorities Now Recognise The Volunteers

Two Million Britons Hard at Work Drilling For Defence of British Isles

London, Feb. 1.—England's army of two million volunteers for "defence," frowned upon by Earl Kitchener for many weeks and at first derided by "Tommy Atkins," is now clamoring for something more than mere official recognition.

The volunteers have had a hard row to hoe. When they first asked Earl Kitchener for official sanction of their training corps, they were bluntly told that if they wanted to drill the recruiting offices were open.

Despite this the organisers plugged away. They bought their own uniforms of grey-green and some of their own arms and ammunition. They devoted their spare hours to long marches, rifle practice and drills. Gradually they worked themselves into a compact organisation.

The "official recognition," now granted by the War Office carries only slight solace to the volunteers. It would, however, save them from being shot down as "Franc-Tireurs" in case Germany invaded England, as they would be considered organized soldiers.

SECOND COMPANY ALMOST COMPLETE

Now Includes 230 Men—Volunteers Total 1021—Yesterday's Volunteers

The Volunteers now number 1021, the following having enrolled, yesterday:—

Twillingate—Edward White. Musgrave Hr.—Art. C. Goodyear. Grand Bank—Wm. H. Lench. St. John's—Jno. P. Merchant, Geo. Evans, Matt. Dillon, Ml. Jas. Gosse, Walt. Williams, St. John's.

The training of No. 2 Company of the Second Contingent will be carried out with despatch.

The number on parade yesterday was 230, so that the company is almost completed.

One section visited Signal Hill yesterday and enjoyed the tramp.

S.S. Queen Wilhelmina passed Cape Race at 8 this morning.

Full Strength Of The British 3,000,000 Men

House of Commons Asked to Vote Approximate Sum Necessary To Such a Huge Force

London, Feb. 5.—England is going to put at least three million men into the field to fight the Germans.

An idea of the plans of Kitchener, revealing the strength of the British forces, was given today when the new Army estimates were issued in revised form by the War Office.

The House of Commons will not be asked to vote the actual sum of money required by the War Office for the equipment and maintenance of these forces, but an approximate sum in round figures.

The actual figures will be reserved in order to prevent information from reaching England's enemies. A sum necessary for a total of three million men in round numbers will be voted.

Patrols Clash In South Africa

Pretoria, Feb. 5.—A sharp fight between English and German patrols occurred on Wednesday near Sandfontein. Three Germans and a British Sergeant were killed.

Austrians Want The Government Seize Food Stocks

Practically No Grain Available At Vienna, Buda Pesth or Prague—Stocks Hidden?

Venice, via London, Feb. 1.—Despatches from Vienna state that City Council and the press are demanding that the Austrian Government immediately follow the example of Germany and confiscate all stocks of grain flour and meat.

Practically no grain in Vienna is being offered on the markets in Graz, Budapest or Prague.

The press, the despatches state, declare that a great catastrophe threatens unless confiscation is adopted and it denounces the selfish attitude of certain Hungarian agriculturists, who, it is claimed, are hiding thousands of tons of grain and flour.

Responding to the appeals of land owners the Austrian Government has consented to the employment of prisoners of war in field work, thus replacing peasants, who have gone to the front. The prisoners will be sent out in detachments of ten to one hundred men and consequently will be available only on the larger estates.

Neutral Nations Stirred To Indignation By Announcement of German Admiralty Means War On Shipping of The World

Paris, Feb. 6.—The German Admiralty proclamation including in the war zone the waters surrounding the British Isles has provoked outbursts of indignation from the French press, although it is hailed generally as an indication that Germany is beginning to find her situation desperate.

Swedes Indignant. Stockholm, Feb. 6.—Swedish indignation is expressed by the Swedish press because of the German proclamation relative to a blockade of the British Isles.

The belief is expressed that it will result in the Government making a protest to Berlin.

Christiania, Feb. 6.—The opinion is expressed by many here that Germany is not likely to put her threat of a blockade into force against neutral countries.

American View. New York, Feb. 6.—Unless there is an actual destruction of neutral ships the Marine Insurance Underwriters here express the opinion that shipping between this country and Great Britain and France will not be lessened in volume because of the German Admiralty blockade declaration.

OUR BOYS LEFT GOOD IMPRESSION

London Times Refers to the High Esteem in Which They were Held at Salisbury

A visitor, says The London Times, spent the greater part of a day recently, motoring some twenty-five miles in the search, inquiring for the Newfoundlanders. At last he went to the only sure source of information.

Divisional Headquarters, in the cluster of tents behind the small plantation and the quagmire which was once a road in front of the Bustard Inn.

There he learned the truth, that the Newfoundland contingent had left Salisbury Plain the day before for a nameless destination in the North of Scotland. They had gone, down to the last man and water bottle, and the rest of the Canadian Field Force, engrossed in its own business, had not known of their going.

But they left, among those who saw anything of them while they were here, a fine reputation behind them.

Conscription Would Benefit Great Britain

Would, Almost at Once, Increase Her Fighting Strength to Four Million Men

London, Jan. 31.—Great Britain may introduce compulsory service and increase its total fighting strength by the end of the current year to 4,000,000 men, in a recent letter it suggested that the object of the War Office was to increase the military force to 3,000,000 within the next twelve months, I believe the estimate was too low.

Including the navy, the complete strength of the fighting forces established and recruited since the war started, five and a half months ago is very little less than 2,500,000. The magnitude of that martial response is the final answer to all those who drive of the "failure" of the United Kingdom. The world has witnessed

nothing approaching such a record under a voluntary system.

Recruiting figures are not given publicly. Roughly, however, we may say, that men are coming forward at the rate of 20,000 a week, or 1,000,000 a year.

With such recruiting great armies are assured. But the essential factor is to raise and train those armies as quickly as possible and it is contended that the voluntary system necessitates too much delay.

Terrific German Attempts To Break the Russian Lines End In Complete Failure

Million Serbs Are Suffering Every Sorrow

They are Destitute of Everything—And are Enduring Terrible Privations

Nish, Feb. 1.—Metropolitan Dimitri, supreme head of the Serbian Church, says: "Today one million Serbians, one-third of the population, are suffering every possible sorrow. They are destitute of everything. Since the beginning of the war, when their lands were turned into battlefields, they have endured terrible privations and their sufferings have been still greater during the war, because the first invasion took away a great proportion of the peasants, who remained behind to provide food for the families of those who were fighting."

"Women, the mothers, wives and sisters and the children of a million Serbians are suffering now because of the second invasion, which must last much longer, and more Serbians still are being driven from their homes in six of the most fertile districts no less than fifty per cent, of the children are dying from the lack of nourishment and medicine, from cold and exposure. In the invaded villages everything has been pillaged and destroyed and when the unfortunate refugees who were compelled to flee, return to their homes, they will, in the majority of cases find nothing, either in the shape of houses or food."

"The children are pitiable sights, little spectres of emaciation not comprehending the misery in which they find themselves, with wide staring eyes, hungry and ill, with no food, but dry bread, and milk an impossibility."

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Soldiers Join Dominion; Ship Still In The Ice

Neptune Trying to Butt Way Out For the Liner But Finds Ice Very Heavy

The soldiers who left on the Neptune yesterday boarded the Dominion at 9.30 last night.

At 9 this morning the Cape reported that the Neptune was breaking the ice ahead; Dominion steaming South.

Mongolian still jammed off Bay Bulls Head.

The Mongolian had been carried two miles nearer the land than she was last evening but her position was not serious.

At 12.15 this a.m. the Neptune was alongside the Dominion not doing anything as the ice was still in the ice, but moving out slowly.

At 2 p.m. the Neptune was alongside the Dominion. They were then about ten miles South of the Cape. The ice was too heavy outside for the steamers to force their way through.

The Neptune could return to port as the ice between her and Cape Spear was loose but she is no doubt standing by the Dominion fearing she might be needed. They are not in the least danger.

The Mongolian at 2 p.m. was four miles off Bay Bulls.

Collegians Win Inter-Collegiate Hockey Match

The first inter-collegiate hockey match took place at the Prince's Rink today between the Fieldians and Collegians. The latter were victorious by five goals to one.

Mr. A. Smith, of J. Smith & Sons, Hr. Breton, who was visiting his brothers in the Second Contingent, left home yesterday.

Germans Use New Aerial Torpedoes

New Type of German High Explosive Three Feet Long and Weighs 200 Pounds

London, Feb. 3.—A recital of recent developments in the war by the official observer attached to the British military headquarters, given out here, includes a description of new projectiles employed by the Germans.

"In some parts of our front the Germans are firing a new type of high explosive shell, detonating with a cloud of thick, white smoke," the report says. "The mine thrower also occasionally throws a very large gray bomb or aerial torpedo, three feet nine inches long, and nearly ten inches wide. It weighs more than 200 pounds."

The anticipation of the enemy as to the possible duration of the war, the observer continues, "are shown by the measures they are taking to prepare for any shortage in certain classes of food. In some towns orders have been issued that all kitchen refuse not required by the inhabitants to feed to their own animals, shall be saved and handed over to the authorities. Efforts have been made also to gauge the public taste in the matter of preserved meats by selling salted beef, mutton and pork at cost prices."

Germans Concentrated Force of 105,000 Men on a Battle-front Extending the Limited Distance of Six Miles

AVERAGED 30,000 MEN TO THE MILE

Attack Was Supported by One Hundred Batteries of Artillery, Aggregative Six Hundred Guns

NO ROOM FOR GUNS

The Men Were so Closely Packed—Russians Repulsed all Attacks With Rifle and Bayonet

Petrograd, Feb. 5.—Not since the battle around Lodz in Russian Poland in the early part of December have the Germans delivered such violent attacks as those of yesterday, when they attempted to drive through the Russian line near Borjow.

Probably never before in the Eastern area of war have they concentrated such a force upon a single point.

In a distance of six miles between Lomina and Bongom, the Germans threw 105,000 infantrymen, together with heavy forces of cavalry, the whole supported by one hundred batteries of artillery, comprising in all no less than six hundred guns. It is estimated that in this short line there were nearly 30,000 men to the mile, coming on in ten or twelve lines like the waves of the sea.

The Russians, warned by attacks of the previous days in this same vicinity have concentrated correspondingly heavy forces to resist the German advance, and so close were both sides packed in this narrow space that the artillery became practically useless.

The battlefield was a flat plain unobstructed by trees or houses, the latter having been demolished by shell fire.

The Russians met the German advance with rifle fire and bayonet, the first lines struggling forward and backward from trench to trench. At some places the trenches were only a few hundred yards apart, and the closeness of the line made the fighting extraordinarily sanguinary, whole companies being entirely exterminated.

The most desperate German resistance was at Wolasy Dowliska, which the Russians succeeded taking in the morning, after a fight which lasted all night. German prisoners in the hands of the Russians relate that in the German camp the division chosen to lead this undertaking was dubbed "Division of Death," since it appeared to be a foregone conclusion that none would survive.

The battle of Borjow is continuing today with unabated violence.

Turk Forces Had Strength 12,000 Men

But They Were Beaten by the British in Egypt, Leaving Many Dead On the Field

London, Feb. 5.—An official communique from Cairo reports a Turkish attempt to cross the Canal near Tonsoum by means of pontoons and rafts. After some fighting the enemy retired leaving many dead and about three hundred prisoners.

An attack was also made at El Kantara. The enemy were driven off with losses of twenty-one killed, twenty-five wounded, and thirty-six unrounded prisoners.

The enemy's forces apparently number at least 12,000 with six batteries. The French Government reports a successful engagement in the District of Pertites, and some successes at other points. —HARCOURT.

Amundell

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Moderate winds; fair and a little milder today. Winds increasing from Eastward on West Coast at night.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.