

# Austrian Casualties Totaled 13,000 In Series of Fights Around Cracow

Petrograd, Dec. 14.—The Russians defending the line in the Lowicz region, have inflicted such serious losses upon the attacking army of General Mackenzien that his lines will have to be reformed before another general offensive can be attempted.

Reports reaching here to-day make this claim, and assert that the Germans have been held in check all along the thirty miles front over which the engagement has been raging. The German attack against the Russians continues day and night, but the force of their assault has greatly diminished, it is stated.

Thousands of men have been thrown forward in a vain attempt to break through the Russian defences. A half million Germans are declared to be massed on this front, which is on the line of the main advance of the enemy. The greatest part of the entire bat-

## Austrian Force, Fifteen Thousand Strong Made a Sortie Out of the Beleaguered City and Only Two Thousand Came Back

in the Lowicz region which has lasted for days has been at extremely short range. The Germans have thrown every available man into the fight, dismounting cavalry and changing these men with infantry regiments. Tremendous losses have been inflicted by the Russians by playing the old German trick of evacuating trenches and then blowing them up as the enemy rushes in.

**Enemy in Retreat.**  
The latest official statement from the War Office claims that the forces to the north of the Vistula have met with complete success in repulsing the

German advance from the direction of Mlawa. This movement has been completely crushed. It had for its object an advance upon Warsaw from the north-east. The Germans were attempting to make a wide detour through Przasnysz, but are now declared to be in retreat.

Numerous villages in the Mlawa-Przasnysz region, have been destroyed in the fighting. Guns from both sides have raked the towns and the inhabitants are homeless and destitute.

**Sustained Severe Losses.**  
Continued successes in the operations in the Caucasus are claimed in an official statement issued to-day which says: "Throughout December 1 there was fighting in front of the villages of Pyrousk, Esmer and Doutak. The enemy was everywhere repulsed and pursued beyond the Euphrates with severe losses."

## BRITISH QUANTITY BALANCES GERMAN SHELL QUALITY

Haven't Shells as Good as Germans But Give Enemy Lots More of Them

A cavalry officer attached to the General Staff, writing home to Lincolnshire, says:

"We are going through pretty thick times at the present moment. The bursting of the German high explosives is terrific, and we have none to reply with, but what we lack in power we are making up in quantity. We generally send back three shells to their one."

**Narrow Squeaks.**  
"Already I have had two pretty narrow squeaks: a high-explosive shell burst twenty yards behind us, and a huge piece struck the ground five yards in front, and the bullets whizzed past our heads. On another occasion we were all standing outside a farm, watching a night attack,

when one shrapnel burst quite close to us, and a small piece struck the bottom of my coat. Had it not been for that button I might have been on my way home again.

"The division is doing splendidly—holding its own against a force far larger. The shrieking shells are flying all around the chateau, where General — has taken up divisional headquarters, and one piece struck the verandah and knocked a lump clean out.

**Foe's Artillery Wonderful.**  
"There is no doubt the German artillery is wonderful, and they give us a peppering all in turn. The German infantry is pretty well sick of fighting, but they come up as pluckily as anything, and our machine-guns simply mow them down.

"Our men are doing splendidly under the fearful shower of shrapnel and high explosive shells. It does one's heart good to see it. They are well dug in, and the casualties are comparatively small, considering the grueling they are getting."

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

## JAPANESE GUNS FOR RUSSIA'S USE

Siege Artillery Used at Tsing Tao Brought to Poland.

Copenhagen, Dec. 15.—The monster siege guns with which the Japanese battered down the German forts at Tsing-Tao are being transported across the Trans-Siberian Railway to be used against the German fortresses in East Prussia, according to information received here today.

Some of these heavy cannon are said to be fully as powerful as the 42-centimetre guns of the Germans. Expert Japanese gunners are said to be with the guns.

Prospero sails northward at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Anyone can repair a roof with Elastic Roofing Cement Paint. It is easy and ready to apply. No heating required. You can do the work yourself with an ordinary whitewash brush. P. H. COWAN, Agent.

## Scandinavians Are Indignant Over Seizures

Denmark, Norway and Sweden Protest Decision of German Prize Courts.

London, Dec. 12.—Reuter's Christiania correspondent says a German prize court at Winemunde has declared as prizes two Danish steamers and twenty-four Norwegian steamers, all of which were captured in the Baltic, many of them laden with lumber.

The newspapers throughout Denmark, Norway and Sweden, express the greatest indignation over these seizures, the correspondent adds, and the national committee of Norwegian ship owners have met at Bergen and passed a resolution urging the Foreign Office to act promptly to secure a change in the sentence of the prize court. The sentence is described in the resolution as "an insult against the administration of justice."

It adds that "it is appalling if the declaration of Norwegian consulates and of the Norwegian Foreign Office cannot be believed by German courts."

## Special Appeal Made To Britons

How the Authorities Stimulate Recruiting in England.

A SPECIAL appeal is being made to "the manhood of the nation" to complete as quickly as possible the second half-million men for our new armies. The latest poster issued from the Central Recruiting Station for London, England, says:

"Do you realize all that we are fighting for in this greatest crisis of British history? Not only our Imperial honor, our Imperial existence, but our very life as a nation is at stake. Our brave men at the front are now fighting to preserve our honor and independence. A long and bitter struggle lies ahead before the goal of victory is reached. Men of London come forward now. However trained to reach the goal, every day you hold back is an added danger to our beloved country. Five hundred thousand men are now in training. Another half-million is still required."

In a call to "young men who have not yet joined the Army," another special poster issued recently states very plainly:

"More men are needed. Another half-million men are urgently required to ensure success abroad and safety at home. No personal sacrifice can be too great when your honour, your country's honour and safety are at stake. Every man between the age of nineteen and thirty-eight who is fit has a duty to perform. Remember you have yet to be trained, and training is not a matter of a day or a month. Come forward now, and be ready to show the enemy that the Empire's call is yours."

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On and after to-day the Parlors will be open each weekday from 8 a.m. until 11 p.m.

## SOME CHALLENGE!

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