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LAST EDITION

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ONE CENT

WARSAW STILL HELD BY RUSSIANS AFTER TROUNCING ENEMY

Over 50,000 Prisoners Taken and German Plans Are Believed to Have Utterly Collapsed—Victory is Significant One.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The failure of the German campaign in Poland is claimed indefinitely to-day in despatches from Petrograd, and is practically admitted in the semi-official wireless advices from Berlin. All accounts agree that the German losses in the fighting west of Warsaw have been unprecedented. Forty thousand men are said to have been sacrificed last week on the Bzura-Rawka front alone, and the destruction or capture of whole regiments is reported, notably the Wuerttemberg Hussars of Stuttgart, whose survivors to a man are prisoners of the Russians.

The Austrians, meanwhile, have suffered losses in South Poland and Galicia whose extent may be imagined from the fact that the Russians have taken 50,000 Austrian prisoners during the last fortnight. The German Press Bureau has found in the Austrian disaster in Galicia a convenient excuse for the failure of Marshal von Hindenburg's German forces to hew their way across the rivers west of Warsaw and occupy the capital, as promised for a New Year's gift to Emperor William.

PREPARING FOR DEFEAT.

The German comment, which is interpreted here as preparing public opinion for the announcement that the attack on Warsaw has been abandoned, is in the following terms: "The Russians have strengthened their forces opposing the Austrians in Galicia, and the latter, it is understood, will be compelled to make new dispositions which will require some time. Local military experts are making attempts to picture Russia's occupation of the line off Krosno-Jaslao as being of real gain for the Russians, but this view, however, is considered too optimistic, and the fact must be faced that the extreme left wing of the Russians is proving itself superior to its opponents. The present action of the Russians, in strengthening their forces there is due to the realization of what an encircling of their flank in Galicia would signify."

The correspondent in Petrograd of the Morning Post describes the Austro-German losses in Poland as surpassing anything in history. He says

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STORM ADDED TERRORS TO THE FIGHTING LINE—MANY LIVES ARE LOST

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The correspondent of the Daily News in northern France, telegraphing from the wildest of the winter, raged over the coast here last night after a day of drenching rain. All the offensive operations were stopped, and the war monitors ceased their tactics long before sundown.

"When the storm broke with terrific savagery, it not only paralyzed the fighting at sea, but made a sheer mockery of the offensive and defensive war on land. The tempest along the dunes, with sand and shingle flying almost with the fierceness of bursting shrapnel, beat the breath of any human being audacious enough to attempt to stand up against it.

"One whole regiment, returning, fit and eager to the front, was struck broadside in its coastward march, the men actually being blown about and toppled over like nine pins.

heavy automobile and transport wagons were blown over, and horses as well as men, refused to face the gale. The Yser floods were pools and lakes no longer, but raging seas, and news came that many German soldiers had been drowned during the attempt to bring off a hazardous coup.

"The full effects of the abnormal gale and blizzard on Monday night were not fully known until late yesterday. This was due to the hour at which the hurricane suddenly sprang up and the telegraphic breakdown. From many quarters there come messages of disaster and damage on land around the south and southeast coasts and in the Channel.

"Lives were lost at Clapham, Gillingham, Sheerness, Margate and Southend. Shipping on the southeast coast appears to have suffered extensively. At Dover, where the wind blew at the rate of eighty miles an hour, a big passenger steamship was blown out of the harbor."

Germans Made No Attempt to Rescue Survivors of the Good Hope

SPOKANE, Dec. 30.—Edward Vedder, aged 28, son of C. J. Vedder, 194 Montgomery Avenue, was one of the victims of the German cruiser Gneisenau, sunk off the Falkland Islands. Yesterday his father received a letter from his son, written on board the Gneisenau just after the sinking of the Good Hope and Monmouth by the German squadron off the Chilean coast. After describing the sinking of the Good Hope and Monmouth before the later could get within range, the writer continues:

"After we had sunk two of them the other two started to run away.

We ran after them and shot one more to pieces, but the other one was too fast for us, and got away.

"When we charged the two ships we had to run right through the place where we had sunk the other two. There were many Englishmen swimming around and hanging on to anything they could. I know we ran over some of them and the rest were left to drown. You know I do not believe I will ever get used to seeing men get killed, or to be shot while they are down and out. While they fight I will fight as good as any of them, but when they are in the water I do not like to see them killed."

STEAMER MONTROSE

Crippen's Boat Washed Out to the Sea and on Goodwin Sands.

MONTREAL, Dec. 30.—A London cable to The Gazette says memories of Dr. Crippen, hanged for the murder of his wife, 1910, are revived by the news that the Steamer Montrose, on which the famous criminal was arrested with his paramour, was wrecked on the Goodwin Sands in Monday night's gale. The steamer, which was supposed to be safely moored in Dover harbor, was blown out in the darkness. It was observed by naval patrolmen, two of whom bravely responded to the call for volunteers to man the drifting vessel.

On boarding the steamer, the sailors discovered that there were no anchors and the result was that the Montrose drifted helplessly onto the Goodwins. The two men were swept off by the mountainous seas, but were

eventually rescued by the Deal lifeboat. The Montrose, which is likely to become a total wreck, was requisitioned by the government as a transport at the outbreak of the war and the C. F. R. steamship officials state that the company is no longer interested in the vessel. She went ashore in Loire earlier in the war, but apparently was floated.

CANADIAN SUICIDE.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 30.—Ralph K. Dankworth, a member of the Canadian contingent with the British army, who committed suicide in London, was formerly a hospital apprentice of the first class connected with the United States navy recruiting station here. His widow, who resides here, said to-day that he deserted her in 1912, and she had not heard from him for two years. Dankworth came to the Pittsburgh station from Philadelphia.

The Brant Chapter Daughters of the Empire are sending a box of knitted articles for India troops at the front. All contributing will kindly send the same at once to Mrs Ashton, Darling street.

ON THE RUSSIAN BATTLEGROUND AFTER AN AUSTRIAN DEFEAT.



NEAR RAWA-RUSSKA—AMMUNITION ABANDONED BY THE AUSTRIANS AFTER THEIR DEFEAT.



RED CROSS WAGON ABANDONED BY THE AUSTRIANS DURING THEIR RETREAT FROM TOMASZOW.



AN AUSTRIAN RED CROSS WAGON ABANDONED ON THE BATTLEFIELD AT BELLGITZ.



A RUSSIAN TRANSPORT COLUMN ON THE ROAD FROM TOMASZOW TO LUBLIN.

At the battle of Tomaszow, in Russia's Austrian campaign, the Austrian army was broken and forced back with great loss by the advancing Russians, who, after inflicting their smashing blow, proceeded to march on the fortified position of Grodek, which was eventually taken by their decisive victory over the Austrians. Tomaszow is situated on the Russo-Galician frontier between Zamosc and Jaroslau. Its position is of great strategic value, commanding as it does both Lemberg and Jaroslau. The retreat of the Austrian army under General Auffenberg was made precipitately, and on giving way was pursued for many miles by the victorious Russians. General Ruzsky, commanding the Russian forces, attacked the Austrians from the southeast and compelled them to give battle on three fronts. The counter attacks were easily repulsed, and finally the Austrians retreated, throwing aside their arms as they did so.

Destruction of German Combination in Galicia Has Proved Complete

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The correspondent of the Daily News at Petrograd telegraphs: "The destruction of the enemy's combination in the southern campaign is enabling the Russians to regain the initiative and inflict on the German-Austrian line the break which was projected against themselves.

"The main German forces in Central Poland are awaiting a new scheme of operations. They have evacuated Opoznow, and are becoming comparatively passive from exhaustion. To the north of the Bzura, Field Marshal von Hindenburg is expected to try some other shock attack. The new line of defence works being built are equipped with heavy artillery, and deep infantry trenches on the hill sides. This portion is six miles behind the previous outer defences."

ESCAPE FROM CANADA IN A TRUNK—GERMAN LIVES TO TELL TALE

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A despatch from Cleveland to The Tribune says: "An 'underground railroad,' similar to the ones in operation during the civil war, when escaping negroes were brought north, has been established between the United States and Canada. This time the 'underground' is rescuing Germans from Canada.

Word as to the working of the 'underground' was brought to Cleveland to-day by Hermann Wenz, of Montreal, who described his escape from Canada to Buffalo in a trunk.

"Because I speak French fluently, my nationality was not questioned until recently, when an enemy informed the Canadian officials I was a German," said Wenz. "The sheriff at Montreal summoned me, but I managed to evade the writ for a day and then go to Niagara Falls. I tried in vain to get across to the American side, until I met a French-Canadian who offered to do the job for \$20. I paid him, and he put me in a trunk, which was shipped across the river to a warehouse in Buffalo. Three hours later I was freed."

OFFICIAL FRENCH NOTICE

PARIS, Dec. 30.—France claims slight gains near Nieuport, in the official announcement given out by the war department this afternoon. This communication also recites other points along the line where German attacks have been driven back. There has been heavy bombardment at St. Georges, in the Aisne region and on the heights of the Meuse. The text of the communication follows: "In Belgium we have won a little territory in the region of Nieuport, opposite Polders, and to the north of Lombartzyde. The enemy subjected St. George's to a violent bombardment. This is the position we are putting in a state of defense. "We have captured a German point of support located to the southeast of Zonnebeke, on the road between Beclare and Paschendaale.

FRIENDLY TONE ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN PRESS IN REGARD TO PROTEST MADE

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Commenting on the American Government's note to Great Britain concerning the treatment that is being accorded American commerce by the British fleet, The Tribune this morning says editorially:

"Our manufacturers and exporters undoubtedly have cause for complaint against Great Britain by reason of that country's stretching of the rules of contraband. Yet from what has been made public, it is difficult to analyze the precise grounds of President Wilson's note of protest. Apparently no fundamental dispute as to the law of contraband has arisen. But that is the worst feature of this nebulous portion of international law. Even if general rules are agreed upon, the opportunities for haggling over guilt in particular cases, are endless. So far as appears in the Washington despatches, the chief source of trouble has been the much mooted matter of conditional contraband.

SPRING FIGHT REGARDED NOW AS INEVITABLE

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The Daily News in a despatch from Paris says: "A very significant change has come over public opinion in France, as to the probable duration of the war. "Less than two months ago it was unwise to hint at a spring campaign, but now it is recognized on every hand as inevitable. "The hopes of seeing Russia threatening Berlin by the end of the year, have not been justified, and, in fact, the land campaign on both frontiers is behind the schedule that French optimists formed after the battle of the Marne. Still it is well ahead on the western side."

Should Not be Difficult for Two Countries to Settle Dispute as to Contraband—Have Faith in Sir Edward Grey to Patch Matters Up.

"The stand taken by our government is that the undoubted rights of the belligerent must be exercised in a reasonable manner and notice is given that we shall protest against any undue interference with our neutral rights."

"The memorandum has been presented none too soon to prevent unwelcome controversy between the friendly relations of the two countries, cannot permit Great Britain and her ally, France, to play fast and loose with the question of what is contraband and to detain American ships on the mere suspicion that their cargoes include conditional contraband intended for the enemy. Great Britain, herself, has never hesitated to assert her trading rights as against belligerents, and some times, as in the Russo-Japanese war, the United States has joined her in objecting to items in a contraband list made arbitrarily by a belligerent. As a matter of fact, the two countries hold the same view in regard to many questions of international law that are still in controversy, and in more than one case, Great Britain has tacitly accepted American policy, for instance, the 'doctrine of continuous transportation' as applied to contraband. There, it ought not to be difficult for the United States and Great Britain to come to a satisfactory understanding."

RECRUITS AT KINGSTON

KINGSTON, Ont., Dec. 30.—Inspired by a patriotic speech delivered by Hon. W. T. White, minister of finance to the 21st overseas battalion at the armoures yesterday, 12 men left the balcony immediately afterwards and proceeded to the 14th, regiment orderly room where they enlisted.

BRITAIN'S ANSWER TO STATES

First Roar Raised is to Help U. S. Traders Make Money.

No Protest Made Against Breaking of International Laws.

(By Special Wire to the Courier)

LONDON, Dec. 30.—2.10 p.m.—The American note sent by the United States to Great Britain, protesting against the action of British warships in detaining and seizing cargoes on American vessels is now under consideration at the British foreign office where no intimation is given as to when a reply to the note may be expected.

During the afternoon Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, held a conference at the foreign office with David Lloyd-George, the chancellor of the exchequer; Esquimaux McKenna, secretary of home affairs; Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Trade, and Sir Francis Hopwood, Civil Lord of the Admiralty, on the subject of the American note.

A frank discussion of a note by British officials showed that they regard it as friendly and do not believe the difference between the United States and Great Britain are such that cannot be righted satisfactorily.

Much depends upon the effective effort on the part of Denmark, Holland, Norway and Sweden to prevent the re-shipment to Germany and Austria-Hungary of cargoes received from the United States. Until forceful regulations are put in force in these countries, little hope, it is understood, is held out by the British Government for relaxation in the method of searching American cargoes. One prominent British official pointed out that Italy has effectually checked contraband shipments to Austria-Hungary and Germany, the result that Great Britain is not stopping ships destined for Italy, unless there appears special reason to suspect fraudulent consignments.

A guarantee by the United States as to the honesty of bills of consignment and the enactment of strict regulations for the severe punishment of fraud, granting the American Government could find satisfactory means of making such a guarantee, is admitted by this prominent official as a possible step which might cause a relaxation in the search of American cargoes.

British officials call attention to the lenient attitude adopted by the British Government toward American cotton, which they say might easily be regarded as contraband, because of its extensive use in gun cotton, but which has not been put on the contraband list. They say this leniency toward cotton, however, has been abused by shippers, who use it to conceal copper and other contraband.

"We have no right to feel aggrieved because of the American endeavor to mitigate the losses which the war inflicts upon the merchants and manufacturers of that country," says the Westminster Gazette. This newspaper more than any other reflects the views of the government. It contends that it is to the interests of the neutrals, as well as belligerents, to shorten the war, and that therefore neutrals should submit to any reasonable restrictions which are likely to have this effect.

"Why doesn't the United States address its remonstrance to Germany and Austria, instead of Great Britain?" asks the Westminster Gazette; and answers its own question by explaining that command of the sea permits France, and Great Britain alone to exercise the right of searching and detaining neutral ships.

Stating that the right of search is conceded in the American note, the Westminster Gazette admits that this right should be exercised with all possible regard to the convenience of neutrals. It suggests that it would be well for the British Government to supply daily to the American ambassador a list of the ships stopped with a statement of the reasons therefor, so that questions arising in this connection might be adjusted at once. Similar information might be given to American newspaper correspondents in London. The Westminster Gazette says it feels sure that instructions will be given to avoid detention of ships on mere suspicion, and that if such searches as can be conducted at sea fail to reveal good ground for forcible detention, such action will not be resorted to.

To prevent Great Britain from checking shipment of copper to Germany would in effect be American intervention on the side of Germany.

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