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## YSER BATTLE TURNS TO ADVANTAGE OF THE ALLIED FORCES

Brilliant Attacks Featured Last Week's Fighting—Berlin Admits That Their Advance is Checked ---Naval Guns Do Damage.

[By Special Wire to the Courier]  
 LONDON, Dec. 21.—The correspondent of The Daily Mail in Northern France telegraphs: "One of the most brilliant actions in the advance that began last week was the taking of the German trenches near St. Georges, which were successfully stormed at the point of the bayonet."  
 "In attacking St. Georges the allies struck east as well as north, and they turned the angle of the flooded line. The Germans had dug some catcrp-lin trenches, but with the help of guns from the sea these proved much less terrible than they appeared."  
 "The result of the manoeuvre is that the flood is no longer in front, but at a point near the rear, and the allies, emerging from the dunes and gullies, are attacking the German positions from the northwest corner of the flooded land, so progress can be made to the east as well as to the north."  
 "Significantly, a parallel success has been won on the other side of the flooded land in front of Dixmude."

**FRANK ADMISION.**  
 LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Daily News' correspondent in Rotterdam says: "The war correspondent of The Berliner Tageblatt is perfectly frank about the German position on the Yser."  
 "On the Yser canal," he says, in his latest message, "I am convinced we cannot advance owing to the inundations and swamps, and for the same reasons the allies cannot do much. I feel now that the fighting in the north of France and in Flanders has resulted in a stalemate."  
**GUNS DO DAMAGE.**  
 LONDON, Dec. 21.—An Amsterdam despatch quotes the Suia correspondent of The Telegraaf as follows: "A despatch says that violent fighting continues on the Yser. The fleet's guns are playing havoc in the German ranks. Trains filled with wounded are entering Bruges. Most of these trains proceed eastward. The allies have occupied Roulers, but the fighting is raging between there and Ypres and Dixmude."

## DUKE OF CONNAUGHT VISITS THE SOLDIERS AT TORONTO CAMP

TORONTO, Dec. 21.—Exhibition Camp stood in attention all day Saturday. Ordinarily Saturday is more a day of holiday, but under the keen eye of the soldier who is Governor-General of Canada no officer or man thought of relaxation. The camp was on its mettle. It was out to prove its efficiency before a man, who is above everything else a soldier.  
 So far as the pageantry of the Duke of Connaught's inspection was concerned, weather conditions rendered the day somewhat disappointing. A steady fall of snow, which gradually changed to sleet, enveloped the camp in a murky, unpleasant atmosphere all morning. As fast as it fell the snow changed to slush; little rivulets trickled in every direction over the uneven ground, a melancholy drip-drip from roof and naked tree emphasized the dreary aspect of the place, and the surly gusts which blew the damp snow about made shelter both necessary and welcome.  
 Half an hour before his Royal Highness was due, the 10th and 20th Battalions of Infantry, the Mounted Rifle Regiment, the C.A.S.C. and the smaller units were on the ground. A big Union Jack marking the spot where the Duke was to receive the men. Shortly before 10 a.m., a message was received cancelling the inspection, and the men were ordered to their quarters. A few minutes later, however, another message arrived saying the inspection would go on.  
 The 10th Battalion accordingly took up its position in the Transportation Building and awaited the Duke's arrival.  
 The Lieut.-Governor and staff, arrived about 10 o'clock, and half an hour later the Governor-General and

his staff drove up in two of Sir Henry Pellatt's cars. They were met by Lieut.-Col. H. M. Elliott, A.A.G., who escorted the party to the Transportation Building. The Duke was accompanied by Sir Henry Pellatt, A.D.C., Major Duff, A.D.C., and Colonel Stanton, Military Secretary. General Lessard's staff, which received the Duke at the Transportation Building, included Col. H. M. Elliott, A.A.G., Major Bickford, G.S.O., Captain Osborne, D.A.A., and Captain Reginald Pellatt. The Royal Standard flew from the Headquarters Building.  
**CHATTED WITH SOLDIERS.**  
 Immediately after arrival his Royal Highness began his inspection. The 10th Battalion, under Colonel J. H. McLaren, was drawn up two deep on four sides of the building, and the Duke made a double round, examining and noting everything. He spoke to almost every man individually, stopping to address at more length men of evident military experience, or, on the other hand men whom the Duke's experienced eye told him were ill in the game. He was particularly pleased to discover some who had served in his own former regiment, the Rifle Brigade. This individual inspection occupied a full hour, after which the men marched in platoon formation up and down the building.  
**GAVE SAMPLE OF WORK.**  
 At the Governor-General's wish the troops then removed their great-coats, belts, and overshoes, and went through a sample of their regular morning routine—Swedish drill, bayonet exercise, semaphore work, etc. The inspection was thorough, every item of camp work being shown in turn.

## LATE ADVICES FROM RUSSIA SAY "WE'RE HOLDING THEM FAST"

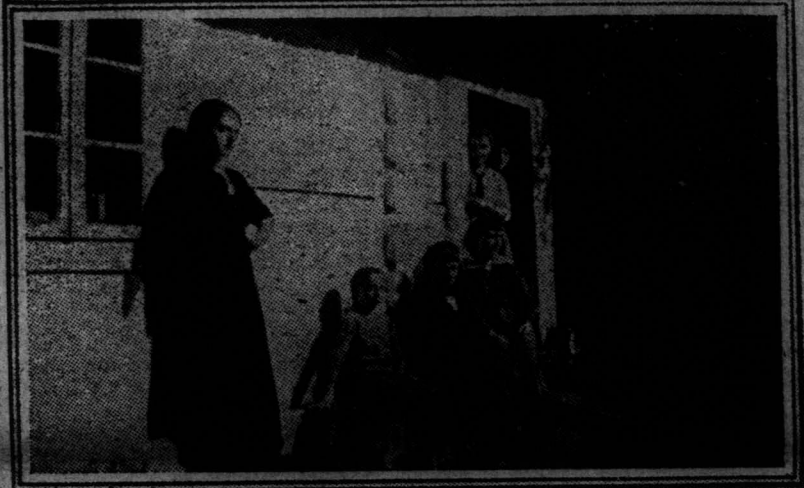
[By Special Wire to the Courier]  
**PETROGRAD, Dec. 21.**—Via London, 1.48 p.m.—The Russian forces are still holding at bay the German columns, which are seeking to cross the Buzura River at Sochaczew and advance on Warsaw, 30 miles away. For three days this German army of about 200,000 men has been endeavoring to cross the river and throw back the Russians who are holding the right bank.  
 Sochaczew continues to be the German objective in the attempt to reach Warsaw. The Russian forces on the right bank of the Buzura are heavily entrenched. Their artillery is so placed, that it commands the river to its junction with the Vistula, 18 miles north. Southwest the Russian line extends to Spoczna, 25 miles east of Pietrkow, which recently was evacuated and 45 miles east of Szczerzecw, where the Russians first opposed the German extreme right.  
 It is pointed out that the Russians have thus assumed positions on their third line of defence. The evacuation of Lodz, which lies to the west of this line was thus in logical sequence to

this movement and, according to the general opinion here, had no bearing on the attack on Warsaw. The Russians for the present apparently are attempting nothing more than to retard the enemy and to defeat attempts at flanking movements.  
**TWO APPEARANCES DAILY.**  
 Santa Claus will make two appearances daily. Although every moment is now almost as precious as gold to Santa Claus, he has arranged to make two appearances daily, at 4.30 in the afternoon and 8.30 in the evening, when he will be seen going down the big chimney on top of the Crompton Store. His evening appearance will be beautifully illuminated by colored lights.  
**USEFUL SLIPS.**  
 Cheques from the Patriotic Fund are now being made out to the dependants of the Brantford soldiers now under their country's command. This is in order to ensure their having the welcome slips in time for Christmas festivities.

## SCENES SHOWING INCIDENTS OF INTEREST ON RUSSIAN BATTLEGROUND.



CONVEYING THE BODY OF A RUSSIAN OFFICER ACROSS THE LONG ROLLING PLAINS NEAR TOMASZOV.



INHABITANTS OF TOMASZOV, WHOSE HOUSES WERE RUINED BY THE SHELL FIRE OF THE COMBATANTS.



AUSTRIAN RAILWAY WAGONS CAPTURED BY THE RUSSIANS AT BIELGITZ—THE RUSSIAN FLAG FLOATS IN THE FOREGROUND.



MEMBERS OF A RUSSIAN RAILROAD BATTALION AT THE CAPTURED GALICIAN TOWN OF RAWA-RUSSKA.

## PETROGRAD REPORTS RUSSIAN SUCCESSSES AND GOOD POSITION

Great German Victory as Reported Not Substantiated by Latest News From the Front---Czar's Forces Very Much in Fighting Business.

[By Special Wire to the Courier]  
 LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Daily News' correspondent telegraphs from Petrograd: "Important successes along the Vistula have rewarded the indomitable energy of the Russian army in Northern Poland. The river is freezing and the Germans have been compelled hastily to evacuate the island above Plock. The Russians captured a large convoy of pontoons, laden with ammunition, which the Germans abandoned among the drifting ice. One of their columns tried to force a passage over the bridge at Dobrzyn, near Wroclawek."  
 "The Germans were driven back with heavy losses by the Russians, who are now gathering in great strength along the right bank of the Vistula toward Thorn. The German army, advancing along the left bank of the Buzura to its junction with the Vistula, were driven back yesterday, leaving guns, prisoners and dead wounded on the field."  
 "Events south of Cracow also reveal the strengthening of the Russian position leading thence. The German corps, which was driven westward yesterday from the left bank of the Dunajetz yielded more than a thousand prisoners."  
 "During a recent battle near Lowitz the Prussian 'Death's Head' Hussars fell into a trap while pursuing Russian dragoons. They raced along a

brood valley where the Russians were under cover on both sides. In two hours the German cavalry was completely encircled. Only fifty men and one officer remained alive and in Russian hands. More than two thousand were killed. There occurred three cases in the Russian field hospital of German prisoners, suffering from bayonet wounds and wearing German uniforms, who proved to be women.  
**THE KAISER'S VIEW.**  
 LONDON, Dec. 21.—A despatch from Karlsruhe says that Grand Duchess Louise of Baden has received a message from Emperor William, which reads: "Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has just reported that the Russian army after desperate fighting, retreats and is being pursued along the entire front."  
 "It is evident that the Lord aided our heroic troops. To Him alone is due the honors."  
 The emperor is reported to have sent his thanks to the fourteen army corps, which participated prominently in the fighting on the Russian center.  
 The emperor has completely recovered and returned to the front, according to an announcement from Berlin.

## THROWING STONES

Germany is Now Quite Peevish at the United States.

[By Special Wire to the Courier]  
 LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Daily Express, commenting on the German newspaper attacks on the United States, says: "Berlin knows that American hearts are with soldiers of freedom, and the knowledge has had the usual tonic result of frantic abuse of the people, who denounce the Belgian atrocities and the bombardment of unprotected towns and who irreverently laugh at German 'kultur.'"  
 "Americans decline friendship with the vandals of Rheims and Louvain, and the Germany that has fawned on their doorsteps now is throwing stones at their windows."  
 Christmas figured largely in sermons in city pulpits in Toronto.

**3 MORE SHOPPING DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS**  
  
 GRANNY SEZ  
 Give n money to the Christmas Charity Fund when yer makin' yer money by oppressin' the poor is like puttin' presents in a stockin' with one hand an' pullin' them out the toe with the other.

## GALT CONGRATULATES BRANTFORD ON NEW STREET CAR SYSTEM

The following is from the Galt Reporter:—  
 "The city of Brantford is to be congratulated on the improvement in its street car system since it was taken over by a commission in August following its purchase on the bargain counter by its ratepayers. The intervening eight or nine weeks shows a great many changes for the better. The track accommodation has been greatly improved, modern car barns have been constructed and the tag ends gathered up to bring about efficiency in operation. Yesterday the most progressive move was consummated when six new pay-as-you-enter cars, the product of the big car works in Preston, were placed in commission. These will provide the citizens of Brantford with an adequate and comfortable service."  
 Galt, however, is more interested in the Grand Valley line, which is part of the Brantford Municipal Railway System. It is gratifying to know that this inter-urban road has not been neglected. Near to Paris, a bridge has been lowered eight feet,

and another steep grade has been eliminated by changing the location of the tracks for a short distance. At Paris a new station and freight shed have been erected, and the commission intends shortly to erect a shed at Galt to facilitate the handling of express parcels and fast freight. The power station at Blue Lake is soon to be dispensed with and hydro-electricity taken from the sub-station at Paris to provide the motive power for this section. The cars are being repainted and repolished. The men comprising the commission have faith in the success of their venture and are going at their task in the right way to make it so. Under their energetic supervision, what was a bugbear and laughing stock, will become an efficient railway system. For a year or two profits are hardly expected, but the people will be given good service and this will produce the extra business needed in order that the enterprise may yield returns. The Brantford Municipal Railway promises to be a shining evidence of the success of public ownership of public utilities.

## EVERYWHERE WE MOVE, NOWHERE REPULSED, IS FRENCH OFFICIAL ADVICE

Allies in French and Belgian Fields Are Gaining Each Day—Will Joffre Present His Promised Christmas Present?

PARIS, Dec. 21.—Progress all along the line is claimed in the French official statement given out in Paris this afternoon. There is not one single mention of a German success or a French repulse.  
 Gains, although slight, are recorded in Belgium between the Lys and the Aisne; in the Champagne country, and in the Argonne. At one point an advance of 1,200 yards is recorded, and at another the French made 500 yards.  
 Progress has been made between the Argonne and the Meuse, on the right bank of the Meuse, and on the heights of the Meuse.  
 The French heavy artillery is described as having been successful on the Aisne, near Rheims, and elsewhere.  
 The text of the communication follows: "The day of December 20 brought nothing of importance in Belgium, if exception is made of some progress in the region of Lombartzde and St. Georges, and at a point to the southeast of the Iun of Kortaker, which is southeast of Bischoote; the occupation of some houses in Warlelem, south of Zillebecke, and the bombardment by the enemy of the Ypres hospital."  
 "Between the Lys and the Aisne, we have occupied a forest near the

route between Noulettes and Souchez, and we also took possession of all the first line of German trenches between this highway and the first houses of Notre Dame De Lorette, southwest of Loos.  
 "The enemy here bombarded Arras. "Our heavy artillery silenced on repeated occasions the artillery of the enemy to the north of Carnoy, which is to the east of Albert. This artillery also demolished the German trenches, and sent head over heels two cannon of a battery established near Rom, which is to the southwest of Corney. The heavy artillery also secured distinct advantages on the Aisne and in the Sestor of Rheims.  
 "In the Champagne, the region of Broennes, Bethens and Beaujour, as well as in the Argonne, we made along our entire front appreciable advances. This is particularly so to the northeast of Beaujour where we won and occupied 1,200 yards of the enemy's trenches. In the forest of La Gurie we blew up fourmined saps, and we established ourselves in the positions thus made.  
 "Between the Argonne and the Meuse there has been progress along all the front, particularly in the region of Varennes, where the brook of Neppes has been left 50 yards in our rear, and in the region of Gercourt-Bethincourt.

## WARSAW HANGS IN BALANCE

Fate of City Depends on Huge Battle Now in Progress.

German Victory is Not Conceded in Any Part.

[By Special Wire to the Courier]  
 LONDON, Dec. 21.—12.35 p.m.—The great battle to the west of Warsaw has yet to be fought out, judging from the indications conveyed in recent despatches from Berlin and Petrograd.  
 It appears to-day to British military observers that the German contention that General Von Hindenburg had scored a notable success over the Russians must be qualified. A parallel case is found in the recent claims of a crushing Russian victory near Lodz, which subsequently proved to be premature and exaggerated.  
 The German army commanded by General Von Hindenburg has made a steady advance in the direction of the Polish capital, but the Russians, in falling back, appear to have taken new positions in strong entrenchments, and in spite of the fact that the invaders are within two or three days' march of Warsaw, there is good reason to believe that much hard fighting must come before it can be determined whether or not this latest attempt to occupy Warsaw will be crowned with success.  
 Along the southern frontier of East Prussia, the Russians claim to have the upper hand, but further east, in the south, in Southern Poland as well as in Galicia, the leaders of the Austro-German forces declare they are sweeping the Russians before them. They assert further that they have cleared all the Russians out of West Galicia. This means that the long siege of Cracow has been raised and if this advance on the part of the Teutons continues, it may bring similar relief to the Austrian garrison at Przemyel, besieged by the Russians since the early days of the war.  
 The vigorous Austrian offensive in this arena of hostilities has not retarded the withdrawal of many troops heretofore used against Serbia, and there are indications that the Austrian attempts to crush Serbia will, for the time being be abandoned.  
 Emperor William has so far recovered from his recent illness as to return to the front. Here he will spend Christmas. The despatches from Germany do not say to which front his majesty has gone, but advice received earlier from Berlin lead to the belief that he has turned westward. If this is so, the battle conditions, the emperor will find are far less spectacular than those prevailing in the east for the reason that with the exception of the offensive operations of the allies on the north end of their line, little but siege warfare is being recorded anywhere on the western front. This condition is driven home in all the official communications, which measure the day's gain in scant yards and chronicle the gain or the loss of a trench as an achievement worthy of note.  
 A prominent neutral traveller who reached London to-day from Berlin expressed the opinion that the Germans are not thinking seriously of Zeppelin invasion of England. According to this observer, they regard the apprehension and precautions against Zeppelin attacks taken in London and other English cities as a great joke.

**WHAT NEW CARS HAVE DONE FOR STREET RAILWAY**  
 The receipts of the Brantford Street Railway and the Grand Valley Railway on Saturday constituted what might fairly be claimed as a record. The Courier is informed that they were, for the local lines, double those of an ordinary Saturday, and, naturally, the commissioners credit the same to the new cars and improved service. Notwithstanding a heavy snowstorm today, the cars kept to their schedule, and as a result the business for a Monday was considerably augmented. In the old days people walked during snowstorms. Brantford people apparently are getting the street car habit, and getting it quickly.