

RUSSIAN VICTORY IS REPORTED TO-DAY NEAR CITY OF LODZ

Germans Lost Heavily in Men and Guns—One Division Was Cut Up—Pressure on the East Applied by the Czar's Troops.

PETROGRAD, via London, Dec. 5, 6.25 a.m.—The most tragic moment of the fighting about Lodz thus far, it is reported here, occurred between Tuszyn and Brzeziny, south-east of Lodz. Heavy German forces which had penetrated to Tuszyn were surrounded and obliged to fight their way to Brzeziny to unite with the main body. The Russians made counter-attack after counter-attack to prevent the junction, but the Germans cut a passage at the point of the bayonet, for a distance of fifteen miles. This battle is called the bloodiest and most pitiless fight of the war. Ninety per cent. of the German officers were put out of action and many regiments had less than one hundred men left. The fighting lasted thirty-six hours. The Germans fell in rows, but their comrades pushed forward over their bodies and hurled themselves against the Russians.

SITUATION OUTLINED. PETROGRAD, via London, Dec. 5, 7 a.m.—The heaviest fighting in the vicinity of Lodz during the past two days has occurred in the course of manoeuvring for the possession of Laska, fifteen miles southwest of Lodz.

On the Szczercow line, which is fifteen to twenty miles long, east of Warta, the fighting appears to indicate that the Germans have been heavily reinforced and that they filled the gap between them and they filled the isolated body which has been striving to turn the Russian left.

The German defence on the northern front in East Prussia, occupies a position along the River Angerburg.

FRENCH CAVALRY HIDDEN IN SAND DUNES DURING COAST BATTLE.



Mr. Donald Thompson, an American photographer, who was allowed to accompany the German army in the operations near Nieuport, thus describes the nature of the June country in West Flanders, and also the naval actions off the Belgian coast. He wrote, in an article in the London Daily Chronicle:—'I accompanied an officer on horseback to the trenches back of Nieuport. The trenches at this point were among the sand dunes, and for the first time I saw incredible slaughter at close range. I dug myself a little hole at one end of an infantry trench and sat there listening to the roar of shrapnel and watching men being killed by the score a few feet from me. The Germans finally had to retreat, and I followed them very close, although I nearly got lost in the underground passages of the trenches, which are like the maze at Hampton Court. Under continuous fire from the British war ships we fell back across the dunes until we reached a village which was the base.'

Had Busy Time

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Dec. 5.—The Daily News correspondent telegraphs from Northeastern France: 'Yesterday's fighting took place in a gale of wind, the fiercest gale of the winter, which brought with it heavy rain and hail. So bad were the conditions that the guns at times had to undergo an enforced silence. 'Around Ypres the French forced back several determined attacks some actually made in the torrential rain, and I understand that a little to the south of this battered town, the British, too, had a busy time of it.'

Shot Their Bolt

[By Special Wire to the Courier] NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—A Paris cable to The Herald says: 'There are no developments in Flanders calling for comment, is the opinion of Lieut.-Col. Rousset, who in The Liberté says the sensational reports of German activity probably were set in circulation by the German themselves. Their purpose, he says, probably is to mask their real objective and particularly to hide their withdrawals of reinforcements for Poland. 'There,' continued Lieut.-Col. Rousset, 'the Germans, whatever the ultimate result of the battle now being fought, are compelled to concentrate their strength that they may by an enormous effort prevent a catastrophe. 'To protect themselves on the east, they are forced to weaken their effectiveness in the west. Proof of this is found in the comparative inaction of their armies in Flanders and the steady advance the French are making in Alsace.' Lieut.-Col. Rousset's opinion, in fact, seems to be that the Germans have 'shot their bolt,' and henceforth can do little more than fight on the defensive.

Official French Notice

[By Special Wire to The Courier] PARIS, Dec. 5, 2.45 p.m.—The official French communication given out in Paris this afternoon says that north of Lys the French troops have made perceptible progress. The text of the communication follows: 'To the north of the Lys we have made perceptible progress. Our infantry making its attack at daybreak, occupied in one operation two lines of entrenchments. The advance here was 500 yards. 'A part of the hamlet of Weiden-dreft, one kilometre to the north-

A BELGIAN OUTPOST WATCHING ROAD NEAR THE FIRING LINE



The nature of the flat, low lying country in which fighting is now proceeding in West Flanders is described in a recent issue of the London Daily Telegraph by its military correspondent. He writes:—'When once the line of battle was fairly kindled it took the form which has now become familiar, of a series of furious attacks on localities, villages, chateaux, farms and woods. Round these places designated pivots of a line resistance crystallized. Whenever side held them at nightfall entrenched with feverish haste. If time permitted an entrenchment, for the firing line was backed in rear by a narrow ditch, not less than six feet deep and about three feet across at the top, for infantry reserves. Inside this ditch further excavations were made for shelves in which to sleep and to stow kit. Other ditches, at right angles, connected these trenches with their rear whenever it was possible to make them, so as to forward food, ammunition and water, and to remove the wounded from the actual firing line.

PRESS BUREAU TELLS OF CHANGES TAKING PLACE ALONG THE BATTLE FRONT

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Dec. 5.—11.45 a.m.—The press bureau to-day issued a report from an eye witness at the front during the three days from November 26 to November 29, inclusive. This report is summarized as follows: 'General inactivity is recorded along the English front, with the Germans pressing the attack in one quarter against the Indian troops, who have been extending their trenches in an endeavor to get in close quarters with the enemy. There has been some shelling the rear of our front line south of the Lys, but this form of annoyance diminishes daily along the whole front. Sniping, however, is carried on almost incessantly. There seems to be little doubt that the Germans are employing civilians, either willingly or unwillingly to dig trenches, some of which have been seen and shot while engaged in this work. 'While it is necessary to accept the evidence of all prisoners with caution, there is a chance in the views expressed by some officers captured recently which appears to be genuine. They admit the failure of the German strategy, and profess to take a gloomy view of the future. At the same time it must be confessed that as yet there is no sign that their view is that generally held by the enemy, nor has there been any definite indication of a lack of morale among the German troops. 'The highways of Northern

FRENCH ADVANCE IN GERMAN LORRAINE IS BEING PLANNED

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Dec. 5.—The Times correspondent telegraphs from Nancy: 'Two movements have taken place lately near Pont-a-Mousson and Cirey both of which may have an important bearing on the future course of the war. From somewhere near Pont-a-Mousson which every day is the target for a few German shells, the French bombarded at the range of eight miles, the town of Arnaville, just beyond Pagny-sur-Moselle, and nine miles short of Metz. As it lies

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HUNGARY'S PREMIER FAILED IN MISSION TO GERMAN EMPEROR

Wanted Protection Against Invasion—The Kaiser Stormed at Audacity and Then Gave Promise to Consult His General Staff.

[By Special Wire to the Courier] NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—A cable to the Tribune from London says: 'The following is a letter received by the London correspondent of an Hungarian newspaper from Budapest, via Italy, dated November 31: 'Prime Minister Count Tisza returned to Budapest after a four days visit to Germany last night, and had a warm reception at the club of his party. In my last letter I mentioned that the object of his visit was to demand adequate forces from the general staff and emperor to defend the frontiers of Hungary, and that he had undertaken this mission because of threats of opposition members of the national committee, but nothing was published in the papers as to this reason previous to or during his visit. 'The result of Count Tisza's mission was very unsatisfactory. It was communicated to me by a Liberal member of parliament this morning as follows: 'The prime minister first of all had an interview with the imperial chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, but, of course, they only discussed the political side of the question. Count Tisza put it quite clearly to the chancellor that he could not guarantee the good will and loyalty of Hungary unless more attention was paid to the interests of the country. 'He saw the minister of war and the great general staff, but he, of course, was everywhere referred to the emperor. Count Tisza says the emperor was very much annoyed, and at first did not want to believe that Hungarian opposition had taken to threats, for he counted upon the unity of all parties in the two empires for the great cause. But Count Tisza is not a man to be scared, even by Emperor William, and he stuck to the point that three army corps must be sent to Hungary to defend the Hungarian plains from invasion and throw the Russians back across the Carpathians, or otherwise his cabinet would resign. 'Count Tisza says the emperor at first became quite furious, and said something to the effect that open enemies are not always the most dangerous enemies, and that the egotism of some people was likely to upset the whole plan of campaign. Nevertheless he agreed to consult the general staff on the question, and promised to do all he could to satisfy the Hungarians. 'This conversation must have been most interesting. I learn from another quarter—I don't know whether it is true or not—that the emperor trembled with emotion when Count Tisza intimated that the cabinet would have to resign, and implored him not to aggravate the strain which his position imposed upon him in these anxious times, and when he said this he was almost crying. 'The papers this morning seem to understand the situation in spite of official comings, and the opposition press, among them the Pestí Hirsh, the Pestí Naplo and others, express dissatisfaction with the result of the prime minister's mission. The Pestí Hirsh says in its leader that all we can see is that the Hungarian prime minister has had an audience from the German emperor, and we are at his mercy as to the safety of our country.'

KAISER'S RETURN TO BERLIN INTERPRETED AS SIGN OF DEFEAT

[By Special Wire to the Courier] NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—A Herald cable from London this morning says: 'The return of the kaiser to Berlin yesterday is regarded here as a sure indication that German expectations of an early success in Poland have been effectually blocked. The kaiser, who will only make a brief stop in the capital, has been on the eastern battle front for nearly a week and it is assumed he would have remained to witness the victory of his troops had one been in near prospect. The tremendous conflict in Poland continues to hold the interest to the practical exclusion of the other areas of war. In fact all the other military operations are hinged on the outcome of the titanic struggle between the Russians and the Austro-German armies. Conflicting reports continue to come from Petrograd and Berlin regarding the fighting, but through them one fact looms. The battle of Lodz has ended, and with all the signs pointing to at least a tactical victory for Grand Duke Nicholas.

THE KIDDIES' CHRISTMAS

Now is Your Chance to Help—Organized Effort to Give Good Cheer to Little Ones Who Might Miss the Joys of Yuletide. Preparations are rapidly being completed by the committee for a real jolly time at the Kiddies' Christmas Tree at the Armouries on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, and many a child's heart will be made glad on that occasion because the generous kind-hearted people of this city realize that in spite of the war, the memory of the great day of all the year must be kept up and that a time of rejoicing for the children especially, must not be turned to one of gloom. The hearts of the parents will be gladdened if the kiddies in their homes are made happy on Santa Claus Day. So that while the war has thrown men out of employment, and caused much distress, the children of those who have thus been made to suffer will be generously treated by a Santa Claus whose stock will be liberally provided by the good people of this city. There have been many calls for the purchase of this year, but no fund is more deserving of your generous support. There are over 800 children to be remembered with toys, candies, and some useful presents, such as stockings, etc. Have you given your share? Previously acknowledged: Mrs. Jos. Ruddy ..... \$155.35 Nellie and Arthur Haskett, 1.00 Kelvin, Ont. .... 1.00 Friend ..... 1.00 OPEN UNTIL 10 O'CLOCK. Commencing to-night and until after Christmas, this store will remain open until 10 o'clock. E. B. Crompton and Co.

GERMANS NO LONGER TALK ABOUT CALAIS, SWAGGER IS GONE

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Dec. 5.—The correspondent of The Daily News telegraphs from Northern France: 'Behind the cannonade which is taking place along the front there are military moves, jockeyings for positions and manoeuvres of all kinds at Dixmude, Ypres, Armentieres and Arras. Important movements have been going on behind the German lines, chiefly the withdrawal of troops from awkward trenches and woods and in order to cover them the German artillery creates a terrible fuss and keeps the allied artillery busy replying. 'Refugees state that all the old military swagger has disappeared and the Germans no longer talk about Calais and what they will do to the English when they get there. The failure has made them sad, thoughtful and mysterious.'