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Vilna Invested on Three Sides

Russia Continues to Gain Success On Southern End

New Offensive by Enemy is Reported and is Believed Coming—Austrians Try to Invade Serbia But Are Hurdled Back—Balkans Problem Critical

London, Sept. 18.—The city of Vilna is now virtually invested on three sides. The troops of Field Marshal Von Mackensen have reached a point near Vitebsk, thirty-seven miles southeast of the city. The fall of Vilna would place in possession of the Germans a considerable section of the railroad to Petrograd, a portion of which, between Dvinsk and Vilna, they already hold. On the southern end of the battle line, the Russians continue to gain successes, their latest achievements being the capture of 1,300 men along the Strypa. Little activity is reported from the centre of the line, where a readjustment is expected, following Field Marshal Von Mackensen's capture of Pinsk. Reports that the Austrians and Germans have decided to initiate a new offensive campaign are multiplying, but there is little concrete evidence concerning the direction which it may take. Cabling from Rotterdam, several correspondents assert they have reasons to believe that the Central Powers have not only decided to strike a heavy blow, but have already put under way the preliminary military movements. The objective of the new campaign is generally believed to be either Italy or Serbia. Apparently there has not been any great concentration of troops along the Danube and Save rivers, but considerable activity has been displayed along this front recently. It is felt here that the Balkan problem has reached a critical stage. The Turkish-Bulgarian agreement, coupled with the announcement of Premier Radoloff of Bulgaria that public opinion was opposed to an attack on Turkey, seems to have settled the attitude of the Bulgarians, at least so long as the Dardanelles remain closed to the Entente Powers. There probably will be no further development in the controversy over conscription until parliament meets again next week.

AUSTRIANS HURDLED BACK BY SERBIANS Nish, Serbia, Sept. 18.—The new Austrian movement against the Serbs is increasing in extent, after the long interval of inaction on this front. The War Office reports: "The enemy thrice attempted to cross the Save during the night of September 14, but was repulsed each time by our infantry. On the 17th we levelled fortifications of the enemy along the Danube front, at its confluence with the river Peja, and toward the village of Bejanin, near Soudpa on the Save front."

RUSSIANS TAKE MORE PRISONERS Petrograd, Sept. 18.—An official statement issued at the War Office yesterday reported that the Great Russian army (Jakovskovsk). The enemy crossed the river Sitchara. At several places the Russians have had success and have taken a total of 3,900 more prisoners and seven machine guns. Enemy attacks west and southwest of Dvinsk continue. The new offensive between the Dvinsk road and Lake Samara was repulsed by Russian artillery fire. The Germans are developing vigorous attacks in the direction of Vilna southeast of Makhachalo. War Office advices state that "Vilna can be held as long as may be required by the strategic situation on that front. It is not the purpose of the Russian staff, however, to defend Vilna at all costs, but only so long as the presence of an army there does not inspire alarm."

French Report Paris, Sept. 18.—The French War Office this afternoon reported: "There was diversified activity during the night in the sector of Neuville-Rocourt before Roye and upon the plateau of Quenneville. There were frequent artillery bombardments with guns of various calibres, and hand grenade conflicts, but without activity on the part of the infantry. "In the region of Berry-Au-Bac and in Champagne, in the region around Perthes and between the Aisne and the Aronne district, there was continuous and lively cannonading. "On the rest of the front there was nothing to report."

At the Dardanelles. In the Dardanelles from September 12 to 17 there was no movement of importance. The Turks attacked several positions of our front but were repulsed. The British and French troops were up to this time on the morning of the 17th an enemy mine gallery was destroyed, after it had been advanced for several days. The operation was perfectly successful without costing us a single loss.

Yacht Club Fire Serious Hamilton, Sept. 18.—Fire broke out in the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club at the beach early this morning and burned the building to the ground. The clubhouse had been closed for the season. The damage was \$25,000, fully covered by insurance.

Phelix and Ferdinand WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis.—A disturbance which will give strong winds on the Great Lakes is now passing across Lake Superior. The weather is fine in all parts of the dominion, except in northeastern Ontario, where it is raining. Sharp frosts occurred this morning in Saskatchewan.

Maritime.—Moderate northerly winds, fine Sunday; fine followed by southerly winds and showers by night. New England Forecasts.—Fair to night. Sunday increasing cloudiness, probably showers; moderate variable winds.

HERE IS A FINE RECRUITING RECORD

Coburg, Ont., Sept. 18.—It is announced that Lieut. B. A. Massey, of the 84th Battery, owners of the new lodge farm, Coburg, recruited 600 men in four weeks. Not only did he recruit the 84th to strength, but he sent contingents to two other battalions, and 125 men to the 1st Coy. at Tete du Pont. The men recruited are said to be of a fine type, with many clerks and ex-service men among them.

SIXTY ENLIST IN ONE NIGHT

Representative Young Halifax Men Set Great Example ALL GO INTO THE RANKS

Amherst and Sussex Now Want the 64th as Well as St. John— Maritime Province News of the War

WANTS KILTIE REGIMENT St. John, N.B., Sept. 17, 1915. Editor Evening Times: Sir—Allow me, through the columns of your valuable paper, to ask the military officials of this province why it is that Nova Scotia can raise a kiltie battalion with government sanction, while N. B. cannot get sanction to kill every man who is a man proud to do his duty for his country.

It can truly be said that the young men of Nova Scotia have never been thrown down to them a greater challenge than was constituted in last night's recruiting. Without any fuss and feathers, without any parade and recruiting sergeants, but determined upon their own course, they were able to raise a kiltie battalion in one night.

THE MARKET An abundance of game was offered for sale in the country market this morning. The following official statement was issued today at the Turkish War Office: "Our artillery forced the retreat of an enemy torpedo boat which attempted to approach Hasarlik. "Our coast batteries bombarded enemy mine-layers and important enemy positions at Seddul Bahr."

GERMANS WANTED TO KNOW HOW "SAM HUGHES" WAS "How are Sam Hughes and your damned Ross rifles" called German soldiers in the Dominion Coal Company province for who were in the first line of British trenches somewhere in France? Just what reply was given by the Canadians is not recorded by Captain Sheppard, though it may be taken for granted that it was prompt and to the point.

SCHR. LENNIE COBB IS PROBABLY TOTAL LOSS

Lucas, Sept. 18.—The three-masted schooner Lennie Cobb went ashore on the outer end of West Quoddy head yesterday during a dense fog and probably will be a total loss. She carried a cargo of coal for Calais, her home port. The schooner's bow and stern were caught upon the ledges and it seemed certain that she would be crushed.

AGAIN HEAD OF MAINE W. C. T. U. Skowhegan, Me., Sept. 18.—Mrs. Althea G. Quimby of North Turser was re-elected president of the Maine Women's Christian Temperance Union at the close of the annual convention. Miss Clara M. Towell of Rockland, who has served thirty-five years as recording secretary declined a re-election.

BRITISH STEAMER WAS SUNK BY SUBMARINE London, Sept. 18.—The British steamer San Zefirino has been torpedoed and sunk by a submarine. Three members of her crew of forty-two are missing. The San Zefirino, 6,480 tons gross, and 420 feet long, was built last year and owned in London.

COMMISSIONER McLELLAN TO SPEAK Chairman T. H. Estabrooks of the recruiting committee, has secured Commissioner H. R. McLellan to speak at the recruiting meeting in King square on Tuesday evening. Gunner Porter, returned soldier, will speak also. F. W. Daniel will preside.

SIX SONS TO WAR A Yarmouth paper says that Mr. and Mrs. William Hersey, corner Starret Road and Brunswick street, have six boys in the war. Their names are: Lenam, William, Albert, Howard, J. Frank and Osborne. Osborne is the youngest. He enlisted this week. The father, who is beyond the age limit, feels sorry that he cannot be passed and allowed to go with his sons.

ANOTHER GAIN IS MADE AT THE DARDANELLES Paris, Sept. 18.—The capture of a Turkish position on the Gallipoli Peninsula by the French forces, was announced today by the War Office.

AFFIDAVITS IN CITY AND STREET RAILWAY CASE

No Money, Says Mayor—Other Commissioners Unable to Control Potts, Says Street Railway Manager

The case of the St. John Railway Co. vs. the City of St. John, came up this morning before Mr. Justice Grimmer on return of a summons calling upon Mayor Frink and Commissioners Potts to show cause why an attachment should not issue against them for disobedience to a writ of mandamus granted by His Honor several days ago. F. R. Taylor, appearing for the plaintiff, read affidavits of himself and H. M. Hopper setting out that the mandatory injunction had not been complied with; in other words, that the concrete placed in Main street had not been taken up, and the rails replaced as ordered by the court.

Dr. Baxter, K.C., appearing for the city, made the following objections: 1. That the affidavits were not properly entered. 2. That a demand had not been made on the parties against whom the injunction was issued to do the work required.

That a mandatory injunction could not be granted ex parte. Dr. Baxter cited authorities in support of these contentions. Mr. Taylor quoted from the rules of the court the authority for the proceedings taken, and asked for adjournment against the mayor and Commissioners Potts, relieving the other commissioners of their responsibility.

Dr. Baxter asked permission to file an additional affidavit. This was granted, and permission was also given to Mr. Taylor to reply. The matter was then adjourned until next Saturday morning.

At the outset Dr. Baxter asked for a postponement of the hearing until after the decision of the court of appeal. His Honor was of the opinion that the hearing before the court of appeal should be deferred with the present hearing. He also announced upon the absence of Mayor Frink to the city solicitor for the city, that he would not be understood that his attendance could be had at any time necessary.

The affidavits were interesting. His Honor stated in his decision of the concrete at once, but was unable to control Commissioner Potts.

SCHOOL TEACHER BADLY BURNED IN A FIRE CAUSED BY LIGHTNING Durham, Ont., Sept. 18.—During one of our electrical storms of the season, Miss Short, a teacher in a rural school, had a very narrow escape last night. She was sitting beside the kitchen stove in her boarding house, when a bolt of lightning came down the chimney, set fire to the roof, and the dog barked beside her. She was very badly burned.

DANGER PERIOD IN SIR WILFRID'S CASE PAST Ottawa, Sept. 18.—Though the incident made when Sir Wilfrid Laurier was operated upon is not healing so rapidly as expected, his physicians said today that all danger of complications is past, and that he is making good progress. It was said at the hospital that disquieting rumors as to Sir Wilfrid's condition were groundless. He rested comfortably last night.

AFTER PLEASANT VISIT Mr. and Mrs. Earl M. Belrose of Concord, N. H., have been in the city on an expedition, his physicians said today that city to make their home. Mrs. Belrose was formerly Miss Ann L. Scott of this city. On their return to Concord they were accompanied as far as Boston by her sister, Mrs. J. J. Kerr going back to her home in St. Louis. Mrs. Belrose and Mrs. Kerr are daughters of Mrs. E. L. Scott, and sisters of Mrs. W. J. Sherwood and Mrs. E. C. Dunham of this city, each of whom they spent part of their stay here. Mr. and Mrs. Belrose were the recipients of many handsome presents in honor of their marriage from friends here as well as in Concord.

BURIED TODAY The funeral of Mrs. John C. Betts was held this afternoon from her late home in Winter street to St. Paul's church. Rev. Mr. Alder officiated and interment was in Fernhill.

The funeral of Mrs. Fred Doig took place today from her late home in Carman street to Fernhill. Rev. Gordon Dickie officiated.

The body of Mrs. Laurinda W. Elliott was brought to the city today from Baptist church, Rev. J. D. McPherson conducted services and burial was in Fernhill.

Object of Conscription. London, Sept. 18.—The executive of the Amalgamated Union of Railway Servants today unanimously endorsed a statement in the House of Commons on Thursday by J. Thos. St. John, that conscription would bring on an industrial revolution, and that the railway workers would stop work.

WAR OFFICE CABLE

SADDENS HOME HERE

Lance Corporal Ernest James, Son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel James of Main Street, Killed at Dardanelles, A Family Well Doing Share in War

"Killed in action" was the news that brought sorrow to a St. John family this morning, but it was sorrow mingled with pride for this family has given of the ideals for which the British Empire stands may not perish. Lance Corporal Ernest James, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel James, now residing at 500 Main street. There are two brothers, twins, in uniform, Thomas, in the 17th Battalion and transferred to the 6th, who was in error reported killed several months ago, and who is still at the front, and Lance Corporal James James, the R. C. Rides, who recently arrived in England from Bermuda. His brother-in-law, John Conle, is also in England with the 6th Mountain Rifles. Besides his parents, he is survived by three sisters, Miss Mary, Mrs. Coule and Miss Sara, and four brothers, two already mentioned, and two young boys, George and Samuel.

Mr. James, the mother, has four brothers in uniform, one of whom, Sergeant Flint, has been wounded and is not expected to recover. Mr. James, the father, also has two brothers at the front.

Some Members of Smithsonian Institution Expedition—Leader Loses Fingers by Frost Nome, Alaska, Sept. 18.—Five members of the Smithsonian Institution expedition which left Seattle under the command of Johann Koren, a Norwegian naturalist, in June, 1914, to collect specimens from the Arctic coast, to Nome last night from the Siberian coast. They are: Copley Arno, Benjamin Alexander, Alexander Hiansdinsky, Alfred Anderson, naturalist, and Harold Wikstrom, photographer.

Koren and other members of the expedition remained in Siberia to spend another winter in scientific investigations. Those who came here brought a large collection of Arctic fossils and birds.

Members of the party said Koren had lost three fingers on one hand and one finger on the other by freezing. The others suffered no unusual hardship.

SALARIES OF M.P.'S IN BRITISH HOUSE ARE NOT TO BE STOPPED Montreal, Sept. 18.—A London cable to the effect says that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has given assurance that the salaries of the members of parliament will be stopped is untrue, although the proposal was discussed at a recent meeting of a committee of the Commons. Certain members who are devoting their whole salaries to the Red Cross are still called upon to pay income tax thereon.

ADVOCATES REPRISALS FOR GERMAN MURDERS London, Sept. 18.—The Globe expresses the hope that the publication of the official story of the Zeppelin attack on London, was designed not only to forestall and silence dissenting versions but to prepare the world for a stern and persistent policy of reprisals.

"We must answer the enemy with his own weapons," the Globe continues. "We must be done with indignant protests and appeals to the civilized world. The civilized world will not spare the slaughter of our innocent women or save the blood of little children. We must hit back and hit hard."

SAYS KAISER APPEARS TO AGREE WITH MR. BARNUM London, Sept. 18.—Continued tension between the United States and Germany attributed by the Times to the nomination of Ambassador Von Bernstorff. The paper says that the relations between the two countries are again critical.

"The Kaiser," says the Times, "appears to agree with the late Mr. Barnum that the American people like to be lumbered but we fancy he has chosen both the wrong subject and the wrong time for exercising his facility in deception. He can pretend to friendship to the people and the government of the United States if he abandons altogether his campaign of murder on the high seas. In the long run, he cannot, we believe, retain it on any other terms."

Another Gain is Made at the Dardanelles Paris, Sept. 18.—The capture of a Turkish position on the Gallipoli Peninsula by the French forces, was announced today by the War Office.