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CZAR'S ARMIES HAVE CROSSED THE SERETH RIVER AND CAPTURED THREE MORE TOWNS

ONE AUSTRIAN ARMY HAS BEEN CUT IN TWO AND NOW IN PRECIPITATE RETREAT BEFORE THE RUSSIANS

Gen. Pflanzer, Austrian Commander, Paying Penalty for Delay in Leaving Czernowitz — Half His Army in Retreat Along Roumanian Frontier and Remainder Making for the Carpathian Mountains — Three Russian Armies Converging on Line of Advance with Lemberg as Objective.

Austrian Line on Northern Flank of Gen. Brusiloff's Front Stiffened by Arrival of Large German Reinforcements.

London, June 20.—Russian semi-official reports that the Austrian General Pflanzer's army has been cut in two and is precipitate retreat soon to be borne out by the Russian official statement that the Russians have occupied three towns on the Sereth river, and the admission in the Austrian communication that Russian troops have crossed the Sereth.

German Reinforcements.

Petrograd, June 20, via London.—On the northern flank of General Brusiloff's front the Austrian resistance, considerably stiffened by the arrival of a large number of German reinforcements, has succeeded in checking the Russian drive between Lutak and Koval, which directed against Vladimir-Volynski, aimed at destroying the Austrian communications between Lutak and Lemberg. But in spite of the violence of the Austro-German counter-attacks, one of which broke through the Russian lines, the latest reports are to the effect that the Russians have again resumed progress in this sector, after taking the usual toll of prisoners.

On the southern flank the Austrians have been unable to check, even momentarily, the Russian advance toward Kolomea and toward the final Dniester fortification of Halich.

General Pflanzer, the Austrian commander, apparently is paying the penalty for having too long delayed his retreat from Czernowitz, and his army, now cut in two, is reported to be in precipitate flight, one part along the Roumanian frontier and the other into the Carpathians.

Turning from Czernowitz, Gen. Letchitsky's forces are pressing their flank attack further north and have reached a point on the Zlota Lipa, some miles to the north-west of Czernowitz. Russian military critics consider it unlikely that the Austrians will be able to hold the Zlota Lipa line, but will be forced back upon Halich.

The Austro-Russian movements are now showing strongly centralized tendencies. There are three converging lines of advance, the common objective of which is Lemberg. The first of these lines is approaching Vladimir-Volynski, the second Brody, the third Halich. The capture of any one of these towns would place the Galician capital in a position of grave danger.

The total number of prisoners taken by the Russians is now estimated at 170,000.

Three More Towns Taken.

Petrograd, June 20, via London.—The occupation by Russian troops of the towns of Zadova, Streginetz and Gliboka, on the River Sereth, was announced by the war office today.

The text of the statement follows: "Western front: On several sectors of the front occupied by the armies under Gen. Brusiloff the enemy continued to make desperate counter-attacks.

"The enemy offensive begun in the vicinity of the village of Voronchne, northeast of Kiselin, seven versts north of the Lutsk-Vladimir-Volynski road, supported by German troops, recently transported thither, has broken down under our fire.

"According to reports just received our troops, after a counter-attack in the region of the village of Rogovitchi, southeast of the village of Lokatchi, fifteen officers, 1,200 men and eight machine guns.

"On the extreme left of our front the enemy is retreating in disorder. We are energetically pursuing him.

"In this decisive action the clever handling of a Russian rifle battalion, which took the enemy by both flank and front, is particularly mentioned. This battalion, forming part of a crack rifle regiment, not only put the enemy to flight, but recaptured the three guns whose loss was announced in

MURRAY GOVERNMENT SUSTAINED IN NOVA SCOTIA

Well Equipped with "Sinews of War" and Using Sectarian Appeal Returned to Power but Unable to Change Relative Numerical Standing in Legislature in Spite of Despicable Tactics Employed.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N. S., June 20.—The Nova Scotia provincial elections have resulted in the Murray Government being sustained, the parties standing twenty-nine Liberals to fourteen Conservatives. In the house, after the elections five years ago, the vote stood twenty-seven Liberals to eleven Conservatives, by-elections changing this to twenty-four Liberals and fourteen Conservatives. There will be five members more in the house elected today compared with that of five years ago and the Conservatives stand numerically just where they were when the house was dissolved, the Liberals taking the extra five seats, making their number twenty-nine.

It is remarkable that the counties which had been partially "redeemed" by the Conservatives in which the opposition had captured three members, now return fully to the Liberal column. These are Digby, Antigonish and Victoria. The Conservatives also lost members previously in their column in Lunenburg, Annapolis and Yarmouth counties.

Opposition Gains in Cape Breton.

One outstanding feature of the election is the defeat of C. E. Tanner and his two colleagues in Pictou. Another is the gain made by the Conservatives in Cape Breton Island, where the opposition elects one in Inverness and two in Richmond.

Cape Breton county has four members under the redistribution and here the parties elected two each. The only loss to the Conservatives in the Cape Breton division of the province is in Victoria, where Premier Murray's colleague is elected as well as himself. The victory of the Conservatives in Richmond is significant.

In Halifax, which returns five members, there was a particularly close fight, and the result is that the Liberals elected four and the Conservatives one, Hector McInnes, K. C. being the successful opposition member. The Conservatives expected to be able to defeat the government, but the forces against them were too strong. The war helped the government because it so absorbs public attention that the people did not seem to realize the minor evils of bad provincial administration as they would otherwise have done. The greater issues in Europe kept them from thinking of the political situation at

yesterday's communication. Moreover the battalion took 300 prisoners and three machine guns.

"Further reports of the fighting in the region north of Gadomitchi, on the Stry and west of the village of Koki, show that we, on the 17th, captured 96 officers, 2,137 men and seven machine guns. In the region of Okhotnikovo, east of Saray, we captured a German aeroplane, with pilot and observer. In the region of Gatorovics and Vinarvitchiki, north of Bucacar, on the Strya, the enemy is offering stubborn resistance.

Enemy in Retreat.

"On our extreme left wing the enemy is retreating in disorder. We are pursuing, and have occupied the towns of Zadova, Streginetz and Gliboka, on the River Sereth.

"On the Divia front we bombarded enemy positions. On the night of the 19th, in the region north of Spasla and east of Lake Vischnevakovo, the enemy attempted to approach our trenches, but was repulsed by our fire.

"Caucasus front: In the direction of Bagdad, in the region of Serpoul, we

Kaiser Gone to Verdun Front

Operations Yesterday Along British and French Lines Confined Chiefly to Mining and Artillery Work.

London, June 21.—The German Emperor has left Berlin for the Verdun front, according to a Copenhagen despatch to the Daily Mail.

Pardons English Prisoner.

Amsterdam, via London June 21.—The Frankfurter Zeitung says that the German Emperor has pardoned William Lonsdale, an English prisoner of war, who recently was sentenced to death by court martial, the sentence being later commuted to fifteen years imprisonment.

Lonsdale was condemned by court martial for an attack on a guard at the Doherty prison camp. The American ambassador to Germany and the American minister at The Hague used their good offices in behalf of Lonsdale.

On English Front.

London, June 20.—The British official communication issued this evening says: "The principal feature of the last twenty-four hours has been mining activity, combined with some bombardments by both sides. In the Loos sector we exploded two and the enemy one mine. Our mines are believed to have been fired with good effect against a hostile gallery, where work was in progress at the time. The hostile mine destroyed a short length of our trenches but we have occupied the crater.

"Last night in the same sector our troops surprised and bombed a large hostile tunnelling party, inflicting serious casualties.

"There has also been some artillery and trench mortar activity about Angres and Vimy. Otherwise the day passed quietly."

German Statement.

Berlin, June 20.—The official statement says: "Western front: The position in general is unchanged.

"The German patrol conducted successful enterprises near Beauvergne and Nieder-Appach. Our airmen dropped numerous bombs on military establishments at Bergen, near Dunkirk, and at Souilly, southwest of Verdun.

"Between the Kovel-Lutsk railroad and the Turia river our troops, at various points, broke down the enemy's resistance, which was especially stubborn near Kiselin. Our troops are fighting their way forward. Attacks by the enemy south of the Turia were repulsed. The Russians did not continue their advance in the direction of Corochov.

"The position of the forces of Gen. Von Bothmer is unchanged.

"Balkan front: The enemy dropped bombs, without causing damage, on villages behind our front."

French Report.

Paris, June 20.—The war office communication issued this evening says: "There has been no important event worthy of mention on the entire front, with the exception of rather lively ar-

NOTHING COULD WITHSTAND THE RUSSIAN FIRE

So Murderous that Advance Positions of Enemy at Czernowitz Soon Became Graveyard.

AUSTRIA SADDENED BY LOSS OF CAPITAL.

Scenes of Terror as Russian Shells Lighted Sky and Left Death and Devastation Where they Fell.

Vienna, June 20, via Berlin to London.—Austria takes the third evacuation of Czernowitz with great sadness, but with absolute quiet and with confidence that the loss of the capital of Bukovina is only temporary. Military critics point out that in view of the overwhelming Russian forces a continued defense of Czernowitz would merely have spelled the city's destruction, and unite in praising the decision of the military authorities to evacuate it. They declare that the Russian occupation is of minimum military importance, and a merely local advantage of a temporary nature.

The vanguard of the fugitives from Czernowitz has now begun to struggle into Vienna, after a week-long journey in which they were constantly delayed to allow of the passage of train-loads of Russian and Austrian wounded. The fugitives describe the ferocity of the Russian attack, and the devastation caused by it, and also the final scenes in Czernowitz, from which all but about 100 persons had fled. According to these accounts the Russian drum fire was so terrible that nothing could be done in the advanced positions. Wire entanglements and trenches were obliterated.

The inhabitants of Czernowitz first realized that the situation was serious when the Austrian staff retired upon the city from their advanced posts, and swarms of country people, with their possessions in packs or wagons, and driving their livestock, came fleeing southward through the city. The scene of awfulness increased at night, when the sky was red with the flare from bursting shells or illuminated by searchlights. The general exodus from Czernowitz by the civilians began at six o'clock, June 11, and continued uninterruptedly all day, trainload after trainload of the populace departing as fast as the coaches could be filled. The fugitives included the faculty and students of Czernowitz University, the latter of whom for six weeks had pursued their studies with shells punctuating their recitations and the noise of aeroplanes drowning the lectures. A large majority of the fugitives have gone only a short distance into the hinterland, there to await the anticipated re-taking of Czernowitz.

The city was evacuated by the Austrians the night of June 15, after an irresistible Russian attack had destroyed the bridgehead, rendering further defense of the city all but impossible.

The Belgian communication: "There have been artillery fighting and attacks with bombs in the region of Steenstraete. Calm prevails on the rest of the front."

Air Attack on Russian Warships. Berlin, June 20.—By wireless to Bayville.—A German air attack on Russian destroyers in the Gulf of Riga is reported in an admiralty statement, under date of June 19, as follows: "A German naval aeroplane of Frunburg, in Riga Bay, bombarded two Russian destroyers attaining a hit on one."

Mined or Torpedoed. Washington, June 20.—Consul-General Skene says the following cablegram to the state department today: "Five members of the crew of the steamer Sea Connet have just arrived. Have signed affidavits indicating that the ship either was mined or torpedoed. Fragments of the mine are expected today and will be examined by experts."

SWEEPING MEASURES ADOPTED BY ECONOMIC CONFERENCE OF THE ALLIES AT PARIS

NO FAVORED NATION CLAUSE TO ENEMY POWERS FOR NUMBER OF YEARS AFTER WAR, JOINT ACTION TO PREVENT "DUMPING" AND FAVOR ALLIES DEALING AMONG THEMSELVES AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN NATURAL RESOURCES.

Paris, June 20, 5 p. m.—The results of the recent economic conference here, in which the allied governments were represented have been made public.

The Post-Bellum Period.

The agreement, which was unanimous, shows that sweeping measures have been jointly adopted under three heads, the first embracing the period during the war, the second the transition period, and the third the period after the war. During the war citizens of the allied nations are forbidden all commerce with enemy subjects. All merchandise from enemy countries is likewise forbidden. Commercial houses having enemy connections are sequestered.

Additional restrictions are placed on exports and also on contraband.

During the reconstruction period the allies declare their purpose to carry on joint action in restoring industry, agriculture and merchant fleets.

All treaties with the enemy being abrogated, the allies agree that favored-nation treatment shall not be accorded to enemy powers during a number of years to be agreed upon by the allies after hostilities cease. They further declare in favor of the allied nations dealing among themselves, as far as possible, in their natural resources.

The allies agree to prevent "dumping" of enemy goods by fixing a period of time during which enemy commerce shall be subject to special rules and prohibitions.

The allies further agree upon joint

collaboration, after the war to secure complete independence from enemy countries relative to raw productions and manufactured goods essential to the development of their economic activities. These measures, it is set forth, should also include the independence of the allies in financial, commercial and maritime organization. In executing this resolution they will adopt the "measures most appropriate, according to the nature of the goods and following the principles which govern their economy."

"They will adopt subsidies and advances to encourage enterprises and research, scientific and technical."

"Besides subsidies and advances to certain industries, the allies will consider tariff changes and prohibitions, temporary or permanent."

Mutual Exchange of Goods.

"The mutual exchange of goods among the allies will be encouraged by rapid transit, reduced freight rates, and common arrangements concerning postal and telegraph communication."

"Technically trained delegates will meet to frame joint measures for the allies regarding patents and trademarks. They agree to adopt an incidental practice, as far as possible, in the regulation of the inventions, trademarks and copyright of literary and artistic works created in enemy countries during the war."

"The agreement closed with the declaration that the delegates recommend that their governments give immediate effect to the policies, as agreed upon."

WASHINGTON AWAITING REPLY FROM MEXICO

Next Forty-eight Hours Should Decide Whether it is to be Peace or War—Stern Reprimand Sent to Carranza.

Washington, June 19.—The issue of war or peace with Mexico hung in the balance tonight, awaiting General Carranza's decision as to the course he will pursue. Officials here believed that 48 hours might bring a clear understanding of what the immediate future has in store.

A note signed by Secretary of State Lansing, conveying President Wilson's rejection of the demands for withdrawal of American soldiers from Mexico, accompanied by a specific warning that an attack on the troops "will lead to the gravest consequences," was telegraphed to Mexico City today by Eliso Arredondo, Mexican ambassador-designate. In plain terms it accuses General Carranza of having brought matters to the verge of war by open hostility towards the United States and failure to safeguard even the lives of Americans in Mexico, or on the border, from the lawless elements among his countrymen.

In sternest terms the note repudiates and resents imputations of bad faith and ulterior motives brought against the Washington government in the Mexican communication to which it is a reply. General Carranza is informed, in so many words, that protection of its own borders is the only object sought by the United States, and is told that the object will be pursued, whatever the consequences may be.

DR. BELLAND IN HOLLAND

MANY AT FUNERAL OF Mrs. F. M. HUMPHREY.

Quebec, June 20.—A postal card received from Dr. Belland today says he was freed from Belgium and allowed to enter Holland on the 24th of May to treat his wife in a sanatorium in Holland.

Special to The Standard. Hampton, June 20.—The funeral of the late Mrs. F. M. Humphrey was held at three o'clock this afternoon from the family residence here and was largely attended by residents of Hampton and vicinity, as well as by relatives and friends from St. John, Rothesay, Bloomfield and other points. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. F. Rowley, pastor of the Methodist church here of which the deceased lady was a member and in which she had been active and prominent until prevented by her long illness. He was assisted by the Rev. A. H. Crowfoot, rector of the Episcopal church, and the Rev. O. N. Chipman, pastor of the Baptist church, was also present. The choir sang with feeling and with beautiful effect the hymns "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and "Just As I Am," and the service as a whole was very impressive. There were many beautiful floral tributes, among which may be mentioned offerings from immediate relatives and a large pillow from the ladies of the church. The pallbearers were His Worship Mayor Hayes and Percy Humphrey, of St. John, Geo. M. Wilson, J. E. Angeline, R. H. Smith and E. A. Schofield of Hampton. Interment was in the family burial lot in the cemetery here.

THE POLICE COURT.

In the police court yesterday James Dougan was fined \$50 or three months jail for being the proprietor of a disorderly house.

George Kingston was fined \$18 or four months jail for being drunk and profane.

In the Fairview court Harry Tremholm was fined \$40 and costs or two months jail for ill-treating a horse.