

ALLIES' POSITION ALONG AISNE RIVER FAVORABLE

BELGIAN COMMISSION RELATES OUTRAGES OF THE INVADERS

BELGIAN COMMISSION WHO ACCUSE GERMANS OF ATROCITIES.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT COUNT DE LECHTERVELDE, PAUL WYMAN, HENRY CARTON DE WIART, LOUIS DE SADELEIR AND EMIL VAN DER VELDE.

President Wilson Hears Story of Atrocities to which Little Kingdom Had to Submit Because She Refused to Violate Covenant Made With Allies

Washington, Sept. 16.—The Belgian Commission, which comes to protest against alleged German atrocities in Belgium, was received in the East Room of the White House today by President Wilson.

Accompanied by Minister Bavenin, the commissioners assembled at the State Department just before 2 p. m. and were received by Secretary Bryan, who then took them over to the White House.

President Wilson said to the commission: "Permit me to say with what sincere pleasure I receive you as representatives of the king of the Belgians, a people for whom the people of the United States feel so strong a friendship and admiration, a people for whom they entertain so sincere a respect, and express my hope that we may have many opportunities of earning and deserving their regard."

The statement of the Belgian high commission, presented to President Wilson at the White House today by Count de Wiart, was in part as follows:

"His Majesty the King of the Belgians has charged us with a mission to the President of the United States. Ever since her independence was first established, Belgium has been declared neutral in perpetuity. This neutrality, guaranteed by the powers, has been recently violated by one of them. Had we consented to abandon our neutrality for the benefit of one

of your country, standing apart from either one of the belligerents, is in the best position to judge, without bias and partiality, the conditions under which the war is being waged."

Mr. Carton de Wiart handed to President Wilson the results of the official inquiry instituted by the Belgian government, showing in detail the destruction in Belgium. Mr. Wilson thanked the commission for the document and said:

"It shall have my most attentive perusal, and my most thoughtful consideration. You will, I am sure, not expect me to say more. Presently, I pray God, very soon, this war will be over. The day of accounting will then come, when, I take it, for granted, the nations of Europe will assemble to determine a settlement, where wrongs have been committed, their consequences, and the responsibility involved, will be assessed."

"The nations of the world have fortunately, by agreement, made a plan for such a reckoning and settlement. What such a plan cannot compass, the opinion of mankind, the final court in such matters will supply. It would be unwise, it would be premature, for a single government, however fortunately separated from the present struggle, to determine a settlement, where wrongs have been committed, their consequences, and the responsibility involved, will be assessed."

"Our government has appointed a judicial commission to make an official investigation, so as to thoroughly and impartially examine the facts and to determine the responsibility thereof, and I will have the honor to hand over to you the proceedings of the inquiry."

"In this frightful holocaust, which is sweeping all over Europe, the United States have adopted a neutral attitude. And it is for this reason

SERVIANS HAVE OCCUPIED VISHEGRAD

Second Battle Now in Progress — Russia's Sacrifice of Inestimable Assistance to the Allies.

Washington, Sept. 16.—An official despatch today to the French embassy from Bordeaux says: On our left wing yesterday the Germans retook north of the River Aisne on a line formed by the forest Laigne and the Craonne. At the centre their line of resistance yesterday was north of Rheims and the camp of Chalons toward Vienne (a town at the western border of Argonne). The hostile forces south of the Argonne have accelerated their movement, retreating between the Argonne and the River Meuse. They were holding yesterday evening a front at Verennes and Comenoye. On our right wing the Germans are retreating toward Metz.

London, Sept. 16.—The second great battle in Northern France since the southbound sweep of the German invaders met its check, is now apparently in progress to the northward of the River Aisne. The opposing lines are arrayed from the Argonne Hills through Bethel to Chateau-Portien and near the practice camp of Sissonne, where the programme of the French summer manoeuvres contemplated cavalry training on a large scale for this very date.

Whether the Germans propose a fight to a finish at this position or plan merely to cover their retreat to the River Meuse is not yet clear, but the German commanders are showing the same skill in retreat and the same skill in keeping their forces intact as the Allies showed a fortnight ago.

Vienna, Sept. 16.—General Hofer, deputy chief of the Austrian General Staff, announced today that the Serbian army which crossed the River Save into Hungary had been driven back along its entire line, and that the Allies showed a fortnight ago.

Paris, Sept. 16.—A despatch from Szeged, in Slavonia, says that the Serbian army which crossed the River Save into Hungary had been driven back along its entire line, and that the Allies showed a fortnight ago.

London, Sept. 16.—A Petrograd despatch to the Post says: "It is only now that the opportunity presents itself to exhibit in due proportion the self-sacrificing strategy of Russia, the very opening of the war, for the purpose of lightening the task of their allies."

"The immediate necessity was to prevent the destruction of the French army by rapid diversion. This Russia accomplished magnificently. Her

ENEMY ENGAGING ON DEFENSIVE ALL ALONG THE LINE

Official report from Paris Says Rear Guards of Germans which French were Pursuing Have Been Reinforced by Troops from the Main Body of the Army.

Paris, Sept. 16.—The following official communication was made public here today:

"During the days of the 14th and the 15th of September the rear guards of the enemy, with which our pursuing forces were in contact, were reinforced from the main body of the German army."

"The enemy is engaging in a defensive battle along their entire front on which certain of their positions show strong organization. This front is bounded by the region of Noyon, the plains to the north of Vic-sur-Aisne and Soissons, Laon, the heights to the north and to the west of the Rheims, and a line which runs thence to the north of Ville-sur-Tourbe, to the west of the Argonne region and which is continued thence beyond the Argonne by another line which passes north of the Varennes, a point that has been evacuated by the enemy and reaches the river Meuse in the neighborhood of the forest of Forges which is north of Verdun."

Petrograd, Sept. 16.—Among the 400 guns taken from the Austrians by the Russians in Galicia are more than thirty-six heavy German cannon bearing the initials of Emperor William. These came from the regions occupied by the sixth German corps.

More than 4,500 German prisoners arrived today at Lublin in Russian Poland.

London, Sept. 16.—The third batch of treasury bills issued for war purposes was floated with the same ease as were the earlier issues. Today's \$75,000,000 was divided equally.

Petrograd, Sept. 16.—In an official statement issued today the war office declares that the investment of Przemyśl will prevent the Austrian army of General Dankl taking refuge there.

"The forces of General Dankl have been already cut off from the Austrians, and will be unable to reach Przemyśl, which is now completely invested by the Russians. The

raid in East Prussia right up to Koenigsberg, the ancient city of Prussian royalty, at once relieved the pressure upon France by compelling Germany to withdraw her best troops from France, and replace them with reserves. This movement is still in progress."

The services Russia performed were costly to herself, but priceless to her allies."



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passed the River San. The Eastern Russian advance guard is approaching Przemyśl.

The rapidly with which military operations are being carried on has made it impossible to determine accurately the losses of the enemy, but it may be said that they are becoming colossal. According to such information as has come to hand, the Austrians have lost in the neighborhood of 250,000 men in killed and wounded, this in addition to 100,000 prisoners, 400 pieces of ordnance, and a number of standards.

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The Standard, as is apparent to all, is publishing each day the fullest and most reliable war news available to papers in this territory. This news should be read by all, and in furtherance of our desire to have full information of the deeds of the Empire's Armies placed before the people, we will extend for a short time the offer previously made.

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MUCH DEPENDS ON RELIEF OF FORT TROYON

Germans Fail to Invest it and Neighboring Forts, French Will be Masters of Valley from Toul to Verdun.

Paris, Sept. 16, (via London).—The Matin, discussing the withdrawal of the Germans, points out that in order to cover its retreat and avoid the blocking of roads open to it, the German army will have to mark time and fight a second and perhaps a third battle. These battles will be fought under conditions, according to the Matin, certainly most favorable for the French forces, which, thanks to their reinforcements, and the rapidity of movements assured them by the railways, will be able to face all eventualities without anxiety.

The relief of Fort Troyon is likely to have an important bearing on the fate of the German army. The Germans were investing Fort Troyon and the neighboring forts, between Toul and Verdun, with the object of opening a way of retreat on their left. The failure of this plan means that the French are masters of the valley from Toul to Verdun. Therefore the armies of the Crown Prince Frederick William and the Duke of Wurttemberg will be unable to cross the Meuse and will have to go farther north and attempt to cross by the Stenay gap.

GERMANS GIVE WAY SLIGHTLY BEFORE ALLIES' RIGHT AND LEFT

General position of French and British along the Aisne continues favorable — Sentiment in Italy against Neutrality.

London, Sept. 16, 5.28 p.m.—The official press bureau today gave out a statement which says: "The general position along the Aisne River continues very favorable. The enemy has delivered several counter attacks, especially against the First Army Corps. These have been repulsed, and the Germans have given way slightly before our troops and the French armies on our right and left."

"The enemy's loss is very heavy, and we have taken 200 prisoners."

Italian Sentiment is Opposed to Neutrality

Rome, Sept. 16, 12.06 p.m., via Paris. 7.10 p.m.—Despite the most energetic measures taken by the government, demonstrations in opposition to Italy's attitude of neutrality continued in the larger towns today. The police being insufficient, troops are being employed extensively to repress the demonstrators, re-establish order, and protect foreign embassies and consulates.

Colon, Sept. 16.—There is no truth in the report that there has been a naval engagement off Colon. The report that there had been a battle at sea arose from the fact that the big guns on Toro Point were being fired for testing purposes. Toro Point is on Margarita Island, the fortifications of which constitute the chief part of the Colon end of the canal defenses.

until one side or the other is thrown and is down, will the word victory be quite in place. Yet, until that moment comes, neither side can relax its exertions. The British government, therefore, must not, for a moment, suspend its efforts to strengthen and reinforce Sir John French. There are enough regulars and special reservists at home to keep the expeditionary forces at full strength till Christmas. The Indian troops must shortly be expected. Then there is the territorial force, which, if it has been practicing with bullets and targets, individually, and in field firing since it was mobilized, ought to shoot

C. P. R. Suburban Train.
On Saturday Sept. 19th and 26th, special train for Welsford will leave St. John at 1.10 p. m., returning leave Welsford 2.20 p. m.