

The Week's News

Monday, January 22nd.

Artillery activity is still quite spirited at various points in region of Verdun and in Voges Mountains near Chapelotte. British were attacked north of Arras, but Teuton effort was complete failure, as also was another attempt at Polegster wood in Belgium. British were successful in several patrol engagements, taking several prisoners. In East Africa British are rapidly rounding up and completing encircling movement round the Germans.

On Verdun front, on right bank of Meuse, French easily repulsed two attacks. There were also skirmishes in Lorraine and Alsace. Isolated attacks and counterattacks have taken place in Russia, in region of Friedrichstadt, Baranovitchi and Kovel, with neither side attaining any important results.

In Roumania belligerents are virtually at standstill, there having been only minor engagements on various sectors.

Six allied submarines are reported at Bermuda Pass.

J. G. H. Bergeron, postmaster of Montreal dies.

Tuesday, January 23rd.

Bulgarians in northern Dobrudja have crossed southern estuary of Danube near Tulcha and have maintained themselves on north bank against Russian attack. This brings invaders closer to Bessarabia front. Elsewhere in Rumania there has only been continuation of small isolated engagements mainly by outposts. On Russian front, in regions of Lak, Kuggerion and near Kalzen in Riga sector, Germans were repulsed by Russians. Bombardments in France and in Austro-Italian theatre. British entered German trenches northeast of Neuville St. Vaast and repulsed two enemy attempts between Armentieres and Ploegsteert. Six German airplanes were brought down during day by French airmen and aircraft guns. Positions behind German lines were also bombarded.

In engagement between British light naval forces and German torpedo boat destroyers, in North sea, one German destroyer sunk, and one British torpedo exploded.

German sub sinks a Norwegian, a Danish, and a Swedish ship.

Greek shippers agree with British Government's proposal of chartering Greek cargo boats.

Austria is taking drastic steps to avert "imminent bankruptcy."

General strike has broken out in Saragossa, Spain.

Fire destroyed cut stone plant worth \$250,000 at Lyall, Man.

Wednesday, January 24th.

Aerial activity has increased on western front in last two days, and thirteen German airplanes were driven down by British and French. Aviator Guynemer bringing down his 26th. French made series of successful raids in regions of Chilly, Woivre, and Seille. They repulsed two attacks and British defeated German effort with ease, besides entering enemy's trenches southeast of Ypres. Bulgarian forces which crossed Danube opposite Tulcha were annihilated by the Russians. Germans achieved a success in one region of the Riga front, driving Russians back a mile and half between swamps and River Aa. Elsewhere in eastern theatres Teutonic efforts failed.

Britain gives \$10,000,000 for aviation training in Canada.

1,430 German newspapers and periodicals have ceased to publish.

Mr. Bonar Law replies to President Wilson's speech.

Lieut.-Col. Gorrell, M. D., found dead in London, England, after purchasing poison.

Saskatoon farm sold for \$300,000.

Thursday, January 25th.

Big battle between Germans and Russians over marshes southwest of Riga continues unabated.

Petrograd admits that southeast of river Russians have had to fall back third of mile, but says attacks by the Germans on the marsh were repulsed. Aside from this battle fighting in various other theatres continues to be carried out mainly by artillery and small reconnoitering and raiding parties. In Roumania the extremely cold weather has virtually put an end to operations for moment. Lively fighting has taken place in famous Dead Man Hill in Verdun region of France. Reciprocal artillery duels, which have reached considerable proportions at several points, are being fought from Swiss frontier to North

Sea. French and British were each successful in raids. Two enemy airmen were brought down.

Estimating total German losses in war at about 2,000,000, "National Zeitung" of Berlin says that there are available sufficient forces to carry on war for several years.

Turkish agents are reported to be attempting to create trouble in Abyssinia.

Germans demand removal of American and Dutch minister from Bucharest.

Railway rates jumped 15 per cent in France.

Fifty natives were killed and 200 injured in an earthquake on the Island of Bali, Malay archipelago.

Bulgars force Serbian peasants to work under shell fire.

Kaiser has conferred Grand Cross of the Iron Cross on Von Mackensen.

Friday, January 26th.

West of Riga, in Tirul swamp region and along River Aa, Germans and Russians continue at grips in heavy fighting.

Turkish first-line trenches on front of 1,100 yards were gained by British in attacks southwest of Kut-el-Amara. In addition, some second-line positions on right bank of Tigris were taken. West of Hai river, four counterattacks by Turkish troops were repulsed with heavy losses. In west British carried out some successful raids, doing much damage and causing heavy losses. French were engaged in heavy fight all day on Verdun front. Germans attacked on a front of 1,600 metres and were sanguinarily repulsed. There has been little activity on Roumanian front.

60,000 bombs have fallen on Rheims since war began.

World's shipping loses 1,149 ships through war causes.

Fire destroyed Roman Catholic church at St. Louis de Courville, Quebec, worth \$100,000.

Lord Bryce justifies expulsion of Turks from Europe.

Violent earthquake shook rocky city buildings, Montreal.

Canadian Parliament to adjourn for two months.

Toronto and York Patriotic Association and Red Cross funds obtained, as result of four days' whirlwind campaign, \$3,259,928. Objective had been \$2,500,000.

Saturday, January 27th.

Several Allied successes were achieved. British captured a strong position at Le Transloy on Somme. In Mesopotamia they have recaptured their lost trenches near Kut-el-Amara on the Tigris River, the Turks suffering heavily and failing in counterattacks. Half a dozen successful raids were carried out by the British and French in west, prisoners being brought back each time. In Moldavia the Russians and Rumanians have assumed the offensive and smashed Teuton line on a two-mile front. These successes are admitted by Germany. Fourteen German airplanes were driven down or destroyed in air by British and French aviators, besides German organizations behind lines being shelled.

British auxiliary cruiser Laurentic sunk by sub. Germans lose a sub off Norwegian Coast.

COPRA IN BAHAMA ISLANDS.

In the opinion of Sir William Lever, of Lever Bros., England, expressed in a communication some months ago to the Governor of the Bahama Islands, there will be "an ever-increasing demand for copra oil, and the West Indies would be on sure and safe ground in planting coconuts and making copra." He estimates that the people of the United Kingdom will in the near future increase their consumption of margarine, and he believes the people of the United States will also show an increased demand.

CANADIAN PRODUCE ASSOCIATION CONVENTION.

The fifth annual convention of the Canadian Produce Association is dated for February 6th and 7th at Freeman's Hotel, Montreal, when the committees for 1917 will be appointed and reports of the various officers and committees will be read. Addresses will be delivered by many prominent members of the produce trade dealing with the question of producing and handling eggs, butter and poultry.

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BRITISH DYES LIMITED MAKES REMARKABLE PROGRESS.

In a recent number of The Journal of Commerce we stated that the British Dyes Limited had issued 111,829 one pound shares, forming the balance of the unallotted shares of the original issue. This is somewhat misleading. According to later advices we are informed by the firm in question that their share capital issued to date is £925,663, leaving £74,337 still to be taken up on the first issue of £1,000,000. When the whole of the above balance of £74,337 has been taken up, the company will have available share and loan capital of £2,200,000.

The progress that has been made by the British Dyes, Limited, since it came into existence after the outbreak of war, is very satisfactory. The British dye making industry which amounted to only a few isolated firms three years ago, is now able to supply a considerable proportion of the dyes used throughout the British Empire. The larger portion of this trade in dyes is accounted for by the firm of British Dyes, Limited, which, under Government support, is forging ahead at a remarkable rate. With the influx of workers into Huddersfield, that city has grown to nearly double its size. New buildings are constantly going up until the area of the company's plant alone is about seven miles in length at the present time.

Before the war there was no incentive to invest in dye manufacture, as Germany controlled the color industry of the world so completely that profitable competition was impossible. With the German products shut off from the world's markets the British people have seized the opportunity afforded them, and in an incredibly short space of time have built up an industry of a permanent nature, destined to compete favorably with enemy goods in British and Colonial markets after the war. In this our industry differs from the American. In the United States the dye manufacturing plants are of a temporary nature only, built with the idea of closing down as soon as the German goods reappear on the markets, and the American makers are no longer able to command exorbitantly high war-time prices.

The chief difficulty alike in the American and British color industries is to produce enough dyes to supply the demand. The labor problem in Great Britain is a serious drawback. Women are being employed to a great extent, but in the case of such processes as are usually carried on by men the makers are meeting with almost insurmountable obstacles. The chemists are for the most part young officers in the army, who by special arrangement, drill their men at night and work in the laboratories by day.

An equally grave hindrance to the production of dyes is the fact that the explosive makers have the first right to the raw materials, the dye manufacturers being limited to whatever is left. After the war the immense capacity of the British coal tar factories will form the source of an almost unlimited supply of the basic chemicals, but for the present the dye makers have to content themselves with such amounts as can be spared from the munition works.

The supply of colors thus being less than the demand, the British Dyes, Limited, sell only to shareholders. Being under Government support the speculative element has been done away with, and although the price of dyes as quoted by this firm is many times the original German price, it is still but a fraction of the figures asked by private concerns in both Great Britain and the States.