

BELGIAN ARMY ON OFFENSIVE AGAIN

Germans Driven Out of Aerschot.

RETREAT MADE TO LOUVAIN

Large Area Is Flooded to Hamper Attackers.

MAIN BATTLE CONTINUES

Sir John French Reports British Have Buried 200 German Dead and Taken 12 Maxim Guns, Besides Prisoners.

ROTTERDAM (via London), Sept. 10.—A dispatch to the Courant dated Eindhoven, Holland, reports that a heavy engagement took place Wednesday at Aerschot, Belgium, nine miles north-east of Louvain, when the Belgians attacked the garrison there.

As a result of the fighting the Germans evacuated the town, and the Belgians hoisted their colors and liberated 25 priests found in a church.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—An Ostend dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says:

"According to information from a reliable source, the Belgian army at Antwerp has assumed a triumphant offensive movement, driving the Germans' fight back to the environs of Louvain."

Belgians Flood 70 Square Miles.

An official dispatch issued in Berlin and received here tonight by the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company says:

"In an engagement at Ordehem, on the railway between Antwerp and Ghent, the Belgians withdrew. The country south of Antwerp has been flooded by the Belgians to prevent the Germans from marching into the town. The area covered by the flood is 70 square miles. The water varies in depth at different places from a few inches to several feet."

Engagement in Progress.

A reuter dispatch from Ostend says that according to soldiers who have arrived there it would appear that an engagement is in progress between the Belgians and the Germans, who are withdrawing towards France.

Reports from the fighting in France received in London indicate that probably the fiercest struggle is against the French center between Rhelms and Verdun, while the British army is contesting the second hard-fought engagement against the German right. The Germans are believed to be attacking the French right from Verdun to Nancy.

German Report Admits Reverses.

"The first official admission on the German side of success by the allies," says a Central News dispatch from Amsterdam, "appears in official communications issued in Berlin today. General Von Stein announces that the enemy between Paris, Meaux and Montmirail."

"The fighting lasted two days. The German army had checked the enemy and had even itself advanced but stronger hostile columns came to the assistance of the allies and the enemy won the battle, compelling the German troops to retire. Fifty guns were captured by the allies and some thousands of men made prisoners."

"To the west of Verdun fighting continues. The situation in Lorraine and the Vosges is unchanged."

French Moving in Alsace.

Lesser fighting is in progress in Alsace. From this province the Germans appear to have drawn away part of their army and the French are taking advantage of this opening.

A dispatch to the Central News from Amsterdam says:

"Reports from Putten, in the Netherlands, near the Belgian border, indicate that skirmishing in which the artillery is engaged has occurred north-east of Antwerp. Many houses near Putten were demolished by the Belgians to provide an unobstructed field for the artillery."

Antwerp Forts Strengthened.

"The inefficiency of the forts at Antwerp, through the failure of the Krupp to carry out their contract, has been made good, and Antwerp is now considered nearly impregnable."

"It is understood that only 20,000 German troops are between Antwerp and Brussels, mainly from the Landstrum."

"Prince Baudouin de Ligne died in Antwerp yesterday as a result of wounds received in fighting. He was only 18 years old."

British Bury German Dead.

The official press bureau has given out the following statement:

BULLETINS

LONDON, Sept. 10.—A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Copenhagen announces that a German squadron of 31 ships, including battleships, cruisers and torpedo-boat destroyers has been observed at various points along the Gulf of Bothnia, steaming east.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Ghent says: "It is estimated that from 20,000 to 40,000 German soldiers have arrived during the past two days at Brussels. This indicates that the German reserve is completely mobilized."

ROME, via London, Sept. 10.—The Tribuna's Vienna correspondent says 6000 wounded arrived in Vienna on Tuesday, 5000 on Monday and 8000 on last Sunday. About a third of these are Germans. Budapest and Prague also report the arrival of large numbers of wounded.

TOKIO, Sept. 10.—The declaration was made by the Foreign Office today that there was no truth in the report circulated in Tokio and elsewhere that Japan had been in negotiation with Great Britain concerning the dispatch of a Japanese army to Germany.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—A dispatch to the Star from Newcastle says that the tramp steamer Ottawa struck a mine off Northumberland yesterday and went down. So far as is known, none of the crew of 20 men was saved.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—That German prisoners be pressed into the service in the highly hazardous work of sweeping the North Sea mines was a suggestion made in the House of Commons today. Great Britain now has many small boats engaged in this work and German prisoner crews under British officers would handle such work if the plan outlined were adopted.

BORDEAUX, Sept. 10.—Minister of War Millerand has issued a circular note to the Generals commanding the several districts of France ordering them to institute a vigorous search for all persons who have failed to respond for military service as required.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—A dispatch to the Post from Paris says that a French military airplane, caught in an air pocket above Bois de Vincennes fell, killing two aviators and four persons on the ground. Four other persons were severely injured.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—Prince Friedrich of Hesse, eldest son of Prince Carl of Hesse, and an officer in the Hunan Uhlans, has been seriously wounded in France, and Colonel Ernest Moritz von Arendt has been killed, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Evening News.

PEKIN, Sept. 10.—The elements have delayed unexpectedly the Japanese advance on Tsing-Tau. Floods cover the surrounding country and are spreading and beyond Wei-Hsien. It is said it may be months before the Japanese can begin their investment of the stronghold, which now can be reached only by boat.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—The battle of Belgrade has been renewed with increased fury, according to a Nish dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. Considerable damage has been done. The Serbian batteries are replying to the Austrian fire.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—In a dispatch from Copenhagen the correspondent of the Evening News says that the fifth and sixth Saxon lists have been published. They include two officers and 63 men killed, three officers and 201 men wounded, and 117 men missing.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—The gratitude of the French government to the American people for the equipment of the steamer Red Cross and her dispatch to Europe was expressed to Secretary Bryan today by Jules Jusserand, the French Ambassador.

VENICE, via Paris, Sept. 10.—The Italian cruiser Piemonte has been recalled home from Somaliland, East Africa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—A. Rustom Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, was advised today by his government that all conventions between the powers and Turkey conferring special privileges or restricting the sovereignty of the Porte, have been abrogated.

PARIS, Sept. 10.—During the four days' battle," says an official communication issued tonight, "the allies have pushed back the Germans 60 kilometers (approximately 37 miles) and taken many prisoners and machine guns."

LONDON, Sept. 11.—According to a Petrograd dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, it is believed there that the German Crown Prince has been appointed commander-in-chief of the forces against Russia.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—King George spent the day with his troops at one of the great military depots. He was in uniform.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Sept. 10.—Ex-Minister of War Colyn, discussing in De Jone's, the main organ of the Young Men's Christian Association, the probable remodeling of the map of Europe as a result of the war, says it may be necessary for Holland to enhance her neutrality in order to have a vote in the concert of the powers.

RISE IN SHOES FORECAST

Wholesalers Place Blame on War Going On in Europe.

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.—"The cost of shoes is going up," according to a statement issued here tonight by a committee representing the delegates to a conference of the National Shoe Wholesalers' Association and the National Retailers' Association.

This statement places the blame on the European conflict, which has seriously curtailed the importation of hides and skins.

ALLIES DETERMINE TO CRUSH ENEMY

Peace Rumors Dashed by President.

"OFFICIAL" MOVE IS LACKING

Conference With Grey of Englishman's Seeking.

BRITISH POSITION DEFINED

Sir Edward Says He Did Not Want to Appear to Be Blocking Peace If Emperor William Had Really Advocated It.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—There is no present prospect of peace in Europe through the efforts of diplomacy. President Wilson himself set at rest today any hope that peace rumors were in the making by revealing that no intimation had been conveyed to him officially from any quarter of a readiness on the part of the one or more of the belligerents to talk peace.

The day's developments emphasized that Great Britain, France and Russia were grimly determined to make no peace until they had decisively broken Germany and Austria. Great Britain's position was explained in detail at London by Sir Edward Grey to Ambassador Page, who made a long report to President Wilson.

How Aimed at Militarism.

The British Foreign Secretary declared England had not sought war, but since it was forced on her, she was irrevocably bent on crushing forever the dangers of German militarism to the world.

Sir Edward also referred to what he termed the spoliation by Germany of the neutral territory of Belgium and pointed out that the allies would expect redress for that action.

The conference between the American Ambassador and the British Foreign Secretary is said to have occurred on the initiative of the latter. Sir Edward Grey, it is understood, explained that in view of newspaper rumors to the effect that Germany was ready to make peace, Great Britain did not want to appear in the light of blocking the move while Emperor William assumed the role of peace advocate.

Occupied Territory in Way.

To make peace now, while German troops held Belgium and a large part of France, might cause Germany to exact unreasonable terms on the basis of occupied territory, according to the British view.

Asked whether the message he had received from Emperor William yesterday (concluded on Page 2).

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ONE SEES HIS OWN GRAVE DUG

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INSANE OFFICER TAUNTS

News Men Now Safe Are Only Ones to Follow German Army for Forthright, Lewis, Cobb, Bennett and Others Free.

ROTTERDAM (via London), Sept. 10.—American correspondents who accompanied the German army for nearly two weeks across Belgium and into France found themselves safe today on Dutch soil after being held prisoners by the Germans for four days under unusual circumstances. The Associated Press correspondent reached Rotterdam late last night.

For the last week the party had been under surveillance at Aix-la-Chapelle, whether they had been taken on a train with prisoners from Beaumont, Belgium. The party included Roger Lewis, of the Associated Press; Irvin S. Cobb, of the Saturday Evening Post and the Philadelphia Ledger; James O'Donnell Bennett and John T. McCutcheon, of the Chicago Tribune, and Harry Hansen, of the Chicago Daily News.

Reporters See Fighting.

With them on the trip to Aix-la-Chapelle were three other correspondents, Maurice Gerbaud, a Belgian correspondent; Lawrence Stein Stevens, an American artist, formerly of Detroit, and Victoria Hennebrand, King Albert's special photographer.

The party of five Americans left Brussels August 23 with special military passes and were the only correspondents who were successful in following the German army.

One Sentenced to Death.

Lawrence Stein Stevens, an American artist, who was a fellow prisoner of the correspondents from Beaumont to Aix-la-Chapelle, underwent a frightful ordeal at the hands of a demented German Lieutenant, who sentenced him to be shot as an English spy.

Stevens left Brussels August 24 in an automobile with King Albert's photographer, Victor Hennebrand, and a Belgian correspondent, with the intention of making sketches on the battlefield. Unknown to Stevens, the Belgian correspondent carried a camera and the Red Cross insignia, in express violation of the rules of war. At Lanefte, (concluded on Page 2).

Thursday's War Moves

THE crucial battle of the war in France, news of which is still confined to British and French sources, is still devoid of decisive result. The commander of the British expedition, Field Marshal Sir John French, reported that the Germans had been driven back all along the line; that the British had crossed the River Marne; that the Germans had suffered severely and that their men were supposed to be in an exhausted condition.

Notwithstanding this report, military writers in the London papers report that from the conservative terms of the French official statement it is too early to predict the result of a battle extending over a front of nearly 100 miles. Three million men is the number estimated to be engaged actively and as reserves, and three great battles at least are in progress.

The great battle may continue for days, when it is remembered that smaller operations in Manchuria, in which hundreds of thousands only were concerned, lasted a fortnight.

British military writers find considerable satisfaction in the statement of the French and British official reports that "in the center our advance is slow but general." It is pointed out by those writers that the allies had prepared their center for the most formidable and dangerous attack, which, if successful, would have divided their forces. This evidence that the German pushing tactics had been at least temporarily countered has given more courage to British optimists who believe that the Germans are feeling the pressure and have found it necessary to hurry reinforcements from Belgium and practically denude Upper Alsace of troops that are being rushed to the central fighting zone.

That the Germans are going to have the Belgians still further to reckon with is indicated by dispatches (one of them from Berlin) showing renewed fighting between Antwerp and Ghent. One version is that the Belgians drove the enemy out of Aerschot and raised their flag almost a straight line from Koesnigberg on the Baltic in East Prussia to the environs of Louvain. The numbers engaged are not given, but there is no reason to believe the Germans have left a large force in Belgium, the obvious strategy being to go no farther than to prevent, if possible, the Belgians from giving material assistance to the allies, but to do this with as little time sparing as few men as possible from the big battleground.

Most of the troops left in Belgium are said to be men past the prime of life, of the Landsturm, while 30,000 or 40,000 naval reserves are marching in to replace the depleted garrisons.

From Holland comes the news that 60,000 German reinforcements are marching south. These troops may have an effect upon the tide of battle, but there is reason to believe the allied armies also are receiving a counterbalancing accession of strength.

In the eastern scene of operations, Austrian official sources deny that the Russians have won extensive victories, but Swiss returning from Vienna declare it is reported there that the invaders already are in the passes of the Carpathian Mountains. Petrograd declares that on the eastern frontier of Germany the Russian advance is occupying almost a straight line from Koesnigberg on the Baltic in East Prussia to Cracow. The Russians are said to be driving the Germans before them on the west bank of the Vistula. It is reported the Austrians have begun evacuating Cracow. According to Serbian advisers, Serbian troops have crossed the river Save and are successfully invading Hungary. Montenegrin troops are in Bosnia, hoping to incite a revolution in that Austrian province.

The House of Commons voted unanimously for 500,000 more recruits. The country was notified by the government's announcement that 450,000 men already had been enlisted since the beginning of the war. When the government's plans are completed, the British army for the continent and for home service will consist roughly of the following: Regular army, 1,200,000; territorial, 300,000; reserves, 214,000; Indian contingent, 70,000; Canadian first and second contingents, 40,000; Australians, 20,000 and New Zealand, 10,000—making a total of 1,854,000 men.

This tremendous enrollment for a country which normally has only a small professional army, has thrown light upon the government's views regarding the duration of the war, or at least, upon its determination to meet all possibilities.

A casualty list published last night brings the army's losses to nearly 15,000 men, exclusive of the past three days' fighting.

That the German navy has not been without enterprise is revealed in the admiralty announcement today that the British cruiser Pathfinder was destroyed by a German submarine, not by a mine, as was at first supposed. Also a German squadron of 31 vessels, including battleships, cruisers and destroyers, was observed in the Gulf of Bothnia.

The British navy is said to have accomplished a daring, although unproductive, attempt to draw the German battle fleet into action. A great array of squadrons and flotillas made a sweep into the North Sea for two days, penetrating into the bight of Heligoland, but failed to discover any German craft.

Another mine disaster, the victim of which was the tramp steamer Ottawa, has been added to the list and the advisability of closing the North Sea to merchant shipping is being discussed. Both England and Germany would suffer through strangulation of their trade, England losing food supplies from Scandinavian countries, while Holland promised to be Germany's principal avenue of commerce with the outer world.

TURKEY ABROGATES SPECIAL TREATIES

Privileges of Foreigners Abolished.

RULE OF POWERS REPUDIATED

'War Is Turkey's Opportunity,' Says Ambassador.

NO REPLY IS EXPECTED

Diplomats Predict Allies Will Let Subject Rest Until Close of War. Restrictions Imposed Have Long Been Irksome.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—A Rustom Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, was advised today by his government that all conventions between the powers and Turkey conferring special privileges or restricting the sovereignty of the Porte have been abrogated.

The Ambassador made this announcement:

"A cablegram to the Turkish Ambassador from the Ottoman Minister of Foreign Affairs states that by imperial irade the Ottoman government has abrogated as from October 1 next the conventions known as the capitulations restricting the sovereignty of Turkey in her relations with certain powers."

All Privileges Also Repealed.

"All privileges and immunities accessory to these conventions or issuing therefrom are equally repealed. Having thus freed itself from what was an intolerable obstacle to all progress in the empire, the imperial government has adopted as the basis of its relations with the other powers the general principles of international law."

In the rights revoked has rested the legal status of American missionaries in Turkey, permitting them to maintain churches, hospitals and schools in religious freedom. Administration officials declined tonight to discuss the effect of the action on American missions.

"The removal of every kind of privileges enjoyed by the powers in excess of what the general principles of international law allow is the meaning of this step." A Rustom Bey said tonight. "This war is Turkey's opportunity."

No Intimation of War Is Given.

No intimation was given by the Ambassador whether the action foreshadowed war on Great Britain, without whose consent in the past no such radical action would have been attempted.

Among diplomats of the allied powers, however, the belief prevailed tonight that Turkey was appealing to the nationalist sentiment of her people, and was ready to seize on any difficulties that may arise with Great Britain as a pretext to declare war.

The Turkish Ambassador made known the action of his government in a public announcement after it had been communicated to Secretary Bryan by him today as a formal note from the Ottoman Empire.

As early as 1808 the sovereigns of Constantinople granted charters of extra territorial privileges, called "capitulations," from the fact that they were divided into chapters. The Venetians were the first granted the right of trial by judges appointed in Venice and permanently residing in Constantinople.

Powers Previously Unfavorable.

Immediately after the young Turks gained control of the government, the powers were sounded as to possible abrogation of the capitulations. The reply was unfavorable, it being held that the new regime should justify its ability to govern wisely and administer justice fairly before the powers would surrender the rights under which their citizens in Turkey were protected.

Today's declaration, so far as is known, was not preceded by any such discussion with the powers.

The Turkish Ambassador described the privileges abrogated as relating to economics and the administration of justice.

"In the economic field," he said, "the Turkish government cannot fix or change the customs duties without the consent of the foreign powers. Nor can the Turkish government impose a professional tax on foreigners because the powers have not consented, and a great discrimination has been made against the natives."

"In the administration of justice the Ottoman government is not free to deal with culprits of foreign nations in the matter of certain trials without intervention of the representatives of the foreign ambassador or minister to which the culprit owed allegiance. In certain cases foreigners cannot be imprisoned in the native prisons, but only in those of the consulates."

Restriction Weighs Heavily.

"These restrictions weigh heavily on the Ottoman state, both materially and morally; materially, by depriving it of the financial resources which other countries are free to create according to their discretion. In that way Turkey has been prevented from introducing those reforms which it has been accused of delaying precisely by those powers, who, owing to the enjoyment of those privileges, stood in the way of progressive action on the part of the government; morally, it has deprived Turkey of that confidence which full independence gives to a state."

(concluded on Page 4)

