

RUSSIA DESCRIBED AS "WASTING MEN"

Berlin Account of Battle in Carpathians Says Foe's Attacks Were Fruitless.

GROUND IS FIRMLY HELD

Wave After Wave of Assailants Breaks Down Under Heavy Fire. Last Reserves Concentrated in Desperate Effort.

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—Combats in the wooded Carpathians, where the Russians delivered their counter-attacks in an effort to relieve the harassed Rumanian army are described by the correspondent of the Berlin Tageblatt as the Overseas News Agency, which describes the Russian offensive there as a waste of men and ammunition in fruitless attacks. The Tageblatt's correspondent is quoted as follows: "The culmination point of the Carpathian battle was in the mountain range above the Golden Estryzta, between Jacob and Dorna Watra, especially the height of Meste-Canesci. At noon the hostile artillery began to lay a curtain of fire behind the razed trenches of the Austro-Hungarian while simultaneously the first line of three divisions was launched for attack. They sallied forth from the wood in order and climbed the mountain.

Attacking Waves Break Down. "Within range of our artillery one wave of assailants after another broke down. Under the protection of obscurity, attacking the Russian trenches some destroyed parts of trenches about which the fighting continued during the whole night. "Our regiments reconquered bit after bit of the lost ground, although the enemy outnumbered them three to nine times. At morning's dawn the whole terrain again was firmly in the hands of the defenders of Meste-Canesci, with the exception of 300 yards of trench. Toward evening strong attacks vainly delivered three attacks upon Mount Bernaridul, called by the soldiers Bavarian Mountain. "Two days later the Russians attempted the conquest of a railroad tunnel at Meste-Canesci, one kilometer in length. Our field guns were thrown back and in the complete obscurity of the tunnel hand-to-hand fighting began, the terrible scenes of which were illumined at times by bursting hand grenades.

Attempt to Pierce Lines Fails. "Driven from the tunnel, the Russians again attacked the whole district between the tunnel and Meste-Canesci Mountain and attempted to pierce our lines at any cost near the point of approach above the road through the pass. They were repulsed by the Austro-Hungarian artillery. One and a half Russian regiments made a thrust against our lines in the valley but were brought to a halt at night and driven by an outflanking counter-attack to their original positions. "About 1 o'clock on the following morning the enemy delivered a surprise attack. Without artillery preparation they crawled up to our position at Meste-Canesci, but were discovered by the Hungarian guards and repulsed by the allied defenders. In the night 125 prisoners were brought in. The combatants belong to eight different regiments, which shows that the Russian chief commander in this district has concentrated here his last reserves."

OIL IN ROUMANIA SAVED

Germany Say Rapid Advance Prevented Destruction of Wells.

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—In only a few days were the Rumanians able to place the machinery of their oil wells, the Overseas News Agency says, the advance of the Teutonic forces having been too rapid. "A majority of the hundreds of towers in the Prubova Valley and near Campina already are in operation again, and in a few days the German engineers will have repaired the damaged electric power stations at Campina and Sinala. In a short time transportation of oil will be begun on a large scale. "The news agency reports that not only are all the requirements of the central powers provided for, but that it will be possible to accumulate great stores of oil.

LUTHER BURBANK WEDDED

Ceremony Is Private and Pair Leave Pastor's Study in Taxicab.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—Luther Burbank, the famous plant evolutionist, was married here today to his secretary, Miss Elizabeth Waters, by Rev. C. S. S. Dutton, pastor of the First Unitarian Church.

The ceremony was private and Mr. Burbank and his bride were whisked away in a taxicab from the pastor's study.

First Woman City Clerk to Wed. SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Dec. 21.—Miss A. Christine Holmberg, the first woman in this country elected by the people to the position of City Clerk, will be married Sunday morning to R. H. Hall, a local automobile man. Miss Holmberg is serving her second term as City Clerk.

Read The Oregonian classified ads. ATMOSPHERE You like it—or you don't. But you will surely like the air of camaraderie that surrounds WASHINGTON HOTEL. Cheerful—inviting. Say "Home, James," to your taxicab, and he'll speed you to the Washington. It is Home for the wayfarer. WASHINGTON HOTEL. Washington at Twelfth. GEORGE B. HUIE, MANAGER. PORTLAND, ORE.

LATEST OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

Russians in Roumania. PETROGRAD, via London, Dec. 21.—A violent battle is in progress in Northern Dobruja, where the offensive was assumed by the forces of the central powers, which at first carried several heights, but later were driven from a portion of the captured ground, the War Office announced today. Russian attacks in efforts to gain control of the remaining heights are going on.

British in Mesopotamia. LONDON, Dec. 21.—The following official communication concerning the operations in Mesopotamia was issued tonight: "In the night of Sunday, British airplanes bombed the enemy's river craft west of Kut-el-Amara. Monday and Wednesday strong reconnaissances were made to the west of the Shumran bend of the Tigris. "During the last few days the enemy's position about Sannayyat and Kut and his shipping west of the latter place were heavily bombarded with satisfactory results. The bridge over the Hai River near its junction with the Tigris, was destroyed by our fire."

French. PARIS, Dec. 21.—The official communication from the War Office tonight reads: "The enemy violently bombarded our lines in the sector of Louvemont-Vaux; our artillery replied. "There were other artillery actions of a spirited character at various points along the front, in one of which enemy gas machines were destroyed by our fire between Berry au Bac and Rielmoulin. "Belgian communication: "Spirited artillery duels took place in the regions of Dixmude, Steenstraete and Boesingh."

German on Eastern Front. BERLIN, Dec. 21.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—On the Golden Bystritsa River yesterday, the Russians made a determined effort to advance, attacking our line, it is announced officially. Their efforts broke down under the fire of Austro-Hungarian troops. "In Roumania, the Teutonic forces gained further ground. Several attacks by Russian troops on the German lines along the front in

SEA WAR VICIOUS

Both Sides See Prospect of Relentless Campaign.

BRITAIN PLANS DEFENSE

Sir Edward Carson Announces Policy of Government and Measures Taken by French Admiralty Are Outlined.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Exchange Telegraph Company's Amsterdam correspondent quotes the following from the Berlin Taegliche Rundschau: "The German government has now formally taken the position that England's armed commercial and passenger steamers are men of war, being armed auxiliary cruisers. The promise given to America—which has always hindered our submarine war—that these vessels, before being torpedoed, must be stopped and be examined, falls to the ground. They are warships and must be treated as such, even when Americans are on board. "We now have facilities for extending the undersea boat war, which all sensible people have long recognized as indispensable. This is the best result to Premier Lloyd George's refusal of our peace offer. "The government cannot admit any distinction between the rights of unarmored merchant ships and those armed for defensive purposes, said Sir Edward Carson, First Lord of the Admiralty, replying to a question today in the House of Commons. Continuing, Sir Edward said: "Merchant captains enjoy an inalienable right to defend their vessels against attack, visit or search by any means in their power, but they must not seek to defend themselves against him, that function being reserved to ships of war. "Neutrals Said to Agree. "So far as I am aware, all the neutral powers take the same view." "The First Lord of the Admiralty said the British government was devoting its continuous attention to the theory and practice of defensive armament."

REPRISALS ARE STOPPED

CZAR AND KAISER AGREE REGARDING CAPTURED OFFICERS. Commanders Are No Longer Treated as Common Prisoners and Germans to Leave Murman.

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The following official statement was made public today by the Overseas News Agency: "The Russian government for some time used thousands of German war prisoners in the construction of the Murman Railroad. It is universally known to what hardships these prisoners were exposed, and that many of them perished as a consequence. "As all the German protests were of no avail, 1000 Russian officers were transported from officer camps to armed war prisoner camps. The Russian government answered this measure November 15 by transporting all German officers to common prisoner camps. "However, an agreement was reached between both governments through the intervention of the presidents of the Swedish and Danish Red Cross, Prince Carl, of Sweden, and Prince Waldemar, of Denmark. According to a communication from Emperor Nicholas, no war prisoners will be in the district of the Murman Railroad after January 1, 1917. The Emperor also ordered that all reprisals against German officers be stopped. The Emperor, therefore, orders the 1000 Russian officers to be immediately transported back

Polynia and further north were repulsed, and the War Office announced today. French in Macedonia. PARIS, Dec. 21.—The official announcement on the progress of hostilities in Macedonia given out this afternoon reads: "There has been intermittent artillery fighting on the Struma front and in the sector of Majadagh. The exchanges were more violent in the region of Hill 1050. Snow and rains continue on the front in Macedonia."

Progress of the War

ON THE Dobruja region of Roumania the Teutonic allies have been driven from heights in the region of Balabanica and Dachkol, and the Russians and Rumanians are now battling for possession of other positions along this line. In Roumania proper the Teutons are advancing along both sides of the Inas-Racovitzi road, but are meeting with steady resistance from the Russians and Rumanians. Along the Fritza-Strazina front the Teutonic allies have pushed back the defenders. "In the Carpathians, southeast of the Kimpolung-Jacobeni Railway, the Russians have captured several heights, and at various points on the Russian front attacks by the Russians have been repulsed. "The artillery duels have been spirited at several points along the French front. Berlin reports a raid on British trenches and the capture of four officers and 25 men. In another raid British troops entered German trenches near Arras, but were ejected. "On the Verdun sector Germans have violently bombarded the Louvemont-Vaux front. "Snow and rain are falling in Macedonia, and, as from an engagement in the Cerna River bend region, no infantry fighting has taken place. In this sector Berlin reports that the Teutonic allies have held heights east of Paralovo against strong Russian attacks. "In Mesopotamia the British report successful bombardments of Turkish river craft and land positions in the region of Kut-el-Amara. "To officer prisoner camps, and that they be treated again as officers."

The Murman coast comprises the northeast coast of the Kola Peninsula, which lies between the White Sea and the Arctic Ocean. CROOK INSTITUTE IS OVER Roll Call Shows 108 Teachers Attending Sessions. PRINEVILLE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The annual teachers' institute of Crook County closed last night. There were 18 hours of institute work. All schools were closed during the week and there was full attendance, 108 answering rollcall—31 grammar school teachers and 17 high school instructors. The following instructors were present: J. A. Churchill, Superintendent of Public Instruction; E. F. Carleton, Assistant State Superintendent; Dr. B. W. DeBusk, State University, Eugene; H. C. Seymour, state club leader, Corvallis; H. J. Hockenberry, Portland; Mrs. Emma Bullockson, Salem; E. E. Evans, Crook County High School, Prineville; Charles H. Jones, Oregon Teachers' Monthly, Salem; Arthur D. Carpenter, Seattle, Wash. Tuesday evening the boundary board, composed of County Judge Springer, Commissioner Blanchard and Superintendent Myers, tendered the teachers a reception at the Commercial Club Hall, followed by a banquet prepared by the girls of the domestic science class of Crook County High School.

AVIATOR WEDS ACTRESS

Ex-Wife of George M. Cohan Becomes Second Mrs. Grahame-White.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Flight Commander Claude Grahame-White, noted English aviator, and Ethel Levey, the actress, were married today at the registry office. Grahame-White's first wife, who was Miss Dorothy Taylor, of New York, obtained a divorce in London last June. Ethel Levey formerly was the wife of George M. Cohan, of New York. Their marriage was dissolved in 1907. ELKS Give Charity Show. CENTRALIA, Wash., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—A benefit performance was staged Tuesday night in a local theater by the Centralia Elks, the proceeds of which have been applied to the lodge's Christmas charity fund. The performance was witnessed by a

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Idaho Educators to Meet

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The Idaho State Teachers' Association and the Associated Educational Supervisors of Idaho, or County Superintendents, have been called to meet in Boise, December 27, 28 and 29, to consider school problems. Two general sessions of the State Teachers' Association are to be held. Among the prominent speakers will be Professor C. E. Rush, of the University of California; Professor L. T. Lewis, of the University of Idaho, and Dr. E. O. Sisson, Commissioner of Education.

Player Pianos \$420 upward The Ideal Family Gift A PLAYER PIANO This gift every member of the family would enjoy—the old folks, the young folks, and even the children, would all learn to play wonderful piano music. There are many styles on our floors from which to choose—the Aeolian Player Piano at \$420 and \$475—and the wonderful Pianola Pianos from \$575 upward. We will accept your present piano in part payment, and if desired will arrange convenient terms of payment on the balance. We issue handsome Calendar Merchandise Orders in any amount for Victrolas, Victor Records, Ukuleles, Player Music—anything in Music. Open Evenings This Week Sherman, May & Co. Sixth and Morrison Streets Victrola Department on First Floor Steinway and Other Good Pianos, Pianola Pianos, Victrolas and Records, Player Music, Cabinets, etc.

Use This Coupon 20-EXTRA-20 Bring this coupon and get 20 extra stamps on your first \$1 cash purchase, and double amount of purchase. Good on first three floors today and tomorrow, Dec. 22, 23.

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