

RUSSIAN RAID IN NORTH IS CHECKED

German Cavalry Plays Leading Part in Driving Enemy From East Prussia.

NEW OFFENSIVE IS BEGUN

Czar's Army Thought to Have Filled Gaps Caused by Victory of Von Hindenburg, Preparatory to Resuming Operations.

BERLIN, March 27, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.—The Russian offensive movement against the East Prussian territory to the north of Tilsit came to its end last Friday night with the expulsion of the last Russian from the province.

The invaders were thrown back across the border after a brief but hard fight and the Germans advanced to a point in front of Polangen. The Russians had been at Erotingen and Jakabow. Steps have been taken to guard the inhabitants of this district against further invasion of this kind.

Cavalry played a great part in driving the Russians out of Prussia. The roads were soft, heavy fog made the use of artillery and infantry difficult. The infantrymen were hindered also by the swampy nature of the land and the high water, which prevented rapid pursuit.

Fugitives Already Returning.

Although the damage done by the invaders in this district is considerable, it is not as great as had been feared and reported.

A large number of the fugitives already have returned to their homes, while others are returning, and the damages will soon be completely repaired.

The conclusion appears to be justified today that Field Marshal von Hindenburg had a certain connection with the general renewal of Russian offensive activity, the purpose of which, according to military opinion in Berlin, appears to have been another threat against East Prussia.

RUSSIAN GAPS ARE FILLED.

The offensive against Memel was closely followed by advances in the direction of Tilsit through Taurrogen, through Mariampol and finally through Augustowa.

No new offensive activity is taken in Berlin to indicate that the Russians have finished filling out the gaps in their line caused by the latest victory over them of Field Marshal von Hindenburg, and that they are now ready for new operations.

The German War Office today announced:

"Our troops who started from Taurrogen to loot Tilsit in the same way they looted Memel have been repulsed near Leaguargen. They suffered heavy losses and were driven back over the Jederup River."

"Several other advances between Alz and two forts and the Vistula have been repulsed, and in some places this fighting continues."

PRZEMYSYL'S GUNS DESTROYED

Austrians Then "Leave Everything to Chivalry of Enemy."

BERLIN, via London, March 27.—A striking story of the last days of the Austrian stronghold of Przemysyl has been sent by the correspondent of the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger to Austrian press headquarters who obtained it just now from an Austrian aviation Lieutenant named Stanger. The Lieutenant and Pilot Captain Lehmann were the only aviators who left the Przemysyl fortress on the last day of its existence who have as yet reported to the Austrian authorities. According to Lieutenant Stanger, as early December the ration of the defenders grew scarce and the allotments were cut down. They virtually gave out March 18. Bread had long since been unknown. Horsemeat and rice lasted the longest.

The condition of the defenders was in every way precarious. Two hundred died each day during the last few days of the stand, and there were no fewer than 28,000 men in hospitals. It was consequently decided, March 18, to make a final attempt to break through the Russian line, but the attempt was doomed to failure.

The Hovends and some older troops sallied out on this last expedition singing, but the flesh was weaker than the spirit. It took them seven hours to march seven kilometers (four miles), and many exhausted men were left along the way.

The expedition fought bravely, but it was forced to retreat at 10 o'clock in the morning. It had to return a distance of 14 kilometers (ten miles) before it reached the garrison of the fortress. Nevertheless the Hovends came back singing as they had gone out.

The Russians, who saw from the condition of the captives made by them how desperate was the plight of the garrison, began their bombardment the night of March 26, only a few hours after the exhausted members of the expeditionary force had returned to the fortress.

The commandant decided that the fortress must be held until 5 o'clock in the morning of March 27. Preparations were made to destroy the fortifications and the artillery. The infantry regiments were withdrawn from their positions, and the divisional organization of Przemysyl was assembled outside the zone of danger. Then the work of destruction began. The method was this:

A motor howitzer was loaded as usual and then the gun was filled with sand. It was then fired, with the result that the explosive force, turning back into the gun, exploded it and its immediate surroundings.

Five Russian officers and 2000 soldiers, prisoners of war, were in the fortress when it fell.

An Austrian officer was posted on the ruins of each fort and provided with a white flag. He was instructed to make this announcement to the Russians:

"Our excellency cannot hold the fort any longer on account of lack of provisions, and he leaves everything to the chivalry of the enemy."

Przemysyl finally fell, the correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger declares, but not a single stone had been captured by armed force.

GARDEN LECTURE GIVEN AT DUFUR.

DUFUR, Or., March 27.—(Special)—M. C. Marrs, of the field department of the Oregon Agricultural College, delivered an address in the Methodist Episcopal Church last night on school gardens. Mr. Marrs, formerly with the State Experiment Station, is making a tour of the West Coast schools. A fair will be held at Dufur this Fall to display the products of the school gardens. The fair will precede the County Fair, and the best of the produce will be taken to the latter exhibition at The Dalles.

MAP SHOWING SCENE OF OPERATIONS IN EAST, AND PORTRAIT OF GALLANT AUSTRIAN WHO DEFENDED PRZEMYSYL UNTIL ITS FALL.



APPROXIMATE PRESENT POSITIONS OF VARIOUS ARMIES SHOWN. AT LEFT, GENERAL VON KUSMANEK.

The position of the opposing armies in the eastern theater of war likely will be radically changed by the capture of the Austrian garrison of Przemysyl. The huge Russian army that has been investing the fortress may be sent north to aid in driving back the Germans who have been pressing toward Warsaw, or it may engage the Austrian forces to the west whose business it is to defend Cracow and the routes to Vienna and Berlin. New activity in the north has resulted in the Prussian border town Memel being made the center of heavy fighting. Germans and Russians have held it alternately.

BATTLE IS FURIOUS

Contending Armies Confronted by Fearful Weather.

MANY PRISONERS TAKEN

AUSTRIANS STRONGLY REINFORCED AND VIENNA SAYS RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE HAS BROKEN DOWN—PETROGRAD TELLS OF GAINS.

LONDON, March 27.—Reports from both Russian and Austrian sources reaching London today indicate that the battles in the Carpathians are continuing with unabated fury under weather of the most terrible of the war. The Austrians evidently are strongly reinforced and Vienna declares that the Russian offensive has miscarried. Petrograd makes no mention of this.

Todays official report of the Russian general staff, received from Petrograd, says:

"To the west of middle Niemen on the right bank of the Narew and on the left bank of the Vistula there has been no essential change in the situation.

"In the Carpathians we have made considerable progress in the direction of Barfild. The Austrians have impeded our advance and the battle is still in progress.

"In Eastern Galicia we drove back a battalion which crossed the Dniester near Jolava, inflicting heavy losses."

The Russians took 2500 prisoners.

"In the vicinity of Bulgarid we have captured a fortified height of Rovnitsa. Near Russkodiyina and Kosciukwa we successfully repelled important forces of the enemy. In the course of the day we made prisoners of about 2500 Austrian soldiers, besides 40 officers and we captured several machine guns."

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