

RUSSIAN FORCES WAGING TWO GREAT BATTLES ALONG EASTERN FRONT

RIVAL INVADERS EACH RECEIVE SEVERE CHECK

German Advance Along Vistula Halted, as Is Russian Progress in East Prussia—Battles Raging at Two Points—Cracow Invested Upon Three Sides.

LONDON, Nov. 20, 1:20 p. m.—Both in London and Berlin the present stage of the campaign in Russian Poland is regarded as highly important; Germany's advance in the Warta-Vistula country is being watched with intense interest. Petrograd, however, while of course, vitally concerned, seems to be only indifferently interested.

Army headquarters in Petrograd announces that two great battles have developed along the eastern front, one in the line between Czenstochowa and Cracow, apparently extending along the railroad between these two points, and the second in the Warta-Vistula region, but Russian observers don't appear to attach much significance to the outcome in this latter region.

Invasions Checked

A general survey of the reports received here from all quarters conveys the impression that the German advance on the Vistula has met at least with a temporary check, while the Russian invasion of East Prussia has suffered a like fate near Angerburg, where the German defenses, consisting chiefly of wire entanglements, are reported to be strong.

Berlin declares that a concentric attack is being made on the Russian center, the German armies coming from the west and the northwest, while Austria is sending a force north from the Cracow region. Petrograd, however, states that the offensive in western Galicia is still under way and that Cracow is believed to be invested on three sides, leaving only one line of railroad communication open.

Winter Halts Fighting

The coming of winter having interrupted the fighting along the North sea coast, Germany is making an effort to pierce the line of the allies at another point. The French war office announced today that in the region of the Argonne forest, where severe engagements have been in progress for the last few days, three vigorous attacks had been made by German infantry. These assaults, it is said, were repulsed.

The importance of this battle, foreign military critics explain, lies in the fact that if the Germans should succeed in pushing back the allies they would be able to join forces with their troops, which farther to the east have thrust a sharp wedge into the line. Such a junction of forces would result in the surrounding of the strong fortress of Verdun, which the German crown prince attacked in vain during the earlier days of the war.

Quiet Reigns in Belgium

The reply of the allies to this challenge was an attack on the Germans in the neighborhood of Verdun. An official German statement given out today said that this attack had been repulsed.

In Belgium the diminution of activity has become still more pronounced. There was almost a total absence of infantry attacks in the northwest, and even the artillery fire which recently has been severe, was lessened.

EX-CONGRESSMAN UNDER ARREST

SHREVEPORT, La., Nov. 20.—Alexander P. Howell, said to be a full-blooded Choctaw Indian, formerly member of congress from Oklahoma, was brought to Shreveport today to answer three indictments charging impersonation of a government officer and violating the law which forbids any person acting as attorney or agent in Indian claim territory without having obtained government consent.

BRITISH GUNNERS FIRING SIXTY POUNDERS AGAINST A GERMAN POSITION IN FRANCE.



BRITISH GUNNERS AT WORK WITH THE 60-PRS. IN THE VINEYARD DISTRICT OF FRANCE.

The above drawing by Christopher Clark, special artist for this newspaper, the New York Herald and the London Sphere, shows one of England's 60-pr. batteries in action helping to cover a flanking movement against the German position, which is 7,000 yards away on the right. More to the center of the picture French shells are bursting over the German lines, the white puffs of shrapnel smoke hanging in the still air. The French force, with batteries of 75-mm. guns, are away on the left. In the middle distance can be seen British reserves advancing, and more to the right the German shrapnel can be seen bursting many yards short of the British battery. The big spots of dark earth and smoke indicate where the German 42-cm. shells are bursting. In the immediate foreground is a battery of British 60-pr. recoil guns. The one on the left has just been fired and has run back on its recoil cradle. The gun on the right is just in the act of being loaded; the officer is looking through the sight across the vineyards to the German position. These splendid guns have a 5-in. caliber and a range of some 10,000 yards. The size of the gun can be gathered from the fact that eight heavy draft horses have to pull a five ton load behind them. A heavy battery consists of four of the guns.

SEVEN MILLION IN BELGIUM NEED AID OF AMERICANS

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—The Christian Herald, which sent a cargo of supplies from London to Belgium, has received a cable from its representative at Rotterdam, who superintended the distribution of food and clothes, which said that it was the first cargo of American supplies to reach the Belgians.

"Tell our people," the representative cables, "it is but a drop in the bucket. Tell them to give and then give again. It is snowing here, yet woman and children refugees in The Hague stand in line for clothes and there are seven million of them in need in Belgium."

EMBARGO ABSOLUTE ON AUSTRALIAN WOOL

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—The embargo on Australian wool has been made absolute, according to advices which reached Washington today, licenses for the exportation of any of the product to the United States having been revoked.

BELGIANS DESCRIBE MASSACRE

LONDON, Nov. 20, 12:30 p. m.—The Belgian commission of inquiry into alleged German violation of the laws and customs of war has issued another lengthy report, which is published today by the British official bureau.

It covers what is described as the "massacre at Tamines," "the sack of Dinant," and "the outrages in the province of Belgian Luxembourg."

The report says that more than 650 persons were shot by the Germans in the village of Tamines.

Referring in detail to this alleged massacre, the report describes how a group of between 400 and 450 men

LIFT QUARANTINE AGAINST LIVESTOCK ACCOUNT DISEASE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—The quarantine against cattle shipments from Canada to the United States imposed because of the foot and mouth disease, was lifted today by the department of agriculture.

The quarantine against Canadian cattle was not placed because of infection in the Dominion, but to prevent the return of infected cattle cars to the United States. The raising of the Canadian quarantine was said by officials to be an added evidence that the epidemic is being brought under control.

FOREST FIRES RAGE IN SOUTHERN CALIF

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 20.—Five forest fires, which seemed to have started simultaneously in the wooded areas of San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Orange and Los Angeles counties, still resisted today the efforts of hundreds of men to curb them. In the Santa Ana mountains the fire line stretched twenty miles.

CALM IN WEST ACTIVITY IN EAST ALONG BATTLE LINES

LONDON, Nov. 20.—Comparative calm in the west and re-awakened activity in the east are taken by London to indicate that the German military chiefs have decided to concentrate their energies at the present stage of the war toward dealing if possible, a crushing blow to Russia.

Such fragmentary reports as were received today from the eastern zone of fighting showed that the German army was still pressing the Russians back through Russian Poland, over the same battle fields across which the Russians a few weeks ago were advancing victoriously. No clear explanation has been made of the reversal in form of the opposing armies, although it has been reported on several occasions that the Germans were sending thousands of their finest troops from France and Belgium to the east.

Russian Advance Continues

The Russian war chiefs state that their advance in East Prussia and Galicia continues in spite of their admitted retreat in the center. German strategists believe that continued reverses in Russian Poland would force the Russians to draw back their northern and southern armies. German opinion admits of no doubt as to the outcome of the war with Russia. General Von Hindenburg, Germany's popular hero of the fighting in the east, is quoted as saying that Germany and Austria will win, although outnumbered, because they have stronger nerves and because their soldiers do their own thinking.

Besides the possible withdrawal of German troops for use against Russia, there is another reason for the lull in the fighting in the west. Cold, wet weather has numbed and exhausted the soldiers so that great physical effort is almost out of the question. The weather in Belgium is compared with a bleak, windy December day in the New England coast. The storm continues, and the waters of the North Sea flow through the locks at Newport which the allies opened to flood the lowlands and hold back the German advance.

MILLION MORE MEN FOR BRITISH ARMY AUTHORIZED

LONDON, Nov. 20, 1:57 p. m.—The house of commons today formally passed the vote for the supplementary army and estimate which provides for an additional army of 1,000,000 men.

This is the additional million men mentioned by Premier Asquith in the House of Commons last Wednesday night. It is apart from the territorial, and is additional to the 1,100,000 men said already to be under arms.

Referring to the supplementary estimate, Harold J. Tennant, under secretary of state for war, said the official view was that this further million men ought to be sufficient, so far as the government was able to see at present, to crown British arms with success. He declined to give the actual numbers of men enlisted but remarked that the figures recently given out by the prime minister, which were roughly in the neighborhood of 1,100,000 were below rather than above the actual total.

The present idea of the war office, Mr. Tennant continued, was to duplicate the territorial force, making one battalion for home defense and the other for foreign service.

With regard to the suggestions that Lord Kitchener's army of recruits should be treated unlike the professional soldiers, Mr. Tennant remarked: "The chief characteristic of Lord Kitchener is not sentiment, nor even persuasive eloquence. These advocates of differential treatment would make him change his decision in a matter on which he feels strongly."

GRANGE REFUSES ENDORSEMENT OF NATIONAL SUFFRAGE

WILMINGTON, Del., Nov. 20.—Equal suffrage was a topic of earnest discussion by the national grange today and while the committee report in favor of equal suffrage through amendment to the federal constitution was disapproved, the cause of votes for women was enthusiastically endorsed.

The committee reported adverse to the combining of military instruction with general education was recited. The committee on immigration made a report favoring the adoption by congress of stringent immigration laws for the purpose of protecting American citizenship against deteriorating elements of old world citizenship.

NARROW ESCAPE FOR WILBUR JONES

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Nov. 20.—W. A. Jones, former sheriff of Jackson county, but now ranching near this city, had a narrow escape from death this week when a runaway team of draft horses collided with his auto at a crossing. The horses were hitched to a heavy truck and the pole broke, the wind shield of Jones' auto tore the front seat out from under Jones and penetrated the rear seat and the gasoline tank. Jones was thrown to the ground, unhurt. The pole missed him by but a few inches. One of the runaway horses suffered a broken leg and was shot.

OBREGON FLEES CAPITAL AFTER DECLARING WAR

Carranza's Chief in Command Leaves City of Mexico, After Declaring War Upon Villa—Capital in State of Unrest—Railroad Communication Interrupted.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—American Consul Silliman in a dispatch filed in Mexico City at 8 o'clock last night, reported that General Obregon's troops were enroute for Orizaba and moving the offices of the government with them.

Consul Silliman added that the city was in a state of decided unrest. He did not indicate whether the Obregon troops were evacuating the city to leave it undefended before the troops approaching from the north, or whether his forces were to be replaced with other Carranza troops moving down from Queretaro under General Gonzalez, one of Carranza's chief supporters.

Mr. Silliman added that railroad communication northward and also between the capital and Vera Cruz was interrupted.

Previous reports have left it to be understood that a sufficient garrison would remain in the capital to maintain order and prevent entrance of the Zapata forces until Villa's forces were in the immediate vicinity and ready to enter, when the Carranza troops would withdraw.

Acting Secretary Lansing conferred today with Acting Secretary Breckenridge of the war department and Brigadier General Scott, chief of staff, over details of the evacuation of Vera Cruz. It was decided that the customs collected during the period of occupation, supposed to aggregate more than \$1,000,000, would be brought away by Major General Funston to be held in this country for delivery to the government, which is finally recognized.

The state department received notification that General Obregon had declared war on Villa. The notification stated that Obregon was going to Salina Cruz. As that port is on the Pacific side of the isthmus of Tehuantepec and far from the zone of the threatened hostilities, officials could not understand it.

Foreign Minister Fabela telegraphed the Carranza agency here today a formal declaration that hostilities with Villa had broken out and telling of the appointment of military commanders for the various states and military districts.

DECKER FAILS TO EXPLAIN INCIDENT

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—Captain Decker of the armored cruiser Tennessee cabled the navy department from Chios, Greece, acknowledging receipt of Secretary Daniels' dispatch directing him to take no step without instructions from Washington. He gave no further details of the firing upon the Tennessee's launch at Smyrna.

This was the first word from the Tennessee since Captain Decker's laconic dispatch Wednesday confirming newspaper reports of the Smyrna incident. Secretary Daniels has asked for a full report, but owing to the difficulty in communicating with that part of the world, there is no saying when it will arrive.

ARKANSAS MINERS RESUME OPERATIONS

PRAIRIE CREEK, Ark., Nov. 20.—Under protection of United States troops, operation of the Bache-Dunman mining interests were resumed today in Hartford valley by non-union labor. It is planned by the receiver gradually to extend operations until several of the mines will be running.

Don't Forget

To attend the mass meeting of land owners, fruit-growers and farmers at the Medford public library Saturday afternoon to discuss irrigation and the best means of watering the valley.

The formation of an irrigation district and how it can be brought about will be explained, as well as the private contract plan.