

BRITISH DESTROY GERMAN PACIFIC FLEET

CRUISERS SUNK IN BATTLE OFF FALKLAND ISLES

Warships Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig Sunk, Two Colliers Captured, While Dresden and Nurnberg Escape and Are Being Pursued by British Squadron.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—It was announced officially here today that the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig had been sunk off the Falkland island in the South Atlantic.

The following announcement was issued by the official information bureau:

"At 7:30 a. m. on the eighth of December, the Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Nurnberg, Leipzig and Dresden were sighted near the Falkland Islands by a British squadron under Vice Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee.

An action followed, in the course of which the Scharnhorst, flying the flag of Admiral Count von Spee, the Gneisenau and the Leipzig were sunk. The Dresden and Nurnberg made off during the action and are being pursued.

"Two colliers also were captured. The vice admiral reports that the British casualties are very few in number.

"Some survivors have been rescued from the Gneisenau and the Leipzig."

The British official statement shows that, as has been reported, the German squadron made its way from the Pacific to the Atlantic. The Falkland islands, near which the German ships were sighted, lie off the tip of South America, directly east of the straits of Magellan.

History of Fleet

The Gneisenau, Leipzig and Scharnhorst, with the cruisers Nurnberg and Dresden, composed the German Pacific fleet, which in the engagement with the British squadron under Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Cradock off the coast of Chile on November 1, sank the British cruisers Monmouth and Good Hope with the loss of about 1500 men. Since that time British and Japanese squadrons have been searching for the German fleet, of which little has been heard. Recent reports from Montevideo, Uruguay, were to the effect that the German fleet was believed to have rounded the cape and entered the south Atlantic waters, but there has been no authentic information of the whereabouts of these vessels since the battle with the British squadron.

Scharnhorst Flag Ship

The Scharnhorst and Gneisenau are the largest ships of the German fleet. They were sister ships of 11,600 tons displacement, 450 feet

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TEUTON ALLIES CLAIM VICTORY WEST GALICIA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Success of the allied German and Austrian troops in western Galicia was reported from Vienna today to the embassy here. The dispatch says:

"The battle in Poland progresses favorably. In West Galicia the Austro-Hungarian-German troops attacked from the south the advancing Russians and captured 23,000 prisoners. Our troops have gained ground south of Belgrade. The enemy with reinforcements continues violent attacks near Aranyolovne. Prince Leichtenstein, the Austrian delegate, and Deputy Pekar, the Hungarian delegate, left for Genoa to greet the American Christmas ship Jason. Germany also sends delegates. The public manifests the greatest gratitude for this proof of sympathy suggested by American newspapers.

OPTIMISM RULES FRENCH REPORT BELGIAN BATTLE

Appreciable Gains at Arras by Infantry, and Artillery Repulses Germans Along Meuse—Mine Destroys Trench on Aisne—Hold All New Positions Gained December 8.

PARIS, Dec. 9, 2:40 p. m.—There was artillery fighting from the sea to the Lys during the day of December 8, according to the French official announcement given out in Paris this afternoon, and all the positions won by the French during the past two days have been strengthened.

"During the day of December 8 there was artillery firing from the sea to the Lys.

"In the region of Arras and farther to the south there was nothing to report. All the positions won by us during the past two days have been organized and consolidated.

"In the region of the Aisne artillery exchanges and fighting by our infantry resulted in appreciable gains for us. Several German trenches were occupied, and we made progress along the entire front with the exception of one single point. Here the enemy blew up one of our trenches with a mine.

Artillery Effective

"On the heights of the Meuse our artillery showed itself distinctly the master of the artillery of the enemy. In this region as well as in the Argonne we have made progress along the entire front, and have occupied some of the German trenches. The same thing happened in the region of Leningre.

"In the Vosges we repulsed several attacks to the northwest of Simones."

"In the remainder of the segment of the Vosges the enemy made no endeavor, during the day of December 8, to deliver any serious attack on the positions occupied by us last week.

Russian Situation

"Russia.—The stubborn attacks of the Germans against the front from flow to Lowicz and from Strykow to Lodz, and also along a line running north and south sixteen kilometres (ten miles) to the west of Piotrkow, were repulsed. Nevertheless, because of the exposed position of Lodz at the head of a wedge, the Russians have found it advisable to evacuate this city.

"In Galicia the Austrians who appear to have received German reinforcements, have resumed the offensive in the region of Nu Sandre, to the east of Cracow against the Russian left wing. The Serbian armies are making progress in the upper valleys of the western Morava and on the left bank of the river Ljida. They have taken possession of the heights of Melien, capturing numerous prisoners and also taking cannon from the enemy. In the region of Kosmaj the Serbians are in contact with the Austrian troops."

LONDON, Dec. 9, 12:45 p. m.—The Central News has published a dispatch from its Amsterdam correspondent, who says that the King of Saxony has arrived in Brussels.

PLAN BEET SUGAR FACTORY HERE

Steps toward securing a beet sugar factory in the Rogue River valley will be taken next Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at a mass meeting of farmers, landowners and business men that will be held in the small hall of the Natatorium. F. S. Braucwell, former manager of the Amalgamated Sugar company, and associates, representing Utah and eastern sugar interests, arrived in the city this morning and are being shown over the valley this afternoon in a preliminary investigation of conditions.

At the mass meeting the plans, conditions and other requirements of the beet sugar men will be discussed and an effort made to secure acreage for the 1915 crop. Under the direction

CRUSHING GAIN AT LODZ SLIPS FROM GERMANS

Inability to Unite Forces Gave Russians Chance—Evacuated Polish City for "Strategic Reasons"—Berlin Tells of Pursuit of Czar's Minions to South.

LONDON, Dec. 9, 11:40 a. m.—The center of the German line in Russian Poland having occupied Lodz, it is continuing to push on to the eastward after the retiring Russians, according to official announcement made in Berlin. Nevertheless the strain of both sides has been terrific and the losses heavy, so that a lull probably will soon set in on this part of the eastern battle front while the troops recuperate.

The Russians continue to assert that their retirement from Lodz was a strategic necessity rather than a defeat, but it will take future developments to show whether this claim is correct or not. Twice driven back from Warsaw, the Germans again are in a position to advance on the capital of Russian Poland, and even the British press, which minimizes the importance of the taking of Lodz, points out that it is on the trunk line railroad between Kalisz and Warsaw, which line is now held by the invaders probably to a point considerably to the east of the occupied city.

Great Chance Lost

Viewing the fighting in the vicinity of Lodz in retrospect it would appear that Germany had a crushing victory almost within her grasp and lost it by not being able to unite her forces, while later the Russians were successful in gaining a dominant position which they could not hold.

In the western arena where it would appear still generally true that the Germans are more on the defensive than the offensive, the news that they have made a violent attack to the south of Ypres, indicates that they have not abandoned the idea of breaking through to the French coast, and it is said that the pick of the German western army has been concentrated for this latest effort.

The fate of General Beyers in South Africa has not yet been absolutely cleared up. If he is dead, as is believed, it will remove the last of the important South African rebels. General De Wet is a prisoner. Colonel Maritz a fugitive and most of the commands have been broken up.

NO WHEAT TRUST AT KANSAS CITY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—On its investigation of marketing of Kansas wheat the department of agriculture today reported to congress that no "collusion to restrain competition or depress prices at Kansas City" was discovered and that Kansas farmers "as a general rule are getting all that their wheat is worth."

NO TROOPS SENT TO MEXICAN BORDER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—No aggressive action on the part of the United States is contemplated in the sending of additional troops to Naco, Ariz. An official statement was issued today at the white house.

THE NEW LEADER AT THE MEXICAN CAPITAL



GENERAL VILLA

General Villa is reported to have entered Mexico City at the head of 25,000 troops and went into camp in the suburbs surrounding the capital. On his arrival he announced his mission was to restore order throughout Mexico. His coming was hailed by hundreds of persons as the sign that the most serious crisis in the affairs of Mexico has passed. He is regarded as the one man who is strong enough to bring order out of the chaos which has existed since Carranza quitted the city and left it at the mercy of any band who might enter it to sack the place.

GERMAN LOSSES WEST OF WARSAW REPORTED TERRIFIC

PETROGRAD, Dec. 9, via London, 3:02 p. m.—The German attacks in Lodz to the west of Warsaw, yesterday were conducted with absolute disregard of consequences and according to a report reaching here tremendous losses were incurred. The German method of throwing column after column in close ranks, the men marching shoulder to shoulder, was evidence of the determination to take this position which is on the direct road to Warsaw and nearer to Warsaw than any other fighting center on the Lodz front.

In spite of the murderous fire of the Russians, the German infantry lay in the shallow trenches dug out with their bayonets and their hands at a distance of 200 paces from the Russian entrenchments and brought up their artillery to within 800 paces of the Russian positions. The Army Messenger, an official organ, declares that while the Germans were moving forward from Lask yesterday, they attacked Pabianitz, ten miles southwest of Lodz, in close ranks and forced the Russians to give ground, but with the approach of darkness the Russians stopped the advance of the Germans and inflicted heavy losses on them by the continued use of their armored automobiles on the Lask-Pabianitz highway. Sdunkaska Wola, Lask and Pabianitz, marked the successive steps of the attempted German advance on Warsaw.

The Russian movement enveloping Cracow continues slowly but successfully according to information reaching Petrograd.

SEEK TO WAIVE ASSESSMENT WORK UPON MINES 1914

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 9.—Resolutions introduced today before the seventeenth annual session of the American Mining Congress request that the legal requirement of assessment work on mining claims be waived for 1914.

Another resolution appeals to the state department at Washington to take steps to assure free shipments of copper to neutral ports of Europe. The resolution sets forth that the action of belligerent governments in interfering with copper shipments had adversely affected half a million people in this country who are dependent upon the copper industry for a livelihood.

Proposed leasing by the government of mineral lands in the public domain was the principal topic of discussion. A paper prepared by Senator John F. Shafroth of Colorado, and read in his absence before the congress, started the discussion. Senator Shafroth contended in his paper that a leasing system by the nation, creating the relation of landlord and tenant with the citizens of a state or territory, was inconsistent with the American form of government. If adopted, he predicted it would be a failure.

SERVIA PROCLAIMS A HOLY WAR

PARIS, Dec. 9, 2:40 p. m.—Telegraphing from Nish, Serbia, the correspondent of the Havas agency transmits an extract from the declaration of the new Serbian cabinet, read before the Serbian legislature today as follows:

"Convinced that the entire Serbian people have resolved to defend their homes and their liberty to the end by a holy war, the royal government feels it to be its duty to give assurance of the emancipation and the union of all our brothers deprived of their liberty, be they Serbians, Croations, or Slavonians.

NAVY HELPLESS IN CASE OF WAR SAYS FLETCHER

Commander of American Fleet Declares Country Powerless to Cope With Other Nations in Case of War—Unable to Keep on Sea or Protect Commerce.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Rear Admiral Fletcher, commander of the Atlantic fleet, impressively told the house naval committee today that the United States navy is unprepared to cope with the most powerful navy in the world. He mentioned no country. "You can safely say," he testified, "that we are not prepared for the worst emergency that might arise to protect ourselves from the greatest force available."

"We would have to greatly enlarge our fleet to protect American interests against all possible combinations against us, or to control the ocean. We would have to take the offensive when we have a strong enough fleet."

Helpless in Warfare

"Are we strong enough," the admiral was asked, "to offer decided resistance against any nation at this time?"

"Not at all," the admiral replied. "We would have to defend ourselves as best we could. We probably would be unable to keep on the sea or to protect our commerce."

"Are you maintaining the same standard in the personnel of the navy as you always have?"

"It has not been further than it is today," replied the admiral.

"The ships individually are in a high state of efficiency, as high as they ever have been, and if there is any criticism at all it is because of lack of the usual opportunity to have the ships take their drill exercises together due to the fleet being busy in Mexico and the West Indies."

Use of Submarines

Admiral Fletcher told the committee a European nation could send submarines across the ocean to dart into an American harbor and assail the American fleet. It was of course, he said, a supposition case, as to the practicability of such a move. For instance, he said, England had a "nice little supply station" several hundred miles away from New York harbor at Bermuda.

The admiral said he would recommend as good policy eight or ten more submarines for coast and harbor defense.

Representative Roberts of Massachusetts and others pressed Admiral Fletcher about the actual condition of the American submarines and he finally testified there was only one submarine now in active first-class condition. Others are being overhauled at the navy yards. About twelve submarines, he said, were undergoing annual overhauling. All the submarines, he added, should be in full readiness and preparedness for first-class active service, "some time in February, and they will then be effective weapons."

No Bombardment Likely

"How far off shore should a most modern battleship lie and effectively

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COLORADO STRIKE ENDS DEC. 10; RECORD UNIQUE

For Duration, Bitterness and Bloodshed, Greatest in Industry—Mimic War Ruled State—Tent Colonies New Feature—President Wilson to Lend Good Offices for Settlement.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 9.—In duration, sacrifice of life, property, and in monetary loss to the state, miners' union, the coal operators, the miners, railroads and private industries, the Colorado coal strike has been one of the greatest in the history of American mining. It will end Dec. 10.

The strike in the northern coal fields, of which the state-wide strike is a continuation, was called on April 4, 1911. The state-wide strike was called on September 23, 1913, and virtually paralyzed the industry of Colorado, threw the commonwealth into turmoil and finally led to the calling out of the state militia and the importation of federal troops, successively, into the strike territory to preserve order.

The toll of approximately eighteen millions of dollars expended during the strike is shared by miners, operators, the union, railroads, state and federal governments as well as private industries. According to union officials more than \$2,000,000 has been paid in strike benefits alone. Loss of wages to miners is estimated at over \$6,000,000.

The strike has been characterized by an unusually number of acts of violence and at least 66 persons are known to have been killed and about 50 injured as a result of disorders incident to the labor war.

Armed Colonies

The battle between striking miners, mine guards and militiamen at Ludlow on April 20, which ended in the destruction of the tent colony, was responsible for the death of 12 children and two women, whose bodies were found in a pit in the ruins of the site. Subsequent warfare which included attacks upon various mining camps in Las Animas, Huerfano, Fremont and Boulder counties marked the culmination of strike outbreaks. The arrival of federal troops on April 30, 1914, restored peace.

State troops were sent into the strike zone October 29, 1914, when local authorities declared they were unable to preserve order. With the exception of one company stationed at Ludlow and another at Walsenburg, the state troops were withdrawn on April 18, of the year following. The next week, however, they were

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FRENCH MOVE CAPITAL BACK TO THAT DEAR PARIS

PARIS, Dec. 9, 3:10 p. m.—President Poincare and Premier Viviani arrived in Paris today from Bordeaux. Foreign Minister Deleasse and members of the diplomatic corps were to follow them later in the day.

The return of President Poincare to Paris from Bordeaux marks the re-establishment of the seat of French government in that city after an absence of nearly three months. In the early weeks of the war when the German armies were sweeping southward across France, the French government on Sept. 3 issued a proclamation announcing its temporary transference to Bordeaux. The Germans had penetrated almost to the suburbs of Paris and the sound of their heavy guns could be heard in the city.

For several days the fate of Paris was in doubt. Then the advance of the Germans was checked and they were forced back to their present positions along the Aisne.