

BRITISH TRYING TO ADVANCE ON BELGIAN FRONT

Attempt by Germans to Retake Neuve Chapelle Fails—Seige Operations in Poland—Small Damage From Bombardment in Dardanelles—FFighting in Champagne.

PARIS, March 13.—The advance of the British troops in the vicinity of Neuve Chapelle is estimated at about four miles, in a dispatch reaching here today from Belgium. The Germans are declared to have been forced back beyond the forest. This advance of the British includes their various forward movements since the beginning of their activities at this point.

LONDON, March 13.—The British army, to which has been assigned the task of leading the present attack on the western battle front, is still attempting push forward, and thus far German efforts to drive it back apparently have failed today's official report from Berlin says that an effort to recapture Neuve Chapelle made progress for a time, but was abandoned when the Germans encountered superior forces of British. The correspondent of a Paris newspaper telegraphs that the British artillery fire was so accurate that the Germans moved their headquarters from Lille.

Spasmodic fighting was in progress yesterday in Champagne and the Vosges but apparently the French army is leaving the initiative to the British as no engagements were in progress except in the vicinity of Neuve Chapelle.

Dardanelles Attack

The German war office states that the new attack in Poland had thus far been successful and that the Russians have been compelled to fall back beyond the Bzura river.

An announcement from the French ministry of Marine states that the bombardment of the Dardanelles was continued yesterday, but leaves in doubt the amount of damage on the Turkish fortifications. The statement refers to an attack on batteries commanding the Bay of Morto, at the entrance to the Dardanelles, and to mine sweeping operations in the first mine field. Previous official reports gave the impression that the forts at the entrance of the straits had been badly damaged if not destroyed, that the defense works at the narrowest part of the passage were under attack and that one-third of the straits had been cleared of mines.

Polish Campaign

The German movement in northern Poland is developing rapidly, straining the resources of the Russians to prevent a further advance and the piercing of their fortified line. The Russian war office reports that the German advance on Przasnysz said by Berlin yesterday to have been pushed within 2 1/2 miles of the city, had been checked. The Germans are bringing up new forces and attempting flanking movements.

The Turkish armies in Turkish Armenia have suffered further defeats. In Caucasia the Russians captured an entire Turkish battery and in Persia the Turks were again compelled to fall back.

VILLA PROMISES FULL REPARATION

EL PASO, Tex., March 13.—General Francisco Villa, upon receiving information regarding the killing by Zapata soldiers of the American, John B. McManus, telegraphed to the Associated Press a statement received here today as follows:

"Since we have no communication with the capital of the republic we have no knowledge of its occupation by the forces of Zapata, nor have we knowledge of the happenings in that place. But we will secure information and if any disorders have been committed, society may have complete confidence that those to blame will be punished by application of the penalty they desire."

This was telegraphed under date of yesterday from Monterrey.

COUNT WITTE WHO DEVELOPED RUSSIA DEAD

First Prime Minister of Czar Passes Away From Influenza—Regarded as Most Remarkable Man in Empire—Developed Manufacturing Enterprises.

LONDON, March 13.—Count Sergius Julovich Witte, Russia's first prime minister, died last night of influenza, says a Petrograd dispatch to Reuter's Telegram company.

Count Witte, who was born June 29, 1849, at Tiflis, was one of the Russian plenipotentiaries at Portsmouth, N. H., in the negotiations for peace with Japan in 1905. He afterward was made a count and appointed president of the new ministry, but retired in 1906, and held no important post after that time. Count Witte was taken sick a week ago.

Most Remarkable Man

Count Witte was regarded as, in some respects, one of the most remarkable men his country has produced, but his reputation was even greater abroad than at home. Throughout his career, during which he accomplished much for Russia, he had many and powerful enemies, although his great ability and remarkable capacity for work never were questioned. Regardless of his work as a statesman, his chief fame in Russia rests upon his development of manufacturing industries, the expansion of railroads and the placing of the monetary system upon a gold basis.

Although always a firm supporter of the monarchy, he recognized the power of the people and had democratic tendencies. On his father's side his family was of common origin, but his mother was a descendant of the Ruriks, the old rulers of Russia before the election of the Romanoff dynasty.

Established Gold Standard

In his efforts to develop industries Witte used every power of the state. He gave subsidies and government orders until factories and mills were running full blast. Then he had the state take over the private railroads, the state treasury guaranteeing the bonds. To do all this, he borrowed immense sums in France. Under the plea of regulating the liquor traffic he had the state take over the vodka business of the empire, thus vastly increasing the government revenues. His crowning achievement was regarded, however, as the establishment of the gold standard. As minister of finance in 1893 he reached the height of his power. His policy in regard to Manchuria, which he desired to develop only from a commercial and not from a political viewpoint, resulted in powerful intrigues against him, which resulted in his removal in 1903 as minister of finance.

Resigns His Office

The number of enemies of the premier steadily increased and the demand for his removal gained strength. Dissatisfied with his treatment at the hands of the emperor and feeling that it was beyond his power to restore tranquility, Count Witte tendered his resignation as premier on December 7, 1905, but it was not accepted and he was ordered to retain his office until he was relieved. Official announcement that his resignation had been accepted was made, however, on May 3, 1906, and his retirement from public life became complete. In his farewell message to Count Witte, Emperor Nicholas thanked him cordially for his services to the empire.

BERLIN REPORTS DISASTER TO ALLIES

BERLIN, March 13, (by wireless).—The Overseas News Agency today gave out the following: "A Netherlands news agency with headquarters at The Hague has received a dispatch from Athens saying that in the fighting in the Dardanelles straits two British torpedo boat destroyers and two mine sweepers have been destroyed while two big battleships have been disabled."

Smyrna, Biblical City, Under Bombardment



Bird's-Eye View of Smyrna, Principal Seaport in Asia Minor and, With the Exception of Constantinople, Believed the Wealthiest Town in Turkey. The Photograph Gives a View of the City and the Harbor Beyond From the Heights in Back of It. It is Here in the City Mentioned Many Times in the Bible and Made Famous by Its Ruins, and Where the Lives of Christians Are Constantly Endangered. That the British East Indian Fleet Has Reduced Many of the Forts.

GARDEN ASSERTS EASTER WILL SEE CAPTURE OF PORTE

PARIS, March 13.—Vice-Admiral Garden, commanding the British fleet operating against the Dardanelles, has expressed the opinion that the allies will be able to hammer their way through the straits before Easter, according to an Athens dispatch to the Journal.

PARIS, March 13.—The bombardment of the Dardanelles was resumed yesterday (Friday) morning by French and British battleships, says a dispatch to the Matin from Athens. Seventy small mine-sweepers are reported to be continuing their efforts to clear the mine fields under the direction of officers representing the British and French navies.

"The allied fleets," says the Matin, "still have eight or ten forts and a certain number of coast batteries to reduce, but it is the general opinion they will enter the Sea of Marmora within a fortnight if the land forces co-operating with them also can continue their advance."

GOVERNMENT HEARS STORY OF SINKING OF FRYE

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The full story of how the American sailing vessel William P. Frye was sunk in the South Atlantic with her cargo of wheat by the German commerce raider Prinz Eitel Friedrich was officially laid before the American government by the Frye's commander, Captain H. H. Kiehne.

Upon Captain Kiehne's formal statement, made before state department officials, the United States will decide upon its course, which probably will be a demand for an expression of regret from Germany and payment for the loss of the ship and cargo.

VICTORY FILLS BRITISH TROOPS WITH CONFIDENCE

PARIS, March 13.—"The bombardment with which the British preceded their attack on Neuve Chapelle and Aubers was particularly effective," telegraphs the Matin's correspondent at Arrantieres. "Their work was so good around Lille that the German headquarters was moved from that city to Tournai, foreshadowing a general withdrawal of troops."

"The Germans lost very heavily in the fighting, for the British and Canadians fought with magnificent bravery. Their success overwhelmed them with joy. All the soldiers coming back from the front are beaming with pleasure and singing cheerily."

"One thousand German prisoners were taken. Several hundred of these, including some officers who were captured at Merville, were lodged temporarily on canal barges on the Lys. The German officers are unbending and are trying hard to maintain their confident attitude."

while the Americans were aboard the Eitel, Captain Kiehne said the German commander made no effort for more than a month to land his neutral passengers in a safe port. Undoubtedly this may be one of the chief points of future representations by the United States, because it is held that the Americans were subjected to unnecessary risks. W. D. Sewall of Bath, Me., one of the owners of the Frye, was asked if he knew anything of the ownership of the cargo, and he declared, it was said, that he had no financial interest in the sale of the cargo or knowledge of to whom it would be sold.

Officials after listening to the statement of Captain Kiehne, took the view that the American case was a strong one and that when all the facts were presented to Germany restitution would be made.

JAPANESE LAND 30,000 TROOPS IN CHINESE GARRISONS

PEKING, China, March 13.—The Chinese government has official information to the effect that the second Japanese squadron, conveying divisions of approximately 30,000 soldiers, has sailed for China.

The forwarding of these troops will increase the number of Japanese soldiers in the garrisons in China to nearly 60,000. The new troops will be distributed in Manchuria, Shantung, Tientsin and Hankow, where the present forces at the Japanese garrisons number nearly 30,000.

It was made known in Tokio several days ago that new forces of troops would be dispatched to the Japanese garrisons in China. The explanation was given that this was merely a shifting of troops, such as is made at regular intervals, and it was understood that troops now in China would be withdrawn on the arrival of the new forces.

GERMANS BEGIN SEIGE OPERATIONS AGAINST PRZASNYSZ

PETROGRAD, March 13.—The Germans appear to be setting the stage with much deliberation for the attack on Przasnysz, the city of northern Poland, the city against which their new and formidable attack is directed. An artillery engagement now in progress evidently is intended to feel out the Russian positions and clear the arena for the advance of the infantry.

The Russian general staff is alive to these preparations and expresses confidence as to the outcome of this new phase of the campaign.

Contemporaneously with their artillery attacks, the Germans are putting out flanking columns to the right and left. Russian forces have come into contact with the column protecting the German right wing in the Plousk district, at the village of Chekanow, four miles east of Plousk, at which place there was a lively skirmish yesterday.

In the Carpathians the Russians have dislodged the Austro-German forces from their fortified positions at Lupkow and Smolnik, driving back their opponents toward the mountain pass commanding that district.

In Eastern Galicia efforts of the Austrians to turn the Russian position in the region of Stanislaw have been defeated.

M'MANUS' REMAINS REQUESTED FOR BURIAL

CHICAGO, March 13.—At the request of Mrs. Mary Dargan and Miss Elizabeth McManus of Chicago, sisters of John B. McManus, slain in the City of Mexico, Congressman A. J. Sabath sent a telegram to Secretary Bryan today requesting that arrangements be made for the safety of the family in Mexico and that the body be shipped to the United States for burial. The telegram also that aid be given Mrs. McManus to safeguard the estate.

ACQUITTAL FOR THAW ON CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY

Jury Frees Prisoner, Who Is Taken Back to Tombs—Co-Defendants Discharged—Motion Made to Commit Him Again to Matteawan Asylum as an Insane Person.

NEW YORK, March 13.—Harry K. Thaw was acquitted today of conspiracy in escaping from the Matteawan asylum August 17, 1913, the charge upon which he was brought back to New York from New Hampshire, Roger Thompson, Richard Butler, Eugene Duffy and Thomas Flood, who assisted him in his spectacular flight by automobile from Matteawan to Canada, likewise were acquitted. The jury had labored all night and until 12:20 o'clock this morning. As soon as the verdict was announced Thaw was given into the custody of Sheriff Griffenhagen of New York county. The four co-defendants were discharged.

A motion to have Thaw committed to Matteawan asylum as an insane person was made by Deputy Attorney General Cook immediately after the jury had rendered its verdict. This motion combated by Thaw's counsel, who announced that inasmuch as Thaw was brought here on the conspiracy charge and found not guilty, he should be returned to the state of New Hampshire as a sane man.

Formal motion that he be so returned was then made by Thaw's lawyers.

Justice Page announced that he would hear arguments on this motion March 15. In the meantime Thaw was remanded to the Tombs.

Shortly before the jury's verdict the courtroom was thrown into an uproar by a passage between Sheriff Griffenhagen and John Lanyon, a detective employed by the attorney general's office.

GOVERNOR CLASHES WITH LEGISLATURE

SANTA FE, N. M., March 13.—The New Mexico legislature adjourned today after continuing in session one day beyond what the attorney general of the state declared was the constitutional 60 day limit. Adjournment came at 12:30 p. m. after a clash in the senate between Lieutenant Governor E. C. de Baca, democrat, and the republican majority over the right of the senate to turn back the clock to show adjournment at noon. Senator Page had brought a ladder and was placing it against the wall under the clock when the lieutenant governor ordered the sergeant at arms to interfere. Page retired. Lieutenant governor declared the senate adjourned at noon, but the republicans called President Pro Tempore Miera to the chair and went ahead with its work of passing bills over the veto of Governor McDonald.

TURKS DEFEATED IN FAR EAST

TIFLIS, Trans-Caucasia, March 13.—An attempt on the part of the Turkish army operating in Turkish Armenia to drive back the Russian force which has advanced westward along the shore of the Black sea from Batum, has met with defeat. The Turks assumed the offensive in the River Teloruk district March 9, but were thrown back. The Russians captured an entire battery. Reverses also have been sustained by the Turkish forces in northeastern Persia. They were compelled to retreat a considerable distance in the districts of Khoi and Dilman. At Dilman, which is sixty miles north of Urmiah, the Russians captured several heavy guns and a quantity of ammunition. The Turks lost heavily in killed and wounded and the Russians took many prisoners.