

HANGING IN THE BALANCE

Fate of Nations Is Pending in the Result of the Battle Being Waged East of Paris.

VALLEY OF THE SEINE CLEAR

German Army Has Been Concentrated on Other Side. General Joffre Has Out-Maneuvered Kaiser's Commanders.

HAS FORCED THEM TO FIGHT

On Ground of His Own Choosing, It Is Reported.

The Invaders' Line of Communication Is Threatened.

London, Sept. 8.—The public is waiting breathless with the hope that the allies have finally taken the offensive, but the cautious tone of the official communications issued from France indicate that the forward movement of the allies is only a feeler to ascertain the reason for the strange eastward swing of the German right.

No matter what the forward movement may mean, a decisive battle cannot be long postponed. Meantime the western valley of the Seine, recently overrun by Germans, has been cleared of the enemy and has been given a breathing spell.

The unexpected swing of the Germans has caused a readjustment of the lines of the allies. The movement of the Germans was ascertained so promptly by the aeroplanes of the allies that abundant time was given for the shift.

It is evident that the Germans now have before the front of their wedge-like advance the veterans of the allies' left wing which underwent a terrible battering along the Franco-Belgian border. The ranks of these Franco-British forces have been reinforced and the losses have been replaced.

Another advantage enjoyed by the allies is the fact that their flanks are protected by the great fortresses of Paris and Verdun, which the German rear Maubeuge is still held by the French, despite the fall of three of its fortresses.

In the eastern war theater, General Russky's Stonewall Jackson tactics have been checked by the strong fortress of Przemyel, but this delay will (Continued on Page Two.)

PRAY FOR PEACE

The President Proclaims the Fourth Day of October

As One of Prayer for Cessation of the War.

Washington, Sept. 8.—President Wilson today signed a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to pray for peace in Europe.

The president's proclamation sets aside Sunday, October 4, as a day of prayer. President Wilson's proclamation was as follows: "By the president of the United States of America: "A proclamation: "Whereas, Great nations of the world have taken up arms against one another, and war now draws millions of men in to battle whom the counsel of statesmen have not been able to save from the terrible sacrifice; and, "Whereas, in this, as in all things, it is our privilege and duty to seek counsel and succor of Almighty God, humbling ourselves before Him, confessing our weakness and our lack of any wisdom equal to these things; and, "Whereas, it is the especial wish and longing of the people of the United States in prayer and counsel, and all friendliness, to serve the cause of peace; "Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do designate Sunday, the fourth day of October, next, a day of prayer and supplication, and do request all God-fearing persons to repair on that day to their places of worship, there to unite their petitions to the Almighty God, that overruling the counsel of men, setting straight the things they cannot govern, or alter, taking pity on the nations now in the throes of conflict, in His mercy and goodness showing a way, where men can see none, that He vouchsafe His children healing peace again and restore once more that concord among men and nations without which there can be neither happiness nor true friendship, nor any wholesome fruit of toil or thought in the world. Praying also to this end that He forgive us our sins, our ignorance of His will, our willfulness and many errors, and lead us in the paths of obedience to His laws, and to thoughts and counsels that purge and make us wise. "In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. "Done at the city of Washington, this eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and thirty-ninth. (Signed) "WOODROW WILSON, "By the President, "WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN, "Secretary of State.

Weather Forecast for Kansas. Fair tonight and Wednesday; no important change in temperature.

NEW TENNYSON POEM.

London, Sept. 8.—4:45 a. m.—Lord Tennyson, son of the poet, at a patriotic meeting last night quoted the following hitherto unpublished poem of his father:

"O, who is he the simple fool, Who says that wars are over, What bloody portent flashes there Across the Straits of Dover? Are you ready, Britons all To answer yes with thunder? Arms, Arms, Arms, Nine hundred thousand slaves in Arms. They seek to bring us under— But England lives and still will live— For we'll crush the despot yonder— Are you ready, Britons, all To answer foes with thunder? Arm, Arm, Arm."

SLAVS IN BREACH

Russians Upset Plans of Germans to Take Paris.

Emperor William Hurries to a Staff Conference.

Rome, Sept. 8.—The Tribuna says that it has received definite information that the change in the German plans to besiege Paris was due to the

STRIPPED

German Warships Relieved of Marines by the Army.

Men Needed to Help Rapidly Diminishing Land Forces.

AUSTRIA A DISAPPOINTMENT

Germany Expected Her to Hold the Eastern Lines.

Kaiser Greatly Worried Over Situation on Border.

Antwerp, Sept. 8.—Word reached here today by courier from Liege that the German governor has forbidden any of the Belgian inhabitants to leave the houses for the next three days. It is believed certain here that this means an important movement of German troops eastward through Belgium is beginning.

Belgian secret agents report the Germans are greatly troubled over the failure of the Austrians to hold the Russians in the east. It had been

LISTS OF DEAD FROM THE FRONT

The Only War News Furnished the German Public

Consists of Bulletins and Rolls of the Fallen.

NEARLY A THOUSAND A DAY

And the Big Battles Have Not Yet Reported.

Ranks That Were Crowded Now Open for Volunteers.

Berlin, Sept. 8.—Nearly five weeks of the European war have passed. A series of gigantic battles has been fought along the western front from Brussels to the Swiss frontier. On the east the Russians, despite repeated reverses, have poured into East Prussia and occupied in force the eastern end of this long, exposed tongue of German soil, thrust out between Russian Poland and the Baltic sea and as yet the only regular detailed features of

TRAPPED

Gen. Auffenberg's Army of Austrians Nearly Surrounded

By a Vastly Superior Force of the Russians.

SURRENDER IS LOOKED FOR

Confronted by 400,000 Men and 1,000 Guns.

Galicia Made a Province of the Czar's Empire.

Petrograd, Sept. 8.—The Austrian armies of General Von Auffenberg, formerly Austrian minister of war, and General Bannl are reported to be almost completely surrounded by a vastly superior Russian force. Their surrender is looked for. Already they have suffered terrible losses. They are now penned in northern Galicia and in Russian Poland near Kroznia and Zamise, being attacked from the front by a Russian army totaling nearly 400,000 men with more

THE FIFTH TURN

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GERMANS ARE BEING DRIVEN BACK BY THE ALLIES.

French Left Wing Engages in an Offensive Movement.

THEIR CENTER FALLS BACK

A Whole Battalion of Kaiser's Infantry Is Captured.

Mandry and Peak of Fourneau Are Recaptured.

ALSACE SITUATION UNCHANGED

The Fighting Is General All Along the Line.

Movement of Invaders to the Eastward Continues.

Paris, Sept. 8.—An official communication, issued at Paris this afternoon, says the left wing of the allied armies comprising positions of the force defending Paris, continued to make progress.

The advance reaches to the banks of the River Ourcq into the region of Montmirail. The Germans are retiring in the direction of the Marne river between Meaux and Sezanne.

Violent encounters have occurred on the French center between Fer Champsenoise and Vitry-Le-Francois, at the southern point of the forest of Argonne. The French have fallen back here.

French and English troops engaged in the battle now progressing to the east of the capital have taken numerous prisoners, including a battalion of German infantry and a company serving rapid fire guns. They captured also many gun carriages.

Near Vitry, the movement of retirement is confirmed on the German side. On the French right a German division attacked on the axis of Chateau-Sallia and Nancy, but was repulsed to the northward.

To the northward passing the forest of Chamoussy further to the east the French troops recaptured the crest of Mandry and the peak of Fourneau. There is no change in the situation in the province of Alsace.

Germans Repulsed. Washington, Sept. 8.—The French embassy today received from Bordeaux, under last night's date, the following news: "The German right wing (first army) on the Ourcq and Grand Morin has been attacked with advantage to our troops. On the line, Meaux-Vitry-Le-Francois, the battle today became general.

The Campine (Belgian) and the Limbourg have been evacuated. Transports of German troops from the west to the east are reported from several sources.

On fact that at the time of the capture of Lemburg, two Austrian divisions were annihilated is confirmed.

French Plan Is Working. New York, Sept. 8.—This afternoon's official statement from Paris is (Continued on Page Two.)

TO HAMPER GERMAN ADVANCE BELGIANS DESTROY BRIDGE ACROSS THE RIVER MEUSE

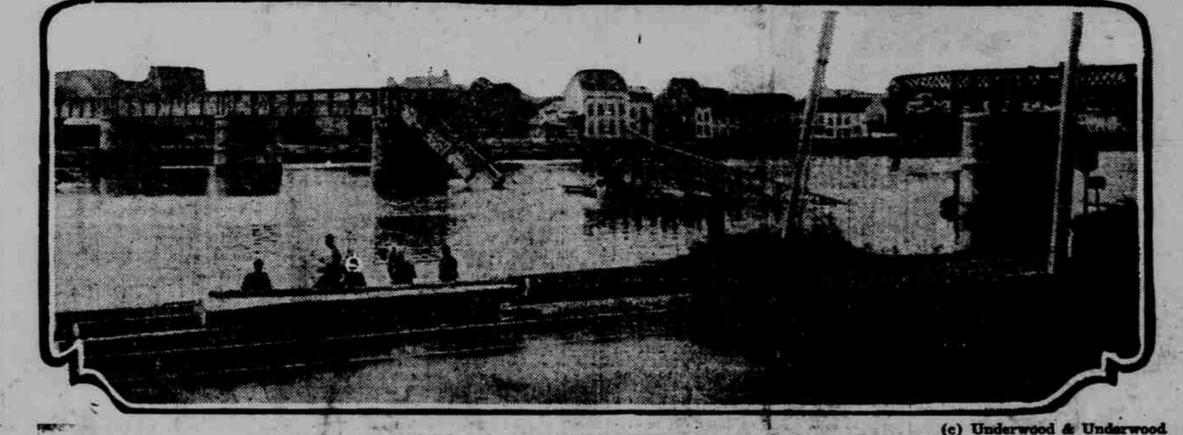


Photo shows the steel and concrete structure across the Meuse river at Vise, Belgium, destroyed by the Belgians to hamper the advance of the Germans. This photo was made at great risk, as an order had been issued to shoot photographers caught making pictures.

arrival of 250,000 Russian troops on French soil. It says these troops were landed in accordance with plans perfected by the British war secretary, Earl Kitchener. According to the report, the arrival of the Russians necessitated a change in the German plans and Emperor William hurried to Metz to confer with the general staff.

The above dispatch is confirmed from no other source and up to the present there has been no mention in any of the official French or British statements of the presence of Russian troops on French soil. For several days rumors of the landing of an immense Russian army in France has been widely circulated, but at no time has it been possible to secure any authentic confirmation.

DROPPED A BOMB

Aviator Attempts Life Prince Danilo and Wife.

Heir Apparent Was Landing From a French Warship.

Antivari, Sept. 8.—While Prince Danilo and Princess Jutpa, his wife, were landing here today from a French warship, an Austrian aviator flew over the party and dropped a bomb in an attempt to kill the heir apparent.

The bomb went wide of the mark and no one was injured.

The sailors of the French warship drove the aeroplane off with rifle fire.

DEAD 12 DAYS

Austrian Emperor Reported to Have Died Two Weeks Ago.

News of His Death Suppressed for Political Reasons.

London, Sept. 8.—The African World weekly publication has received information which it regards a reliable Austrian source to the effect that the Austrian emperor, Francis Joseph, died twelve days ago.

The news of the emperor's death was suppressed in Austria-Hungary, the paper says, on account of the dangerous internal situation.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS

The House Passes Bryan's Emergency Appropriation Bill.

Washington, Sept. 8.—Senate met at 11 a. m. Attempts to bring up the conference report on the trade commission bill disclosed no quorum.

House met at noon. Took up miscellaneous bills under the unanimous consent rule.

The million dollar emergency appropriation asked by Secretary Bryan to meet extraordinary diplomatic and consular expenses because of the European war was passed.

expected Austria would prevent any general Russian advance for at least several weeks, but it is now admitted that the Austrian army has been practically annihilated.

The railroads through Belgium are now guarded by German marines and by sailors of the naval reserve. This is construed here to mean that the last German strength is now in the field. It is considered likely that the warships have been stripped of their marines. This would be a natural action, as the marines have no part in fighting on the ships and their being utilized for reinforcing land troops would in no way interfere with the effectiveness of the fleet from a fighting point of view.

Many members of the Landsturm have also made their appearance in Belgium, relieving the first line of troops heretofore in service here.

MAYOR ADMITS IT

Cofran Says Topeka Needs Better Police System.

Municipal Farm Is One Recommendation of Official.

A more efficient police system and a municipal farm are things which Topeka most urgently needs, according to views expressed by R. L. Cofran, mayor, today.

"There are between five and eight acres of land belonging to the city where the old pumping station at the foot of Harrison street is located," said the mayor. "I am considering how this might be used for a municipal farm. The city needs a municipal farm for its habitual police offenders and I believe this site could be used to advantage. The building there could be used for housing the prisoners and there is enough land to keep them not only busy but interested in their work."

"Something should be done to take the habitual offenders, especially those who are a victim of the drink habit, out of the old circle in which they are moving and starting them on the road to self-respect. This circle consists of whisky, arrest, imprisonment, conviction, rock-breaking and then liberty to start around the circle again, beginning with whisky. In this way no progress toward reform is made."

"There is nothing as uninteresting as making little rocks out of big ones. But there are plenty of persons who do not take an interest in growing things—both plants and animals. The municipal farm idea is being tried successfully in other cities and I think it should work in Topeka."

"The municipal farm is one thing for Topeka to consider, and how to get greater efficiency in the police department is another problem."

war news for the German public are the daily casualty lists.

War bulletins furnish scant reading for anxious German eyes. The army leaders can announce the occupation of Brussels or Liege in seven words and the rout of eight French army (Continued on Page Two.)

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than 1,000 guns. In addition, another strong Russian army is advancing from the southeast to attack the Austrians and their German reinforcements from the flank.

Galicia is now a Russian province. An official proclamation issued today and signed by Czar Nicholas making this announcement, emphasizes the extent of the great Russian victory over Austria. All of eastern Galicia as far as the River San is now declared to be held by the Russians and they are reported to have crossed the San in great force south of Przemyel and to be marching northward to attack that city and Jaroslavia in both front and rear. It is the intention of the Russian general staff to take these positions as soon as possible so that a general movement northward against the remnant of the Austrian army can be begun.

Two Forts Fall. Paris, Sept. 8.—A dispatch to the Havas agency from Petrograd says that the southern Austrian forts at Nicolais and Mikolajow situated in Galicia about 25 miles southwest of Lemberg, were captured by the Russians September 5.

DESTROY DINANT

Work Begun by Guns Completed by the Torch.

Hundreds of Citizens Slain and Women Locked Up.

London, Sept. 8.—An Ostend dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company says: "The Germans have destroyed the Belgian town of Dinant (fifteen miles south of Namur) after shooting hundreds of male inhabitants because it was alleged shots had been fired from its heights overlooking the city."

"The Germans in a few hours by shell fire and incendiary bombs destroyed the town of Dinant. Hundreds of male inhabitants were shot, including one party of 100 prominent citizens, who were executed together in Place D'Armes."

"The Germans alleged that the civilians had fired shots into Dinant from the heights. While the shooting and burning were going on the women residents were shut up in the convents."



View in Dinant, Destroyed by Germans Monday.

STILL MORE RAIN

Total for Two Days Amounts to Nearly Three Inches.

Severe Electrical Storm Stops Street Car Traffic.

Topeka received an additional installment of rain late Monday, which brought the total for Sunday and Monday to 2.76 inches. The storm Monday was mainly confined to the lower Kaw valley. Kansas City got 2.82 inches, making 7.10 inches for Sunday and Monday. The rain at Topeka Monday was 1.11 inches.

Between 5:30 and 6 o'clock Monday evening at Topeka there was one of the most severe electrical demonstrations ever caught in the storm. Half fell in one period of the storm. The last measurable rain was recorded at 8:40 o'clock.

E. F. A. Reinisch reported today that the total precipitation at Gage park for Monday and Tuesday was but 1.84 inches. This indicates the local nature of the storm.

Central and western Kansas are still dry. Northeastern Kansas received good rains Sunday.

The Kaw river has dropped two inches since Monday, the stage today being 4.1 feet.

The forecast calls for generally fair weather tonight and Wednesday with little change in temperature.

Government stations reported rain in the following amounts: Kansas City, 2.82 inches; St. Joe, .92; Dresden, trace; Fort Scott, .02; Hays, trace; Horton, .12; Liberal, .01; Phillipsburg, trace.

A Little Above Normal. The temperature has averaged 4 degrees above normal today. Due to the shifting of the wind from southeast to northeast there was a drop in temperature of 8 degrees between 11:30 and 2 o'clock this afternoon. At 2 the wind was 20 miles an hour.

The hourly readings: 7 o'clock 71 11 o'clock 78 8 o'clock 71 12 o'clock 80 9 o'clock 74 1 o'clock 76 10 o'clock 78 2 o'clock 74

3 o'clock 71

What Is Held. Russell, Kan., Sept. 8.—Under the impulse of high market prices wheat has been pouring into the local elevators in an interrupted stream during the past week. On Saturday 20,000 bushels were delivered by local farmers who received from \$1 to \$1.03 per bushel. Hundreds of thousands of bushels are still held on the farms in this vicinity.

BIG CROP LOSS

Spring Wheat Prospects Declined 15,000,000 Bushels

And Corn 38,000,000 During Month of August.

Washington, Sept. 8.—Prospects for the spring wheat crop decreased 15,000,000 bushels and for the corn crop 38,000,000 bushels owing to unfavorable weather during August. Indications are for a spring wheat crop of 221,000,000 bushels and a corn crop of 2,598,000,000 bushels, according to the department of agriculture's forecast issued today. Prospects of wheat decreased 37,000,000 bushels, but tobacco prospects increased 71,000,000 pounds, potatoes 1,000,000 bushels and sweet potatoes 5,000,000 bushels.

Details of each crop, as announced by the department, follows: Spring wheat—Condition, 68 per cent. of a normal, compared with 75.5 last month, 75.3 last year and 78.6 the ten-year average. Indicated acre yield, 12.2 bushels, compared with 13.3 the five-year average. Total production, 221,000,000.

Corn—Condition, 77.7 per cent of a normal, compared with 74.8 last month, 65.1 last year and 79.4, the ten-year average. Indicated acre yield, 24.9 bushels, compared with 25.9, the five-year average. Total production, 2,598,000,000.

Oats—Condition, 75.8 per cent of a normal, compared with 79.4 last month, 74.0 last year and 79.1, the ten-year average. Indicated acre yield, 29.1 bushels, compared with 30.6, the five-year average. Total production, 1,116,000,000.

White Potatoes—Condition, 75.8 per cent of a normal, compared with 78.0 last month, 69.9 last year and 78.0, the ten-year average. Indicated acre yield, 98 bushels, compared with 97.1 the five-year average. Total production, 371,000,000.

Sweet Potatoes—Condition, 81.8 per cent of a normal, compared with 75.5 last month, 81.4 last year and 85.2, the ten-year average. Indicated acre yield, 93 bushels, compared with 92.7, the five-year average. Total production, 55,000,000.

Hay—Indicated acre yield, 1.42 tons compared with 1.24 tons the five-year average. Total production, 67,000,000 tons.

Apples—Condition, 61.9 per cent of a normal, compared with 61.3 last month, 47.7 last year and 53.6 the ten-year average.

The crop reporting board's next general report will be issued on Wednesday, October 7.