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SIXTEEN PAGES

VICTORY HANGS IN THE BALANCE

REAL STRUGGLE BETWEEN GERMANS AND RUSSIANS

Battle Line 300 Miles Long in Galicia is More Important Conflict Than the Fighting in Flanders.

BOTH SIDES ARE IN GREAT DANGER

Great Forces of Germans are Being Poured Into Poland in an Attempt to Lift the Siege of Cracow.

[By Ed L. Keen, United Press Staff Correspondent.] LONDON, Nov. 21.—The titanic conflict between Germany and Russia for mastery in the east, hangs in the balance. So involved are the operations which are being carried forward on a gigantic scale that a false step or decisive defeat at some point for either the Russians or Germans might mean the annihilation of an army. Roughly, the battle area in the east now extends over a front of more than 300 miles on an air line from the northernmost point of the invasion of east Prussia, southward through Russian Poland to Cracow, in Galicia. The Russians today claimed the defeat of an Austro-German army advancing between Radom and Kielce. Heavy losses were suffered, it is declared. At the same time, however, it is admitted that a strong attack is being made on the Russian line between Lodz and Skierniowice. This is within fifty miles of Warsaw. In the entire eastern battle area, there are now seven distinct fighting centers, including the siege of Przemyśl. The northernmost is the Russian invasion of east Prussia. There is then the action along the Lowicz-Skierniowice line; Lodz; the Radom-Kielce line; the district between Cracow and Czenstochowa; the fighting in the vicinity of Cracow and the investment of that fortress proper. The character of the German advance against the Lowicz line and partial gains reported at Lodz by the Russians, is regarded here as putting the flank of General Von Hindenberg in immediate danger. The German force, with Thorn as its base, advanced faster than that from Kalisz, which is now engaged at Lodz. Here the Germans and Austrians are admitted to be strongly entrenched, however, the Germans having thawed out the ground by burning petrol, that they might dig themselves in. Austrian reinforcements, released by the partial withdrawal of Russians from the Silesian frontier, are hurrying forward. It is evident that the Russian force between Radom and Kielce was withdrawn from the vicinity of Cracow, being transported over the main line railroad running from Mieschew direct to Ivangorod. An intersecting railroad leads direct to Lodz where they might have reinforced the Russians, driving at the German flank. The Germans and Austrians between Czenstochowa and Cracow have pushed northward, however, and intercepted them. Austrian reports have repeatedly referred to the fact that the situation in Galicia and along the Silesian frontier had been greatly relieved by the German operations further north. This would indicate the withdrawal of great forces to combat the German advance. The British military author-

(Continued on page 2.)

What the War Moves Mean

By J. W. T. Mason, Former European Manager of the United Press.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—The progress of the German movement across Poland toward Warsaw, is the most important development of the week. It gives evidence of a power in offensive second only to the original German drive into France. At the beginning of the week, General Von Hindenberg's strategy seemed confined to pushing a wedge due east from the German frontier until it bends to the south at Warsaw. But at the end of the week, it was admitted at Petrograd that in reality another German offensive was in progress. This second movement apparently had crossed Poland unopposed, the first news of its presence being a Russian statement that the Germans had failed to pierce the Slav line between Radom and Kielce. Translated from the confusing language of the maps, this announcement meant that besides moving straight forward from the west, the Germans were advancing from the south toward Ivangorod which is a second-class fortress protecting Warsaw's southern flank. Neither of these offensives has been checked by the Russians and Von Hindenberg's genius as a military leader is once more demonstrating itself against odds. Austria's sweep into Serbia has resulted in the victory of Valjevo which signifies the collapse of the Serbian western offensive. Serbia, during the week, has been compelled to ask Petrograd for help. The appeal comes at an inopportune moment, while Russia is planning a campaign against the Turks and at the same

time is being driven across Poland by the masterful Von Hindenberg. Yet Serbia's plea is the most pitiful episode of the war, except only the plight of Belgium. It was Austria's attempt to crush Serbia that caused Austria's intervention. And now, when the time has come to save Serbia from an Austrian invasion, the Slavs are disadvantaged by Germany's new offensive, and by the temptation to invade Turkey. The events of the week have thus added greatly to Russia's difficulties and have involved her in a net of conflicting desires. The campaign in the west has continued its indecisive character throughout the week. In Flanders there has been a slight exchange of territory, but all the central points along the battle line have been impregnable. Along the eastern French frontier, the incident of Chauvencourt has resulted in a German success, won by unusual means. The town, which forms part of the German holdings along the Meuse, was mined after which the German retreated. The French rushed forward to occupy the stronghold, whereupon the mines were exploded. Now large were the French losses, is not yet reported, but the Germans apparently were able to recapture the town without difficulty. The trick is understood to have been performed by the Germans at Mulhausen with frightful effect, when the French last invaded Alsace. Its successful repetition suggests, at best, that the French are not using experienced troops for the Meuse operations.

GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BERLIN, (via The Hague), Nov. 21.—The eyes of Germany are now turned to the east. An official statement from the war office tonight declared that as yet nothing could be reported of the operations in that section as a decisive stage in the fighting had not been reached. The statement admits that the German force at Lodz has been on the defensive, but it is reported today as "making progress." The statement declares: "Operations continued to develop in the east. There is nothing to report from east Prussia. The enemy continues to retreat along the line east of Miawa and Plock with our forces in pursuit. At Lodz, progress has been made by our defensive. "East of Czenstochowa, the Austro-German troops have made gains."

OFFICIAL REPORT. BERLIN, (via Amsterdam), Nov. 21.—"The situation in the western front remains unchanged. The enemy has kept up a heavy artillery fire everywhere," the official statement from the war office declares tonight. "Near Lodz, our attacks continue to make progress. The Austro-German forces have gained ground east of Czenstochowa. Constantinople reports that the Turks have taken possession of the British railway from Smyrna to Aiden."

BAD WEATHER REPORTED. BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville, L. I.), Nov. 21.—The scarcity of news from Poland today gives indications that the issue is now joined along the entire front between the Wartha and the Vistula, while the Russians north of the Vistula are falling back. The Austrian report tells of general success in Poland and advances in Serbia where bad weather is reported.

MONEY FOR WAR. BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville, L. I.), Nov. 21.—The Italian society in (Continued on page 2.)

BELGIUM

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Nov. 21.—A further report of alleged German atrocities committed in Belgium is made here today by the Belgian commission, dealing with alleged massacres at Andenne and Sillis. "At these towns," the report states, "300 men were killed in the presence of the women folk who were compelled to collect the bodies and wash the blood stains from the street and houses. The survivors are unanimous in declaring that no German soldiers were killed at either place."

RELIEF FROM AMERICA. LONDON, Nov. 21.—The American relief commission today sent a ship loaded with 2,000 tons of cereals and flour to Belgium for the relief of King Albert's stricken people. A movement is now on foot in Glasgow for the fitting out of another ship similarly loaded. All reports received by the relief commission tell of terrible conditions in Belgium. Not only in the smaller towns and outlying districts but even in Brussels, conditions are deplorable. An English woman in Brussels, in a letter to the commission gives the highest praise to the work of the American embassy in protection of foreigners unable to leave the country. "Many English citizens caught in the grip, have been unable (Continued on page 2.)

TURKEY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PETROGRAD, Nov. 21.—Advices received here today from Persia declare that Kurds are fleeing in a panic along the valley of the Abaga in the direction of Van, fearing the Russian advance through Turkish territory. Van is an important town of Asiatic Turkey.

AVIATORS COMING OF GENERAL VILLA

Mexico City is Patiently Watching the Horizon for the Dust of Mighty Disturber.

BLOODSHED IS AVOIDED

Carranza and His Followers Have Moved to Vera Cruz and There May Not be a Battle.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—Mexico City was waiting patiently tonight for the entrance of Villa's forces, official advices to the state department from several points in Mexico declares. By tomorrow every follower of Carranza will be out of the capital and on his way to Vera Cruz. State department agents also reported that Provisional President Gutierrez and thirty members of the Aguas Calientes peace conference arrived at San Luis Potosi today enroute to the capital. Officials declare there is every evidence that Villa will triumph without bloodshed, and that beginning next week, the supreme authority in Mexico will rest with the peace conference. Provisional President Gutierrez's cabinet, including Francisco Escudero and Julio Madero, have been imprisoned by Villa, according to the Carranza constitutionalist agency's statement tonight. The statement based on the San Antonio agent's advices from Laredo also declared the San Luis Potosi garrison had mutinied and refused to follow Villa. Provisional President Gutierrez's brother, Luis, was reported loyal to Carranza. The statement added that Maclovio Herrera after defeating the forces of Tomas Urbina at Ojitos Station, was marching against Parral, which is defended by 2,000 Villa soldiers. That foreigners of all nationalities still in Mexico City are gravely alarmed over the situation there was admitted by the state department tonight. Spain is particularly anxious over her subjects and the embassy here has asked the state department to look after them. This notification was reinforced today by both Great Britain and Cuba.

Carranza Entrenched. EL PASO, Texas, Nov. 21.—Information which has reached General Francisco Villa's headquarters at Irapuato is that the main army of General Venustiano Carranza is entrenched at Tula, a short distance north of Mexico City and there intends to resist the movement of Villa's army to occupy Mexico City. The army, as big as that of Villa, is in strong positions there and is commanded by General Pablo Gonzales. The unexpected resistance from the Carranza forces has caused Villa to take more precautionary steps and the general advance which was begun from Irapuato through Queretaro, held by Villa, to the national capital, is now being done most cautiously. (Continued on page 2.)

Circulation of this Issue of THE DAILY GATE CITY 6,300 OVER 6,050 To Paid Subscribers

ENGLAND

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Nov. 21.—Two Norwegian steamers, enroute from the United States to Gothenburg, were stopped on the Atlantic by British warships, and when searched were found to have 4,000 tons of copper ore concealed under their general cargo. Copper has been declared contraband of war by Great Britain. The steamships were taken to Glasgow by the war ships where they are now detained. Their names are not announced.

FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PARIS, Nov. 21.—The ring of trenches and thousands of men circling from the Belgian coast on the north, across northern France and on the Swiss border, has not yielded a single point, according to official advices. At the war office tonight, particular attention was being given to reports from the Aisne in the region of Arras and from the Argonne. The operations from the coast to Ypres are now fairly in the nature of a winter siege. Field operations are impossible owing to weather conditions. It has turned extremely cold. A thin film of ice is reported to have formed in some sections of the inundated district from Dixmude to the coast. No chances will be taken of permitting the flooded ground or the Yser canal to freeze over, however. Should the cold become severe enough to cause a general freeze, gun fire will be directed to prevent any formation of ice that might support troops of the enemy. Operations have practically ceased from the coast to Ypres with the exception of the artillery firing, and even this has greatly slackened. The maneuvers in which both armies are now dug in along the entire line was indicated in today's official communique when it was stated that some of the French-British entrenchments had been within thirty-two yards of the German positions. In the vicinity of Arras, trenches are so interlaced that men leaving their own trenches have entered those of the enemy by mistake and immediately made prisoners. Many Germans have been taken in the allied lines. As a result of this condition, there is constant burrowing in attempts to mine the enemy's trenches. The statement today reported the blowing up of German trenches in the Argonne.

AVIATORS BUSY. COPENHAGEN, Nov. 21.—Two French aviators made an attack upon (Continued on page 2.)

RUSSIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PETROGRAD, Nov. 21.—Enormous losses were inflicted upon the Austro-German forces which advanced eastward between Kielce and Radom, and at all other points, Russians have successfully repulsed efforts of the enemy to press forward in the movement upon Warsaw, it was stated here tonight. It is believed that in administering the defeat upon the Kielce-Radom line the Russian forces have smothered what was developing into a movement upon Ivangorod, the fortress on the Vistula to the south of Warsaw. The Russians are now strongly entrenched along the railroad line between Lowicz and Skierniowice. The attack in this named section is being made by the first line of the German army in great force. At Lodz a battle of great magnitude is still in progress. This engagement merges into that which is being waged south from Lowicz. At Lodz, a determined effort is being made by the forces of the czar to throw back the German army which advanced from Kalisz, and flank the main army, commanded by General (Continued on page 2.)

PARADOX FROM TURKEY IN CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Shot Fired Across Bow of United States Launch is Described as Unfriendly Act, But Not Hostile.

MUCH CONCERN OVER THE SITUATION

Turkey Will Agree to Make an Apology, But That Does Not Cause Anxiety to be Relieved Very Much.

[By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—The United States is seriously concerned regarding what is going on behind the curtain of censorship in Asiatic Turkey. For the first time since the "Tennessee incident" when a shot was fired across the bow of a launch carrying the stars and stripes, officials tonight dropped their air of apparent disinterest. They do not fear war. It is admitted that Turkey will probably explain at least to "official satisfaction" that there was no hostile intent behind the shot which kept the Tennessee's launch out of Smyrna's harbor. But it is at least pointed out that in his report of the incident, Captain Decker officially characterized the shot as an "unfriendly act." Officialdom is puzzled as to just what the captain means. Secretary of the Navy Daniels, who since last Wednesday has withheld from the public the final phrase of Captain Decker's report to him tonight stated that Decker characterized the shot as "not hostile, but unfriendly." Earlier, Secretary Tumulty, acting for President Wilson, had issued a statement declaring a shot had been fired across the bow of the Tennessee's launch which the captain of the Tennessee reports not intended as a hostile act. Half an hour after Secretary Daniels had learned of the statement, he declared that the captain had also said the "shot was unfriendly." "I did not know what he meant by the distinction," explained the secretary tonight, "and so I withheld the entire comment. Anyhow it was only an opinion." The secretary admitted he was worried as to just what is going on in Smyrna. He declared that the orders to Captain Decker of the Tennessee and Captain Omar of the North Carolina, that they must not act without positive instructions from Washington were "not final." "What I conveyed to them was that in the present incident, they must wait for orders," explained the secretary. "I did not want them responding to some call from a hysterical consul and rushing their vessels into a mined harbor. But their orders to remain inactive at present simply means that they are to await orders from me after I have received from the state department a complete explanation from Ambassador Morgenthau of just what happened at Smyrna. Now I think that Captain Decker, in characterizing the shot as not hostile, but unfriendly, meant that

it was not an act of war. But of course, he was worried about our consulate in Smyrna. His cable showed this. Naturally the situation is very delicate. Captain Decker did not enter the harbor after the shot and that makes me certain that our people in Asia Minor are not being killed or even in danger. But I would like to know what the exact situation is." When it was pointed out to the secretary that Captain Decker was some miles off the Asia Minor coast and that while he was at a distance, American citizens might be butchered, he emphatically replied: "If there is any attempt to massacre American citizens either in Smyrna or anywhere else, Captain Decker or any other American commander needs no orders. He will act first and ask instructions afterwards." Although no further word was forthcoming from either white house or state department, it was learned late tonight that further orders have been sent to Ambassador Morgenthau. He has been asked to hurry a report detailing exact conditions in Turkey, especially in Turkey in Asia. It is known that President Wilson has received unofficial but circumstantial information that Turkey will desavow even implied hostility in the Smyrna incident. It will agree to any public apology which may be desired. But even if the American consul at Constantinople makes a complete report and says American lives and American property are actually safe, the government will consider this question an open one. Incidentally there is evidence of even peevishness in the state and navy department over the interpretations of Captain Decker's report. Acting Secretary of State Lansing was asked tonight just what interpretation he placed on Captain Decker's differential between hostility and unfriendliness. He said: "Every department has its own language; I don't understand navy department language." The white house tonight announced that it had word from Ambassador Morgenthau at Constantinople, saying that the shot across the Tennessee launch bow was in warning because she was passing through a mine field, contrary to the published Turkish regulations.

Explanation Received. [By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—Turkey (Continued)

The War at a Glance

Summarized by John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] FRANCE—Allied artillery gains advantage over Germans at Neuport and in the Aisne and Champagne regions. Infantry attacks repulsed. RUSSIA—German advance into Poland claimed to have been partially checked. Desperate fighting in progress; German cavalry detachment destroyed by exploding mines along Bzura river. GERMANY—Great force concentrated for Poland advance. Believed victory at Lodz may decide issue of the entire campaign. Every confidence

in complete victory for General Von Hindenberg. ITALY—Ambassadors to England, Russia, and France, summoned to Rome for important conference. ENGLAND—Additional reports of Belgian commission of alleged German atrocities made public. TURKEY—The Shat El Arab river, forming part of boundary between Turkish and Persian territory mined and obstructed by sunken ships. Persian tribe marching on Tabriz against Russians.