AUSTRIANS CHECK RUSSIAN ADVANCE

German Reinforcements Aid in Stubborn Fighting in Galicia.

BATTLE RAGING ON FIFTY-MILE FRONT

Northern Austro-German Army Still Retreating, with Czar's Forces in Pursuit.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Petrograd, Sept. 11.—The Russians are following up the Austro-German armies, which are still retreating from the north and retiring further into the impracticable, marshy country.

Owing to strong reinforcements, largely German, which have been brought up against the Russians operating on the Rawaruska front—that is, the armies which took Lvoff, Halicz, Stryj, Mikolajoff and other strategic points—heavy and stubborn fighting has been in progress there during the last three days on a front of from forty to fifty miles.

The Austrian defence there is strengthened by the fact that the strongly fortified position at Gorodok, eighteen miles west of Lvoff, still holds out against the Russian attack. Two marches west of Gorodok is the great Austrian fortress of Przemysl, which, with Cracow, will serve as a rallying point for the armies routed on the northern front.

The completion of the Russian operations in the whole of this district is evidently being delayed by the necessity of moving up more troops to meet the strong reinforcements already in position with the enemy.

The extraordinary endurance of the Russian forces is illustrated by the fact that the army which took the fortified stronghold of Mikolajoff after two days' fighting was given only a couple of hours' rest before being marched off to join the regiments fighting before Gorodok.

Confident of Victory.

No doubt is entertained here of the ultimate success of the fight, but the public is called upon to exercise rather more patience that it has been accustomed to of late, with Russian progress being all along so rapid and victorious.

Strategically the position remains much the same and still adverse to the Austro-German allies, but instead of the Russian front on a line extending approximately from Rawaruska to the Dniester breaking through and attacking the Austro-German armies operating toward Lublin, the position is reversed.

Presumably the strength of the Austrian defence is due not only to strong reinforcements, including German corps, but also to the fact that probably the Austrian armies operating here have by this time been purged of their non-Germanic elements. The discontented Slav regiments of various nationalities have seized every favorable opportunity to give themselves up as prisoners to the first Russians they could meet. Indeed, the Austrians have been compelled before giving battle to so order their line that Austrian, Czech, Croat, Ruthenian and Magyar have as far as possible alternated with one another, while all the Maxims have been manned as far as possible by Germanic races only, and always officered by Germans.

Declare Water Poisoned.

Wounded officers returning from East Prussia assert that the native Germans there are poisoning the water. A woman brought water to some soldiers to drink and they immediately became ill. Their officers offered the water to a German, who refused to drink, and when analyzed it was found to contain arsenic.

Several cases are reported of women firing revolver bullets into the backs of officers in German villages.

The Russian authorities have thoroughly established the use by German troops of dum-dum bullets. The latest case of such use occurred near Kalisch, where German troops have intrenched themselves and whence they make raids into the surrounding country.

It is announced here that Russian troops hold the Austrian towns of Sucawa and Halna, fifty miles south of Czernowitz, capital of the Austrian province of Bukowina.

London, Sept. 12.—The Petrograd correspondent of "The Morning Post" says:

"The Austrian retirement on the Vistula is being conducted with a semblance of order, but the case is very different with the right wing, operating near Lomaszoff. The Austrians here are routed and fleeing in the utmost disorder.

"Driving in between the two wings, the Russians have cut off this Austro-German army and completely surrounded it on the front and flank. The Russians have summoned this right wing to surrender.

"The Russian cavalry has got behind the retreating army with guns, and the situation of the Austro-Germans now is desperate. They have lost the bulk of their supply trains and the men must be starving."

Rome, Sept. 11.—Several wounded Austrians who have arrived in Trieste state that during the battle of Lemberg all the Austrian officers of three battalions fled, leaving the battalions in the woods, where they were annihilated. Only fifty men escaped.

Dr. Alexander de Nuber, Austro-Hungarian Consul General in New York, made public yesterday the following telegram from Dr. Konstantin Dumba, Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to the United States, who is at Manchester, N. H.:

"Received the following official wireless from Vienna:

"'Another battle began in Lemberg district. Russians persist in spreading false reports about alleged Russian victories, intending to relieve depressed public feeling in France. Already 20,000 Russian prisoners.

"'Austrian Correspondence Bureau denies energetically a statement of Russian "Vetnik" about alleged great victory of Russians in Lemberg. Stated once more that Austrians evacuated Lemberg without previous fight. News about 70,000 prisoners pure invention.'

"Furthermore," said the Consul General, "I would like to make the following statement:

"Lemberg, the capital of Galicia, which has been evacuated by the Austrian troops, has never been fortified.

"Mikolajow, either, has never been a fortress. Mikolajow and Nikolajew, which have been reported to be taken by the Russians, are one and the same town, with the difference that the one is the Russian name and the other the Polish name. The town has no fortifications.

"There is no idea of evacuating Cracow. Cracow is an Austrian fortress and lies about 150 miles behind the actual Austrian fighting line, which extends at the present time from Lublin, in Russia, southward toward Rawaruska and Gorodok.

"At the present time the Austro-Hungarian forces occupy one-third of Russian Poland, and the cities of Kielce, Radom, Lodz, Piotrkow and Czenstochowa are occupied by Austrian troops.

"At the present time there are about 25,000 Russian and 5,000 Servian prisoners in Austria-Hungary.

"All stories brought into circulation by English and French reports about internal troubles in Austria-Hungary and disloyalty of the Slavish part of the population are mere inventions.

"Polish military societies, which have been placed under the military status of the Austrian government, went into the field under command of the Polish Generals Baczynski and Count Skarbek. Some of these military organizations of Poles in Galicia are generally known under the name of Sokols.

"All reports regarding the shortage of food in Austria-Hungary are ridiculous, as Austria-Hungary is a country which in time of peace exports its surplus of foodstuffs in great quantity and therefore is amply provided for all necessities of the war."

BELGIANS SWEEP FOE BEFORE THEM

Termonde Pillaged and Destroyed as Germans Hastily Retreat.

London, Sept. 12.—A Reuter dispatch from Antwerp gives the following announcement issued by the Belgian government:

"The provinces of Antwerp and Limbourg, and almost the whole of eastern Flanders, are now free of the enemy. Our troops have reoccupied Termonde. The last engagement occurred yesterday in the vicinity of Termonde, costing the Germans serious losses and a definitive defeat.

"A German column from Melle, four miles southeast of Ghent, going in the direction of Oudenarde, fourteen miles southwest of Ghent, attempted during the night to return northward. Finding itself checked at Eenane Heights it turned again southward.

"The operations undertaken by our field army against the German forces masking the fortified position at Antwerp, the first result of which was the capture of Aerschot, were continued today with method and with success. Our army advanced continually and inflicted important losses on the Germans. These losses were due to the action of our artillery, principally to the work of our new field guns, whose effects were decisive."

London, Sept. 11.—A Reuter dispatch from Ostend says:

"A severe engagement took place yesterday in the neighborhood of Grembergen and Termonde, Belgium. The Germans beat a hasty retreat, leaving thirty prisoners behind. Before departing from Termonde the Germans pillaged and destroyed the town.

"Out of 1,400 houses 1,100 are in ashes and the works of art and historical memorials have been entirely destroyed. Several notable persons have been taken prisoners and 200 civilians have been sent to Germany.

"Bands of Uhlans have been pursued into the woods surrounding Quatrecht and Wetteren. The Germans are collecting in Brussels the booty which was taken at Namur, especially the carts, artillery, engineering material and horses.

A dispatch from Ghent says that Belgian troops are pursuing a German army corps which is marching toward France. An engagement has taken place on the right bank of the Scheldt in the triangle formed by Audenard, Courtral and Renais.

The Germans are said to have completely evacuated the region of the Scheldt between Antwerp and Ghent. Many German soldiers detached from their units are being made prisoners in the environs of Termonde.

CRACK CORPS, 3,000 STRONG, WIPED OUT

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Paris, Sept. 11.—In the attack on the Germans Wednesday afternoon the British force punished the Prussian guard in the severest possible manner. The entire Jaeger Regiment of Rifles of the Guard, a crack corps of nearly three thousand men, was completely wiped out.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE IN EAST PRUSSIA

Continued from page 1

pursuing them in a northeasterly direction toward Memel.

A Reuter dispatch from Berlin says:

"The General Staff announces that the 22d Russian army corps of Finland has tried to force an entrance into East Prussia by way of Lyck. The Russians were defeated at Lyck."

Lyck is on Lake Lyck, fifty-five miles south of Gumbinnen.

Washington, Sept. 11.—"The fortified position of the Austrians at Opolie and Turebin (villages lying between Lublin and the San River) has been taken by our troops," says a cable message tonight to the Russian Embassy from the Foreign Office.

"On September 10, during the pursuit which followed our success, some of our columns in one day covered a distance of twenty miles, fighting all the way. Our cavalry is in the rear of the enemy. Tomazow has been taken by our troops after a stubborn battle.

"Serious fighting continues along the line from Rawaruska to the River Dniester.

"On the East Prussian front the Germans continue to advance. Their main effort seems to be directed toward the region of the Mazur Lakes. Near Myshintz and Horjele our troops have repulsed the Germans, inflicting on them heavy losses."

The last named two points are on the East Russo-Prussian frontier, southeast of Ortlesburg.

SURE BIG POWER BACKS TURKEY

Oscar Straus Says War Aids Empire's Move to Gain Freedom.

EQUAL RIGHTS IN LAND OF OTTOMAN

Home Rule Idea Outcome of Education, Is Belief of Dr. A. W. Halsey.

Turkey's move in abrogating treaties granting foreigners exemption from Ottoman jurisdiction and giving to them extraterritorial rights through which they have been tried by their own judges, or consuls, was not taken without the countenance of one or more of the European powers party to such treaties, in the opinion of Oscar S. Straus, former American Ambassador to Turkey.

"I do not speak from actual knowledge," said Mr. Straus, "but my inference is that Turkey did not make this move without the consent of one or more of the European nations—whether England or Germany, or both, I am unable to say. To use a slang phrase, it is up to Turkey to make good in the use of this acquired power by guaranteeing to all the nationalities within her dominion equal rights.

"It does not come wholly as a surprise that Turkey should utilize the international crisis to free herself from the trammels on her sovereignty. Turkey, with these treaties, or capitulations, as they are known, in force, was not sovereign in her own dominions. I am sure no one familiar with Turkey will begrudge her the right to become sovereign in her own land, provided she will act in such a way as to justify reliance upon her courts and not use her power to oppress the non-Mohammedans. Whether she will be able to free herself from the capitulations will depend upon the enlightened use she will make of this added sovereignty. I believe the new regime is much better equipped to do this than the old leadership of Abdul Hamid."

Dr. A. Woodruff Halsey, secretary of the home department of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, who is also familiar at first hand with conditions in Turkey, takes an optimistic view of the abrogation of the capitulations. The abrogation of the extraterritorial rights of foreigners, he said, need not cause any alarm to the friends of the missions.

"It is true that these rights," he said, "were obtained only after long and protracted efforts on the part of foreign powers, and at the time granted they were essential for the safety of the lives of all foreigners in the Turkish Empire.

"Turkey, like the rest of the world, has been moving forward. Her present government, while far from ideal, has made great advances, and in taking this step, she is only following in the wake of all nations of the earth in asserting the principle of home rule. The great wave of democracy, of the equal rights of men, sweeping over the world, has affected Turkey.

"The educational institutions, some of whose friends fear that this act of Turkey will interfere with their usefulness, have been teaching the principles unwittingly, which eventually must lead to this freedom of the individual and of the nation.

"Now that the great powers have their hands full with affairs at home, Turkey has seized the opportunity to demand what men the world over, who have the interests of humanity at heart believe belongs to all people—namely, the right of self-government. It may be premature, it may have dangers to the life and property of foreigners, but it spells progress."

RUSTEM BEY'S EXPLANATION

Continued from page 1

of a massacre of Christians." He explained that while there had been some massacres in Turkey, the victims "suffered not as Christians, but as political agitators engaged in undermining the Ottoman State." He spoke of the acts of other foreign peoples under provocation, mentioning Russia, and then said:

"And since a large number of American papers are siding with Great Britain and France in this affair, I will permit myself to say that the thought of lynchings which occur daily in the United States and the memory of the 'water cures' in the Philippines should make them chary of attacking Turkey in connection with acts of savagery committed by her under provocation, compared with which the economic competition of an Italian or the sniping of a Filipino or even the outrage of a negro are as nothing. Supposing, for the sake of argument, what in reality never could happen, that the negroes were discoverd to be engaged in a conspiracy with the Japanese to facilitate the invasion of the United States by the latter, how many of them would be left alive to tell the tale?"

Later the Turkish Ambassador called at the Department of State and assured Secretary Bryan that Americans and American missions in Turkey would be safe despite the abrogation of the conventions giving American citizens extra-territorial rights in civil and judicial cases.

Secretary Bryan declined to discuss the situation, except to say that he had no fears for the safety of Americans. It is known, however, that there is deep concern on the part of the administration over the action taken by the Ottoman Empire, as it is believed that the abrogation of the convention presages some bellicose move on the part of the Porte.

Several hours after he had talked with Secretary Bryan on the subject, the Turkish Ambassador authorized the following statement:

"In abrogating the capitulations Turkey is simply recovering national rights belonging to a nation, some of which were granted by her in the Middle Ages in unwise moods of liberality; others wrested from her; others again came to be abandoned as a corollary of the abandonment of the former. The situation can be stated by saying that Turkey has decided to be mistress in her own house.

"Like any contract which in its tenor disregards the general principles of right, as, for instance, a contract stipulating the sale of one human being to another, the capitulations have no sanction in ethics and Turkey was free to dissolve them. She had tried to attain that end by negotiations, but the great powers of Europe subordinated their consent to such onerous conditions that taking advantage of the present situation Turkey decided to do away with the capitulations by an unilateral decision of her own. "The United States enjoys some of the privileges of the capitulations by virtue of the "most favored nation" clause inserted in the treaty concluded with Turkey in 1830, that is, the United States became the beneficiary of the capitulations only incidentally.

"The statement that the American missionary institutions in Turkey are affected by the capitulations is inaccurate. Those institutions exist in Turkey by virtue of general laws governing the empire."

London, Sept. 11.—An agency dispatch from Rome says that dispatches received in the Italian capital from Constantinople announce that the foreign ambassadors, including the German representative, have informed the Turkish government that the powers cannot accept abolitions of the treaty rights accorded to foreigners.

The attitude of Turkey, which has been a subject of such paramount anxiety to the Foreign Offices of Europe, would seem to have been decided for her, if the story is true, that Rumania, Greece and Bulgaria have agreed to prevent Ottoman intervention on behalf of Germany and Austria. The allies have been working strenuously to this end.

Rumania, Greece and Bulgaria are said to have signed an agreement, virtually an alliance, under the terms of which the three nations engage to interfere whenever necessary in order to prevent Turkey aiding Germany and Austria in the present war. If Turkey remains neutral, however, these three states will do the same.

A dispatch from Athens to the Exchange Telegraph Company states that Foreign Minister Panas has handed in his resignation. It has not yet been decided whether it will be accepted.

Action Simply Move for Freedom, Consul Says

Djelal Munif Bey, the Turkish Consul General in this city, said last evening that, if anything, the abrogation by Turkey of the agreements giving special privileges to the powers means that Americans would be as safe, if not safer, in the Ottoman Empire now than heretofore.

The consul general said that the action of his country merely meant that Turkey was taking over her own country. He then said that the empire would profit in three ways by the abandonment of the treaties which bound her to duties much against her interests.

Three major points were to be remembered when discussing the matter of the abrogation of the treaties, he said.

"First, foreigners who commit crimes in Turkey will now be tried under the jurisdiction of the Turkish Department of Justice, and not under the jurisdiction of the individual governments through their consulates. Heretofore, foreigners were tried under the laws of their own countries. Now Turkey will try them and, if guilty, convict them. Turkey was without this power in the past.

"Second, Turkey can now raise duties on her imports without the consent or license of any foreign government, which was not the case in the past, when the country was dominated by foreign powers in this and other respects.

"Third, Turkish stamps will now be used in Turkey for letters going out of the country and mail matter going from one part of the dominions to another. Previously each country had its own postoffice in Turkey, receiving mails at the postoffice of the particular country to which the letters would be addressed, and the stamps of the foreign country, and not Turkish stamps, were used.

"By the abrogation of the agreements," Munif Bey said, "Turkey will have her own stamps, and will collect a good deal of revenue which she has lost in years past. There will be an income tax without the consent of the foreign governments. With Turkey in charge of her own country, the result will be that Americans and foreigners will be absolutely safe. The talk of the anticipated massacre of Christians is something outside the bounds of good sense and is the outlet of a large amount of ignorance of the facts."

SERBS TAKE SEMLIN AFTER FIERCE FIGHT

Several Divisions Occupy Hills Around the City and Surprise the Austrians as They Bombard Belgrade in Supposed Security.

Nish, Sept. 10 (delayed).—The Servians occupied Semlin, across the river from Belgrade, this morning after a bloody battle.

Rome, Sept. 11.—The capture of Semlin by the Servians had long been prepared for, and the operations were conducted with great ability, according to a dispatch received here to-day by the Servian Minister.

"Several Servian divisions," the dispatch said, "camped in the hills extending from Topchider to Resnick, occupying all the heights about Mount Avala. The Austrian garrison in Semlin did not suspect the presence of the Servians and continued the bombardment of Belgrade daily, without causing great damage, until the Servians surprised them.

"The audacity of the Servian movement was extraordinary, as, in order to reach Semlin, the Servians were compelled to cross the Save and Danube rivers on pontoons built during the night. They also took heavy artillery with them."

London, Sept. 11.—A Reuter dispatch from Rome forwards the following message received in Rome from Nish:

"The taking of Semlin has caused great enthusiasm throughout Servia. The people are proud that their army, after seven weeks of war, not only has prevented a powerful enemy capturing Belgrade, but has inflicted humiliation upon them by forcing them to evacuate their base of operations against Servia.

"The victory has had a most wonderful moral effect upon the army and people."

Semlin is an important town of Austria-Hungary, in Slavonia. It is located on the tongue of land formed by the junction of the Danube and the Save, opposite Belgrade, with which it was connected by a railway bridge across the Save.

It was from Semlin that the Austrian infantry and artillery, in conjunction with the monitors on the river, began their fighting on July 29 against the Servians. The Servians early that morning blew up the bridge connecting Semlin with Belgrade.

An intermittent bombardment, according to reports, had been kept up on Belgrade by the Austrians in Semlin.

WINSTON CHURCHILL CERTAIN OF RESULT

"Our Life Against Germany's," Says Head of British Admiralty.

OCEAN SWEPT FREE OF GERMAN FLAG

Defeat of Allies Would Not Affect Minister's Confidence in Ultimate Victory.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Sept. 11.—An enthusiastic meeting was held in the London Opera House to-night in support of the Prime Minister's call for recruits. The chief speakers were Winston Spencer Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty; F. E. Smith, director of the official press bureau, and Will Crooks, Labor leader in the House of Commons.

"It is too soon to speculate upon the result of the great battle which is now being waged in France," said Mr. Churchill, "but everything we have heard during four long days of anxiety seems to point to a marked and substantial turning of the tide. We have seen the force of the French and British armies strong enough not only to contain and check the devastating avalanche which has swept over the French frontier, but now for four long days the enemy has been splendidly rolled back.

"In a battle taking place on a front of more than 100 or 150 miles one must be very careful not to build too high hopes on the results achieved. But when every allowance has been made for the uncertainty with which great operations are always enshrouded over so great an area, the situation tonight is better, far better, than the cold calculations of the forces available before the war could lead us to expect in this early stage of the campaign.

With Unabated Confidence.

"But had this battle been as disastrous as, thank God, it appears to be triumphant, I should have come before you to-night with unabated confidence, with a certainty that we have only to continue our efforts to bring this war to the conclusion which we wish and intend.

"The war has now been in progress five or six weeks. In that time we have swept German commerce from the seas. All our ships, with inconsiderable exceptions, are arriving safely and punctually at their destinations, carrying the commerce upon which the wealth and industry and power to make war of this country depend.

"We have transported, not without danger, but still hitherto safely and successfully, great numbers of soldiers across the seas from all quarters of the world to be directed upon the decisive theatre of the land struggle. We have swept the so-called German ocean without discovering a German flag.

Battleships Still Building.

"The number of battleships that will be completed within the next twelve months is more than double the number that will be completed for Germany, and the number of cruisers will be three or four times as great. Therefore, we may count upon the naval supremacy of the country being effectively maintained.

"What we now have to do is to make, under cover and shield of the navy, a great army, an army strong enough to enable the country to take its proper share in the decision of this terrible struggle. To make the assistance of the empire effective we should put on the continent and keep there an army of at least one million men. That figure is well within the compass of arrangements now on foot and well within the scope of measures which Lord Kitchener has taken. By the new year we will have an additional half-million men ready for the field, and by the summer of 1915 we will have twenty-five army corps in fighting shape.

"It is our life against Germany's. Upon that there must be no compromise or truce. We must go forth unflinchingly to the end."

AUSTRIAN ARMY BEING REPULSED

Paris, Sept. 11.—The following official statement was issued here to-day:

"The Austrian army which was defeated at Lemberg has not been able to assume the offensive, and, in spite of heavy reinforcements, it is being repulsed.

"On the front between Jalonne and Rawa and the river Dniester the Russians are besieging the fortified town of Gorodek. The second Austrian army has been attacked at Towasowa and has been compelled to retreat.

"The Servian troops have crossed the river Save at Shabatz and Obrenowatz. In Bosnia they have assumed the offensive in the direction of Visegrad."

LLOYD GEORGE'S SON TO GO TO WAR

Elder Boy of Noted Peace Chancellor Enlists for Foreign Service.

HIS BROTHER WILL AID HOME DEFENCE

Shortage of Cavalry Horses Is Causing Trouble to Great Britain.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Sept. 11.—Richard Lloyd George, the eldest son of David Lloyd George, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, has enlisted in the Port Madoc battalion of the Carnarvonshire Territorials. The young man volunteered at once for active service. His younger brother, Gwelyn Lloyd George, has been appointed a lieutenant in the same battalion.

Only Few Lack Work.

The Board of Trade summarizes the result of its inquiry as to the effect of the war on employment in England as follows:

"The general conclusion is that there is at the moment a contraction of employment. This has been met to a very marked extent by a reduction of hours instead of a reduction of staffs. Ninety-three per cent of the working people engaged in production are still wholly or partially employed.

"The returns show that of the contraction of 7 per cent in the number employed at least two-thirds represent men who have left for military service. Thus the percentage of working people wholly unemployed, including women, has been increased by war by a little more than 2 per cent."

The two industries most affected are the cotton industry and the construction of vehicles.

Britain Short of Horses.

Shortage of cavalry horses is causing the British army officials much uneasiness. Fox hunting in England and Ireland has encouraged the breeding of light mounts, but, unfortunately, officers from Continental armies have visited the leading English and Irish fairs for years and bought the most select saddlers.

Belgium and France have thought nothing of paying $300 for a suitable mount for an officer, while buyers for the English army have seldom been authorized to pay more than $200. Furthermore, the foreign buyers have paid a higher price for three-year-olds than the English buyers would pay for four-year-olds, the age demanded by the English army. Germany, Italy and Austria have annually sent officers to England to purchase fine mounts.

The English papers frankly admit the Continental cavalry officers are far better judges of horseflesh than buyers for the English army and have added superior judgment of horseflesh to their ability to pay higher prices.

Urges Fox Hunting.

In addition to buying desirable mounts in Ireland the Continental armies have also imported many high class mares from Ireland and used them in bringing up the standard of their remount stables.

A general movement has been inaugurated by the press for the continuation of fox hunting, in spite of the war, as such is declared to be necessary for the insurance of the supply of cavalry horses in the future.

The government is urged to keep all the mares it possibly can in England in connection with the home defence, sending geldings to the scene of the war. A movement is also under way for the establishment of national studs in connection with the work of army reorganization.

Foresees Wheat Problem.

Lord Milner, former Governor of Transvaal and Orange River Colony and High Commissioner for South Africa and a prominent publicist, who has made a lifelong study of England's food problems, is calling attention to the probable shortage of wheat and rye in 1915 and the necessity for prompt action to make good the necessary shrinkage in the crops of Germany, Austria, Russia and France.

These four countries produce more than half the wheat and rye of the world. With their men largely in the army and their territory ravaged by armies, it is likely, in Lord Milner's opinion, that the grain production of these countries will fall far below the average.

BELGIUM FREE NOW TO TAKE OFFENSIVE

Germans Called to Aid of Right Wing of Army in France.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Ghent, Sept. 11.—During the difficult beginning of the war the truth suffered from the anxieties of the pessimist. It now seems as if it might suffer from the exaggerations of hope. The sudden southward turn past Ghent of the Germans, who have been burning and pillaging in Belgium, means that they have been called down to strengthen the right wing of the invaders.

Seeing, however, that their Belgium programme was producing no military results, the significance of the withdrawal may well be interpreted at too high a value. They are hardly numerous or effective enough to turn the tide of the epic in France.

What is at once important is that it releases the Belgian field army for an offensive thrust. Such a thrust may, in the opinion of well informed observers, be expected almost immediately. Whether the Belgians will strike at once for the recovery of their capital or will follow the Germans by way of Ghent is doubtful. It is fairly certain from the vigor with which the game has so far been played that their advance will be controlled by purely military considerations.

The capture of Louvain and Brussels would have great emotional and some political value, but both are open cities in an open country, and a recapture would be disastrous. In speculating as to the immediate future one element must not be forgotten—the Belgian army cannot operate outside of Belgian soil. To do so would be to compromise and corrupt at its source the very principle of Belgian neutrality on which the whole moral strength of the allies and of Belgium itself is based.

If then they are in pursuit of the enemy and fail to overtake them before the French frontier is reached they will have to wait there in position for their return.

WARSHIP VIGIL CLOSE

Italian Liner Stopped Twice Crossing Ocean.

The steamship Europa of La Veloce Line arrived here last night from Naples and Geona, landing her passengers at 10:30 o'clock. She carried 108 saloon and 251 steerage passengers, which was much below her complement.

Captain Rocco Raffo said he had been stopped by war vessels twice during the voyage. A French torpedo boat asked the name of his vessel at Gibraltar and the British battleship Glory hailed him as he was approaching the Ambrose Channel Lightship yesterday. The Glory on learning her identity dipped her colors to the Europa, and after returning the salute the merchantman proceeded.

WORLD 'PLANE RACE OFF

Foreign Aviators Too Busy to Prepare for Event.

Owing to the impossibility of preparation on the part of foreign aviators, for the 'round-the-world aeroplane race, the Panama-Pacific Exposition has decided to call off the event which had been scheduled to take place with a start at San Francisco on May 15, 1915.

The announcement was made at the Aero Club of America yesterday. Henry Woodhouse, editor of "Flying," said that the total amount of prizes for aeronautical events cancelled on account of the war has now reached $1,200,000. A race from New York to San Francisco, by way of the Panama Canal, may be substituted for the longer contest.

POINCARE DENIES KAISER'S CHARGE

France's Head Sends Personal Message to President Wilson.

Bordeaux, Sept. 11.—President Poincare cabled to President Wilson to-day as follows:

"Mr. President: I am informed that the German government has sought to surprise your excellency's good faith by alleging that dum-dum balls are manufactured in the French state factory and used by our soldiers. This calumny is but an audacious attempt to reverse roles.

"Germany has since the beginning of the war used dum-dum bullets and violated daily the law of nations. On August 18 and several times since we have had occasion to bring these acts to the notice of your excellency and the powers signatories to The Hague Convention.

"Germany, who knew of our protests, to-day seeks to confuse the issue and furnish herself lying pretexts for fresh acts of barbarity.

"In the name of slighted laws and of outraged civilization I send your excellency my indignant protest.

(Signed) " RAYMOND POINCARE."

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Sept. 11.—The personal message of the President of France to President Wilson, vigorously denying the charges made by the Kaiser that the allies are using dum-dum bullets and perpetrating atrocities against the Germans, reached President Wilson and was discussed by him with Secretary Bryan just before he left here for Cornish. It is known on high authority that the President appreciates the recognition of the United States as the greatest neutral power, but is determined that this government shall not be drawn into any controversy between the warring powers.

It is understood that an official reply from Great Britain to the Kaiser's protest to President Wilson is expected, unofficial intimations that the British Foreign Office is preparing a note setting forth the British contentions being the foundation for the belief.

An acknowledgment of Emperor William's message was drafted by President Wilson to-day. Extreme care was exercised not to express any opinion regarding the charges.

The French Embassy to-night issued a statement denying many recent German allegations, as follows:

"The news from Berlin announced yesterday that Maubeuge had been taken with four generals, 400 guns and 40,000 men. The capture remains unconfirmed. In any case, 40,000 men could not have been made prisoners, for the garrison is less than 20,000.

"The alleged numbers are on a par with the news of the French aeroplane having dropped bombs on Nuremberg and with that of francs-tireurs (snipers) having been organized 'two months before the war.' If they had been, some trace of them would probably have been found since, and none has.

"The truth is that neither before nor after Germany declared war on France was any such corps organized. And since every Frenchman able to bear arms is called as a regular, to the colors, one can scarcely imagine what those corps would have been made of.

"The statement is demonstrably false."

The embassy has been notified by the French government in response to an inquiry about the destruction of historic buildings in Louvain that while the Hotel de Ville was not destroyed by the fire, the scaffolding surrounding the building for purposes of repair was burned.

INDECISION SEEN IN GERMANY'S CHANGE

Military Expert Thinks Altering Plans Shows Lack of Confidence.

FRENCH PRAISED FOR THEIR FIGHTING

Long Bore Brunt of Onslaught of Foes Until British Came to Their Aid.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Sept. 12.—Colonel Repington, military correspondent of "The Times," writes:

"General Joffre must be congratulated upon having seized the psychological moment for his counterstroke and for having engaged with his whole strength. If there be a man with a rifle in France who is not in this battle he is out of his place.

"The French army deserves our warmest and heartiest congratulations for the vigor and gallantry with which it is fighting. We no longer read of slapdash attacks by armies and fractions of armies in eccentric directions. All the armies are in line, all their efforts converge to a common end, and in all probability the French artillery is able at last to intervene effectively.

"In battle the French armies are content to fight methodically and in union. In spite of their past losses and of their early disappointments they are fighting nobly and with tenacity as well as with dash.

Allies' Hope Legitimate.

"Our eyes naturally are fixed mainly upon the deeds of our own army, but we must not forget that we occupy comparatively a small part of the allied line, and that throughout the rest of the front the French armies have for four or five days not only withstood victoriously the German attacks but have in nearly all cases gained ground and driven the Germans back.

"Initiative, certainly, and, we hope we may add, moral ascendancy, have passed to the allies, who can legitimately hope for great results from their long and determined fighting.

"We will still seek on every side for the reason which caused the German change of direction last week, with the entirely unexpected opening which it gave to the allies. The change laid open the German right to an offensive return, which has been delivered with refreshing vigor, and which has appeared to some people to indicate indecision in the German higher command and a certain lack of confidence in the success of German plans.

Kaiser Confident.

"It is said that the Kaiser telegraphed recently to the head of a neutral state that when he had beaten the French he would keep them occupied with 500,000 men and employ all the remainder of his forces against Russia. It is quite possible that he and his staff have after all no past experiences, or they may have overestimated the earlier success of German arms.

"We have never been decisively beaten. There has been neither surrender nor rout. The first operations of the allies were initiated under thoroughly bad conditions, and it was not until the allies fell back to the Marne and the German change of direction took place that the Anglo-French armies re-established their line and were in position to engage with advantage. The strategical and political aim of the Germans was not attained, for the allies kept the field in full strength, took no account of a wretched fortress, which came tumbling down, and presented an inviolate front to the German armies.

"The Germans had no more chance of containing us with 500,000 men than they had of flying over the moon, if this was their calculation, or even if they expected to hold us with twice 500,000 men they were very much in error."

100 SHOTS FAIL TO HALT TAXI

Police Volley Answered by Chauffeur as He Aids Escaping Prisoner.

Through a shower of bullets from the guns of pursuing policemen, a taxicab raced from Seventh av. and 33d st. to Sixth av., then over Broadway to 36th st., through that thoroughfare to Seventh av., and thence out of sight early this morning. The chauffeur of the taxi, according to the police, also took part in the shooting, firing six shots at his pursuers.

The incention of the shooting affray was an attempt on the part of Patrolman McCormick to arrest two men who were fighting on Seventh av. He grasped one of them by the collar, but the other leaped into a taxicab. A third man also entered the cab, and as it started the policeman jumped onto the running board. He was thrown off, losing his prisoner at the same time.

He then called on the taxi driver to halt, and emptied his revolver at the vehicle when the chauffeur refused to obey. The shots attracted a number of other patrolmen, who commandeered automobiles and raced after the taxi. About one hundred shots were fired, but all attempts to halt the fleeing car failed.

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Russians Drive Austrians Out of Tomaszoff, in Poland

Petrograd, Sept. 11.—Tomaszoff has been taken after a desperate fight.

The German troops near Myszinec and Chorzele, Russian Poland, have been repulsed with heavy losses.

The Russian troops have taken by assault the fortified positions of Opole and Tourbine, Russian Poland, and pursued the enemy for a distance of twenty-five miles. Russian cavalry is still driving the rear guard of the enemy.

It is announced that the Russian troops have succeeded in separating the left wing of the Austrian army from the troops which were operating around Tomaszoff and Rawa, Russian Poland.