

PRAISE FOR BELGIAN RELIEF COMMISSION

Biggest Work of Its Kind in History, Says J. R. Flannery.

URGES AMERICANS TO SEND MORE SUPPLIES

Minister Whitlock Declares No Food Goes to Germans, Who Are Respecting Work.

London, Dec. 5.—J. Rogers Flannery, a steel manufacturer of Pittsburgh, has returned to London from an extended tour of Belgium, where, on a mission for the Belgian Relief Commission, he visited regions which the war devastated.

He said: "I first went to Antwerp and thence to Malines and Brussels, where I spent a week, and then to Louvain, Arras, Namur, Dinant, Liege, Vise, Bordeau, Moulins, Hirve, Battlee and Jullement. I travelled in a motor flying the American flag.

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Telegram from Mr. Whitlock. The American Relief Commission to-day received a telegram from Captain T. F. Lucey, at Roubaix, in which the American relief commissioner incorporated an important telegram which he received from Brand Whitlock, the American Minister to Belgium.

"I can assure you there is no ground for the alarm reported in your telegram this morning that soldiers billeted in houses are fed with food brought by our commission. The German authorities are respecting our work and are keeping all their engagements, and the organization of the relief work with its almost scientific methods of distribution, is such that it is practically impossible for our food to go to any but the suffering portion of the population.

"I investigated every charge made by the American press regarding the seizure of automobiles or delays and interferences of any kind, and find them in every instance unfounded. From all the statements we now have forwarded I think the American people and the press should be satisfied, and that the relief work should go on without further hesitation."

SAYS TRADE IN U. S. IS ABOVE CONTRABAND

Count von Reventlow Again Complains About Allies Buying Goods Here.

Berlin, Dec. 5.—The attitude of the United States is commented upon by Count Ernest von Reventlow, the naval critic, in an article in the "Tageszeitung" to-day, in which he says that England and France are obtaining from America materials of war, while Germany is not enjoying similar assistance.

"If England and France are willing to favor the United States as much as possible without departing from their policy of starving Germany at the expense of small neutral nations, the reason is that both countries have ordered many million dollars worth of war materials in the United States, and that American industry is working feverishly to supply the wants of both these warring nations, from woollen covers, shoes and horsehoes up to collapsible submarines.

Maternity Attire

Dresses, Coats, Suits, Skirts, Corsets, etc. Ready to wear or made to measure at very moderate prices. LANE BRYANT, 28 West 38th St., N. Y.

Official Report of French War Office

Paris, Dec. 5.—The following official communication was issued by the French War Office to-night: "The same activity prevailed to-day as on the 4th. We have consolidated our position to the north of the house of the ferryman (on the canal between Dixmude and Ypres) which was captured on December 4th."

"On the remainder of the front there is nothing of importance to communicate."

Following is the text of the official statement issued earlier in the day: "To the north of the Lys we have made perceptible progress. Our infantry, making its attack at daybreak, occupied in one operation two lines of entrenchments. The advance here was of 500 yards."

"A part of the hamlet of Weiden-dref, one kilometre to the northwest of Langemark, has remained in our possession. In front of Roelele, half way between Dixmude and Ypres, we took possession, on the right bank of the canal, of a house belonging to a ferryman, the occupation of which has been disputed spiritedly for a month."

"The enemy endeavored, but without success, to compel us, by means of a violent attack with heavy artillery, to evacuate the conquered ground."

"In the region of Arras and in Champagne there have been intermittent cannonades from one side and the other. Rheims has been bombarded with particular severity. On our part we have destroyed with our heavy artillery several earth fortifications of the enemy."

"In the Argonne the contest continues to be very hotly waged. We have occupied several trenches and repulsed all counter attacks."

"In Lorraine and in Alsace there is nothing of importance to report."

German-Austrian Official Reports

Berlin, Dec. 5 (by wireless to London).—The following official statement was given out this afternoon at army headquarters: "French attacks yesterday in Flanders and to the south of Metz were repulsed. We made progress at Basée, in the forest of the Argonne and in the region southwest of Altkirch."

"In the fighting to the east of the Mazurian lakes the situation is favorable for us, and in minor operations there we took 1,200 prisoners."

"Our operations in Poland are taking a normal course."

"The 'Corriere del Terra' estimates that the losses among the French troops amount to at least 50 per cent of those engaged in the war and that losses of even greater proportions have been suffered by the territorials."

Vienna (via London), Dec. 5.—The following official statement was issued to-day: "Nothing of importance occurred in the Carpathians yesterday. In West Galicia small battles developed, in which the Austrians were successful."

"The situation in the Carpathians remains unchanged. The battle in Poland continues."

GERMANS BELIEVE OSTEND IS CALAIS

Leaders Rename the City 'Kales' to Deceive Men, Says 'Eyewitness.'

London, Dec. 5.—The official "eyewitness" with the British army headquarters on the Continent, in a narrative dated December 3, says that the destruction of the Belgian town of Ypres was "really the outcome of disappointment and exasperation at its resistance, and at the failure of the much advertised plans for its capture."

The writer points out that up to the close of October the Germans had contented themselves with bombarding points where the British headquarters was believed to be situated, and other places, such as the railway station, where destruction would be of military value."

"The shelling of the town only began in earnest on the night of November 5, since which time it was maintained intermittently. That the town escaped so long apparently was due to the fact that up to November 5 the Germans had counted on capturing it. Later the attacks were simply in the nature of forlorn hopes, the narrator says, which called for all the assistance that could be obtained by artillery co-operation, even at the risk of the destruction of a historic place which might become German."

The last attack in force was delivered on November 17. For four days the Germans commenced to pour a stream of shells into the central market-place, and where the Cloth Hall and the Cathedral had been destroyed material damage up to then these two historic buildings were blazing before the day closed. In order to do this, it is stated, the Germans brought up a train armed with heavy guns. After the Cloth Hall and the Cathedral were destroyed, the eyewitness says, the fire of the Germans no longer was directed toward them."

"The writer states on good authority that the Germans renamed Ostend 'Kales,' which he says was done with the object of deceiving German soldiers into the belief that Calais and Paris were in German hands."

A few minor local successes are recorded by the eyewitness, both the French and British forces, he says, having advanced slightly and taken some German trenches."

AMERICA MAY SEE WAR EXHIBITION

London, Dec. 5.—America may have an opportunity to see an extraordinary exhibition now here, showing what the German invasion has meant to Belgium. It includes photographs, proclamations and relics from the battlefields, and a large part of it was secured by Miss Bertha Bennett Burleigh, daughter of the late Bennett Burleigh. She said to the Tribune representative to-day: "I want to take this exhibition to America, for I believe it expresses more graphically than words can what the Belgians have suffered."

Some things in the exhibition were gathered at the risk of life by the young woman, who was assisted by W. Gore in procuring a copy of practically every proclamation issued in Belgium by the Germans, from August 20 to the middle of November. Part of a shattered window of the Malines cathedral is in the exhibition."

FOOTBALL DIRECTORS URGE ENLISTMENT

London, Dec. 5.—The directors of Aston Villa, one of the leading professional football teams and several times winner of the championship, have issued a letter to the players on the team urging the men to volunteer for service in the field and promising to pay them half wages. Many of the players are responding to the appeal.

CARDINAL AMETTE THANKS AMERICANS

Conveys Through Tribune Appreciation of Generosity of United States.

By C. INMAN BARNARD. (Paris correspondent of The New York Tribune.) Paris, Dec. 5.—Cardinal Amette, Archbishop of Paris, accompanied by several ecclesiastics, made inspection to-day of the Holophane sewing circles,

which Mme. Waddington and Mme. Myatt, unconnected with the Red Cross, are successfully managing on their own account, and where thirty-six French and Belgian refugee working women are turning out daily hundreds of winter garments for the soldiers at the front.

Monsieur Amette, highly pleased with the splendid results of the organization and industry of the establishment, pronounced his blessing on Meses. Waddington and Myatt and on all those engaged in the work.

The knitting section is hampered by the high price of woollen knitting yarn, which now costs \$2 a pound.

Among those interested in the work who received Cardinal Amette were Duchesse de Trevis, Princess de La Tour D'Auvergne, Comtesse Pierre de

BRITISH CRUISER ASHORE IN STORM

Norwegian Vessel Founders—Two Other Ships in Distress.

London, Dec. 5.—The British cruiser Venus ran ashore in the storm now sweeping the English coast, striking with full force. Her foremast and a portion of the bridge were carried

away by an enormous sea. The Venus is one of the older British light cruisers. She was laid down in 1895, and has a displacement of 5,600 tons. She carries 450 men.

Another victim of the gale is an unknown steamer which is ashore near Mersey. Three lifeboats have gone to her assistance.

The Booth Steamship Company's liner Antony, bound from Liverpool for Para, is in distress fifty miles north of the Lizard. The captain of a local steamer received the signal, "Want immediate assistance," but was unable to help the Antony, his own vessel being short of coal.

The Norwegian steamer Waterloo, of 1,283 tons, foundered off the Lizard at midnight. Three persons were saved. The remainder of the crew is missing.

KRUPP BOMB STORY DENIED

Berlin, Dec. 5.—An official statement was issued here to-day denying the report that the Krupp plant at Essen had been bombed by a foreign aviator.

The report referred to was contained in a dispatch from The Hague to the Exchange Telegraph Company, in London, which said that a message had been received there from Berlin telling of the bombardment by an aviator of the buildings at the Krupp plant.

THE STORY OF A WINTRY NIGHT ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO



For those who know, and those who have yet to know, the soul-soothing beauty of Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata"

COLD, brilliant moonlight silvered the snowy roofs of quaint old Bonn. Through a narrow street the master was walking with a friend.

"Hush!" he exclaimed, halting suddenly in front of a little house. "Listen!—that is my Sonata in F. How well it is played!"

They edged up close to the door. In the midst of the finale the music ceased abruptly, and a voice cried sadly, "I can't play any more. It is so beautiful, but beyond my power. Oh! if only I might go to Koln to the concert!"

"Yes, sister, but why wish for what cannot be," said a second voice.

"I know," came the answer, and continuing almost inaudibly, "I know . . . yet I can't help longing to hear some really good music just once in my life."

"Let us go in," said Beethoven. And, despite his friend's objection, he placed his hand on the latch. "I shall play for her and she will understand."

He opened the door. There at the table sat the brother mending shoes. The girl, crying softly, bowed her head upon the old piano.

"Pardon me, but I heard your music," said Beethoven, "and I also heard your wish. Perhaps, if you will allow me, I can fulfill it."

The cobbler thanked him. "But our piano is so poor," he apologized, "and we have no music."

"No music," exclaimed the master, "how then does she . . . Oh, forgive me!" he stammered. The girl had lifted her head and he saw that she was blind.

"You play from memory?" he continued. "But I thought I heard you say you had never been to the concerts."

"When we lived in Brühl, a neighbor practised every evening," said the girl. "And in Summer, when the windows were open, I used to walk up and down in front of her house and listen."

She gave Beethoven her place at the piano. He ran his fingers along the yellowed keys. Under his touch the worn strings sang as if born anew, and out of the old instrument trooped hosts of his compelling melodies to surround and captivate the wondering pair. The flame of the one candle sputtered fitfully and presently went out. The youth slipped over and threw open the shutters. As the moonlight flooded the room, the pianist paused.

"Who and what are you?" gasped the cobbler, scarce knowing he was speaking.

"Listen," answered the master, and he played the first few bars of his Sonata in F.

"Beethoven" burst from the lips of the pair. "Oh, play on, play on—just a little more!" they pleaded as he arose to go.

For a moment he stood, silent, looking out the window. And then again seating himself, he began, as if to voice the spirit of the calm, perfect night, weaving slowly into exquisite being those mystic measures which caress the soul, even as the cool radiance of the moon softens and gentles the world's rough face. There, in that little room, Beethoven intertwined the throbbing of the sea's great heart and the far, clear call of stars; he sounded the very depths of the sublime, till it seemed to the three listeners as if the Spirit of Infinity were come down the path of moonlight and stood by their side, whispering of the things that are forever and forever.

Vain yearnings and thoughts of toil and tithes were swept from their long-time moorings in the mind, and by the hand of infinite loveliness, the blind girl was guided to heights whence she saw more than wide eyes can window, however clear. On the slow current of the adagio—she was borne to the vernal field of the allegretto, where fairies danced beside the stream, and then in the trembling, hurrying presto, she saw the elk-folk scurry off, leaving all things better and more beautiful because of their having been.

Beethoven, the master, had in that hour in that poor, trouble-shadowed home, lighted a transforming flame which would neither waver nor go out through all the years.

"Farewell," he said, going to the door.

"You will come again?" they cried.

"Yes, yes, I will come again."



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