

The Great War--1096th Day

wide marshes and inundated lands before striking at the front positions of the enemy; here the attacking troops brought up against masses of fresh German forces, apparently assembled for the purpose of blocking the great drive, and supported by powerful artillery units.

Most of the positions taken by the Allies had been in the possession of the Germans since they invaded Belgium. The battle area embraces both the famous Ypres salient and the Wytschaete-Bessines region, where the British won a notable victory in early June. The German line to the east of Ypres was conquered by the British with comparative ease after holding it against all assaults for nearly three years. The attack extended to within ten miles of the coast, where the German right wing rests on the sand dunes around Ostend.

Russian Rally Fails to Halt German Drive

Slav Forces Make Stand on the Galician Border

Kerensky Fails To Hold Troops

Resistance in Western Bukowina Breaks Down

London, July 31.—On the northeastern border of Galicia the Russians are continuing to stand firm against the Teutonic advance and at some points have retaken positions along the Zbroc River, but along the Dniester River and to the south as far as Bukowina the great retreat has not been checked by Kerensky and his commanders, although it is slowing up gradually.

In Western Bukowina the Russians yesterday attempted to make a stand, but the Germans forced their way across the Chermosh River and speedily forced the evacuation of the defenders' positions. The town of Zale Szczyky and several other positions blocking the road to Czernowitz, the capital of Bukowina, were lost by the Russians.

On the Rumanian front and in the wooded Carpathians the Teuton armies continued to advance against the demoralized Russians, except in the Casin and Putna valleys, where they lost ground in the face of furious assaults by the allied army.

At present the Austro-German tactics appear to embrace an advance eastward by way of Husiatyn, with the idea of encircling Czernowitz, the capital of Bukowina, from the north. Molding vigorously on the northern front with the intention of checking the Rumanian advance further southward. At Husiatyn the Teuton army has advanced from Mizia, where they received a setback yesterday on the right bank of the Zbroc at the point of the bayonet, but at nearly every other point they seem to be smashing forward almost at will, and the immediate outlook gives not the slightest cause for optimism in the opinion of observers here.

Dispatches from Petrograd estimate that more than two million Russian troops are now on the retreat in Galicia, constituting the Eleventh and Seventh armies of infantry and the Eighth army of cavalry, whose position is said to be precarious. Only in the Seventh army has there been brought by the drastic measures of the supreme government. The shooting of deserters and stragglers, spies and agitators, is reported to stiffen the resistance of the soldiers in the face of the enemy's assaults.

Belgian Merchant, His Wife and Two Girls Shot on Spy Charge

Daughters Forced to Watch Germans Kill Parents

London, July 31.—A dispatch received today by the Wireless Press from Amsterdam says:

"The German authorities at Liege, Belgium, arrested and sentenced to death within three days an influential Liege merchant named Groneret, his wife and their two daughters, aged twenty and fourteen years, on the unproved charge of espionage.

"The father and mother were both shot to death in the presence of their daughters. The latter were offered their freedom if they revealed the names of their parents' accomplices. They refused the eldest stating: 'If we speak we might cause fifty people to be killed. We would rather die alone.'

"She was immediately shot. The youngest girl then was tortured, outraged and also shot."

British Lost 71,832 in July

Officers Killed, Wounded and Missing Number 2,503

London, July 31.—British casualties in all theaters of military operations published in the newspapers during the month of July total 71,832 officers and men. The officers killed, wounded or missing total 2,503, while the men number 69,329.

Kaiser's Son Promoted

Copenhagen, July 31.—Adolescents removed here from Berlin say that Emperor William has appointed Prince Eitel Friedrich, his second son, chief of the 1st Pomeranian Field Artillery Regiment, No. 2.

The appointment was made in recognition of the services of the prince during the war as a troop leader.

Many Villages Captured

On the frontier line near Ypres the British captured the villages of La Bassée Ville, Steenstraete, Verlorenhoek, Priesenberg, Saint Julien, Kilkenn, Hooge, Westhoek and Hellebeke. The French forces, after crossing the Yser, advanced on the road between Lierne and Dixmude and swept the enemy out of Bixehoote and Kortekert, and advanced to a depth of two and a half miles.

Allied Losses Small

The small losses of the attackers, as reported by the Allied staff officers, form only the most significant features of the day's developments. As in other offensives, General Haig's first message today is cautious in regard to the estimate of prisoners taken. Unofficially, the number captured so far, as high as 8,000 or 9,000, and may exceed the total of the battle of Vimy Ridge, on April 9, when 11,000 captives were brought behind the lines.

Germans Forced Back in Bitter Bayonet Fighting

The French troops on the Aisne cooperated with their comrades in Flanders during the day with an attack that swept a 1,500-yard front along the Chemin-des-Dames near Cerny, and accounted for 180 prisoners. Here, again, the objectives assigned to the troops were exceeded and all the German advanced positions were cleared out. The attack was preceded by three strong advances of the Germans, which were all repelled, with heavy losses.

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Official Statements

West BRITISH

London, July 31 (DAY).—In conjunction with the French troops operating on our left we attacked at 5.50 o'clock this morning on a wide front north of the River Lys.

The Allied troops have captured their first objective on the whole front attacked, and are reported to be making satisfactory progress at all points.

Considerable numbers of prisoners already have been captured.

(NIGHT).—The operations of the Allied troops began this morning in the neighborhood of Ypres have been continued with success during the day, in spite of unfavorable weather.

The enemy's positions have been entered and our line has been advanced on a front of over fifteen miles from La Bassée Ville, on the River Lys, to Steenstraete, on the River Yser. Both of these villages are now in the hands of the Allies.

On the extreme left the French troops, acting in close cooperation with and protecting the left flank of the British forces, captured the village of Steenstraete, and rapidly penetrated the German defenses to a depth of nearly two miles. Having gained their objectives for the day at an early hour, they continued their attack with the greatest gallantry, and several other objectives, including the Kortekert line, were captured.

During the afternoon a hostile counter attack was successfully repulsed.

In the center and on the left center British divisions penetrated the enemy's positions to a depth of two miles, and secured crossings on the River Steenstraete, which constituted their final objectives.

In the course of their attack our troops stormed two powerful defensive systems, and carried by assault the villages of Verlorenhoek, Priesenberg, Saint Julien and Fikens and several other fortified farms, woods and organized localities.

Further south, in the right center of our attack, after gaining the whole of their first objective, which included the village of Hooge and Sanctuary wood, our troops fought their way forward against very obstinate resistance, and several other objectives, including the village of Westhoek, were captured.

In this neighborhood, where heavy fighting had taken place throughout the day and still continues, we have penetrated the enemy's defenses to a depth of about a mile, and a number of powerful counter attacks have been successfully repulsed.

In addition to heavy casualties inflicted on the enemy, over 2,500 prisoners have already been brought in, but no accurate estimate of our captures can be made as yet.

East RUSSIAN

Petrograd, July 31.—Western Russian Front.—At Husiatyn enemy detachments, crossing over the eastern bank of the River Zbroc, attacked our positions and after a bitter bayonet fight which was very stubborn in places the enemy was driven out of our trenches and the position was restored.

Enemy efforts to force a passage of the river Zbroc, in the region of Pukaliy and Flanders, were frustrated. His attacks in the region of Germanovka also were beaten off.

Under pressure from our enemy our troops have evacuated Zale (Zale-Szczyky).

South of the Dniester the enemy is developing an offensive on the Zalesie-Sniatyn front. He attacked our positions and after a series of stubborn encounters, in which our positions constantly changed hands, succeeded in pressing back our troops in the region of Dorochow, Zaczarna, Uvenczanky and Orzechy.

In the course of the recent engagement on the Zalesie-Sniatyn front the action of the 2d Finnish Musketry Division, and particularly of the 10th Finnish Musketry Regiment, and also of the Prankruy Infantry Regiment of the Zasmuray Division, which lost almost all their officers in the fierce fighting.

There have been fusillades on the rest of the front.

Rumanian Front.—An enemy attack north of the Putna Valley and the Kimpulung Road was repulsed. The enemy's attack, which succeeded in pressing back our positions, about ten versts northwest of Sovela Rumania, was repulsed. The enemy's positions on the right bank of the River Putna in the region of Putna. There have been fusillades on the rest of the front.

Caucasian Front.—The situation is unchanged.

Aviation.—Our artillery brought down a German airplane near Riga. The aviator was killed and the machine was destroyed. A squadron of German airplanes has dropped bombs on St. Vitika, Stoldy and Zamzta.

GERMAN

Berlin, July 31 (DAY).—Eastern Theatre.—Front of Prince Leopold and army group of Von Boehm-Ermolt.—New successes were gained in Eastern Galicia and Bukowina by the forward pressure of our troops and those of our allies in their endeavor to attack the River Zbroc was crossed at many points.

By German and Austro-Hungarian divisions from above Husiatyn to south of Skalla, on a front of fifty kilometers (thirty-one miles), in spite of the bitter resistance of the enemy. The Ottoman troops also proved their worth yesterday, capturing by assault stubbornly defended positions near Niera on the Zbroc.

Between the Dniester and the Truth the allied (Teuton) troops captured Werenocanka and Sniatyn, in the direction of Czernowitz.

On a strong assault German chassours broke through Russian rearward positions near Vinitz. The enemy was thereby forced to evacuate the Chermosh line and retired toward the east. Also in the wooded Carpathians, on the upper course of the southern Sereth and on both sides of the Moudova and the Suczawa, we gained ground in an attack toward the east. Under pressure of this success the Russians abandoned their first line positions in the Meste Canese sector.

In the Berecar Mountains the enemy attacked five times in the course of the day against Castinul without obtaining any success. Further south one of our regiments was pushed back by a strong enemy thrust into a position on a high situated further west.

Night.—In the east we obtained further success. In the night the enemy's artillery bombarded our cantonments with long range guns and shelled our roads of communication.

Russia Invites Leading Parties To Join Cabinet

Compromise Sought to Form Coalition Government

No Solution Yet Seen

Step Is Taken in View of Peril to Nation and to Revolution

[From The Tribune Bureau]

Washington, July 31.—A dispatch from the Petrograd Foreign Office to the Russian Embassy to-day states that the Provisional Government now considers it proper, in view of the extreme danger to the country and to the revolution, to have all Russian parties participate in the supreme power and to have representation in the ministry.

To this end the government has entered into negotiations with the leaders of the several parties, inviting them to accept portfolios in the Cabinet. A compromise is being sought which will make possible the formation of such a government, as concessions will have to be made on all sides in order to obtain the essential solidarity and unity. Special mention was made in the dispatch of the government's desire to enlist the cooperation of the bourgeoisie.

So far, the telegram states, no solution has been found, although the political negotiations are continuing, with a prospect of eventual success.

The Provisional Government conditions the reformation upon the acceptance of the following fundamental basis:

First.—That the programme of the Provisional Government as regards both international and domestic policies shall not be changed, but the new ministers will bind themselves to a project of eventual success.

The Provisional Government outlined by the Provisional Government.

Second.—That the leaders of the different political parties accepting office in the government shall not be controlled by their parties, but conduct themselves in the spirit of official solidarity and unity.

The reorganized government, the embassy was advised, will make an appeal to the national council which is to be held at Moscow after the completion of the new ministry.

It is the intention of the government to proceed after the adjournment of the council with the realization of its programme of domestic reform, the solution of the agrarian problem and the consolidation of the interests of the country, which have been threatened by disorders, German propaganda and mutiny in the army and navy.

Russian Socialists Claims Hold Up Plan To Strengthen Cabinet

Petrograd, July 31.—The negotiations for forming the Cabinet by the Constitutional Democratic ministers are threatened with a breakdown owing to the difference with the Socialists as to the future rôle they will play in the Council of Deputies and also on the question of reforms.

A letter addressed to Premier Kerensky by three Constitutional Democratic candidates for ministerial posts declares categorically that the Cabinet must not be interfered with by outside organizations, to which the newspaper "Izvestiya Ciusiutya," the organ of the council, has replied, declaring that it is impossible to sacrifice the Socialist ministers, MM. Tchernef and Skobelev.

The Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies and the Council of Peasants' Deputies, sitting together, have passed a resolution, proposed by M. Tsereteli, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, that the government must adhere to its programme of reforms and that no agreement with the bourgeois members is possible on other conditions.

Pershing Goes to Camp

Paris, July 31.—Major General Pershing left Paris this afternoon for his first inspection of the American training camp. He will be gone a few days.

\$300,000,000 Offered In U.S. Certificates; New Loan Is Near

Second Step in Liberty Borrowing Forecast in 3 1/2 P. C. Issue

Washington, July 31.—The first step toward financing the second instalment of the Liberty Loan was taken by the Treasury to-day with the offering of \$300,000,000 in Treasury certificates of indebtedness.

It is the largest block of such securities yet offered, and the interest rate, 3 1/2 per cent, is one-fourth of 1 per cent higher than the previous offerings.

Subscriptions are to close on August 7, and the certificates are payable on November 15 next, indicating that the second instalment of the Liberty Loan will have been floated in the first half of November.

Although the Treasury has remained silent on that subject, the general impression here is that the loan will be offered in September and that it will be for a total of \$3,000,000,000.

The certificates are expected to play an important part in the financing of the second instalment of the loan, as they did in the case of the first instalment.

When the first Liberty bonds were offered \$688,000,000 in certificates were outstanding, and when the fiscal year closed on June 30 a total of \$626,000,000 of this amount had been redeemed through the method of accepting the certificates at par value in exchange for bonds. This method has been preferred by Treasury officials because it puts a large part of the cash involved in bond payments actually into the Treasury long beforehand and minimizes the strain on the money market at the time of final settlement.

The new certificates are made acceptable at par, like the preceding issues, in payment for any United States bonds "issued and allotted hereafter and before the maturity of the certificates." The fact that the certificates are to bear interest at 3 1/2 per cent is taken to mean that the second instalment of the Liberty Loan, like the first, will be issued at that rate.

Payments for the certificates will be made on August 9, two days after the subscriptions close. The offering will be made through the Reserve banks and in denominations of from \$1,000 to \$100,000.

German Gold Loss Shows Need of Ban On U. S. Exports

Russian Socialists Claims Hold Up Plan To Strengthen Cabinet

Washington, July 31.—Shrinkage in the gold reserve of Germany, as indicated by the weekly returns of the Reichsbank, is interpreted here as emphasizing the necessity for strict enforcement of the embargo on exports to neutrals. The only markets remaining open to Germany are the Scandinavian countries, Holland and Switzerland, and perhaps, to a minor extent, Spain.

Germany has bought heavily in those

Chinese Cabinet Again Talks War

Siam's Example Strongly Influences Members of the Peking Government

Peking, July 31.—The Cabinet is considering a declaration of war on Germany. Wang-Tah-Sieh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has urged that China immediately follow Siam's example, and the Cabinet apparently is inclining strongly toward joining the Entente Allies.

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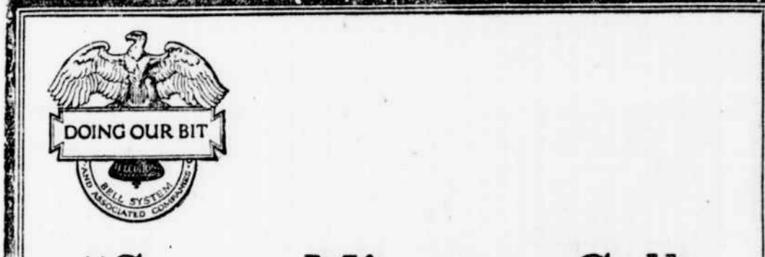
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