

GERMANS LOSE 800 METER LINE OF TRENCHES

French Report Big Victory in the Champagne District.

INVADERS FAIL IN COUNTER ATTACKS

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. Paris, Feb. 17.—The Allies are pressing the Germans hard at every point in France and Flanders with both infantry and artillery.

The official communiqué issued tonight by the French War Office tells of a number of notable successes in North and West.

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From the sea to the base our artillery has done some very effective work, destroying many German formations, cutting the supply of ammunition, caissons and destroying trains.

North of Arras we have captured two lines of trenches and repulsed several violent counter attacks. We have captured many prisoners and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

In the Rhine sector, near Loivre, gains achieved in the night of February 16, which amounted to several hundred meters have been consolidated and maintained.

In the Argonne we have continued our advance northwest of Verdun and have captured the enemy's positions on a front of 800 meters. All the German counter attacks north of Meuzil-Hurlus and Beausjour have been repulsed.

In the Argonne we have advanced in the La Faurie wood and maintained our gains despite two violent counter attacks and lively bayonet action, as a result of which the enemy suffered heavy losses.

The violent attack by the Germans at La Fourie in Paris has been completely repulsed.

Between the Argonne and the Meuse we have advanced at several points.

In Alsace we have gained possession of the heights overlooking the Sidel farm and have held all the ground in the district.

Our aeroplanes have bombarded the railroad station at Fribourg-en-Bresse.

The allied offensive, continuous yesterday and today on the entire front, began on Tuesday.

Western theatre: Obviously induced to do so by our great successes in the east, the British and French yesterday and during last night began especially stubborn attacks at many places.

In the Argonne there was a considerable activity. Near Pont-aux-Charmes we have destroyed a block-line and 100 meters of trenches.

At the Argonne we have captured 350 prisoners and six machine guns. In the Argonne we have captured 199 meters of trenches.

From the Meuse to the Vosges fighting naturally has occurred.

Eastern theatre: North of the Niemen River our troops have followed everywhere the defeated enemy in the direction of Tauragga.

In the district east of Augustov engagements occurred at many places during the pursuit of the enemy.

A Russian column advancing from Lomza was defeated. Four hundred prisoners and six machine guns fell into our hands.

In Poland to the south of the Vistula there are no new developments.

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MME. CALVE PACKING KITS FOR THE FRENCH SOLDIERS



Miss Molly Pearson and Mme. Emma Calve. At the Lafayette Fund headquarters, Mme. Calve will give a song recital for the benefit of the fund at Aeolian Hall this afternoon.

Mme. Emma Calve spent part of yesterday afternoon at the Lafayette Fund headquarters on Thirty-third street packing kits for the French soldiers.

"May I ask you why I do not go back to France to help my countrymen," she said, bending over one of the kits and inserting a few last articles before it was sealed for the front.

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GERMANS CAPTURE 50,000 RUSSIANS

Berlin Announces Result of Battle in Mazurian Lake Region.

SURVIVORS IN FLIGHT

By a wireless to London, Feb. 17.—More than 50,000 Russians with fifty cannon and sixty machine guns were captured during the pine dunes battle in the Mazurian Lake region, according to a statement issued by German headquarters to-day.

In a critical battle in the Mazurian Lake district the Russian Tenth Army, consisting of at least eleven infantry and several cavalry divisions, not only was driven out of strongly entrenched positions east of the Mazurian Lake plateau, but was forced back across the frontier.

It was a defeat of almost every point only the remnants of the army managed to reach the woods east of Szakaki and Anzonski.

The number of prisoners taken has not been ascertained, but certainly exceeded 50,000. It was reported that over sixty machine guns, besides an unknown quantity of war material were captured.

Emperor William was present during the decisive fighting in the center of our line. The victory was won by veteran East Prussian troops, assisted by other troops who were young for such work, but proved their worth.

The threatened German blockade will make no difference to the kits, announced William Beverley Rogers of the executive committee of the La Fayette Fund.

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SAYS RUSSIA FORCED TURKEY INTO WAR

Talaat Bey Declares Ottoman Empire Will Fight to the Last.

CALLS CHRISTIANS FOES

London, Feb. 17.—An interview with Talaat Bey, one of the leaders of the Young Turk party, who not only three portfolios in the Ottoman Cabinet, which is published here to-day, contains the following important statements:

"That Turkey entered the war, not at the instigation of Germany and Austria, but because Russia and Great Britain forced her participation by mining the Dardanelles in an effort to bottle up the Turkish sea.

"That Christians in the Ottoman Empire are not suffering from conditions brought about by the war and that any charges to the contrary are the result of British, French and Russian intrigues.

"That Turkey is prepared to carry through to the end any policy that her resources are a source of serious advantage for our allies.

"That the success of Ottoman arms can have but one result, namely the raising of the Turkish standard over the dominion of Russia, France or Great Britain. Persia is a living symbol of what Turkey would have become if we had not been forced to enter the war.

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GERMAN SURGEONS FREED

Nine, Convicted of Pillaging French Houses, Win Appeal.

FINDS ALL GERMANS BITTER TO ENGLAND

Hatred Is Based on Resentment and Disappointment. Says "Neutral" Traveller.

SAYS THEY LACK LEADER

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. London, Feb. 17.—The articles of the "neutral" citizen who travelled through-out Germany and studied carefully conditions in that country, are continued today in the Press. The writer says: "I questioned people of all ranks in Germany, from Ministers to laborers, about the hatred of England and I found among the populace a strong antagonism which is best summed up in the following words: They want to starve us! In the highest social, intellectual and political circles, however, the hatred blossoms forth with mental severity."

"The writer notes the utterances of individuals who hope that the peace will be on terms of friendship with the English, whom they accuse of gross and faithless conduct and other faults. He adds: "The Germans seem to feel that they have been wronged, abused, fooled and deceived by England. They feel that England's aid would have ended the world's suffering. I heard expressed a great deal of bitterness and disappointment. It has a feminine quality, but usually associated with the German mind."

"The writer makes note of what he calls the German and awkward way in which the German officers who are fighting their hatred, due partly, he thinks, to a total lack of the sense of proportion."

"The German's great trouble with the same seriousness as the gravest matter of national importance, he says, and they often an instance of the disappointed astonishment. Antwerp was surrendered to the German General von Hindenburg by the Mayor, who was a civilian, and he was not with him at the time. The German officers who related this circumstance to the writer complained of an exaggerated sense of indignation."

"The writer thinks this curious quality of mind, which is the most easily governed of any modern people, but says it has its drawbacks. One of these is that the German people are not a people of opinion, so that in a crisis a partial collapse is liable to produce a catastrophe. He adds on this point: "Strong Man Missing."

"The German system is built upon the idea of a strong man at the helm. The Kaiser played the part admirably in the past, but since the war he has recognized more clearly that he himself that he is unequal to the task. It is a serious matter, for his political position has been steadily weakening in the background. The Germans are concerned at the lack of a great leader, but only in a general way, and they are not slow to think to the army."

"The absence of a far seeing leader is felt keenly by the Germans. Germany's failure to secure the support of Italy and her loss of Romania's friendship, together with the alienation of neutrals, and other things prove the absence of a guiding hand."

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GERMANS FREE 100 BRITISH PRISONERS

Wounded Englishmen, Now in Holland, Tell of Cruelties in Camps.

VIENNA REPORTS FAILURE OF INVADERS

Attacks in Carpathians.

Vienna, Feb. 17.—The following communication was issued here to-day: "In Russian Poland and western Galicia the situation is similar. Only a few German divisions have taken place."

"Violent fighting continues in the Carpathian front. Attacks against the Austro-German positions have been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy, who lost 400 men and 100 machine guns."

"The actions in Bukovina are progressing favorably. The Sereth line has been passed and the Russians are being driven back to the River Pruth by incessant fighting."

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