

# Germans Massing Troops For Great Drive--Threaten "Both Paris and Channel"

## KAISER PLANS GREAT SMASH TO CHEER THE FATHERLAND

(Continued from First Page) Forth will prevent the Germans from fulfilling their boasts to break through the allies' lines before American participation can equalize the re-encouragement of the German line from the Russian front.

This re-encouragement of the enemy, made possible by the cessation of fighting on the east front, means a half million picked men to throw into the assault against the allied line before America can get in.

Desires restoring to Hindenburg his long lost initiative. General Dymk's reverse graphically demonstrates the untruth of various widely prevalent stories regarding the enemy.

It demonstrates the utter absurdity of the story that the morale of the Germans is waning. It gives the lie to the confidently circulated stories of Germany's impending collapse.

Regardless of who is personally responsible for the Cambal reverse the fundamental trouble doubtless lies in the fact that the whole army has been permeated with such a spirit of cocksureness—if not over-confidence—that it had grown careless.

Perhaps it was only the natural result of an uninterrupted series of recent British successes, combined with the fact that the present army has never been compelled by hard necessity to learn defensive tactics like the "Mons" heroes who are now a mere handful in the great war machine.

Coincidentally there has been the general development of a tendency to underestimate the enemy's capacity for an offensive.

The fact remains that the crisis is at hand and the public is being awakened to realization of it. Practically every London newspaper today classed Premier Lloyd George's speech as a well-timed stimulant.

"Lloyd George has been true authentic notes of British statesmanship," one stated. "We are confident of the spirit of the nation."

"The speech for which we are almost grateful in an appeal to reason, honor to our honor, and to self-denial," declared the Telegraph.

"Speech Was Brilliant." "The speech was more than brilliant," summarized the Chronicle. "It had a dispassionate firmness appropriate with the present crisis. It has demonstrated the impossibility of a satisfactory peace now."

"The speech ad courage and faith," said the Mail. "It was a challenge in the face of all doubters and waverers. He showed direct insight into the supreme issue of the war."

"The chief merit of the address," the Times asserted, "lies in the clearness and directness with which the premier has set forth that really matter before the people."

The News was the only London newspaper which did not entirely approve of the speech. "Unfortunately he did not hint



### Teutons' Attempts to Cross Alps Have Lost 150,000 Men, Says Italy

ROME, Dec. 15.—Recent drives by the Austro-German forces in Italy have cost the Teutons a loss of 150,000 men in killed, wounded or prisoners, according to a report reaching here from Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy.

Forces under the command of General Heizerdorff, Austrian, and General von Below, German, are making a supreme effort to pass over the Alps before the heaviest winter weather begins to hamper their movements.

Recent floods that have filled the Piave river have proved advantageous to the Italians, offering another obstacle to the advance of the enemy.

when victory would be considered as won," editorial declared. "Among all his emphatic utterances there was not a word enlightening us on the one point that really matters. The world today will regret his failure to state the policy of the allies with the gravity and the definiteness which the occasion demanded."

### BRITISH TROOPS RETAKE SECTION OF TRENCH WHICH ENEMY HAD PENETRATED

LONDON, Dec. 15.—British troops in hot local fighting around Polderhoek yesterday evening regained a considerable part of the British trench which the enemy had penetrated in the morning. Field Marshal Haig reported today.

The British commander-in-chief reported active enemy artillery fire to the east of Messines and northeast of Ypres.

### BRITISH AND FRENCH GUNS AND ITALIAN ARMEN IN ATTACK ON GERMAN LINE

ROME, Dec. 15.—Batteries of heavy British and French guns are adding their fire to the Italian artillery shelling the German positions along the Piave river and in the mountains of the Asiago plateau.

The Austro-German forces lying in the sector of the Calcin valley made a violent effort to drive the Italians from Monte Solovaro, but were thrust back over the front. On trench position remained in the hands of the attackers, but the thickly-manned soldiers who took it were mowed down by the hundreds by the Italian machine gun fire.

### BOLSHIEVIK HOLD GENS. KALEDINE AND POTOTSKY

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—Generals Kaledine and Pototsky and their staff have been arrested by Bolshievik forces. It is officially announced today. The Bolshieviks now safely hold Rostoff, Nalutchevans, and Taganrog. It was declared.

The Bolshieviks split today on treatment of the constituent assembly. Minister of Education Lunacharsky formally tendered his resignation from the Maximalist cabinet, declaring he could not support Lenin in any measure of repression against a congress summoned by the Russian people. He is believed to be supported by a number of leading Maximalists.

Trotsky, Lenin, and others of the "inner ring" steadfastly maintained today that if the assembly showed opposition to the Maximalist aims, it was illegal.

"We consider any assembly opposing our ideas as an arbitrary organization which must be dispersed as soon as possible," declared M. Blagonravoff, Bolshievik delegate from Taitan to-day.

The Bolshieviks announced the following fragmentary returns from the recent elections: Twelfth army—Maximalists, 20,200; revolutionary socialists, 12,200; other parties, 2,300.

Fifth army—Maximalists, 145,000; revolutionary socialists, 45,000; other parties, 26,000.

Army of Finland—Maximalists, 20,800; other parties, 20,000.

Krasnoyarsk—Maximalists, 12,000; revolutionary socialists, 4,900; cadets, 2,200.

Krostroma district—Maximalists elected four delegates and the revolutionary socialists four.

Kaluga district—Maximalists claimed the district, but the town of Kaluga is apparently elected by the cadets.

### Believed Killed in First Air Fight With Foe

Lieutenant Benjamin Stewart Walcott, 21, of the French flying service, and was lately stationed at Pau, the finishing school of French flyers. He was killed in an air encounter with the enemy.



LIEUT. BENJAMIN STEWART WALCOTT.

### FATHER HAS GIVEN UP ALL HOPE FOR LIEUT. WALCOTT

Dr. Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, today gave up all hope that his son, Lieutenant Benjamin Stewart Walcott, is still alive, although no confirmation of the reported death of the young aviator had been obtained from the War Department or from the authorities of the French army.

Lieutenant Walcott is understood to have been attached to Spa 84, of the French flying service, and was lately stationed at Pau, the finishing school of French flyers. He was killed in an air encounter with the enemy.

Lieutenant Walcott recently applied for a commission in the American army with the expeditionary forces under Pershing, but it is not certain that he had received his transfer as yet.

Long Resident Here. The Walcotts have been residents of Washington for many years. Miss Helen Walcott, a sister of the aviator, recently entered training at the Presbyterian Hospital preparatory to service with the army at the front.

Lieutenant Walcott's last letter, written on November 17, told of his graduation from the school at Pau and of the long wait for his "baptism of service." That he was brought down by a concerted attack of German planes after he had fought and killed one enemy flyer over the German lines is borne out by dispatches from the front. It is believed to have been his first encounter with the enemy.

His letter follows: "At the Front. "Somewhere in France. "November 17, 1917. "At present things are hopelessly slow on account of bad weather, so I have a good deal of time to write and to read. I am still waiting for my baptism of service, which is assigned for each day and held up on account of fog, low clouds, or rain. In the afternoon it usually lifts a little, and we get a few flights over the lines, but sufficient to permit a little vol d'entrainement. A practice flight around the field. I've been taking every chance to learn to fly, practicing reverses, vertical, side-banked turns, 90 degree nose dives, etc.

"Two days ago we had a very interesting mimic combat in the air. The Boche machine, which has been captured, and a Spad, both driven by very clever pilots, maneuvered for position during fifteen or twenty minutes, at 1,000 feet or less, bank and forth over the field, doing almost every possible thing in the air—changing direction with incredible rapidity, diving, climbing, wing slipping, upside-down dives—everything under the sun.

"Two of them were at it again today in two sections along the front. What a lot there is to learn! When I got through aerobically at Pau, I had the impression that that kind of stuff was relatively easy; now I know differently. Combat flying will take a lot of learning. For the present I'm working on the system of try one thing at a time—get that fairly well and then commence another. The small doses—ten or fifteen minutes for an acrobatic flight, not more, because one can easily get dangerously near sick in a very short time. Not getting ill in the air, only it's beastly un-comfortable!"

### COLD IS TO CONTINUE TODAY AND TOMORROW

Continued cold is in store for Washington today and tomorrow, with a slight moderation on Monday, according to the Weather Bureau. Tuesday the temperatures are likely to be more nearly normal, but are not expected to continue so long.

A minimum of 14 degrees is predicted for the next twenty-four hours, and skating enthusiasts are counting on spending the day on the Tidal Basin tomorrow.

### Boy Thief Snatches War Stamps From Hand of 8-Year-Old

The man who takes candy from a baby has his juvenile counterpart today in a thirteen-year-old boy who snatched \$2.25 worth of war stamps from Robert Chapin, eight years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Chapin, of 2039 Park road northwest.

Patriotism of the most self-sacrificing sort counseled Robert to invest his little Christmas savings in the "fighting stamps," and he was on his way home yesterday with his precious purchase clamped in his hand. When he reached the house he was crying and sobbed out to his mother that a white boy had grabbed his stamps at Klippertown place and Lamont street and fled.

The police have a good description of the thief and are making every effort to secure him for the juvenile authorities.

### CLOTHING FOR VAST ARMY DELAYED BY MAKERS AND ROADS

Delays by manufacturers of materials and by manufacturers of clothing, and also by congested railroad transportation, is responsible for delivery delinquencies of from 6 to 48 per cent on clothing contracts to supply the American army. The quarter-master general announced today.

"Adequate supplies of clothing have been provided for all the men in the service of the American armies," the report adds, "and if proper deliveries are made by the manufacturers and the transportation system, an uninterrupted adequate supply for all future needs is assured."

Contracts announced show the timeliness of America's war preparations, more than 8,000,000 hats and 21,000,000 pairs of shoes having been contracted for.

Up to December 1 the following supplies were contracted for or delivered: Blankets, 17,031,682; delivered, 2,990,253.

Woolen cloth for overcoats, contracted enough for 5,691,350; delivered enough for 2,026,246.

Suits of winter drawers, 15,341,021, and 12,826,824 undershirts; delivered, 6,442,160 and 4,306,433, respectively.

Woolen cloth for uniforms, contracted 28,000,958 yards; delivered, 11,290,867 yards.

### BLAME FOR COAL SHORTAGE PUT ON YARDS AND WEAVER

(Continued from First Page) for the coal shortage in the Capital city of Washington. "Just what steps are being taken to meet it are not known to the public and to the householders clamoring for a supply. There seems little doubt that the real trouble today is in the delivery problem.

The Baltimore and Ohio railroad is moving to Washington all of the coal cars of the district, but the town of Kaluga is apparently elected by the cadets.

"Yesterday we moved from our town, thirty-nine cars of coal for Washington," he said. "We have every car in the yards assigned to this city. There is practically no congestion of freight on the line anywhere. There were something like 250 cars of all kinds of freight at Washington, about a normal daily number, and all moved promptly. Our yards and our tracks are absolutely clear for the dispatch of freight.

"The thirty-nine cars we brought in tonight just as well have been kept in the yards several days, however, because of the difficulty in unloading. We are bringing to Washington every day more than the dealer can unload. This is particularly true now with the coal frozen in the cars.

"Dealers take about six times as long to unload it as ordinarily, because they cannot dump it from the bottom, but have to pick it loose and shovel it over the tops. If there is no congestion along the line, if every car of coal consigned to Washington is being brought here promptly, the trouble must be somewhere else, in the number of cars being produced by the mines and the ability of the dealer to distribute it after arrival."

### ROCKVILLE GIRL MISSING; MOTHER IS GRIEF-STRICKEN

Eva McGraw, daughter of a retired farmer of Rockville, Md., fourteen years old and a schoolgirl, is today hiding in this city, having run away from home Thursday, according to her mother, Mrs. T. M. Pines, of 621 Second street northwest.

She is described as dark haired, of fair complexion, weighs 105 pounds, and when last seen wore a black velvet hat, black blouse, and skirt, trimmed with a gray fur collar, dark dress black high-heeled shoes, and a silver ring with the initials E. M.

Last Thursday morning she kissed her mother good by, and went to her class at the private school conducted near her home by Miss Lucy Sompson. She left her schoolbooks in her desk and asked to go out for a few minutes, saying she was not feeling well. A conductor on the electric line to Washington said she got on his car.

Mrs. T. M. Pines, a sister of the missing girl, of 621 Second street northwest, today told The Times that unless Eva returns home her mother will be forced to go to the hospital.

"We can't beat Mother's grief," she said, "she is continually crying and unless Eva is found today we will have to send her away tomorrow. "Please, appeal through your columns to the child."

### KERENSKY'S WIFE IS TOLD HE WILL BE SHOT UNLESS HE VOLUNTARILY GIVES UP

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—Soldiers have searched the home occupied by the wife of former Premier Kerensky, failing to find him, they word that he would be shot if found unless he came voluntarily to the Smolny Institute.

### U. S. ENGINEERS OFFERED TO REORGANIZE RUSSIAN ROADS, TROTSKY SAYS

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—American engineers have been offered the Bolshievik government for reorganization of railroads and motor lines for the transport of food. Foreign Minister Trotsky declared today in an address to the Grenadier regiment.

"It is impossible to reform the political and social construction in a month," he declared. "We have already started our efforts to introduce a program. We have given land to the peasants and we have authorized the crushing of those who are seeking to prevent us from doing so."

### OWN GUNS FORCE TEUTONS AGAINST THE ITALIANS

WITH THE ITALIAN ARMIES. Dec. 15.—Austro-German troops are being driven to the attack on the Italian front. Prisoners taken by General Diaz' forces today declared losses in their ranks had been increased to staggering proportions by artillery, which, under orders, had put a moving curtain of fire behind the attacking waves to force them into the charge.

### BOLSHEVIKI ABLE, BUT UNWILLING TO PAY

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 15.—Russia will be able to pay her obligations—the only obstacle is the unwillingness of her Bolshievik masters to pay them—in the opinion of Russian Ambassador Galkovskiy today.

"As far as the future is concerned," he said, "the payment of Russian banks is merely the outcome of shaken nerves."

"Though exhausted by recent events, Russia will be able to pay. The production of gold will be normal, but it will not be a question of inability to pay, but rather the Bolshievik unwillingness to do so."

### ARTILLERY IN DUEL NEAR FRENCH TOWNS

PARIS, Dec. 15.—An artillery duel around Beaumont and Arzonvaux was all the French official statement had to report from the western front today.

### SAYS FOOD BOARD IS MERE ADJUNCT OF SUGAR TRUST

(Continued from First Page) magnates on the international committee. President Letter. Spreckels said he had declined to head a syrup price committee because he was an interested party.

Spreckels produced a letter from George Ralph, chairman of the Hoover committee, dated December 10, in which Ralph stated the State Department had been negotiating with the Cuban government regarding price and supply of sugar. That was the first Spreckels had heard of such negotiations, he said.

### CUBAN SUGAR TO BE REFINED HERE; WILL LOWER PRICE

Relief to the sugar consumers for the duration of the war from abnormal prices, and a radical readjustment of the present system of sugar distribution and price fixation, was forecast today when Senator Robert F. Broussard of Louisiana left for the South and for Havana for conferences with owners of Louisiana sugar mills and with President Menocal of Cuba.

Overture which has been pending for some time by owners of American mills equipped for producing "plantation granulated" sugar to obtain part of the approaching big raw sugar crop of Cuba, have progressed to a stage that shipment of raw sugar from Cuba to Louisiana, where it will be turned into "plantation granulated" without the expense due to refining, seems assured in the near future.

The active co-operation of the United States Food and Fuel administration is expected in the undertaking, due to the immense saving which will be effected in fuel and transportation.

Senator Broussard's departure was hastened by reason of the character of evidence showing the apparent domination by the refining interests in the present system of sugar control, as revealed recently through-out the trade, and because these facts are to be discussed before the Senate Committee on Manufactures now investigating the whole sugar situation.

Louisiana producers of "plantation granulated" sugar have been in competition for some time with the refining interests, and have progressed so far in their production of pure white sugars that a large saving over the refiners' charges has been solved. Senator Broussard and his colleagues are desirous of utilizing these economies for the benefit of the allied consumers, and direct action seemed expedient, in view of the benefits accruing to the public.

### An International Daily Newspaper

The Christian Science Monitor through its world-wide news gathering service records daily the constructive development of the human race. It publishes in detail the most significant happenings of world politics. It analyzes, classifies, and interprets world events editorially from an international viewpoint. Its governing purpose in this period is to establish a better understanding between the progressive elements in human affairs, not only in America, but throughout the world.

The Christian Science Monitor arrives in Washington each morning and is distributed by mail or through newsdealers. Sample copies will be gladly sent upon request.

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### Six Minute Pudding

Here's a new one—a most delicious dessert that can be made in a hurry.

To one and one-half cups of milk add one cup of Grape-Nuts

and one level tablespoonful of sugar, boil six minutes, cool and serve with milk or cream. Add raisins if desired.

Get a package of Grape-Nuts from your grocer and try this pleasing recipe.



### The November Advertising Story

Here are figures that tell briefly and emphatically the development of the New Washington Times as a medium for profit-bringing advertising.

The Times' Advertising Gain in November over November of 1916 was 153,652 lines, or 549 columns

The July gain was 82,720 lines; the August gain, 112,849 lines; the September gain, 119,520 lines; the October gain, 168,291 lines. EDGAR D. SHAW, Publisher.

### The December Advertising Story

Shows a Decided Increase in the Rate of Gain.

- Dec. 1, 2,900 Lines Gain
- Dec. 2, 13,075 Lines Gain
- Dec. 3, 5,893 Lines Gain
- Dec. 4, 9,355 Lines Gain
- Dec. 5, 8,056 Lines Gain
- Dec. 6, 9,478 Lines Gain
- Dec. 7, 11,559 Lines Gain
- Dec. 8, 1,213 Lines Gain
- Dec. 9, 10,245 Lines Gain
- Dec. 10, 11,919 Lines Gain
- Dec. 11, 22,116 Lines Gain
- Dec. 12, 5,990 Lines Gain
- Dec. 13, 3,446 Lines Gain
- Dec. 14, 16,578 Lines Gain