

RUSSIAN CITY OF VILNA OCCUPIED BY THE GERMANS

Von Hindenburg Gains His Objective by the Capture of Great Industrial Center on Warsaw-Petrograd Railway.

GAZAR'S FORGES IN DANGER

Teutons Have Succeeded in Almost Surrounding Portion of the Russian Army—Decisive Battle Is Probably a Question of a Few Days.

Berlin, Sept. 18, via London.—The Russian city of Vilna at which the armies of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg have been driving and which was stubbornly defended until nearly surrounded by hostile forces, has been occupied by the Germans. It was officially announced by German army headquarters to-day.

"Eastern theatre of war: Army group of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg. The extensive attack by General Von Eichhorn against Vilna has been crowned with complete success. Our left wing has reached Mioduchow, Smorgon and Worskopie. We have been forced to break through our lines in the direction of Mischalschik with strong forces hurriedly collected failed completely.

"Because of the uninterrupted progress of our encircling movement and simultaneous strong attacks by the troops of Generals Von Scholz and Von Galwitz upon the enemy's front, the forces opposing us have been forced since yesterday to retreat as quickly as possible along the entire front. The strongly fortified town of Vilna fell into our hands. The enemy is being pursued along the entire line.

"Army group of Prince Leopold of Bavaria: This army group is also occupied in pursuing the retreating army and has reached the line running through Nierodowe, Derewine and Dobromysl. Enemy vanguards were defeated.

"Western theatre of war: Southeast of Bray, on the Somme, a widespread explosion effected in and behind enemy positions was successful. During the battle immediately following, which was successful in following, the French suffered sanguinary losses. A few prisoners were taken.

"Directly to the west of the Aronne enemy divisions engaged in constructing trenches were dispersed by our artillery with heavy losses to them.

"Artillery combats continue along a large part of the front.

Vilna, a city of some 170,000 inhabitants, on the Warsaw-Petrograd railway line, has been the object of a German offensive movement for weeks past in the course of the widespread operations of Field Marshal Hindenburg on the northern end of the extended battle line in the east.

After the fall of Kovno, to the northwest, and Grodno, to the southwest, no fortress barrier remained before the Germans moving on Vilna, but stubborn defensive measures were taken by the Russians to hold back the Teutonic advance, Vilna being the northern key position on the important strategic railway line running northward to Rowno, which the Russians are striving to retain. It was on this line, running through Lida, that the defenders of Vilna had apparently their sole opportunity to retreat along railway routes when the German offensive recently developed intensive force, the lines southward of the city and those to the north and east having been cut.

The fall of Vilna has been anticipated for several days, the German encircling movement having developed sufficiently to make it apparent that its abandonment was only a question of time. Last week Petrograd dispatches stated that Vilna as well as Dvinsk, another of the important strategic railway objectives, had been emptied of stores and abandoned by government and private institutions. It was declared that their point was regarded as of further strategic importance, except as a section of the general front, and that it was not the purpose of the Russian general staff to defend Vilna at all costs.

Vilna has been an important industrial and trade center in the midst of a region studded with lakes, forests and marshes. Recent estimates have stated that probably half the population was Jewish with only a small native Russian element. It being the home of numerous Lithuanians and Poles as well.

With the capture of Vilna the Germans seem likely to find the way more easily open to Dvinsk, the entire railway line leading northward to that city now being apparently in their hands.

London, Sept. 18, 9:30 p. m.—The Germans have occupied Vilna and by a wide-sweeping movement to the north of that city have effected a section of the Russian army which is fighting in the railway triangle between Vilna, Lida and Vitebsk.

At any rate, the Russian forces in this district either must fight their way out eastward, or retire in a southerly direction, for the railway left entirely in their hands in that which runs from Vilna to Lida and thence to Baranovitch.

The army of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, which took Vilna and has reached Vitebsk, to the east of Vilna, is working in close co-operation with that of Archduke Leopold of Bavaria, in an effort to catch a part of the Russian army in an operation which has been so often tried without success since the Austro-Germans commenced their drive in western Galicia in early May.

The Russians express confidence in the outcome of the battle which must be decided before complete success falls to one side or the other, but with their northern armies closely held along the Dvina and the German flank well protected by their cavalry which recently occupied Wlady, across the Vilna-Petrograd railway, it seems impossible that any aid can come to them from that direction.

The battle seemingly must be fought out between the troops now in the district between Vilna, Lida and Slonim

EIGHTEEN MEMBERS OF RUSSIAN DUMA PLACED IN ARREST

Duma Buildings in Petrograd and All the Railway Stations Have Been Occupied by the Military—Situation Follows Imperial Decree Which Recently Prorogued Legislative Body.

Berlin, Sept. 19, by wireless telegraphy to Tuckerton, N. J.—According to Stockholm dispatches the socialist deputy Tcheldak and 17 other members of the Russian Duma have been arrested. The Duma buildings in Petrograd and all the railway stations have been occupied by the military, the advices add.

Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed last week when the Russian Duma was prorogued by the imperial decree to the middle of November. The cabinet had objected to the program of reforms proposed by the majority in the chamber, comprising the liberal and progressive elements, and had threatened to resign.

Premier Goremykin visited Emperor Nicholas at field headquarters and discussed the situation with the Emperor who gave his sanction to the prorogation of the Duma. When this decision was announced last Thursday after a few

minutes' session the laborite and radical deputies left the chamber muttering: "It is a crime."

It was announced later that Premier Goremykin has conferred with the military and civil authorities at Petrograd and Moscow for the purpose of forestalling possible popular demonstrations.

It was stated that the program of the majority of the Duma which was considered untimely by the cabinet included autonomy for Poland, a conciliatory policy for Finland, amnesty for political and religious offenses not of a criminal character, complete cessation of religious persecution, removal of restrictions upon Jews and the recognition of the legality of trades unions.

The program also was said to call for an agreement between the government and the Duma regarding the rapid adoption of bills relating to the national defense and the care of wounded and also to contain a long list of measures for internal reforms.

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ARCHIBALD DENIES INTENT TO BREAK NEUTRALITY LAWS

Declares Dr. Dumba's Letter Was Carried by Him As a Matter of Friendship and without Secrecy.

IGNORANT OF CONTENTS

Letter Was Handed to Him at Steamer in Plain Sight of Hundreds of People—Correspondent Had Several Letters of Introduction in German.

New York, Sept. 20.—James F. J. Archibald, the American correspondent, who carried official papers for Dr. Constantin D. Dumba, Austro-Hungarian ambassador, issued a formal statement here to-night in which he denied he had conspired in any way to break the neutrality laws of the United States or was an official dispatch-bearer.

A request for Dr. Dumba's recall was made by the United States after the ambassador's letter was seized by British authorities when Archibald was intercepted at Falmouth. Archibald returned here to-day on the steamship Rotterdam.

"Dr. Dumba's letter," said Archibald, "was given to me most openly at the steamer's gang-plank just before sailing. Hundreds of persons were about and there was not the slightest suggestion of secrecy. Of its contents I had absolutely no knowledge. I supposed, of course, that it related to my work. I feel that the very open manner in which the letter was given me shows that Dr. Dumba had no intention of using me or my passport as a shield for the transmission of any improper letters."

"I did not consciously break either the spirit or the letter of my passport or of any law, but merely did what every traveler crossing the ocean does, by carrying notes or small packages as an accommodation to friends, just as I did when I returned from Germany last year, when I carried several letters and official dispatches to our state department for Ambassador Gerard and packages for Mrs. Gerard and others. Of course, in doing this for Ambassador and Mrs. Gerard I did it simply as a matter of friendship, precisely as I carried the letters in this case."

Archibald stated that before leaving for belligerent territory "to do field work with armies engaged in the war" he sought letters of introduction and recommendation. These letters, most of which were in German, he said, were delivered to him at his hotel in New York.

"Feeling that there might be 'anti-American sentiment in German,' Archibald declared, "and not knowing to what extent that might inconvenience those traveling with me, I asked Prince Hatzfeldt to prepare me an open letter stating that I was friendly to their cause."

According to Archibald he suggested, almost word for word, the letter Prince Hatzfeldt wrote, which, he said, he intended to use only in the event he were subjected to any local hostile demonstration." Archibald asserted he did not know the contents of the other letters Ambassador Dumba's letter, he said, was delivered to him by the steamer's ambassador's secretary, while the packages he carried for Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, and Captain Von Pappen, German military attaché at Washington, were delivered at his hotel.

Secret service men who interviewed him aboard the Rotterdam at quarantine, according to Archibald, merely asked if he had been presented with a gold headed cane or had been asked to deliver a cane to anyone in Europe before his departure. Upon his assurance he said that he had not, the officers asked no further questions.

DUMBA SAILS THE 28TH. Pittsfield, Mass., Sept. 20.—At the Austrian embassy in Lenox it was stated Dr. Dumba had asked for reservations on the Rotterdam for the 28th. As to safe conduct, it was asserted that the fact of asking for the reservations on that ship was tantamount to the statement that he had been granted such, as he would not have taken the step otherwise.

ARCHIBALD LETTERS GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC. Austrian and German papers found in the possession of James F. J. Archibald, the American newspaper correspondent, when he was apprehended August 29 at Falmouth while proceeding from New York on board the steamer Rotterdam for Rotterdam, seventeen are described as having been made public and the other seventeen as being "insufficient to warrant publication."

Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador to the United States, in one letter says that Mr. Archibald, "is proceeding to Germany to collect material for letters in the United States in the interest of the German cause."

In a letter addressed to Mr. Archibald Count Von Bernstorff says: "I have heard with pleasure that you wish once more to return to Germany and Austria after having promoted our interests out here in such a zealous and successful manner."

Captain Von Pappen, the military attaché at the German embassy in Washington, in a letter to Berlin friend, said: "Mr. Archibald is going to Germany and Austria to collect new impressions from the point of view of the strictly impartial journalist he always has been."

The letter from Captain Von Pappen, addressed to his wife and describing the stealing of a portfolio from Heinrich Albert, commercial attaché of the German embassy at Washington, on an elevated railroad train in New York, says:

"You can imagine the sensation among the Americans. Unfortunately some very important things from my report were

among them, such as the buying of liquid chlorine, and about the Bridgeport Projector company, as well as documents regarding the buying up of phenol, from which explosives are made and the acquisition of Wright's aeroplane patent.

"But things like that must occur. It seems quite likely that will meet again soon. The sinking of the Adolphus may well be the last straw. I hope in our interests the danger will blow over. How splendid on the eastern front."

"I always say to those idiotic Yankers that they had better hold their tongues. It is better to look at all this heroism with full admiration. My capital in the army are quite different in this way."

The documents included a letter from Dr. Constantin Theodor Dumba, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador at Washington, to Baron von Burián, the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, which criticized Secretary of State Lansing's reply to Baron von Burián's protest against the large deliveries of weapons to the allies. The letter declares the legal arguments of Mr. Lansing are "certainly very weak" but adds that to return to the question is useless, "having regard to the somewhat self-willed temperament of the President."

NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR. Budapest, Hungary, Sept. 21, via London.—A Vienna despatch is published here to-day saying it has been learned in diplomatic circles at the Austrian capital that the government will not await the arrival of Dr. Constantin D. Dumba from the United States before appointing his successor. The new ambassador, it is stated, will be named at once.

SAFETY FIRST. Federation Designates October 9 As National Fire Prevention Day. New York, Sept. 19.—The Safety First Federation of America announced to-day that October 9, the anniversary of the Chicago fire, had been designated as the national fire prevention day, with plans for a general observance in many cities throughout the country. The government of each state has been requested by the organization to issue a proclamation asking the public to co-operate in the movement.

A statement issued by the federation urges that on October 9 all rubbish be removed from public buildings and that a careful inspection be made of heating, lighting and fire extinguishing apparatus. It is also suggested that drills be conducted in public schools, with lectures on Friday, October 8, by fire department representatives.

This observance is made necessary according to the federation's statement, by the fact that fire loss in the United States and Canada in 1914 was estimated at \$255,331,320.

GIRL HORSE THIEF. Grace Spring, 18, Gets Three Years in State's Prison. Rutland, Sept. 20.—Grace Wiley Spring of this city, 18 years old, pleaded guilty to a charge of horse stealing and was sentenced to from two to three years in the State prison in Rutland county court to-day. Last Saturday afternoon Thomas Traynor of this city passed the girl on the road in the town of Clarendon and she asked him for a ride. He accommodated her and when he left the carriage a few minutes later to get some apples from a nearby orchard the young woman drove off with the filly.

She was arrested the following day. John Akulis of Proctor, who was convicted in Rutland county court last Wednesday of criminal assault upon the four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Smith of Proctor, was sentenced to-day by Judge Zed S. Stanton to serve from five to six years in the State prison at Windsor.

HOW DR. HILLIS ERRED. TO SELL EASTLAND. Court Orders the Ill-Fated Ship Disposed Of at Auction. Chicago, Sept. 21.—The steamship Eastland, which capsized in the Chicago river July 24, drowning 812 persons, has been ordered sold by Federal Judge Landis to satisfy a claim of \$4,500 for the work of raising the boat from the river bottom. The ship will be sold at auction on December 23.

The grand jury investigating responsibility for the disaster was to resume its deliberations to-day.

HISTORIC SHIP BURNED. The Independence Is Destroyed for the Copper in Her Hull. San Francisco, Sept. 21.—A series of charred eken ribs protruding out of a mud flat on San Francisco bay, was all that remained to-day of the frigate Independence, the oldest ship in the United States navy, which was burned last night for the copper in her hull. The ship recently was sold by the navy department for \$225.

The career of the Independence began in 1812. Once the old frigate was America's first flagship and carried 71 guns on its three decks. Later it was retired from actual service and was stationed at Mare Island as a receiving ship. Three years ago it was placed out of actual commission.

READY FOR VETERANS. Washington Has Prepared Special Buildings for National Encampment. Washington, Sept. 21.—Final arrangements for the receipt and quartering of the Grand Army veterans at their 4th annual encampment during the week of September 27 have now been completed. To correct any impression which might be gained by the association of ideas, it should be stated that the encampment is not to be a tented affair. The reunion will not be held under canvas as has been the case with these affairs in many cities. Instead, the Washington citizens' committee has provided, for the use of the veterans, a building adequately adapted for the purposes of the encampment and having, with the exception of the Capitol itself, the largest ground floor space of any structure in the city. This building is a structure in which the last census was compiled and stands on First street, adjoining the Capitol plaza. The main floor is divided into two mammoth auditoriums, in one of which the big reception on Tuesday night and the regular business session of the encampment will be held. The other has been set aside for committee and department of the naval veterans. On the floor above there is a row of 20 or more rooms wherein the various corps and departments will have their individual headquarters throughout the reunion. Rooms have also been assigned to be used as headquarters by military and semi-military organizations allied with the Grand Army, so that all of the proceedings held in connection with the encampment will be under one roof.

A feature of the arrangements never heretofore provided will be a branch

WORLD'S GREATEST WAR BUDGET IS BEFORE COMMONS

Contemplates the Most Drastic and Far-Reaching Taxes That the English People Have Ever Known.

SPIRITS AND BEER EXEMPT

Automobiles, Bicycles, Picture Films, Clocks, Plate Glass and Hats Must Pay Assessment of 33-1-3 per Cent. Ad Valorem—Incomes Hit Hard.

London, Sept. 21.—The greatest war budget in the world's history was introduced in the House of Commons this afternoon by Richard McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, as another step toward financing the war, which is now costing Great Britain nearly £2,000,000 daily.

New military requirements and changed methods of warfare have created overnight additional expenditures which had not been reckoned with even in the comparatively recent estimates of David Lloyd George, the munitions minister, representing in this budget, the third since the outbreak of hostilities, the most drastic and far-reaching taxes in the history of the country, and involving even free trade.

Hereafter automobiles, bicycles, musical instruments, plate glass and hats will pay a tax of 33-1-3 per cent. ad valorem, though as Mr. McKenna explained the objects of such taxation are "purely temporary and without regard to a permanent effect on trade," being primarily designed to discourage imports and remedy the foreign exchange situation.

Spirits and beer, which have been the object of so much agitation, remained untouched by the new schedules. The principal blow fell on incomes, the existing tax on incomes not only being jumped forty per cent, but its scope widened so as to catch even workmen earning as little as \$14 weekly. The very wealthy must contribute to the government more than one-third of their revenue. The one cent mail will be abolished entirely and the weight heretofore carried in the mails for two cents will be reduced. The rate on telegrams which is twelve cents for 12 words, is increased to 18 cents, and there is also to be a proportionate increase in telephone charges.

The sugar tax, though largely increased, will mean only an extra penny per pound burden for the general public, for the sale of all sugar is now regulated by the royal commission, which will reduce the price to retailers and dealers.

General debate on the budget is yet to be held, but it was apparent that Mr. McKenna's suggestions were received by a virtually unanimous house. The chancellor said incidentally that he would have occasion to call on the country for another war loan.

TO SELL EASTLAND. Court Orders the Ill-Fated Ship Disposed Of at Auction. Chicago, Sept. 21.—The steamship Eastland, which capsized in the Chicago river July 24, drowning 812 persons, has been ordered sold by Federal Judge Landis to satisfy a claim of \$4,500 for the work of raising the boat from the river bottom. The ship will be sold at auction on December 23.

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postoffice established in the Encampment building to which will be assigned by the postmaster of Washington, a force of clerks who will handle all incoming and outgoing mail for the veterans, and all correspondence intended for the visitors should be addressed to the Encampment Headquarters. Rest-room, restaurant, hospital and other appointments and equipments necessary for the comfort and convenience of the old soldiers have been installed in the building.

The interior of the structure has been made to present a most attractive appearance by a force of decorators which the Washington committee has brought from New York to give an artistic touch to the encampment.

At this writing, the weather bureau officials, judging the future by the past, have given it as their opinion that ideal climatic conditions will prevail in Washington during encampment week, and in view of all the preparations and arrangements which have been made, this is all that is needed to make the forthcoming encampment the most memorable one in the history of the Grand Army.

TOO BIG TO FIGHT. Chancellor Day Declares "If We Prepare for War We'll Get It." Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 21.—"We are too big to train men to slay. We must train them for peaceful pursuits. If we prepare for war, we will get it."

These were some of the conclusions of Chancellor James Roosevelt Day in a denunciation of national defense issued to-day at the formal opening of Syracuse University with about 4,000 students enrolled.

The mission of this nation is plainly peace, he said, and it should exert its very force to bring it about. He held out a picture of Germany, with its commerce and industries at a standstill, which she might have saved without shedding a drop of blood, as an alternative if the United States embraces militarism.

JAPS DISCRIMINATE. Disastrous Effects on American Trade in Far East Is Predicted. Washington, Sept. 21.—Disastrous effects on American trade in the Far East of a continued shortage of freight tonnage on the Pacific are predicted in a report on the freight situation by Consul-General George E. Anderson at Hong Kong, China, made public to-day by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. The report indicated that Japanese shipping lines, which virtually control the western trade, will continue to discriminate in favor of Japanese shippers in apportioning space in steamers.

While no definite announcement has been made, it is well known by officials of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce that negotiations are now pending completion for the establishment of a Chinese-American shipping line in the Pacific which will to some extent relieve this situation.

The new line is to be financed by American capital, will receive a subsidy from the Chinese government, and its ships will fly the Chinese flag.

BUSINESS PICKING UP. Optimistic Report of the Federal Advisory Council of Trade Condition. Washington, Sept. 21.—Business conditions throughout the country are showing improvement and trade generally is picking up, according to members of the Federal advisory council, which held its regular quarterly session to-day with the federal reserve board. The council did not take up the credit loan by American bankers to the allies. It considered some of the technical banking problems now before the board, including differential rates for trade acceptances; special rates for commodity paper; the board's future course on discount rates; establishment of joint foreign accounts; and the liberalization of the national bank act.

GERMAN SPIES SENTENCED. London, Sept. 21.—Two more spies have been convicted by court martial. Official announcement was made to-day that a man and a woman of German origin, whose names were not given, were found guilty yesterday of attempting to communicate information concerning the fleet. The man was sentenced to be shot. The woman, who is said to have been under the influence of the man, was sentenced to ten years in jail. Both will be permitted to appeal.

23,000,000 HORSES IN U. S. Cleveland, Sept. 21.—The 23,000,000 horses that are estimated by the government to be actively at work in the United States are declared still a powerful factor in the industrial life of the country by the Carriage Builders' national association, which opens here to-day.

The convention is the forty-third held by the organization, which claims to be the oldest trade association in the United States.

SECOND CROP OF BERRIES. Rutland, Sept. 20.—Mrs. Frank H. Rose of this city, who conducts a small fruit ranch, has a second crop of one of the purple varieties of raspberries ripening in her garden as a result of the protracted warm weather. She has on exhibition in a local store a branch heavily laden with luscious berries, and has had September raspberries to eat at her table. The vines are covered with healthy looking half grown berries and a week longer of summer conditions will give her a profitable second crop. The berries which are now bearing fruit netted many quarts in July.

WOULD AFFORD A QUEST. The modern well-to-do mother, says Life, thus addressed her daughter: "Have you scattered everything about your room until it has a hopeless air of confusion?" "I have, mother." "Have you taken all the towels out of the linen closet and put them over the bathroom floor?" "Yes, mother." "Have you had a lot of extra things charged to your dear papa that he doesn't know about?" "Yes, mamma." "And exceeded your allowance?" "Yes, mamma." "Then don't you think you ought to do something serious?" "I do, mamma, and I think it would be just beautiful to be a Red Cross nurse. You know I read about quite well, and it would be so delightful to sit by the bedside of all those charming soldiers and smooth their brows. And it would help to bring out my character, wouldn't it, mamma?" Her dear mother was thoughtful for a moment. Then she replied sweetly: "Yes, darling, and, besides, it would give you such a rest."

From your lot of worries, strike off that tent-hunt-by leaving the matter to a classified advertising campaign.