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Today's News
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PRICE TWO CENTS ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS—FIVE CENTS

LODZ CAPTURED AT POINT OF BAYONET AFTER WEEK'S FIGHT

Report Says Fighting for a Week Was of the Bloodiest Character

WOODS ARE FILLED WITH DEAD AND DYING

Wrecked Batteries Dead Animals, Death and Destruction Are Everywhere

London, Dec. 7.—Having taken Lodz and advanced 25 miles with both their flanks, the Germans in Russian Poland were gaining control today of the main railroad lines leading to Warsaw.

They were also threatening the lines connecting the Slavs' southern front with its base. If these successes continued, British experts said, the czar's operations against Czenstochow would have to be abandoned and the Russians might be compelled to withdraw from the Cracow region.

That the conditions referred to actually prevailed rested on German official statements. No details were forthcoming from Petrograd, however, and in their absence, the Berlin version was accepted here as true.

Fighting was reported to be still in progress at Hlaw, north of Lodz, and in the vicinity of Piotrkow.

Lodz was said to have been partially destroyed by the German bombardment. German accounts said it was finally taken by a bayonet charge. It was admitted that the Kaiser's troops encountered desperate resistance even after they had carried the Russian trenches, and that they were repulsed repeatedly before they ultimately won.

The fighting for Lodz lasted about a week and was of the bloodiest character. Petrograd dispatches described the woods about the city as filled with the unburied bodies of dead German soldiers. The roads, too, were covered with German and Russian corpses, dead animals, wrecked batteries and fragments of equipment.

As a result of the week's fighting the German line had straightened from the Vistula river to east, south of Lodz.

Berlin Goes Wild.
Berlin, Dec. 7.—Berlin was in transports of joy today over the official announcement of the Germans' occupation Sunday of Lodz, Russian Poland.

Not only was the capture taken as marking a victory by the Kaiser's troops in the mightiest battle ever fought in the world's history, but the possession of Lodz itself, experts pointed out, is strategically of immense advantage to the Germans, since it gives them control of the main railroad to Warsaw and promises the early investment of that city.

Lodz itself has a population of about 350,000. It is important, not only as a railroad point, but is Russian Poland's chief manufacturing center.

"The Germans," said the official statement posted today, "occupied Lodz yesterday. The Russians retreated after suffering heavy losses."

Touching on conditions in the western theater of war, the official report asserted:

"The statement that our forces are retreating along the Yser is untrue."

War Office Says So.
Berlin, by wireless to London, Dec. 7.—"We have gained important successes," announced the war office this afternoon, "in the prolonged battles around Lodz, by the defeat of the Russians' north, west and southwest of the city."

COLORADO STRIKE TO BE DECLARED OFF

Question to Be Submitted to Special Convention and Will Carry

Denver, Colo., Dec. 7.—The Colorado coal miners' strike will be declared off tomorrow morning.

After a conference with the executive officers of the United Mine Workers of America, John McLennan, president of district No. 15, announced at noon today that a resolution would be offered, at a special convention of miners, which convened this afternoon, taking such action.

The resolution, McLennan stated, will set forth that the Colorado coal strikers are willing to return to work under the terms of the three-year peace plan outlined by President Wilson some time ago. It will also demand, he said, that the low mediation committee enforce the terms of that plan.

McLennan said he was confident the delegates to the convention would vote to return to work. He declared the test colonies established would not be broken up immediately, but that everyone in these colonies would be taken care of by the union until otherwise provided for. This action, he said, was decided upon by the miners' officials because of demands made upon the national organization by Ohio strikers, who are facing a fight similar to that which has been waged in Colorado.

Officials of the miners were reluctant to discuss the proposed action in advance of the presentation of the resolution to the convention. One of the officials indicated it would not specifically call off the strike, but it would in effect have that result.

If the national administration does not compel the operators to accept this three-year peace plan, it was said, the burden will be up to the administration. What will be done if the three-year plan is not enforced was not discussed by the union officials.

The operators refused to discuss the miners' proposed action.

ATLANTIC COAST IS SWEEPED BY STORM

Damage at Long Island \$1,000,000—Many Vessels Reported in Danger

New York, Dec. 7.—The entire Atlantic seaboard, from Virginia to Maine, was swept today by a 48-mile gale. At some places along the coast the wind reached a velocity of 70 miles an hour. Shipping was virtually paralyzed, and fear was felt for the safety of many unreported vessels.

A number of Long Island cottages were undermined and demolished. Scores of bath houses were swept into the sea. It was estimated the damage would exceed \$1,000,000.

The seas off Navesink beach and Atlantic Highlands tore huge holes in the retaining walls. Railroad tracks were undermined and dozens of buildings demolished. The summer home of Secretary of War Lindley M. Garrison at Normandie and other handsome residences there were surrounded today by water. Part of the board walk at Atlantic City was destroyed and the ball room at the end of the pier threatened by damaged foundations. Two hundred workmen were trying to prevent further damage to the pier.

The new retaining wall at Seabright was broken in many places. Mariners declared the storm was the worst to visit the Atlantic coast in many years.

TURKISH CRUISER BADLY HURT BY MINE

Petrograd, Dec. 7.—The Turkish cruiser Hamidieh, reported Sunday to have been sunk at Constantinople in a crippled condition, suffered even more serious injuries than first accounts indicated, according to fuller advice received here today.

The vessel, it was stated, made port only with the greatest difficulty. The Hamidieh was said to have struck a mine in the Black sea December 4.

The report was also current that Russian warships had sunk six Turkish merchant vessels which were carrying war supplies, but as it was stated they were sailing vessels, the impression was that they probably were small and the loss not very heavy.

RECEIVERSHIP DENIED.
New York, Dec. 7.—State supreme court Justice Pennington denied today the application of Horace Brand for a receiver for the Rock Island railroad. Brand asked for a receiver on the ground that the road's directors had improperly conducted its affairs. Justice Pennington said if Brand desired an appointing, he could get it by suing the directors instead of through receivership proceedings.

GERMANS WEAKEN ARMIES IN WEST TO FIGHT RUSSIANS

Abandoning French Town Is Confession Germany Cannot Face Both Foes

FORCED TO PREVENT RUSSIAN INVASION

She Chooses to Lose in France and Belgium in Order to Protect Prussia

By J. W. T. Mason
(Former London correspondent for the United Press.)

New York, Dec. 7.—Simultaneously with its announcement of a Teutonic victory at Lodz, the Berlin war office confessed Sunday for the first time since the battle of the Marne the German bombardment of a position in the western fighting zone.

This was the evacuation of Vernelles, between Lille and Arras, and it may prove to possess even more significance than the defeat of the Slavs in Russian Poland.

The two operations, though removed from one another by almost the width of a continent, are closely related. There seems no doubt that the Germans won in Poland with troops drawn from France and Belgium. From this fact it is fair to conjecture that the Franco-Belgian allies are more nearly on an equality with the Germans in the west than they have been at any previous time since the war began.

To predict, however, from such a change in conditions, that the Germans will soon be out of western France and Belgium would be going too far.

Situation Compels It.
Future developments in the west depend on the situation in Russia. It is evident, nevertheless, that Germany considers it more important to prevent a Russian invasion than that it win in France and Belgium.

This is natural, since the entrance of Russian troops into the heart of Germany would inevitably mean the crippling of the Hohenzollern strength and the loss of territory.

Moreover, there is no such continuous natural barrier between Germany and Russia as the Rhine forms between Germany and France.

If compelled to choose between weakening his western army and permitting the Slavs to overrun Prussia, the Kaiser cannot afford to hesitate; he must accept the former alternative.

Accordingly, any immediate aggressions by the allies in the west depend upon the development of the Russian peril.

At present this peril is not very pressing. General Von Hindenburg demonstrated at Lodz that he had enough troops to hold the Russians at a safe distance from the German frontier.

The Danger Growing.
If, however, the Russians should recover and develop a danger such as Von Hindenburg cannot quickly override, there will have to be further withdrawals of Germans from France and Belgium. In such a case the announcement of the abandonment of Vernelles would surely be followed by still more important retreats.

The allies' conquest of Vernelles was not deemed important enough in itself to be mentioned in the latest official French reports. It suggests, however, the Franco-Belgian forces, present objective.

The center of the allied offensive seems to have been moved to the southward of Ypres, where the British army now has its headquarters. The offensive is apparently developing toward Lens, between Lille and Arras.

Lens is second only to Lille and Arras as a railroad and highway center. It is the nearest important point to Douai, 12 miles to the eastward, and at Douai the outer defenses of the German line of communication begin.

VIOLATES NEUTRALITY.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The state department announced this afternoon that President Wilson had decided that the building of submarines for belligerent European nations by American manufacturers would be a violation of America's neutrality proclamation. As a result, Charles M. Schwab, president of the Bethlehem Steel company, will not carry out his intention of building submarines for a European nation now at war.

SHORT SESSION OF CONGRESS BEGINS

Rivers and Harbors, Public Buildings and Good Roads Will Start Row

Washington, Dec. 7.—Congress convened at noon today, with more vacant seats in evidence than on any opening day in years.

President Wilson will read personally tomorrow his message to a joint session of the senate and house.

Leaders in both branches of congress planned to rush through such appropriation bills as are usually unopposed, before the holiday recess. A bitter debate was practically certain on the army, navy and rivers and harbors bills, however.

With Speaker Clark's resounding smash with a mallet big enough for congress in the house of representatives, and Vice President Marshall's fight against both pieces of ivory in the senate, both precisely at noon, congress met today for the short session which will end March 4, 1915.

This short session will be the last one of the sixty-third congress, a congress that will go down in history as one which worked almost the entire two years of its existence (only one six weeks' recess except the Christmas vacation) and no one which put through a number of bills which will effect the country, in all probability, for generations.

The program that must be carried out is the passage of the appropriation bills. These must be passed, and every short session of congress in the past has found difficulty in passing them. But no congress in the past which has gotten them through successfully has had so many perplexing complications which threatened to kill weeks of time and prevent the passage of the appropriation bills.

Then there is the conservation program in its many phases.

Fights were also expected today to occur during this session on three pork-barrel bills, the rivers and harbors, the public buildings and the good roads bill.

The attitude of the president will probably determine the fate of the ship purchase bill, so far as the house is concerned. There is strong opposition to this measure in both houses, and while it was admitted today that it would be easy enough to force it through the house by means of a rule, there is no assurance that the president could force the bill through the senate in the brief time which will be available. Opposition in the senate centers with those senators who are intensely opposed to government ownership as a general principle.

One of the hottest fights expected on the appropriation bills is that on the armament question. The European war has, in their own minds, strengthened the arguments of both the little navy men and the big navy men. The big navy men declare that the suddenness of this war proves emphatically the necessity of being prepared. The little navy men point to the destruction of battleships and cruisers by submarines, and say: "Why build battleships until we find out if there is any way to protect a battleship from submarines—all ships constructed along present lines may be made obsolete any day by some development in this war."

Over in the senate the problem is much more difficult, owing to the fact that there is no way of putting an end to the debates on any question so long as any senators want to discuss it. Possibilities in this direction are still fresh in the minds of senators from the successful filibuster of Senator Burton last session against the rivers and harbors bill.

One philosopher informs us that necessity is the mother of invention, and another says it is the father of lies. Query: What is the sex of necessity?

WOMEN SENT TO JAIL

Portland, Ore., Dec. 7.—On her plea of guilty to the charge of embezzling postoffice money while she was postmistress at the little logging town of Astoria, in Baker county, Mrs. Mollie Irwin was sentenced this morning to three months' imprisonment in the county jail. Judge R. N. Bean imposed the penalty today in federal court, supplementing it with a fine of \$1410, which was the amount of her alleged defalcation.

Assistant United States District Attorney Everett A. Johnson asked the court to be lenient with Mrs. Irwin.

LONDON BUSINESS HARD HIT BY WAR; BAD ON CONTINENT

Those Furnishing War Supplies Prosperous, but All Others Knocked Out

BELGIUM SITUATION IS INDESCRIBABLE

Once Wealthy Families and Former Day Laborers Are Alike Just Beggars

London, Nov. 21.—(By mail to New York.)—The extent to which the European war has thrown all sorts of business out of joint is something almost beyond belief except to those who themselves engaged in trade, have felt the actual effects of it.

Of course there are a few lines which have profited. For producers of army supplies of all sorts naturally it has meant a boom.

Most commercial branches, however, have suffered heavily, and many big concerns, supposedly almost impregnable in their strength, have been completely ruined.

Retail trade of nearly all sorts has slumped enormously. The number of unemployed has been greatly increased, and naturally the families of the workless have been compelled to curtail expenses. In addition to this there is a general disposition to retrench, even among those who have not yet felt any really serious pinch, the widespread view being held that nobody knows what the future may bring for these deeming it more than safe to economize as far as possible.

Retailers Hard Hit.
All this has hit the retailers. Dealers in luxuries of every variety have been hard hit. Of all of them traders in objects of art have felt the falling off in business most. Practically speaking, they have done no business at all since the war began.

There has been stagnation in the law courts. Barristers with practically large practices have seen their incomes dwindle close to the vanishing point. The people apparently are too much absorbed in the war to think of litigation.

The larger financiers may have profited, but the smaller one—brokers and speculators—have suffered with the majority of business men. Many of them who had obligations to meet are hopelessly ruined.

On the continent conditions are still worse. In Belgium, in particular, once and exceedingly rich country, as might naturally be expected, the situation is frightful.

The stories of suffering there relate mainly to the peasantry who have been driven from their homes and seen all they had destroyed. It is true, to be sure, that there are many more in this class of society whose fortunes, such as they were, have been wrecked.

In Other Countries.
But the difference is doubtless more noticeable to those who were but a few months ago well to do or even wealthy. Families which counted their dollars, until the German invasion in some instances well into the hundreds of thousands, are homeless beggars today. If Germany loses and is compelled to make individual restitution, these people may, to some extent, regain their feet again. Otherwise they will have to start life afresh with absolutely nothing but the rags they have on.

France, Germany and Austria are rather worse off than England, Austria considerably worse.

Italy, Holland, Switzerland and Scandinavia have not fared much better. Russia being less dependent on the outside world, has escaped somewhat easily, except in those districts which the Germans invaded.

Serbia has not been swept by actual fighting yet to such an extent as Belgium, and as it was a poor country when the war began, the difference between what was and what is, is not so marked. Conditions there are terrible, however. The people's poverty is beyond belief. Of the men, a casual glance gives the impression that a full half had suffered some kind of mutilation in battle.

STORY FROM VIENNA.
Vienna, via Berlin and London, Dec. 7.—"The battle in Poland," stated the war office here today, "continues favorably to us."

COSTS OVER BILLION TO RUN GOVERNMENT

Oregon Is Treated Liberally Getting \$2,903,500 for Rivers and Harbors

KAISER CALLS LAST REGULAR RESERVES TO COLORS DEC. 20

Allies Gaining Slowly on Western Frontier But Resistance Is Stubborn

Washington, Dec. 7.—Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo submitted to congress today his estimates for government expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1 next. The estimates total \$1,090,134, or about \$4,000,000 less than the expenditures for the present year.

The naval program calls for two battleships in addition to six torpedo boat destroyers, one gunboat and one oiler. The destroyers, gun boat and oiler it was estimated, will cost \$7,575,000, and work will begin on them next year. In addition to these, eight or more submarines one of the sea going type and the others for coast defense, will be constructed at a cost of \$2,250,000. The estimate for armament is \$9,424,998.

The navy's total estimates were \$147,764,086 and the army's \$186,675,375. In this year's estimates, army engineers asked for \$53,000,000 for river and harbor improvements.

The estimates for pensions decreased from \$169,150,000 to \$166,100,000. More than \$18,000,000 was asked for the Panama canal.

Estimates for the various government branches follow:
Federal trade commission \$530,000.
Board of mediation and conciliation \$50,000.
Industrial relations commission \$40,000.

The larger rivers and harbors appropriations recommended included the following:
Columbia river mouth \$1,750,000; Columbia and Willamette rivers, below Portland, \$600,000; Columbia and Willamette rivers, above Portland \$42,500; Three Mile rapids, Oregon and Washington \$80,000; Coos Bay, Oregon, \$80,000; Siuslaw river, Oregon, \$175,000; Coquille river, Oregon, \$70,000; Humboldt harbor and bay California, \$375,000; Sacramento and Feather rivers, California, \$250,000; Harbor at Honolulu, \$200,000.

COMMISSION WILL DELVE INTO TROUBLE

Will Endeavor to Get to the Bottom of It and Place Blame Where It Belongs

Denver, Colo., Dec. 7.—The investigation by the federal industrial relations commission into the causes of the coal miners' strike in Colorado was resumed here today. President Jesse Welborn of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company, was the first witness called. He produced a number of letters and telegrams he had received from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., since April 1. All referred to the strike.

Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the commission, examined Welborn closely regarding conditions in southern Colorado.

Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, a member of the commission, arrived today from New York, where she recently buried her husband, a millionaire banker and broker who died in Washington.

Two hundred delegates were scheduled to open a special convention of Colorado United Mine Workers of America here at 2 o'clock this afternoon. It was reported the convention will decide to call off the strike, but confirmation of this was lacking.

"WORLD AT WAR" ATLAS

The Capital Journal has just received a new shipment of the "World at War" atlases. They are of a later and revised edition, compared with those we have been giving away to our subscribers. Instead of 16 pages, they consist of 24 large, highly-illustrated pages, printed on heavy enameled book.

KAISER CALLS LAST REGULAR RESERVES TO COLORS DEC. 20

Allies Gaining Slowly on Western Frontier But Resistance Is Stubborn

FIGHTING IN ALSACE IS UNUSUALLY HEAVY

New French Heavy Guns Said to Have Greater Range Than Those of Germans

London, Dec. 7.—The Chronicle's report today that Ostend was burning lacked confirmation from any other source this afternoon. The suggestion was made that some ordinary fire might have been observed, giving rise to the alarmist rumors.

Though the allies were evidently gaining a little ground in the western fighting zone, their own accounts admitted that their progress was small and that every step of it was desperately resisted by the Germans.

Petrograd reports spoke of the gain by the Russians of important positions about Przemyel and of a steady increase in the volume of the Slavs advance through the Carpathians into Hungary. There was a disposition here, however, to withhold congratulations until there has been more opportunity to observe the effect of the Germans' victory at Lodz on operations in this quarter.

Russian gains, with the occupation of several Turkish towns, was reported in Ottoman territory near the Persian frontier.

Though there was much murmuring among the population dependent on the Fifth of Forth fisheries at the admiralty order closing the Fifth against the fishing fleet's operations, the step was regarded here as having been a military necessity, and there was said to be small chance that the embargo would be lifted while the war continued.

A Rotterdam message told of the issuance by the Kaiser of a call for the last regular reserves to report to the colors by December 20, leaving only the extra reserves of the classes of 1914 and 1915 and the volunteers still out of the active service.

Allies Take Offensive.
Paris, Dec. 7.—An offensive along the entire line was being assumed today by the allies.

There was heavy fighting in Alsace. In the Argonne region also the German trenches were being fiercely shelled. Besides this, the French were attacking the enemy by means of mining operations.

The allies likewise held more advanced positions along the Yser.

The French artillery was out-ranging the Germans' and proving everywhere more effective. Indications were that new Gallie guns had arrived at the front and that they were doing excellent work.

The Official Statement.
Paris, Dec. 7.—The allies continued today their attacks on the few trenches still held by the Germans on the left bank of the Yser. It was stated in the Bordeaux war office's official statement received here this afternoon.

"The French artillery," said the communication, "obtained the advantage in the Champagne district Sunday."

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The Weather

GUESS IT
CUT OUT
THAT
MORNING
PLUNGE

Oregon: Occasional rain in west portion with westerly winds.