

CONFIRM TURKISH ROUT BY RUSSIANS RUMANIA MOBILIZES 750,000 MEN ITALY DENIES AUSTRIA'S DEMAND

Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister Protested Against Italy's Occupation of Avlona, the Albanian Seaport

GERMANS ARE PRESSING ON TO WARSAW

London.—Material gains on the extreme wings, in Flanders and in Alsace, bitter artillery fighting at many points and infantry actions of the severest kind near Soissons and in the Argonne are the principal features of the operations at the front as described in the official communiques of the French war office.

The German General Staff announces the repulse of French attacks near Rheims, in the Argonne, in the Vosges and also in upper Alsace. The campaign against the Russians is said to be proceeding successfully.

A dispatch from Ponteiba, on the Austro-Italian frontier, says a German force of 10,000 men has been rushed across Austria to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia, where it is destined to reinforce the Austrians and aid them in a new attack on the Serbians. The Germans boast that with their aid the Serbians will be easily crushed and the Austrian defeat avenged.

The Russian War Office in a detailed report of the victory over the Turks in the Caucasus says that the Ninth Turkish Army Corps was almost completely destroyed, that the pursuit of the Tenth Corps continues and that prisoners and extensive war munitions have been captured. The Turkish army is said to have been completely dispersed.

Austria is reported to have protested against Italy's occupation of Avlona in Albania, and Italy is believed to have sent a firm reply, saying she will pursue her policy without interruption.

A dispatch from Bucharest reported that Rumania is mobilizing 750,000 men, of which number 500,000 form the field army. It is unofficially reported in Bucharest that Rumania will strike even if Italy should decide not to enter the war.

Austria is apparently either being drawn or forced into the dangerous situation created by the rebellion in Albania and Italy's firm stand for the protection of her interests and obligations in that country.

VAST CONQUEST BY GERMAN ARMIES

Conquered Territory Embraces 15,000,000 Belgians, French and Russian Poles.

Washington.—Germany has conquered territory inhabited by more than 15,000,000 people so far during the European war, it was stated on high diplomatic authority.

This estimate is based upon the number of Belgians, French and Russian Poles living in cities and in the country occupied by German soldiers. It is because of this large increase in population that the food question is beginning to give the German government much concern, it was declared.

Figures presented by this authority indicate that approximately 6,000,000 Belgians are under German rule, 4,000,000 French and 5,000,000 Poles.

Belgium and that part of France held by Germany, it was stated, are two of the most thickly populated portions of Europe, while Russian Poland, now under German influence, is honeycombed with manufacturing communities, very thickly populated.

Germany would have no trouble, it was stated, to feed her own normal population of 65,000,000, but when the number is increased to 80,000,000 it is an entirely different proposition.

RUMANIA PREPARES TO JOIN THE ALLIES

Paris.—It is learned from a private source, but from one worthy of credence, that arrangements whereby the interests of Rumania in Berlin and Vienna will be attended by the United States diplomatic service have been definitely made. This can mean but one thing in the opinion of the Rumanian Legation here—that Rumania would prefer to wait until Russian operations through Bukovina had further developed across the Carpathians.

Rumania, though ready to place 500,000 troops in the fighting line immediately, is not wealthy enough to face unprovoked the prospect of a long war. Every month that has been passing has been reducing the period of Rumania's inevitable co-operation with the Allies. Only cold, practical facts have kept Rumania aloof so far.

AUSTRIA TO REMEDY MISTAKE

Italian Hostage Taken at Belgrade Subject of Diplomatic Assurance.

Rome, via Havre.—The Austrian Government has notified the Foreign Office that the Dual Monarchy is striving to ascertain whether four Italian subjects were taken as hostages after the capture of Belgrade, as has been widely reported in Italy.

The Austrian Foreign Office has given notice to the Italian Foreign Office that it is prepared to remedy the mistake if one was made.

London.—Advances by the French troops at four distinct points along the battle-front extending from the North Sea to Alsace were an outstanding feature of the latest war news.

A further gain by the French in Alsace on the road to the important strategic point of Muelhausen overshadowed for the time being the crushing blow the Russians appear to have dealt the Turkish army invading the Caucasus.

A German trench almost half a mile long in the Argonne region was blown up by the Allies.

The Paris official statement announced that the explosion was followed by an infantry attack, in which the French captured half of the ditch.

In this charge a grandson of the Italian patriot Garibaldi was killed.

The recent death in action of another grandson was said in Rome to have reawakened the war spirit in Italy.

The Italian Government has issued a pre-mobilization announcement which provides for the calling to the colors of every able bodied man in the country between the ages of 20 and 40 years. This will give Italy an army of 3,433,150 men. It is believed to indicate that the Government realizes that Italy will soon be obliged to enter the war.

The German War Office reports that the French were driven from the heights near Sonnhelm (Cernay) in Alsace and that material advances were made in the Argonne. In Poland the Germans have reached the Sucha River and captured 1,040 prisoners.

The Germans are still hammering at the Russian line, drawn directly across the roads to Warsaw from the west. In Western Galicia, where they have reinforced the Austrians, they have held up the Russian advance near Gorlice.

Lord Kitchener, in a speech in the British House of Lords, said he had perfect confidence in the ability of the Allies to win. He said that probably 2,000,000 more recruits would be required to carry the conflict through to a successful conclusion.

It was reported that Kaiser Wilhelm had rushed 300,000 troops from the battle line in Poland to the south to dam the Russian flood that was beginning to overrun Transylvania and also to help save Budapest from being besieged. In Poland itself there was no notable change in the situation, the German and Russian armies remaining deadlocked in the Bzura and Rawa regions.

QUOTES GERMAN OFFICIAL AS PREDICTING DEFEAT OF GERMAN ENEMIES BY JUNE.

Amsterdam.—In a recent conversation with the German Minister to a neutral country in Europe, Herr von Jagow, the German Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, made the following statement:

"We do not have to worry. Things are progressing excellently for Germany. Let me make the following forecast: By the end of February we will have smashed up the Russians. The end of March will see the end of the French army. In April we will finally start reckoning with Great Britain, which I expect will be finished by the middle of May. All Germany's enemies will be beaten before June at any rate."

PITH OF THE WAR NEWS

Paris sent out a report that Rumania and Italy have reached an agreement to enter the war simultaneously.

The Siberians are reported to be surrounding the routed Turks in the Caucasus and taking them prisoners by thousands.

Viscount Haldane, the British Lord High Chancellor, announced in the House of Lords that British experts are producing an equivalent to the German 42-centimeter gun.

Military experts estimated that the British army numbers 3,000,000 men, counting the regulars, the reservists, the territorials and Lord Kitchener's new army.

Details are given in Petrograd of the Russian victory at Ardahan and Sari Kamysh, in the Caucasus. At the latter town the Turks are said to have lost 100,000 in killed, wounded and prisoners. The battle is described as a "little Sedan."

The Germans are continuing their attack to the southeast of Ypres, where their heavy artillery has been steadily bombarding the Allies' trenches.

There is a steady rainfall in most of Flanders, and the floods are increasing. In the Dismude area the Germans' infantry reinforcements in some places are advancing in mud.

War at a Glance

MONDAY.

Dispatches from various quarters received at London are regarded there as indicating that Italy, Greece, Rumania and Bulgaria may soon join in the war.

Activity by the Germans along the western battle front is indicated by statements from the French War Office, which report attacks by the Germans at many points, but declare the attacks have been repulsed.

The German War Office reports that the battle at Soissons has recommenced, and that the Germans have made further progress in the Argonne.

Continued bad weather hampers operations in the eastern theatre, and the German War Office states that the situation remains unchanged along the entire front.

A semi-official announcement at Petrograd tells of the destruction of many Turkish merchant vessels and damage done to two Turkish cruisers by the Russian fleet in the Black Sea.

No confirmation of the reported sinking of the German cruiser Von der Tann by the British cruiser Inevincible off the coast of Brazil has been received.

With the announcement by Berlin that the German forces have retaken Steinbach, in Alsace, confirmation is given the conclusion that the French advance in Alsace has been checked.

The Kaiser's troops also reoccupied Burghauptle-Haut, just south of Steinbach.

In the east the German offensive against Warsaw has been resumed, dispatches telling of the intense cold as an aid to the armies of General von Hindenburg. Swamps that have prevented the carrying out of his strategic plans have frozen, and it is thought that his men are again on the way to force an attack on the Polish city.

TUESDAY.

The Allies, according to the Paris statement, have captured three lines of German trenches in the Alsace region. Once more Berlin flatly contradicts the French War Office by declaring that Germans made a gain in this very same locality.

Mail advices from London say that the Canadian regiment known as Princess Patricia's Own was sent to the front Christmas Eve. The Scots from Canada were to follow shortly.

The Pope, in another audience, went over the Belgian situation.

In the east the Russians seem to be unchecked in their sweep through Bukovina. London expects this invasion of Hungary to progress rapidly.

The Austrian night statement says that rain and mud has checked all operations in Galicia.

Berlin reports the death of a Persian battlefield of the Grand Duke Alexander Michaelovitch, brother-in-law of the Czar of Russia. An invasion of Persia is indicated.

Roumania is preparing a mobilization and unofficial dispatches say her entry into the war is expected.

Interest in Roumania is increased by reports that Greece and Turkey are near a break.

General von Bissing, Military Governor of Belgium, denies that Cardinal Mercier has been arrested, interned, watched or deprived of liberty in any way.

SUNDAY.

Because of invasion of Persian territory by Kurds and Turks, Persia has sent an ultimatum to Constantinople, the Persian Minister at Rome states.

Preparations for the removal of the Turkish Government from Constantinople are said to have been made.

A communication from Russian headquarters in the Caucasus, recounting the recent Russian successes over the Turks in that region, says it has been established that the Ninth Ottoman Army Corps was completely destroyed and that the booty taken by the Russians included a vast pile of cannon.

German attacks east of the Rawa river are progressing, according to an official announcement at Berlin, which says that 1,600 Russians have been taken prisoners and five machine guns captured.

An official announcement from Vienna admits that in the southern part of Bukovina and in the Carpathian forest lands Austrian forces have been driven back by the Russians.

Further progress by the French in Alsace is reported in Paris. The announcement also reports slight gains by the Allies in Belgium and at certain points in France, but says that, owing to the destruction by a German mine of a section of trenches in the Argonne, the French troops at this point were obliged to fall back a slight distance.

Viscount Haldane announced in the British House of Lords that experts in England were producing a gun which was at least the equal of the German 42-centimeter gun.

WEDNESDAY.

It is officially announced that the Russian troops have gained a decisive victory over the Turks at Sari-Kamysh, capturing the entire Ninth Corps of the Turkish Army. The others of the Turkish forces are declared to be in full retreat, with the Russians pursuing.

Of the situation in Poland the German announcement says that there has been little change, though slight gains by the Germans at certain points are claimed.

Vienna reports the defeat by Austrians of a Russian force which tried to break through their line northeast of Gorlice.

According to an announcement at Petrograd, the Russians have defeated the Austrians at Uzok Pass, forcing a way through the Carpathians.

Continued progress by the French troops in Alsace and gains by the allied troops in Belgium are announced by the French War Office.

THURSDAY.

Hard fighting continues in Upper Alsace. A Berlin dispatch says the battle in this region is developing into the most violent of the war.

Paris reports the blowing up, by a mine exploded by French troops, of 800 yards of German trenches in the Argonne. Berlin announces that several of the French trenches in the same region have been taken by German troops.

Little change has occurred in the eastern theatre, according to the German War Office, which mentions, however, an advance by the Germans west of the Vistula after an engagement in which 1,400 Russians were captured.

Petrograd announces that pursuit by the Russians of the Turkish troops which escaped after the rout at Sari-Kamysh, continues.

The former German cruiser Goeben, now flying the Turkish flag, is reported to have been seriously damaged by striking two Russian mines in the neighborhood of the Bosphorus.

Lord Kitchener, addressing the British House of Lords on the progress of the war, declared that the Allies were in a position to prosecute it to a triumphant finish.

FRIDAY.

Dispatches from London state that reports received there indicate that the Russians, invading Hungary and advancing on Transylvania simultaneously with their movement on Cracow, are engaged in the most gigantic operations of the war.

In a report from the western front, a British military observer asserts that the offensive has definitely passed to the Allies, and that steady progress is being made in "the process of attrition which eventually will bring the war to an end."

The Vienna Neue Freie Press hears from the front that Russian artillery fire has slackened in a way to indicate that the Russians are running short of ammunition.

A Turkish announcement states that Ottoman troops have occupied Urumiah, a town in Persian Armenia, said to be an important basal position of the Russians.

SATURDAY.

Coasting Accident Proves Fatal. Saturday Session in School—Two Hurt in Shamokin in Coasting Accidents.

For entering a quarantined home at Sunbury, Stanley Ross was arrested by Dr. C. S. Hunt, a State health inspector. He paid a \$50 fine.

When he lost control of his sled while coasting on a steep hill at Sunbury, Robert Cope, seventeen, suffered a fractured skull, dying after sixteen hours of unconsciousness.

Two coasting accidents, one fatal, occurred near Carlisle at the same hour and in almost the same manner. Sleds on which John Walker, aged 19, and Claude Williams, aged 29, were riding ran through fences, killing Walker and badly injuring Williams.

After being out four hours, a jury in court, at Sunbury, awarded Ralph Ferry, a Shamokin miner, \$2,500 damages against the Mineral Railroad and Mining Company for a broken leg, suffered in an accident in the Henry Clay Colliery at Shamokin.

Mrs. Ida Blair, aged sixty-two, is in the Harrisburg Hospital, perhaps fatally burned, in a fire which destroyed her home and two other houses. Firemen rescued her from her bedroom on an upper floor after she had been cut off by the flames. Roy Blair, aged nine, was injured by a falling ceiling but not seriously.

While Miss Ruth O'Neill, daughter of the proprietor of Bellwood Hotel, was attending mass, a thief entered her room and stole a \$250 diamond ring, overlooking a diamond stick pin and pearl brooch. A stranger, who registered at the hotel is believed to have taken the gem, which he later tried to sell to an Altoona jeweler.

Filing his report with the Board of Education for the first half of the school term, Prof. Carmon Ross, supervising principal of the Doylestown Schools, asserted that most cases of truancy in the districts were due to the cigarette habit—that the boys, instead of attending sessions, go to out of the way places, and smoke.

For the first time in the history of the West Chester public schools, the Gay Street School, pursuant to the action of the Board of Directors, will hereafter be open on Saturdays in the afternoons for classes in manual training and in the evenings for instruction in gymnastics. The instructors will be supplied by the Training School for Teachers at Cheyney.

Galen Hanley, chief clerk for the Susquehanna Coal Company, emerging from his office at Shamokin, was run down by a bob sled on Shamokin street, and was knocked senseless and badly injured. Harry Holbich, fourteen years, was crushed against a telegraph pole by a sled on another hill and was seriously if not fatally injured.

Roscoe N. Lee, wealthy retired farmer, cut his throat with a razor while at the home of his daughter in Scranton. Lee consulted with physicians. They told him that he was a strong and healthy man, and that his illness was imaginary. He continued to brood over his condition, however, and after the members of his daughter's family had retired, ended his life with a razor.

Deputy Sheriff G. Grube, of Northampton county, received a check for forty-five cents from District Fire Warden Kemmerer, of East Penn Township, Carbon county. Last summer Grube was hunting in Carbon county and ran across a forest fire, which he and others succeeded in putting out. The check for forty-five cents was compensation for his services in putting out the fire.

Christian Charles, aged twenty-eight, an East Indian, was arrested in Hollidaysburg as a supposed "black hander." A black hand letter had been sent to Moses Brown, demanding \$150 and threatening to blow up his home if he refused. The money was to be placed in a can in the alley back of his premises. The police arranged a decoy, secreted themselves, and when Charles picked up the can arrested him. He denied sending the letter.

Four young women, natives of Austria, who were on their way from their homes in Cementon to Coplay, where they worked in a cigar factory, stepped out of the way of a shifting engine on the Lehigh Valley tracks, directly in the path of an eastbound express train. Katie Mada, aged sixteen; Mary Yurkoski, aged twenty-four; Katie Bankoski, aged sixteen; were killed instantly, and Mary Farenkopf, aged twenty, died soon after being carried into the station at Coplay.

SERVIA A SECOND BELGIUM.

Over 100,000 Wounded There, Writes Mme. Grouitch.

Washington, D. C.—Conditions in the devastated portions of Serbia are as distressing and the misery as great as in Belgium, according to a letter received at the Red Cross headquarters here from Mme. Grouitch, wife of the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Serbia.

"Every available building near the front has been converted into a hospital," Mme. Grouitch wrote, "and the wounded must sleep sometimes on floors, in corridors or sheds. Often wounded can only be dressed every third or fourth day for want of bandages and gauze. Surgeons are working 18 hours a day; nurses and local committees are exhausted from the strain."

She added that there were 100,000 wounded Servians and Austrians in Serbia.

MILLION VOTED FOR AIRCRAFTS.

House Committee Also Agrees For Staff Corresponding To Admiralty.

Washington, D. C.—One million dollars for aircraft was voted by the House Naval Committee. They also agreed to include in the appropriation bill provision for a "chief of operations," with a staff corresponding to the British Admiralty. Provision was made for a 50 per cent. increase in aviators' pay, with double pension allowance in case of death while on duty. The committee agreed, after considerable discussion, on the provision for a staff corresponding to the Admiralty, but insisted on making this subject to the direction of the civilian Secretary of the Navy.

KAISER'S CONFIDENCE FIRM.

Wires Archduke He Expects Decisive Success.

Berlin, via The Hague and London.—Emperor William, replying to a congratulatory message from Archduke Frederick of Austria, telegraphed as follows: "My best wishes to your Imperial Highness and your brave Austro-Hungarian troops who, in the past year, have shown an unchanged spirit of comradeship toward their German allies. With our combined forces we continue the fight, and with our eyes toward God we will win. A decisive success for our just cause will not be wanting."

"WILLIAM."

PESTILENCE AT PRZEMYSL.

Lemberg Hears Garrison is Almost Without Provision.

Lemberg, Galicia, via Petrograd and London.—It is reported here that pestilence is spreading in the city and among the garrison of Przemyśl, which is now almost without provisions. Ineffectual sorties still continue from Przemyśl, but they are less vigorously pushed. This is due, it is thought, to the garrison's knowledge of the failure of the Austrian relief forces to break through the Russian lines.

THE NEWS TOLD IN PARAGRAPHS

Latest Happenings Gleaned From All Over the State.

LIVE NOTES AND COMMENTS.

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MORRELL TO LEAD THE BIG PARADE

Bell Bids Farewell to Dauphin County Court.

PENNSYLVANIA CHARTERS

General Edward deV. Morrell Selected As Grand Marshal—Justice Brown To Administer Oath—W. H. Gaither Commissioner.

General Edward deV. Morrell, of Philadelphia, a personal friend of Governor-elect Brumbaugh, was selected as grand marshal of the inaugural parade on January 19. General Morrell is a member of the Philadelphia Board of Education and a prominent Guardsman. His selection was made by the special committee in charge of the inauguration following advice from Dr. Brumbaugh.

The last inaugural parade was headed by General C. Bow Dougherty, of Wilkes-Barre, commander of the National Guard, who was also mentioned in gossip weeks ago as likely to head it again. The new Governor determined on his personal friend, Elder William J. Swigart, of Huntingdon, former instructor of Dr. Brumbaugh and a member of the faculty of Juniata College, was the personal choice of the new Governor to offer the invocation and pronounce the benediction. He is a member of the same religious denomination as the Governor. Chief Justice J. Hay Brown, of Lancaster, will administer the oath of office.

The committee arranged for a large stand to be erected on the south side of Capitol Park at State street and selected a badge of bronze with blue enamel carried by a blue ribbon.

The ceremony will be held at noon and immediately after there will be a parade of military, political clubs and firemen. At night a public reception will be held at the capitol.

Wood Pulp Rates Attacked.

Harrisburg.—Pennsylvania Railroad rates for the hauling of pulp wood to paper plants in Tyrone, Roaring Springs and Williamsburg, in Blair county, and to York Haven, Lock Haven and Johnsonburg, before the recent advance of ten cents a ton were declared to have been reasonable and the advanced rate, attacked as unjustifiable by William A. Glasgow, Jr., before the Public Service Commission.

The case was the complaints of the New York and Pennsylvania Company and the West Virginia Pulp & Paper Co., and Mr. Glasgow asserted that the Pennsylvania had made no effort to ascertain the cost of hauling the commodity or the profit made by the old rate, but had simply advanced this easily handled article along with other things.

The defense of the company was made by W. J. Schaffer and F. L. Ballard, who contended that when the rates are compared with rates on other kinds of wood and when the financial condition of the company is taken into question the rates are proper. It was asserted that the rates were simply restored to a normal basis. It was also said that the company had to increase rates to enable it to maintain properties and handle business in the future.

The Crucible Steel Company of America attacked the demurrage of the Pennsylvania Railroad, declaring that it was unfair in some instances. The complaint was based on the handling of cases in the works of the company in western Pennsylvania.

Bell Bids Farewell.

Attorney General John C. Bell took leave of the Dauphin County Court, indicating that he was not going to be Attorney General and was about to close his work. The Attorney General made the chief argument in the coal tax case, and then said:—"As this is probably the last time that I shall appear officially before your Honors, I beg to take this opportunity to express to you my sense of genuine appreciation and grateful obligation for the uniform courtesy I have received from this honorable Court. Some relations in life have this beauty, that after the happiness of having experienced them, the happiness of remembering them ever remains."

Deputy Attorney General Hargest preceded Mr. Bell and advanced forty points to substantiate the contention that a tax of two and a half per cent. ad valorem per ton may be levied on coal mined and prepared for shipping.

Harrisburg Civic Club.

The Civic Club of Harrisburg will have to fight for the property bequeathed to it by Mrs. William R. Fleming, of New York, a former resident of the city. It has been discovered by the executor, the Central Trust Company, of New York, that the club is not incorporated, and on this ground a contest has been made. The bequest was a mansion along the river front to be a home for the club.

Gaither Sworn As Commissioner.

Walter H. Gaither, the new Public Service Commissioner, took his oath of office before Secretary of the Commonwealth McAfee.