

AMERICANS CROSS GERMAN BORDER

March Toward Rhine Taken Up Past Frontier of Teuton Lorraine

SECOND PHASE BEGUN

Pershing's Army of Occupation Also Presses Forward Into Luxemburg

Toward the Rhine, Advancing

The second phase of the American advance began today when the march was taken up across the frontiers of German Lorraine and the duchy of Luxemburg.

By the Associated Press

With the American Army of Occupation, Nov. 20.—With the exception of a few lagged units, the last of Germany's armies have disappeared behind their own frontier. From the villages located in the narrow strip of unoccupied territory between the American and German forces have come reports that the stragglers had engaged in looting.

Abandon Sick and Wounded

Other reports were received from the inhabitants that the advancing Americans hasten to their relief. Investigation proved, however, that the villagers were more excited than injured and that most of the damage being done by the little groups of Germans was to the Germans' own stores of food and clothing.

Home-made U. S. Flags Flying

They meant what they said, for by the side of the yellow, black and red of Belgium's noble flag waved the Stars and Stripes everywhere. Let America take to heart the fact that those American flags are home-made. Some had not enough stripes, and none had enough stars—some had only five or six—but their uneven stripes and jagged stars lost none of their glory because loving hands had wrought them rather than machines of steel in a flag factory back home.

CAPTIVES ALARM GERMANY

Half Million Released War Prisoners on Way From Russia

London, Nov. 20.—(By A. P.)—The situation in the east is causing anxiety in Germany and the Lokai Anzeiger of Berlin reports that a great German army is marching westward, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA'S CHIEF

Doctor Masaryk, President of New Republic, Sails for Europe

New York, Nov. 20.—(By A. P.)—The newly created republic of Czechoslovakia, sailed for Liverpool today on the British steamship "Carmaria." He was accompanied by his daughter, Miss Olga.

ITALY TAKES POLA HARBOR

Two Austrian Dreadnoughts Fly Italian Flag

Rome, Nov. 18 (Delayed)—In conformity with the armistice, Admirals Cagni and Kourm have taken over Pola harbor. The Austrian dreadnoughts Together and Prinz Eugen are now being the Italian flag.

GRIP GAINS IN FRANKLIN

Recurrence of Influenza Calls State Official to Chambersburg

Chambersburg, Pa., Nov. 20.—Influenza has shown a flareback of alarming proportions in Franklin County, Pa. St. Thomas the epidemic rages worse than ever, one doctor, J. H. Swan, having treated nine cases since last Friday. Health Officer J. H. Kinter has resumed activities to suppress the epidemic.

MONEY TO LOAN

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200 ALLIED TOWNS FREED BY U. S. ARMY

American Troops of Occupation Carry Relief to 100,000 Civilians—Build Foundation of System to Extend Into Prussia

By EDWIN L. JAMES

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co. With the American Army of Occupation, Nov. 20.

AFTER a successful two-day march toward the Rhine the American Third Army yesterday began organizing its systems of communications and supplies, doing everything on a strictly war basis.

The army is being operated on a full schedule of corps and divisions, entailing an enormous amount of signal corps and engineer work, not only for today's needs, but in building the foundation of a system to extend into Prussia. Each day's progress, of course, will add to the task of supplying the 300,000 men composing our army of liberty.

Monday night, when we halted, our outposts were close to the borders of Luxemburg and Lorraine, where we stopped to await further orders.

In the new civilians and released prisoners continue to pour through our lines. The Third Army is doing a great emergency work in feeding and caring for these people, many of whom are in bad physical condition from lack of food.

GRAFT SCANDAL IN PRAGUE

German Aristocracy Accused of Taking Red Cross Funds

Washington, Nov. 20.—Dispatches received from Prague by the Czechoslovak information bureau say the German aristocracy at the Bohemian capital has been involved in a graft scandal. Countess Coudenhove, wife of the last Austrian Governor of Bohemia, is said to have been arrested and held on the charge of turning to her own use gifts and money donated for the wounded through the Red Cross organization, of which she was president. Arrested with her were Count Nostitz, Count Wolkenstein, Countess Westphal and Countess Tattler, all prominent members of the nobility.

The dispatches tell a graphic story of the revolution in Bohemia, which in a day threw off the Austrian yoke of the empire and set the Czechoslovak republic.

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FOCH KEEPS ARMY OUT OF BRUSSELS

Marshal Strictly Enforces Even Minor Terms of Armistice

CANADIANS ENTER MONS

Stories of Lax Discipline in German Army Confirmed by Charleroi Mayor

By WALTER DURANTY

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

MONS, Nov. 18 (Delayed)—Despite reports to the contrary, it appears that Brussels has not yet been entered by the Allies. Your correspondent was stopped Sunday evening at the British outposts, fifty kilometers from the Belgian capital, and informed that Marshal Foch's orders, according to the terms of the armistice, precluded an advance sufficiently rapid to reach Brussels yet from that point of the Allied line.

The Canadian division on this sector had the supreme satisfaction of fighting its way into Mons and overcoming stiff machine-gun opposition before the armistice was signed. It had a tremendous reception in the city—which is far larger than early stories of the war indicated, numbering 40,000 inhabitants—and those who participated say the scene in the main square, when the long silent column played the "Draconne" and other Allied hymns was one of the most poignant in their whole war experience.

The correspondent talked with M. Devreux, Mayor of Charleroi, who had come to Mons to seek assistance regarding the state of affairs created in his town by the Germans.

During the last month, he said, it became more than evident that discipline was nonexistent in the German army. First of all, instead of knocking and offering warm salutes before their officers, they began to ignore them completely. Then the officers seemed to disappear as if by magic from the streets, and the be-

havior of the men became more and more independent.

Finally, about a week before the armistice, pillaging by Germans began and spread unchecked. The men not only took all they could lay their hands on, but sold rifles, belts, boots or any part of their equipment for trifling sums, and said openly that their only idea was to get home as quickly as possible.

The last German in uniform departed from Charleroi on Friday, but many still remained in muffs, firing the machine guns left behind and committing other outrages. Already Mayor Devreux has had to risk his life to protect a party of enemy prisoners from the naturally infuriated townspeople, and he admits frankly that he will be unable to hold his countrymen in check until military aid arrives.

It is a typical picture of a routed army that M. Devreux gives of the Germans. They had been in flight for the last three weeks without order, loading their wagons with loot, often of the most useless character, such as dog kennels, bird cages and chairs or tables with a leg missing, collected anywhere or anywhere. Only the machine gunners and part of the artillerymen seem to have remained loyal, but even they declined to support their officers against their mutinous comrades.

It is noteworthy that the decay of German morale seemed to date from the moment the Germans began to realize that the American troops were a serious factor in the struggle—that from the beginning of June, when the German drive was checked by our divisions at Chateau Thierry. Even before the July offensive failed and the Allied counter-offensive began it was common to hear the Germans say: "We know that victory is impossible. They told us the Americans could not enter the war before October, and they are already fighting. It is hopeless to

withstand all those millions. The best thing for us is peace as soon as possible."

Mayor Devreux told me a German colonel of a guard division had said in his hearing:

"These Americans are terrible. For every ten you kill there are a hundred in their places, seeming to spring from the ground. Nothing seems to stop them, and we are weary of the war."

The Mayor added interesting details about the Battle of Charleroi, which he declared ought to have had another name, as it actually took place outside a town some two kilometers away across the Sambre. The preceding day the boches entered the town behind a screen of driven civilians. The French, unwilling to slaughter these unfortunate, withdrew across the river and the enemy proceeded to burn the principal street and about a number of citizens on the spot, but that their men had been fired upon.

Finally Mayor Devreux managed to reach the presence of General von Barfeld, commanding the Nineteenth Corps. To his amazement the boche general was almost exactly his own double—big and ruddy featured, with bushy eyebrows, blue eyes and a white mustache with a goat's beard. Whether the resemblance of the Belgian protest was most effective was impossible to say, but Barfeld agreed to reduce the fine imposed on the town from 100,000 to 150,000 marks and gave orders that attacks upon civilians or their property should cease.

The town suffered little from fighting, but a few shells did fall in the outskirts, and about a year ago the boches demanded the sum of 25,000 marks from the municipality "to repair the unsightly damage."

Germans Commandeered Money

The Mayor refused and when the Germans insisted he followed his usual pro-

cedure of replying: "I do not recognize you or your authority and decline to obey it. If you want the work done, you must do it over my head."

The Germans commandeered the money by force from the municipal funds and completed the repairs without further discussion.

M. Devreux showed a abject independence when summoned to Brussels during the first year of the war by Von der Goltz, whose tact and ability as Governor he contrasted favorably with his successor—who were entirely swayed by their subordinates."

General von der Goltz said: "I have decided to confirm you in the office of burgomaster of Charleroi."

The Mayor replied: "I refuse to acknowledge your right to confirm or terminate my tenure of office, which is held by the authority of my King."

"I expressed myself incorrectly," said the aged general, "what I meant was that there will be no interference on my part in your continuing to exercise the functions of Mayor."

"Had all the Germans shown a similar spirit of constancy," concluded the burgomaster, "their race would not be a byword and a laughing stock as it is throughout Belgium today."

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