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ALLIED ARMY HAS ARRIVED AT GERMANY LOST STRONGHOLD

KAISER'S TROOPS HAVE TAKEN THEIR POSITION FOR LAST STAND

DEATH STRUGGLE BETWEEN ARMIES

German Troops Will Bitterly Contest Every Foot of Advance of Allied Forces

London, Sept. 15.—The battle of the Marne has about come to an end, and although the allied armies are keeping in touch with the retreating Germans it is evident the latter are taking up positions to stay the northward advance of the British and the French.

General von Kluck's army has made a stand north of the river Aisne on a line marked by the forest L'Alie and Craonne, while the armies of General von Buelow and von Hausen, the Duke of Wurttemberg and the Crown Prince are falling back to straighten out the front, which the next big battle is likely to be fought.

Although the Germans have been punished badly in their long retreat, and have lost many guns and men, they maintain cohesion, and unless the French succeed in their attempt to get between the army of the crown prince and those operating west of him, Emperor William's forces will present a solid front when the time comes for another clash which will be fully as important as the recent battle.

If the Germans can gain the new position, it offers better opportunities for defense than the ground they have passed over the last ten days. Their right apparently extends as far west as St. Quentin, through a country intersected by rivers and streams that will embarrass the attacking forces.

The main German forces under Generals von Buelow and von Hausen, the Duke of Wurttemberg and the Crown Prince stretch across the river Aisne to the hills behind Rheims, and then north to Verdun, thus securing the roads and the railways running north from Rheims to the Belgian frontier and eastward to Luxembourg and Metz in Lorraine.

Thus by bringing the army of the Crown Prince of Bavaria more into line, they will be covered on one wing by their own fortress of Metz.

Some military experts believe the Germans will offer their next big resistance on the Meuse and that another battle of Sedan will be fought before many days.

Much time must pass before this takes place, however. The allies at last report were keeping up a keen pursuit with probably fresh troops. The French left with large cavalry forces, some of which were reported as far north as the Belgian frontier, continues to harass the German right, while British and French forces, which gained passages over the river Aisne two days ago, now are some- (Continued on Page 5.)

Official Report Of All Fighting

A French official statement makes brief mention of the fact that the allied armies are in close touch with the Germans north of the river Aisne and in the neighborhood of Rheims. In this territory General von Kluck's army apparently is making ready for a stand, while the other German armies under von Buelow, von Hausen, the Crown Prince and the Duke of Wurttemberg are falling back, and in doing so are endeavoring to maintain an undivided front.

The French war department denies that the Crown Prince had retreated toward Verdun, and adds that only Fort Tropon, which does not belong to Verdun's defenses, has been attacked, although lately it was relieved.

The British official Press Bureau gives out a statement on authority of Sir Edward Grey, secretary of foreign affairs, replying to a communication issued to the press by the Imperial German chancellor. The statement is based on the German Chancellor's question, as to whether England would have interfered to protect Belgium's freedom against France, and the answer given is that England would unquestionably have done so.

President Poincaré and Emperor Nicholas of Russia, have exchanged telegrams of congratulations on the victories credited to French and Russian arms.

Russian official reports announced that no fighting has occurred in the last 24 hours in East Prussia and the Russian troops, having extricated

PRISONER WAS MUM

Wouldn't Disclose Whereabouts of Mines, But Escapes.

London, Sept. 15.—When one of the British mine hunting boats captured a mine laying trawler, manned by Germans, in the North sea, so one war story goes, the British captain lined up his captives and picked out the weakest looking of the lot. Ordering him to step forward he said: "Tell me where you laid those mines?" "I'll die first," said the sailor. "Very well," replied the captain. "You have helped lay these mines. You know where they are. We are going to hunt for them and your position is going to be right in the bow of the ship so that if we hit one of them you naturally will die first." He ordered the prisoner placed in the bow and then steamed over the waters known to be mined. The end of the story is that this vessel picked up nearly three hundred mines while the prisoner was kept in his position of danger.

LIKENED TO A BEAST

Germany Harls Troops at Both Arms of Invaders.

London, Sept. 15.—A Petrograd dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company says:

"As an instance of Polish solidarity with Russia, it is noteworthy that youths of the Polish aristocracy have raised a troop consisting of themselves and their retainers. This body is attached to one of the Russian guard regiments, with which it is fighting side by side."

"Efferring to German concentration in East Prussia, the Novoye Vremya says:

"Emperor William, not having succeeded in dining in Paris, is hastening with an empty stomach to Petrograd, Germany, like a wounded beast confined behind strong bars, is hurrying itself furiously from right to left. It must be remembered that a wounded beast is more dangerous than an unwounded one until it is exhausted from loss of blood."

"The Voove Vremya warns the public that great trials and further sacrifices probably are in store, but says that troops flushed with victory are coming from Galicia and the allies are far from dozing, as shown in all the dispatches."

To Help the Poor.

Bordeaux, Sept. 15.—President Poincaré today signed a decree authorizing Alexander Ribot, minister of finance, to advance \$600,000 to inhabitants of the department of Marne, rendered destitute by the German invasion.

Celebrate Election.

Mexico City, Sept. 15.—Thousands of merry-makers paraded the capital's streets tonight in celebration of independence day. General Carranza reviewed the procession. There was no display. The celebration will be continued tomorrow.

HOPES FOR PEACE MAY BE REALIZED

Officials Hope Answer From Kaiser May Open Way for a Further Discussion

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Sept. 15.—Officials of the Washington government and diplomatists today expected that within another day or two Emperor William would reply to the informal peace inquiry made by the United States a week ago.

Administration officials hope the answer may open the way for further discussion of peace terms with Great Britain, France and Russia.

Since President Wilson's tender of good offices was acknowledged in a noncommittal way by Germany along with the other belligerents, American diplomatists have been watchful for the slightest indication of a readiness to talk peace. Ambassador Gerard advised the American government early last week—before the inquiry was addressed to him—that peace overtures were at that moment inadvisable. On the other hand, the American government had before it the reported willingness of the emperor to make peace as related by Oscar Straus after a conversation with Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador.

Mr. Gerard then was instructed to ascertain if the German emperor desired to confirm these reports.

President Wilson tomorrow will receive the Belgian committee here to lay before him their complaint against alleged violations of civilized warfare in the German invasion. It generally is understood the president will make a statement after the Belgians have seen him reiterating the neutrality of the United States.

The commission arrived here tonight. It will call on Secretary Bryan and be escorted by him to the white house.

STATE NEWS

John Shellhouse, a prominent young man of Aiken county, was seriously cut with a razor by a negro.

A residence on Marion street has been rented by the trustees of the state university for a girls' dormitory.

The state democratic executive committee met in Columbia at noon Tuesday to declare the nominees of the second primary.

Henry Sharpe was shot and killed by George Berfoot in Lexington county.

The eleven county mutual fire insurance companies in this state are being urged to insure cotton by insurance Commissioner McMaster. These companies principally insure property of farmers. In this regard Commissioner McMaster gave out the following statement: "There are eleven mutual fire insurance companies doing business in the following counties of this state: Geesee, Anderson, Abbeville, Greenwood, Cherokee, Spartanburg, York-Lancaster, Chester, Fairfield, Union, Newberry, Darlington and Marlboro. These companies insure farm dwellings, tenant houses and household furniture."

Sumter.—An enthusiastic and largely attended meeting of the Sumter county division of the southern cotton congress was held in the court house at Sumter Saturday. Between 350 and 400 farmers attended, of whom about 50 were negroes. There were bankers, farmers, merchants, manufacturers, doctors, lawyers and other callings represented. A feature of the meeting was the severe adverse and somewhat harsh criticism of President Woodrow Wilson and his cabinet together with some heavy licks struck at the South Carolina and other representatives of southern states for indifference towards the dire needs of the southern farmers in the present crisis.

Another Fight Likely.

London, Sept. 15.—Both armies are taking breath, says the Daily Mail's Bordeaux correspondent. If the Germans can take a strong position north of the river Aisne another battle is likely at the end of the week. Nevertheless they may intend to draw off their troops through the town of Stoney, 8 miles west of Montmedy, or by the Meuse valley into Luxembourg.

"Evidence of their defeat accumulates. Masses of every kind of material are being abandoned by the Germans, pointing to the continuance of their retreatment. The French are bringing up reinforcements in large numbers."

Montenegro Joins Serbia.

Rome, Sept. 15.—A dispatch from San Giovanni, Albania, says that the Montenegrin troops have joined the Serbians and, fighting under Serbian generals headed by General Vukotich, have repulsed the Austrians all along the Bosnian frontier.

HEAVY RAINS CAUSE WRECK

PASSENGER TRAIN ON ST. L. AND S. ROAD PLUNGES INTO RAVINE

TWENTY-SEVEN DIE

Twelve Person Have Not Been Identified—Passengers Were Caught Like Rats In Trap

St. Louis, Sept. 15.—Twenty seven persons were drowned early today when a St. Louis and San Francisco westbound passenger train plunged into a cloudburst two miles west of Lebanon, Mo., and two passenger cars toppled into a gully swollen with water.

Eighteen persons were injured, but not seriously. For several hours the train had been going carefully, as the engineer feared the heavy rains had weakened the track. Just as the locomotive hit a curve making the edge of the ravine, the engineer saw a wall of water ahead. Though going only 15 miles an hour, the train could not be stopped. The 12-foot embankment on which the track crossed the ravine had been swept away by the rush of water.

The locomotive crossed the sagging track, but the coal car and the smoking car rolled into the torrent. The locomotive and the mail and baggage car, forced by the momentum across the ravine, finally left the rails and toppled partly over on the structure three feet under water. The fireman was crushed to death, but the engineer escaped injury. The four sleeping cars remained on the track, behind the stream.

The chair car and the smoking car sank deep in the rushing water. Many of the occupants were drowned while they slept. Others climbed through the windows and swam to safety.

Miss Nona Campbell of St. Louis, a nurse, climbed to the upturned side of the chair car and rescued five imprisoned passengers by pulling them through the window. Passengers in the sleeping cars, roused by the shock, went to the rescue of those who had not drowned. Immediately several passengers were pulled from the water exhausted.

The identified dead are: Henry Wagner, Harrison, Ark. W. A. Childers, Clover, Mo. Mrs. John Myers, Thayer, Mo. Lena Myers, Thayer, Mo. J. H. Stockstill, Springfield, Mo. (fireman.) Vernon Calvin, Rumley, Ark. Elsie Calvin, Rumley, Ark. George Coxy, Green Forest, Ark. H. W. Newkirk, Hannibal, Mo. C. Neal, Ketchum, Okla. Mrs. Elizabeth Rostetter, Alliance, Ohio. Mrs. George Brown, Bush, Ark. Daisy Perry. W. W. Taylor, Springfield, Mo. August Wetner, St. Louis, Mo. The unidentified dead include seven women, two men and three children.

Russian Version

Count Golejewski Makes Public Statement Sent from Headquarters

New York, Sept. 15.—Count Colonel Nicolai Golejewski, military attache to the Russian embassy here tonight, made public here an official statement received from the Russian war office at Petrograd as follows:

"The rapid and energetic advance of the army of General Rennenkampf in East Prussia and our decided successes over the Austrians have compelled the Germans to withdraw considerable forces from their western front."

"From August 28 to September 10, the Germans shifted their reinforcements into East Prussia. Advancing through a country familiar to them, the enemy pushing forward his right wing, was preparing to deploy considerable forces on the line Nordenburg-Goldap."

"This maneuver threatened the army of General Rennenkampf and was met by the resistance of our protecting flank detachment which, with self sacrifice, stopped the advance of the enemy."

"By September 14 these detachments were withdrawn from their different positions and now are preparing for further operations. On September 14 no engagement in East Prussia took place."

"In Austria or advance across the lower San riv. encountered no resistance."

"The enemy is retreating without halting, we having taken the fortified positions of Grodek and having reached Moleka. Our troops are within a few days march from the fortress of Przemyel."

the newspapers say, Italy's intervention is considered inevitable. According to one belief the Italian government is waiting only for the resignation of Foreign minister San Giuliano, a partisan of the triple alliance.

Liner on Fire.

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 15.—The Clyde line steamer New York was badly damaged by fire late today while lying at her pier. The fire started while the plant of the Virginia Paper Box company was burning two blocks away.

The flames shot out from between decks in the afterpart of the ship and spread rapidly. Half a dozen tugs, including the naval tug Massasoit, responded to the vessels calls for assistance and kept the fire confined to that part of the ship in which it originated.

SEVERAL NATIONS SIGN TREATIES

Government Believes Same Will Be a Preventive of War For Some Time

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Sept. 15.—Treaties between the United States and Great Britain, France, Spain, and China were signed today by Secretary Bryan and the British, French, Spanish and the Chinese ambassadors. These pacts the Washington government believes, "will make armed conflict between the United States and these nations almost, if not entirely impossible." They provide that all disputes which cannot be settled by diplomacy shall be submitted to a permanent commission for investigation for one year.

The four are similar in principle to the twenty-two treaties signed with Central and South American and a few American countries, 19 of which have been ratified by the senate. Secretary Bryan dispatched telegrams to the American embassies and legations in Germany, Russia, Austria, and Belgium notifying them of what had occurred and expressing the desire of the United States to sign similar treaties with those countries. Japan alone has not accepted the principle or entered into negotiations because of the desire of the ministry there not to confuse the Japanese public while the alien land controversy is being adjusted.

One of the practical efforts of the treaties signed today is to make more remote than ever the possibility of the United States being drawn into the present European war over any delicate questions of neutrality which might arise with Great Britain or France.

Members of the cabinet and administration officials witnessed the signing ceremony in the office of the secretary of state.

Afterwards Mr. Bryan issued the following statement:

"The signing of the four treaties today with Great Britain, France, Spain and China bring under treaty obligations more than one hundred millions of people. These, when added to the population of the United States and the population of the 22 countries to which similar treaties have heretofore been signed, brings under the influence of these treaties considerably more than two-thirds of the inhabitants of the globe. As these treaties provide for investigation of all matters in dispute before any declaration of war or commencement of hostilities, it is believed that they will make armed conflict between the contracting nations almost, if not entirely, impossible."

Retreating Germans Prepare to Give Battle

Paris, Sept. 15.—It was generally anticipated today that an attempt to stem the tide of their rapid retreat would be made by the Germans after the allies had compelled them to retire defeated from the great field of battle to the east of Paris where they had fought stubbornly for seven days and suffered enormous losses.

It has been revealed that British and French aviators ran great risks following the retrograde movements of the German army, but succeeded in gathering the information that the Germans had erected field works at various places along the northern plateau beyond Rheims.

These were intended by the Germans for the event of meeting superior forces and being obliged to retire and reform.

It is understood that they left several corps on their western wing and on their center with the desperate task of holding these lines so as to prevent their pursuers from harassing the bulk of the German army which, in the meantime, was making quickly for the frontier.

Many detached parties of German troops have been captured wandering about the woods where they found themselves with little ammunition and no food supplies and deserted by their comrades, who were making forced marches.

There has been no cessation in the

VERA CRUZ EVACUATED BY THE U. S. TROOPS

Japs And Germans At It.

(By Associated Press.)

China, Shan Tung Province, China, Sunday, Sept. 13, via Peking, Sept. 15.—The first encounter between German and Japanese forces on land occurred this morning when there were a number of sharp skirmishes between patrols of the contending forces at a point close to Cal Mo.

Previous to these engagements a German aeroplane flew over the district. The Japanese fired on the machine but without success.

A considerable Japanese force is reported 25 miles to the north of Vera.

A dispatch received here from Wei Hsien (60 miles northwest of Kiaochow) says fifty Japanese troops arrived there Sunday.

Peking, Sept. 15.—A report from Tsing Tau, of German origin, declares that a vanguard of Japanese cavalry is at Kiaochow city.

Kiaochow city is about five miles outside of the border of the German territory of Kiaochow to the northwest.

Tokio, Sept. 15.—Under date of September 12 the war office has given out an official statement relating to the situation at Tsing Tau, in which it is declared that Japanese cavalry captured Chi Mo, ten miles outside of the Kiaochow zone. No signs of the enemy were declared north of the river Pisha. Aeroplanes of the enemy occasionally are sighted.

ENGLAND TAKES SAME FIRM STAND

Belgian's Neutrality Must Be Observed By All of the Nations

London, Sept. 15.—The official press bureau announced that the following statement is issued with the authority of Sir Edward Grey, secretary of state for foreign affairs, with regard to the communication made by Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, Imperial German chancellor, to the press:

"Does any one believe," asks the German chancellor, "that England would have interfered to protect the Belgians' freedom against France?"

The answer is that she would unquestionably have done so. Sir Edward Grey, as reported in the White paper, asked the French government whether it was prepared to respect the neutrality of Belgium so long as no other power violated it.

"The French government replied that they were resolved to respect it. The assurance, it was added, had been given several times and had formed the subject of a conversation between President Poincaré and the German chancellor, who entirely ignores the fact that England took the same line about Belgian neutrality in 1870 that she has taken."

"In 1870 Prince Bismark, when approached by England on the subject, admitted and respected the treaty obligations in relation to Belgium."

"The British government stand in 1914 as it stood in 1870. It is Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg who refused to meet us in 1914, as Prince Bismark met us in 1870."

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At Urgent Request of General Carranza It Has Been Decided To Evacuate Mexican Port

Washington, Sept. 15.—Evacuation of Vera Cruz was ordered today by President Wilson.

American soldiers and marines under General Funston, who have held Mexico's principal seaport since it was seized by the fleet April 21, last, will embark for home as soon as transports can go after them, and shortly after all of the war fleet, except a few light draft vessels will be withdrawn.

The evacuation order was announced at the white house today after a long cabinet meeting. It is the concluding chapter of the second armed conflict between the United States and Mexico, in which a score of Americans lost their lives, nearly a hundred were wounded and upwards of 300 hundred Mexicans were killed or wounded.

The reasons for the step were set forth in the following statement from the white house:

"The troops have been ordered with drawn from Vera Cruz. This action is taken in view of the entire removal of the circumstances which were thought to justify the occupation. The further presence of the troops is deemed unnecessary."

Specifically, the American troops were withdrawn at the urgent appeal of General Carranza, first chief of the constitutionalist army. Through Paul Fuller, personal representative of President Wilson in Mexico, General Carranza set forth that the presence of American troops, instead of being a safeguard against further revolution and peace with the United States, constituted a constant menace to friendly relations. The Mexican chief contended—and he was supported by General Villa and Obregon—that the Mexican people would not understand the continued presence of American troops on Mexican soil and would cherish resentment no matter how well intentioned the American government.

Until today the American government had not decided on any fixed time for the withdrawal and awaited negotiations with the new government. At first the president believed it desirable to keep American forces at Vera Cruz for salutary effect, hoping a constitutional election would be conducted fairly and the troops brought back after a constitutionally elected executive was in power. Carranza argued, however, that no election could be free with a part of Mexican territory controlled by American forces.

The president discussed the subject with his cabinet, some of whom, it is understood, did not favor the move. It finally was the consensus of opinion that the main purpose of the American expedition to Vera Cruz—to punish the affront to the flag at Tampico—had been achieved. Another circumstance which influenced the president's judgment was the approaching general convention of military chiefs, October 1, when a provisional president will be designated. General Carranza wished to be able to turn over the power to a successor with the country absolutely at peace.

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