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RUSS FORGES HAMMER HARD AT HUN LINES

Berlin Admits That Czar's Offensive in the North is a Serious Matter.

CAN'T SPARE MEN

To Send Through Hungary Against Serbia, as Report Has Them Doing.

London Cable.—Military observers viewing the situation on the Russian front are inclined to receive with reserve the reports that an Austro-German force, estimated as high as half a million men, with 2,000 guns, is being sent down through Hungary against Serbia.

These observers say that the Germans are not in a position to withdraw many troops from the Russian side, and the armies of Emperor Nicholas are making a desperate effort to assume the initiative in the fighting.

Official dispatches from the German capital continue to emphasize the importance of the Russian offensive in the north, which is declared by Berlin headquarters to be a movement of great strength, backed up by ample munitions.

Berlin announces also that the Russians have assumed the offensive along the Bessarabian frontier, northwest of Czernowitz, where so much fighting took place either in the war.

Grand Duke Nicholas, who was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces on the Caucasian front when Emperor Nicholas assumed supreme command of the armies of Russia, arrived today at Tiflis, Georgia.

General speaking, the Russian offensive between the Lakes of Drisvitz and Narotch, and the villages of the immediate vicinity, was reduced to a mere tactical maneuver.

In the southern region of the Pripiet River there is no change. On the estuary of Stokh the enemy once more sought to capture the village under cover of a concentrated fire by his artillery.

On the Caucasus front, in the coastal regions of the Black Sea, southwest of Khops, there has been nothing but advance guard actions.

HEAVY GAINS BY THE FRENCH IN CHAMPAGNE

Taking of Village of Tahure Badly Weakens the German Second Defences.

MORAHT WARNS

Military Critic of Berlin Takes the French Offensive Very Seriously Now.

Paris Cable.—Further important gains by the French troops in Champagne are announced in the official communiqué issued this evening by the War Office.

As in the case of the previous great success in this part of the front, victory followed an incessant bombardment of the German trenches, French bayonets completing the task.

More than 1,000 prisoners were taken by the French in these operations, which included progress in the environs of the Navarin farm.

WAARNED BY ITS CRITIC. A Rotterdam despatch says: "Although the majority of the German papers shriek loudly about the allies' offensive being smashed, Major Morant, quite the coolest of the German military critics, sounds a strong warning in the Berliner Tageblatt, clearly suggesting that Germany has as yet experienced only the beginning of things and much more serious attacks may be expected on a much more extensive scale."

On the rest of the front only artillery engagements are reported. These were especially intense in Artois, in the region of the Givenchy wood and Hill No. 119; in the Argonne, to the north of La Harazée; in the Metz region; in Lorraine, near Leintrey; Reillon and Badonviller, as well as in the Vosges, on the Metzeral ridge.

BERLIN REPORT. Paris Cable.—The following official communication was issued by the War Office tonight: "Our action in Champagne obtained today new results. Our infantry troops, after strong artillery preparation, captured by assault the village of Tahure, and reached the summit of the small hill of the same name constituting a point of support in the second line of the enemy resistance.

GERMAN REPORT. Berlin Cable.—The following statement was issued by army headquarters today: "Western theatre of war: A French hand grenade attack on the hill north of Neuville was repulsed. In the Champagne the French yesterday attempted to resume the offensive, on the front of their former attack, with heavy artillery fire, which increased to the greatest intensity during the afternoon.

CRUDE OIL ADVANCES. Pittsburg, Pa. Report.—Another advance in the price of crude oil was announced at the opening of the market today. Five cents was added to Pennsylvania Crude, bringing it to \$1.75.

This latest advance adds 35 cents a barrel to the price of Pennsylvania over the quotation of three months ago.

KISLE FREED

No Murder Case Made Out Against Foreigner.

LIEUTENANTS PASSED EXAMS.

Big List of Successful Students at Niagara School.

WILSON TO WED

U. S. President Will Marry Mrs. Norman Galt.

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Guncocton Plant at Emporium, Pa., Blows Up—Four Dead, More Likely.

A LOYAL FAMILY

Turks Send a Force to Bulgaria, to Defend Varna From the Russians.

DEMAND ORDERS FOR MUNITIONS

Canadian Firms Complain That They Are Getting None.

WHILE U. S. PLANTS ARE ALL VERY BUSY.

London Cable.—Complaints from large manufacturing firms in Ontario and New Brunswick are reaching the respective Agents-General of those provinces regarding failure to secure orders for munitions.

LOOKS LIKE PLOT

Blown-Up Powder Plant Was Shipping to Allies.

FATAL BLOW-UP

Compressed Air Tank in Toronto Workshop Kills Man.

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Panama Canal Builder Remains at Post as Zone Governor.

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