

RUSSIAN CAPITAL GOAL OF GERMANS

Approach by Land and Sea Outlined by Expert.

DEFENSE LINE IS DESCRIBED

Kaiser's Forces Can Advance Through Either Poland or Finland, Both of Which Are Decidedly Lukewarm to the Czar.

St. Petersburg would seem to be the goal of the German military campaign in Russia.

It can be reached both by sea and by land.

On land the enemy could, but would not have to, pass through Poland, which, because of its importance, could properly be the object of a separate campaign.

The invasion of Poland was found not difficult in the recent operations. Three years ago, when the whole system of national defense was reorganized, the western line of defense was moved back to the east. Two army corps were transported from Poland and Lithuania into central Russia, to the Volga region. Many important fortresses, especially that at Warsaw, were abandoned, writes Samuel N. Harper in the Chicago Herald.

Object of the Change.

The object of this was to guard against the situation that confronted Russia in 1904, when her foreign policy in the far East had not found a corresponding adaptation of her military forces to the new directions.

Reservists of the eastern provinces were the first to be sent out to

St. Petersburg is well defended from the sea. Situated at the head of the Finnish gulf, more than 200 miles from the entrance to the gulf, it can be protected by defenses on the main land on either side.

Kronstadt, which lies within view of the capital, has long since been abandoned as a means of defense.

Across the very mouth of the Finnish gulf is the new line on which the Russians rely to safeguard their capital from attack by sea. This is the Revel-Sveaborg line. Revel is just around the corner on the south and is Russia's principal naval port on the Baltic. Sveaborg is near Helsingfors, the capital of Finland.

Islands Complete Line.

There are small islands between these two points, which are used to complete the line of defense. At no point in this line is the distance between batteries more than 30 miles. It will be a difficult line to cross.

Almost at the very mouth of the Finnish gulf, a little to the north, and lying between Finland and Sweden, are the islands of Åland.

Russia wished to obtain these islands some years ago to complete her new plan of defense, but has not been able to do so.

It was here that the naval encounter took place in which the Russians were driven back into the Gulf of Finland to their main line of defense. The Germans now hold the position in the islands, which furnish cover and protection to them. From this position they could land forces in Finland, along the Gulf of Bothnia coast. But Finland is a difficult country through which to make progress on foot or by rail.

Why Libau is Important.

Another objective point of the Germans has been the Russian Baltic port of Libau, although the reported bombardment here was merely a reconnaissance.

Libau is one of Russia's most important ports. Open almost the year round, being frozen up only in extreme

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

Carolina, daughter of Mrs. Paulina Behn of Lyons, died of diphtheria.

J. T. Burkholder, a prominent business man of Arapahoe, dropped dead.

Alfred Gustafson of Hyannis was seriously injured when a horse which he was riding fell, crushing him.

Mrs. L. C. Erwin sustained a dislocated right arm when she fell in the yard of her home at Hastings.

The house of Carl Gilmore of Friend was destroyed by fire and most of its contents were burned.

Rev. S. W. Wittenracker of Horton, Kan., has been elected pastor of the Baptist church at Nebraska City.

The Plattsmouth Steam Laundry, owned and operated by E. C. Harris was damaged by fire to the extent of \$500.

Lloyd H. Jordan, a graduate of the university of Nebraska law school in 1914, has filed for the office of county judge at Gordon.

Miss Mabel McDermott of Colon was painfully injured when run down by an automobile driven by John Hulsted at Wahoo.

George S. Dick of Cedar Falls, Ia., has taken charge of the State Normal school at Kearney, the school having been turned over by Dean M. R. Snodgrass.

The 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Stewart, living on a farm three miles east of Tilden, died from swallowing a pin, which lodged in her throat.

Carter lake at Omaha claimed its sixth 1914 victims by drowning when Herbert Larson, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Larson, drowned in fifteen feet of water.

State Engineer Price has announced that the new bridge across the Platte south of Fremont and North Bend will be accepted and paid for on August 10.

John Cannon, Jr., nineteen years old son of Mr. and Mrs. Cannon, who live seven miles northeast of Spencer was instantly killed by lightning in one of the worst electric storms that ever visited this section.

Albert Wood of Fairbury, fifty years old, shot and killed himself near his home after telling his wife that he was going out to cut weeds. It is believed that he was mentally deranged by the heat.

S. C. Whitaker, a farm hand, has been sentenced to serve sixty days in the county jail at Fremont on a charge of attempting to assault ten-year-old Hazel Owen, daughter of a Fremont police officer.

Principal L. C. Rusmiser of the Omaha school of commerce has been exonerated of charges of indiscretion, after an exhaustive hearing. The school board announced that the charges had been without foundation.

Jack Anderson, who was recently found guilty of robbing a Burlington box car in the yards at Beatrice, was sentenced to from one to ten years in the state penitentiary by Judge Pemberton.

The veterans of the Spanish-American war, residing in the western part of Nebraska, met at North Platte and organized a veterans' post to be known as Harry E. Brown camp number 1, department of Nebraska United Spanish war veterans.

The state university alumni vote on university removal, which was counted at the administration building of the state university at Lincoln, showed a majority against removal of 142 out of 2,864 votes cast. Twelve hundred and forty-two votes were cast for removal, and 1,384 against it.

Excavating for the basement of the new Burr & Ely hardware store at Glude Rock has been finished and the masons will begin laying the foundation at once. The building will be one-story cement brick, 100x50 feet with basement under all.

Three-year-old Tom Manstasso, son of W. K. Manstasso of Omaha, is in a critical condition as the result of injuries sustained when he fell from a third floor window.

Word has been received at Fremont that Miss Helen Harbaugh of Ethan, S. D., is ill at Sioux Falls. She had started for Fremont and when she failed to arrive alarm for her safety was felt and a search was started.

Almost five thousand people attended the annual picnic at Dunbar. Governor Morehead delivered an address.

George C. Glover of Madison has sold his bakery and confectionery business to James Miller of Scribner, who has taken charge.

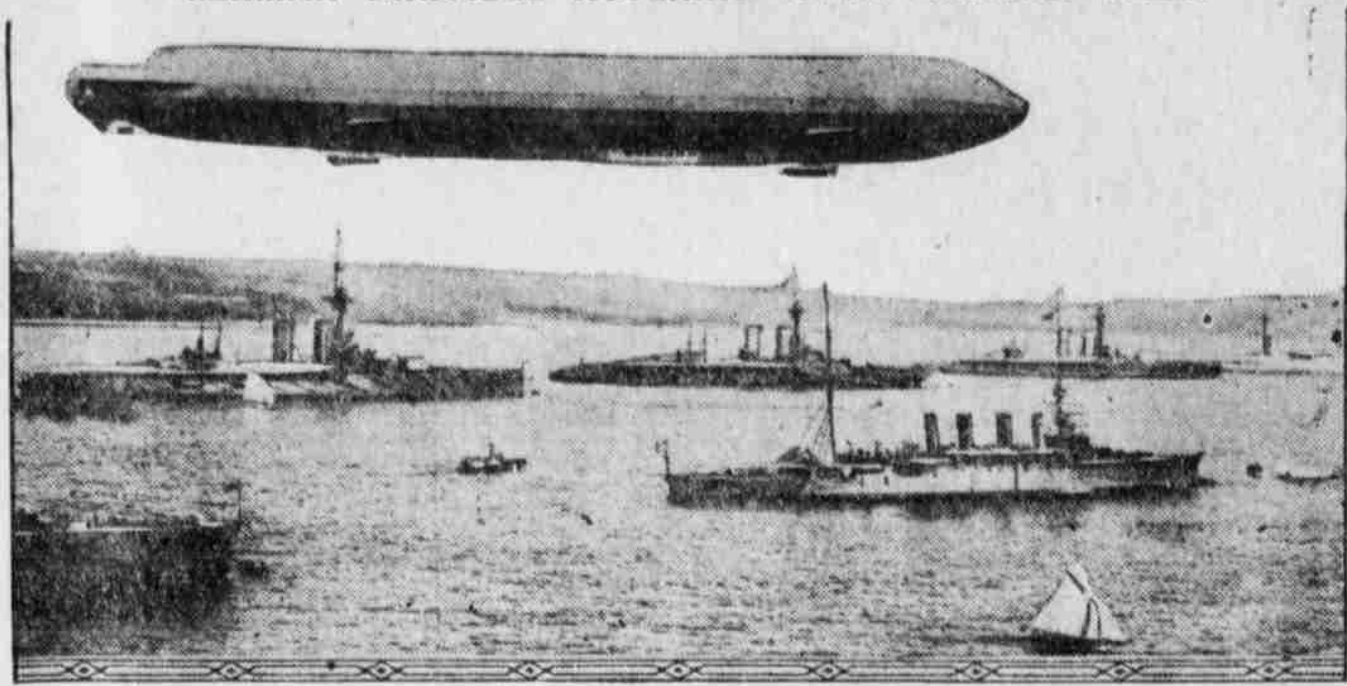
At a convention of rural mail carriers of Stewart county at Seward on August 4 resolutions were adopted urging that changes be made in the salary schedule for carriers in compliance with the postoffice appropriations bill recently passed.

A window screen probably saved the life of two-year-old Margaret, daughter of Mrs. Bart Stratton of Hastings, when she fell head first from a second story window, a distance of twenty feet to the lawn. The child was slightly bruised about the head, but the screen, acting as a parachute, struck on the grass and took the force of the fall.

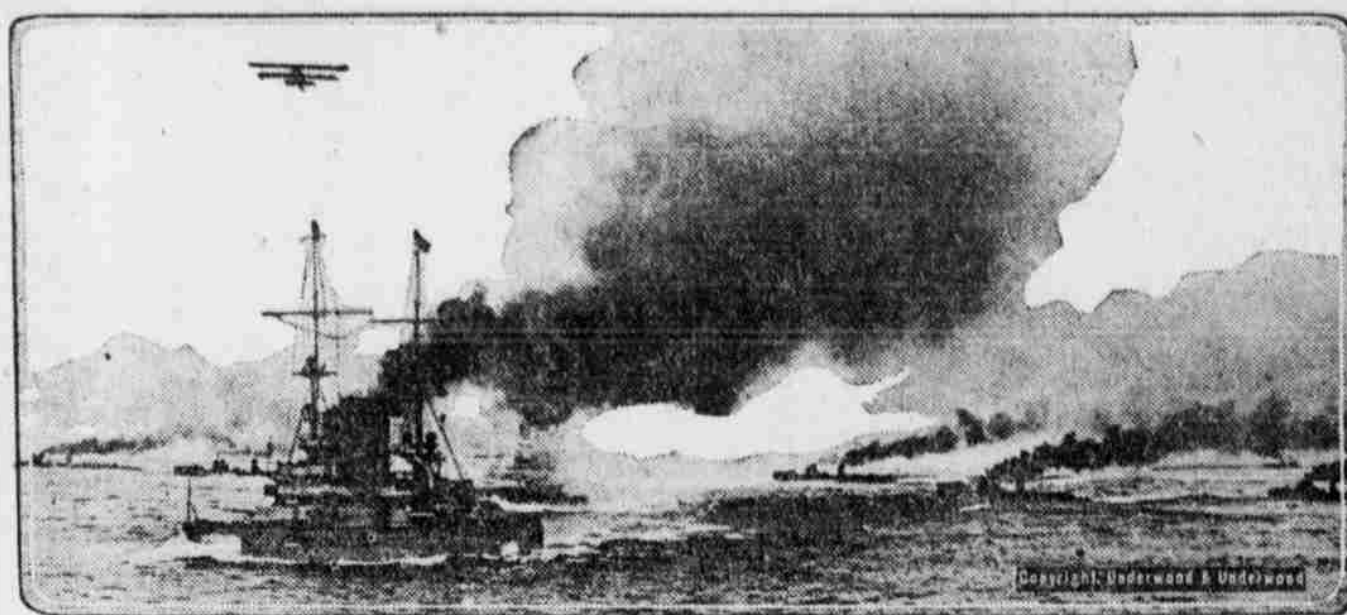
Phillip Bush whose home was at Oxford and who was employed by the Burlington railroad as a bridge carpenter, fell from a windmill tower at Oberlin, Kan., and was instantly killed.

Edward Huss, residing near Blue Hill, claims the championship of Central Nebraska on big wheat yields, having threshed 564 bushels from eight acres, an average of sixty-three bushels per acre. The land was an old timber claim cleared three years ago. Fred Huppert, a neighbor, received an average of fifty and one-half bushels from a ten-acre tract.

GERMAN DIRIGIBLE HOVERING OVER BRITISH FLEET



GERMAN'S POWERFUL TORPEDO BOAT FLOTILLA



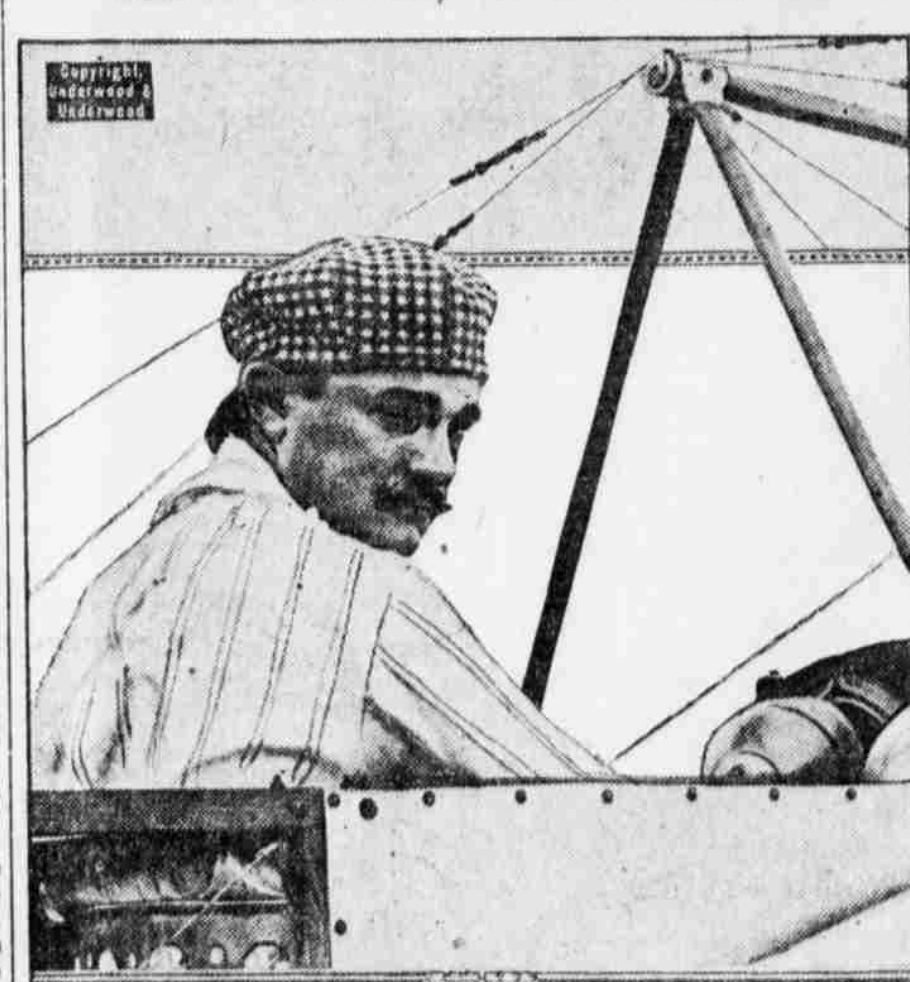
SERVIAN INFANTRY MARCHING TO THE FRONTIER



AUSTRIAN CADETS BEING SWORN IN AS OFFICERS



ROLAND GARROS, HERO OF THE AIR



One of the first incidents of the European war was the heroic act of Roland Garros, famous French aviator, who hurled his aeroplane against a German dirigible, destroying it and its 25 occupants and losing his own life.

GERMANY'S NAVAL CHIEF



High Admiral P. T. von Tirpitz, commander of the naval forces of Germany.

TROOPER TAKING LEAVE OF HIS FAMILY



Manchuria. This fact was largely responsible for the defeat of Russian arms in the far East.

This change in the line of defense on the west shortened the length of the line.

At the time there was much comment to the effect that Poland had thus been left exposed because of the failure of the Poles to show more enthusiasm for a united Russia, but this was mere political gossip.

Reason Purely Tactical.

The reason for the change was purely tactical; it conformed to the general plan then introduced, of bringing the cadres more toward the center of the empire, in order to expedite mobilization when the reservists should be called out.

Development of railways had assured rapid concentration to the western frontier. By the reorganization the western frontier in Poland against Germany was, in fact, more effectively protected.

The last reports leave the German and Russian armies concentrating on Lutz, a large manufacturing center, about 50 miles from the frontier, and about one-third of the way from the frontier to Warsaw, though not on the direct line.

The western line of defense was not altered with regard to Austria, but a larger force was concentrated at the Kiev center.

To the north and northeast of Poland lie the Baltic provinces. Here, in the neighborhood of the frontier station, Eydtkuhnen, the Russians already have taken the aggressive.

Shortest Line to Capital.

This is the shortest line from German territory to the capital of Russia.

frosts, it has become the great port of export for all the central as well as the western regions of Russia. It is one of the most important cities of the Baltic provinces and is an industrial center of considerable size.

Any German advance on Russia's capital must first pass through regions the population of which is non-Russian—Poland, Finland and the Baltic provinces—where the population is composed of Lithuanians, Letts, Estonians, Jews and Germans.

The nationalist movement in Russia has been directed against all these—its motto was something like "Russia for the Russians"—these last years non-Russian elements of the empire. A short-sighted policy of forcible Russification has not tended to arouse much loyalty among these various nationalities.

Germans Large Landlords.

All of them, with one exception, have joined the opposition to the government in internal politics. The Germans are the exception; they are the large landlords of the Baltic provinces and have given many men to the higher official world, which accounts for the number of German names one finds in lists of Russian ministers, ambassadors and other officials.

The Finns are very bitter against Russia. Many of the measures by the Russian government in Finland, which have caused this bitterness, have been taken in order to strengthen the defense of the capital from that quarter.

Perhaps the extent of the Finnish protest corresponds to the extent and effectiveness of these measures. Finnish protests have been heard all over the western world, even over here in America.