

Forward Move of Allies on Along Line

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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WHY GERMANS IN BELGIUM DID SO MUCH REAL HARM

General von Boehm Explains the Military Necessity of Destruction of Towns and Cities.

TO PUNISH THE TOWNSPEOPLE

Acts Complained of Were Provoked by the Misconduct of People Who Suffered.

ATROCITIES NOT UNPUNISHED

Men Who Are Guilty Are Severely Dealt with by Their Officers and by Court-Martial.

HORRORS OF WAR UNAVOIDABLE

Bullets Do Not Discriminate When Fighting is Fierce.

PHOTOGRAPHING GERMAN ARMY

Thompson of Kansas Gets Unusual Privilege and Finally Has Exhibition of Artillery Efficiency Given Him.

(Copyright, 1914, by Press Publishing Co.)
By E. ALEXANDER POWELL.
HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD OF THE NINTH IMPERIAL GERMAN ARMY, CHATEAU LAFERE, NEAR RENAIX, Belgium, Sept. 9.—(Special Cablegram to New York World and Omaha Bee.)—Three weeks ago the government of Belgium requested me to place before the American people, through the medium of the New York World and Omaha Bee, a list of specific, authentic atrocities committed by German armies on Belgian non-combatants.

Today General von Boehm, commanding the Ninth Imperial field army, and the mouthpiece of the German general staff, has asked me to place before the American people the German version of the incidents in question.

The general began by asserting that accounts of atrocities perpetrated on Belgian non-combatants were lies.

"Look at these officers about you," he said. "They are gentlemen, like yourself. Look at the soldiers marching past in the road out there. Most of them are fathers. Surely you do not believe they would do the things they have been accused of."

"Three days ago, general," I said, "I was at Aerschot. The whole town now is but a ghastly, blackened ruin."

"Assassination at Aerschot," was the reply, "the son of the burgo-master came into a room, drew a revolver and assassinated my chief of staff. What happened afterward was only retribution. The townspeople got only what they deserved."

"But why break your vengeance on women and children?" I asked.

"None have been killed," the general asserted positively.

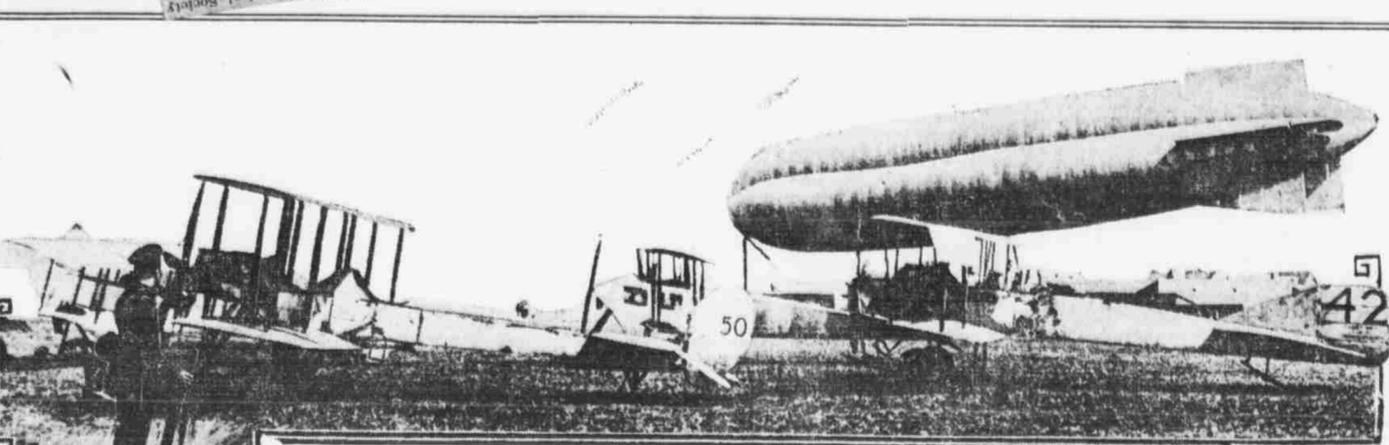
"I am sorry to contradict you, general," I asserted with equal positiveness, "I have myself seen their mutilated bodies. So has Mr. Gibson, secretary of the American legation at Brussels, who was present during the destruction of Louvain."

"Of course," he replied, "there always is danger of women and children being killed during street fighting, if they insist on coming into the street. It is unfortunate, but it is war."

"But how about a woman's child I saw with hands and feet cut off? How about a white-haired man and his son whom I helped bury outside Semptstead, who had been killed merely because a retreating Belgian had shot a German soldier outside their house? There were twenty-two bayonet wounds in the old man's face."

(Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

ENGLISH ROYAL FLYING CORPS AT OSTEND—The part the fleets of the air have played in the present war in Europe have been spectacular, even if the results so far attained have not been all that was predicted by the enthusiastic advocates of the aircraft. The share of the airman so far has been mostly scout duty. His has apparently been of great assistance to the armies on the earth. England has shown its army to be much better equipped with more efficient birdmen than had been thought. The picture shows a group of flying machines and dirigibles of the English A. S. E. State Historical Society.



BLACK DEVILS' RUSH TO ATTACK GERMANS

Ninth Army Corps Back from Lille to Handle Rush of King Albert's Men.

FIERCE ASSAULT AT AERSHOT

Kaiser's Troops Compelled to Yield Under Sharp Artillery Fire and Demon Charge of the Belgian Forces.

By E. ALEXANDER POWELL.
(Copyright, 1914, Press Publishing Co.)
ANTWERP (Via London), Sept. 13.—(Special Cablegram to New York World and Omaha Bee.)—The sudden change in the Belgian policy, from the defensive to the offensive, has had a material effect upon German strategical positions in Belgium. The Ninth army corps, which was located around Lille, in France, has been recalled while on its way to join the forces of Paris and is now opposing the Belgian infantry.

The most remarkable thing about the Belgian attack upon Aerschot, which ended in driving out the Germans, was the accuracy of their artillery.

Destroy Small Villages.

Three small villages, which were held by the Germans, were destroyed by shell fire in little more than an hour, and following that General Lefevre, commanding the Belgians, ordered his carabiniere to deliver a grand assault upon the German position.

For half an hour before the assault took place the Belgian guns kept pouring a perfect storm of shells, mostly shrapnel, upon the German line, with the result that several hamlets which had been used as protection by the enemy, were set on fire and made uninhabitable.

Charge of the Belgians.

Dusk was falling as the sky was lit with the flames from these farm houses just as the bugle charge was sounded and the carabiniere, in their queer, leather covered, square top hats, mementoes of a by-gone generation, and their bottle green uniforms, rose like one man and raced forward, bayonets poised, and shouting "vive la Belgique."

The enemy was strongly entrenched along the railway, and with a close work on his flank, but despite the awful machine gun fire that was directed against the advancing Belgians, these "black devils" as the Germans call them, would not be denied.

German Fleet.

The sight of the cold steel seemed to scare the Germans, and as the Belgians came on, cheering like madmen, and ignoring the fall of their comrades, the Germans turned and inside of twenty minutes the Belgians were in complete possession of the position which the enemy had held.

British Defeated By the Germans in East African Fight

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A dispatch to the Reuter's Telegram company from Nairobi, British East Africa, says that a strong force of Germans from German East Africa have crossed the frontier, occupied Karungu and are advancing on Kisii, a hilly district near Lake Victoria. British forces have been dispatched to meet them.

There was a battle between Germans and British last Sunday, the details of which are not available. The wounded are being brought to Nairobi. They report that the British suffered severely in an unsuccessful attempt to seize German machine guns by a bayonet charge.

FRENCH AVIATOR BRINGS DOWN A GERMAN AIRSHIP

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A Reuter dispatch from Troyes, France, says: "A French aviator succeeded yesterday in bringing down a German aeroplane, which had been dropping bombs on the town. The German pilot and two military observers—a captain and a lieutenant—were killed."

RUSSIANS TELL OF THEIR OPERATIONS

Recount Movement of Their Armies Up to Victories at Krasnik and Tomaszow.

FIGHT OBER MILLION MEN

Forced to Build Bridges Over Vistula to Get Their Troops Out of the Battlefield—Russ Cavalry Does Good Work.

PETROGRAD, Sept. 13.—(Via London.)—The following statement issued by the Russian headquarters staff describes the Russian operations culminating in the victories of Krasnik and Tomaszow, Russian Poland:

"The total Austrian and German forces exceeded 1,000,000 men, with 2,500 guns—that is, over forty divisions of infantry, eleven divisions of cavalry, reinforced by several German divisions.

The main body of the enemy, numbering 800,000 men, moved toward Zaslav and Omashow, advancing on Lublin and Chelm (Russian Poland).

Its right wing was covered by the Lemberg army, numbering 300 battalions. Its left wing was covered by several Austro-German divisions around Radom (Russian Poland).

On August 25 the Austrian armies began a determined advance to counteract the blow which was threatening Eastern Prussia. The deployment of Russian troops over a front of several hundred versts, (a verst is approximately two-thirds of a mile) had not yet been completed. We could, therefore, only face the Austrians in the north with a greatly inferior force. The first attacks of the enemy were directed against Krasnik, but the center of the Austrian efforts was removed to Tomaszow, a district into which their reinforcements began to pour.

Line of Operations.

"On September 3, when the fall of Lemberg was imminent, the Austrian advance reached a culminating point. On its frontal line the enemy extended from Opole on the east bank of the Vistula, about midway between Radom and Lublin, in Russian Poland, to Byehave, approaching within gunshot of the station at Travnik and enveloping Krasnik (east bank of the Vistula, a short distance south of Opole).

"Two bridges were thrown across the Vistula, over which troops from Radom crossed on their way to the battlefield, while, awaiting the result of General Ruzsky's operations, our plan was based on the rapid reinforcements of our right wing. The Russian railway carried out this task very successfully. Our troops in the Chelm district, which were insufficient and too widely spread out and against which the principal attack of the Austrians was directed, did not receive reinforcements for the advance of the Austrians even to Chelm itself could eventually only increase the consequences of their defeat in the event of the ultimate success of our wings.

Deliver Counter Attack.

"In spite of their numerical inadequacy our troops in the center did not confine themselves to defense. They delivered a counter attack, obtaining considerable success near Lacheve, where for six days they did nothing but repel continual attacks of the enemy. Only on September 1 were they moved a little to the rear in accordance with orders received. This maneuver obtained a more enveloping disposition for our forces.

"The success of General Ruzsky and General Brusiloff enabled us to make a general offensive movement and the enemy's center was beaten at Sukhodolye. As a result of a rapid movement among the Austrian troops at Krasnik these were attacked by General Ruzsky from the southwest on September 5 and were forced to accept battle on three fronts. We repelled counter attacks of the Krasnik troops, and we carried by impetuous assault the enemy's position on the front at Opole, Tourbine and extending over a distance of sixty versts, on September 9. They fled, abandoning their arms.

"The Austrians continued vigorously to attack our left wing in order to win success in the direction of Lemberg. However, about September 12, we also resumed the offensive on this side, and now the battle of Galicia, which has lasted seventeen days, is drawing to an end. The pursuit of the enemy continues."

Forward March of Allies Continues; German Communications Cut Off

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A Bordeaux dispatch to Lloyd's Weekly News says the line of communications used by the Germans has been cut and they cannot make use of the lines east of the Argonne forest owing to the rapid advance of the allies on the center and right.

They must therefore try the line through the Meuse valley and Luxembourg.

PARIS, Sept. 13.—The following official statement was issued to-night:

"No report has been received to-night from general headquarters. The statements published yesterday and this afternoon have depicted with what vigor our troops are pursuing the Germans in their retreat.

"It is natural that under these circumstances general headquarters cannot send twice a day particulars concerning incidents of this pursuit.

"All we know is that the forward march of the allied armies continues all along the front."

GERMANS STILL ARE BACKING TO EAST

Allies Meet with Success in France While Russians Succeed in East.

MORE TOWNS ARE REOCCUPIED

French Assert the German Retreat Has Been Precipitate One, Especially at Mont Mirail and Revinay.

PARIS, Sept. 13.—An official statement issued this afternoon says:

"First, on the left wing, the enemy continues his retreating movement. He has evacuated Amiens falling back to the eastward between Soissons and Rheims. The Germans have retired northward from the Vesle. They have not defended the Marne to the southeast of Rheims."

"Second, at the center, the enemy, though it has lost Revinay and Brabant-le-Roi, still holds the south end of the forest of Argonne. On our right wing, the hostile forces which were along the Meuse are beating a retreat beyond Saint Die and Lunéville. We have reoccupied Ermonville, Le Tappe, Baccarat, Rembreville, Nomény and Pontasson."

"In the Belgian field of operations, the Belgian army has vigorously taken the offensive to the south of Larre.

"In the Russian field the battle that has been in progress in Galicia for the last seventeen days has ended in a great victory for the Russian army. The Austrians have retreated along the entire front leaving in the hands of the Russians a great number of prisoners and important war material."

Report to Embassy.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—The French embassy today received from Bordeaux a dispatch dated September 12, as follows: "General withdrawal of German forces which are vigorously pursued. Their retreat has been a precipitate one, especially at Mont Mirail, Frontenieres, the saulx as far as Fargy."

"To our left wing on the eleventh the front of the Germans was reported on the Solsons-Braine-Pismes-Rheims. At the center and at our right wing they have evacuated Vitry and the course of the saulx as far as Fargy."

"Abandonment of much artillery. Lack of provisions and ammunition, horses tired out. (This is taken at the embassy to refer to the German forces.)

Ninth cavalry of Germans remained four days without any provisions.

German Pushed Back.

"In the Argonne, the German army was pushed back toward the north through the forest of Zelonne. In Lorraine we have slightly progressed. Saint Die has been evacuated by the German army."

"The Belgians are attacking vigorously the troops that are investing Antwerp. The Servians occupy Fennin."

FIELD OF BATTLE DESOLATE SCENE

Place Where Armies Struggled Presents Dreadful Spectacle, with Dead Awaiting Burial.

FOE'S CONDITION DESPERATE

German Seek Now to Get as Near to Frontiers as Possible—Correspondents Learn They Must Be Good.

PARIS, Sept. 13.—The battlefields on the allies' left wing over which terrible combats in the last week have been fought, present a scene of desolation. All the troops have departed, following on the heels of the fleeing Germans. Most of the dead already have been buried, but here and there small groups of three or four lay together awaiting interment.

Virtually all the wounded, whether French, British or German, have received treatment and have been transported to neighboring villages from which places they will later be transferred to the provincial cities, where private houses and public institutions have been placed at the disposal of the army authorities.

Evidence of Fire.

Along the banks of the Marne evidence of severe artillery fire are visible everywhere. Some parts, looking as though they were ploughed trenches abandoned by the Austrians, who were excellently planned, but shells bursting overhead field are fresh heaps of earth, where caused hundreds of casualties. Over the soldiers were buried. The graves for the most part are marked by rough hewn crosses. The officers were interred separately, their graves bearing their names and in some cases decorated with flowers. All about are battered helmets, broken rifles, bayonets, swords, belts and haversacks.

Houses Damaged.

In nearby villages houses have been greatly damaged, many bear bullet and shell marks, doors and windows have been broken, branches of trees have been snapped off by shells and scarred by rifle shots.

In the river Marne, which the Germans made heroic efforts to cross many times, but were always beaten back by the overwhelming French artillery, bodies occasionally come to the surface. The country people, almost prostrated by the ruin which has been wrought, are gradually returning to their homes, from which even today could be heard the far distant firing of machine guns and field artillery.

No civilians or correspondents are permitted to approach anywhere near the reserve firing lines of the pursuing British and French troops. Five correspondents who ventured out were arrested and threatened with incarceration in the fortress until the end of the war.

Dead to Be Captured.

The constant rainfall for the last two days has rendered difficult the movement of troops. The Germans are suffering from this more than are the allies, who are full of ardor and flushed with success. They often capture isolated bodies of Germans, who are usually famished and without ammunition and almost glad to be taken prisoners, while their horses are exhausted.

Persistent accounts of a German shortage of ammunition reach Paris. A British officer declared today that he had seen a letter written by a German officer, in which the officer stated that the invaders' position was becoming critical. He said that the transport was breaking down owing to the long lines of communications.

It is generally thought that the Germans are trying to reach the frontier by the quickest route, owing to fears that their communication may be cut by the fresh army of the allies.

France and Germany Agree On Exchange Of All the Prisoners

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A Reuter's Telegram company's dispatch at Amsterdam says that an agreement has been reached whereby France and Germany will exchange an equal number of prisoners, officers and men, who may rejoin their respective armies.

NINETY THOUSAND MEN ENGAGE IN FIERCE FIGHT

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Rome says it is reported from Basel that 90,000 men were engaged yesterday in a fierce battle between Thun and Sion. The Germans occupied the Gebweiler valley at the foot of the French Vosges. The outcome is not known.

ALLIES TURN ON GERMANS AT THE TOP OF ADVANCE

Crest of Teuton Wave Broken Before it Reaches Paris and Flood Now Ebbs.

INVADERS ON THE RETREAT

Army that Threatened French Capital Has Been Driven Back by Determined Assault.

OFFENSIVE BY ALLIES WINS

French Lead in Move and Battle Desperately Against Odds Till British Save Day.

GERMAN RIGHT WING TURNED

Task Set for British Has Been Finally Accomplished.

FIGHT ON CENTER IMPENDS

Important Battle Along the Aisne Must Come Very Soon, Says Staff Correspondent, Who Is with the Allies.

(Copyright, 1914, Press Publishing Co.)
By H. M. TOMLINSON.
CHANTILLY, Sept. 11.—(Via London, Sept. 13.—(Special Cablegram to New York World and Omaha Bee.)—The army of German soldiers is showing many evidences of collapse. The allies, exhilarated by their success, and by the sense they have now that the weight they have been strenuously resisting, and which has been pushing them backward, has lost its energy and is now within the compass of their strength, are on the road to victory. That victory may come much sooner than is expected.

German Campaign Falls.

The Germans in the face of the accumulated forces opposed to them despaired of carrying Paris, especially as they had a French army on their left flank. So they made a desperate attempt to break the line of the allies to the east and so divide it. They have failed.

Last Monday the great effort to turn the German right wing began at Meaux. For four days previously there had been engagements between outposts in most of the villages around the districts. It has long been suspected that the Germans have found great difficulty in keeping their army supplied, and the British and French military engineers have seen to it that no bridge or railroad behind them is available. Thus they have a country in their rear which makes communications with their base of supplies very difficult.

Ammunition Train Destroyed.

One German ammunition column, nearly five miles long, was captured and blown up. It will be sorely needed soon for the Germans will shortly be down to their last cart-ridge.

In the plains south of the river Aisne, where the deciding battle, if things continue as now they are moving, will be fought.

(Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

Crown Prince May Have His Line of Retreat Cut Off

BORDEAUX, France, Sept. 13.—If the German army are still in a condition to offer resistance they will, in the opinion of well informed experts, do so along the line extending from Peronne through St. Quentin and Mezieres to Ardennes. The only army not falling back is that of Crown Prince Frederick William, south of the forest of Argonne.

It is probable, according to the experts, that the crown prince has been unable to find a safe line of retreat. The Argonne district is a difficult mountainous region without roads and the crown prince would be compelled to move either northeast or northwest. In the first case, it is declared, he would be attacked from Verdun, while the second would throw him into the duke of Wuertemberg's army, which would involve both armies in confusion. The experts, therefore, believe that the crown prince, if he is forced to retire, will attempt to break through eastward between Verdun and Souilly.

Rattlesnake Kills Nine-Year-Old Girl

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Sept. 13.—Margaret McDonald, 9-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William McDonald, living on a Mellette county homestead, is dead as the result of being struck twice by the fangs of a rattlesnake. She was engaged in picking corn and stepped on the snake, which struck her twice before she could get beyond reach of its deadly fangs.

The Weather

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.	Hours.	Deg.
High	8 A. M.	64
Low	10 P. M.	50
Mean		57
Precipitation		0.0
Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal.		
Normal temperature		67
Excess for the day		-13
Total excess since March 1		-4
Normal precipitation		0.12
Excess for the day		0.0
Total rainfall since March 1		3.25
Deficiency since March 1		0.08
Deficiency for cor. period, 1912		2.22

Comparative Local Record.	1914.	1912.	1911.	
Highest yesterday	64	79	70	
Lowest yesterday	50	59	54	
Mean temperature	57	63	54	
Precipitation	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal.				
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