SERBS IN VALIANT ASSAULTS DRIVE AUSTRIANS FROM STRONGHOLD AT BELGRADE

BRITISH ADVANCE DRIVES FOE FROM FLANDERS FOREST

German Artillery Forced to Retreat From Strategic Position South of Ypres After Stubborn Fighting.

PARIS, Dec. 15. British troops have captured a small forest in Planders, west of Wytschaete thre miles south of Ypres), over which enarp fighting has been in progress for several days, This woodland had been used by the Germans to shelter their artillery, but has now been occupied by the ure of the British Consul at Ho-Bingitals troops.

Official announcement of its capture was mede in a statement issued here this aft-

The French troops have gained ground west of Hollebeke (four miles southeast of Tyron, and have held this despite a es counter-attack by the Germans. The French have also made some progress in the Argonne and have held the ground mained in the Vosges.

South of St. Die the Germans have Semburded the station of St. Leonard at long cange. In Alesce the German artillary is showing great activity.

Jenural von Beimling, the German ander entrusted by the Kaleer with special task of breaking the English at Tyres, now has his hands full to keep his own lines intact under the July 29, bombarding from batteries near

to keep his own these intact under the miterante blows of the French and British. The Germans are in imminent danger of heing forced eastward across the Year Canal south of Ypres. The French troops lying between Warneton and St. Eloi are presenting home vigorous estacks, but it must be said for the invaders that they are dealing hard blows in return. These attacks are taking place over a battle-field already souked with blood and strewn with the carnage of former attacks south of the Ypres-Manin road. The tearitary in this district over which the territory in this district over which the fighting is taking place forms almost a perfect quadrangle with Ypres, Armentieres, Courtral and Roulers at the

On the heights of the Meuse there are further indications of an impending Ger-man retirement from St. Mihlel. The German artillery has been shifted north-ward along the Meuse, because of the increase of pressure on the

dangerous increase of pressure on the part of the Franch.

In Alsace, particularly near Altkirch, a severe artillery duel is progressing. The French have succeeded in getting an enormous number of heavy guns through the snow-filled passes of the Voages, their object being to get as much artillery into Alsace as possible before midwinger, storms block the assets. fore midwinter storms block the passes entirely. It is indicated that there has been no appreciable change in the posi-tion of the French troops lying to the west of Metz. Strassburg and Muchausen during the last 24 hours.

ISLAM MENACED, CAUSE OF WAR, DECLARES SULTAN

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Turks Forced to Protect Religion. Ruler Explains.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 15.
Turkey entered the war because it was nenaced. This was the explanation couchsafed by Sultan Mohammed V, in is speech from the throne opening the Turkish Parliament.

While our Government had firmly resulved on the strictest neutrality," he asserted, "our fleet was suddenly attacked by Russian vessels in the Black Sea. England and France then opened hostilities on our frontier. We were there-fore compalled to resist the policy of destruction which these Powers have at all times pursued against the Islamitio world, a policy which has assumed the character of a religious persecution. Re-cause of this fact I called all Moslems into a holy war."

KAISER BRAVE AT LOSS OF VON SPEE'S SQUADRON

Tells People to Bear Misfortune as They Do Fortune.

BERLIN, Dec. is.—In response to a mes-sage from the President of the Reichstag expressing sorrow over the loss of the squadron of Admiral Graf von Spee, Em-peror William sent this reply: "May the heavy offices which we are forced to make in this battle for our ex-stances by horrow by all of the termination.

islance be borne by all of us as a single rean. Supported by unshaken hope in clod, our Lord, from whose gracious hands we humbly receive fortune or misfurture joy or sorrow, we will turn the most difficult hour into a blessing for the mation and Fatherland."

TWO STEAMSHIPS WRECKED

Thirty-four Lost in Sinking of Dutch Liner.

LISBON Dec. 15.—The British steam-ship Silurain and a Dutch Royal Mail steamship have been wrecked near Oporto, according to a wireless dispatch received here today.

Thirty-four mon of the Dutch ship's exew were drowned.

Freiburg Again Attacked alisventham. Dec. 16.—French avia-tors again flew over Freiburg, Baden, sysping hombs upon the city yesterday, advices received here today state. This is the courth time Freiburg has been attacked by acropianes.

CZAR BEATS BACK GERMAN INVADERS

lebeke (four miles southeast of pres); repulsing vigorous counter attacks.

The French claim further progress in the Argonne, but the Paris official statement shows little change elsewhere along the line.

The German official statement declares that the Allies' attacks southeast of Yprea failed, being repulsed with heavy loss. Other attacks northeast of Suippes, northeast of Omes and northeast of Verdun were also repulsed and repeated attempts to take the German positions southeast of St. Michiel were frustrated.

Sebastapol, on the Black Sea, has been bombarded by a Turkish cruiser. Italy has set a time limit, it is reported, for Turkey's apology for the seizdeidah.

Rout of Turkish forces south of Erzerum is announced by Russia. The Turks were driven across the

SERBS WREST BELGRADE FROM AUSTRIAN GARRISON

Conquerors' Recent Occupation of Capital Proves Short-lived. LONDON, Dec. 15.

The Servians, after a flerce battle, have reoccupied Belgrade, according to a Nish dispatch to Reuter's Telegram

The Austrians occupied Belgrade December 2, after having besieged it since Semila, and from monitors on the Dan-A large portion of the city was said to have been destroyed by the fire of the Austrians. When war was declared, the Servian Government moved from Belgrade to Kragueyevatz and later went further south to Nish, where it re-

A striking feature of the day's official news is the candid admission by the Austrian Government of the defeat of the Austrian army in Servia and apparently of the abandonment of its third attemp to invade the territory of its small Six

While attributing the failure to the en-While attributing the railure to the en-emy's superior force, as all Government bulletins explain failure, the Austrian War Office announces plainly an extend-ed retirement and heavy losses. "New decisions and measures conse-quently will be taken to repel the en-emy," says the Austrian statement. Ap-parently this means that the Austrian

emy," says the Austrian statement. Apparently this means that the Austrian army directed against Servia will assume a defensive line.

The Servians claim to be pressing home their victory with more captures of prisoners and to have driven part of the invading army across the Drina River. Moreover, they express confidence that they are about to expel the invaders from Servian territory.

WARSHIPS LIE IN WAIT FOR DRESDEN IN STRAITS

Rumored British Will Attack Cruiser in Neutral Zone,

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 15. Two British cruisers are today reported in the Straits of Magellan, off Punta

AUSTRIANS MOVE ON CZAR ALONG CARPATHIAN SLOPES

Follow Russian Retreat From Hungary; to Believe Przemysl.

gary; to Believe Przemysl.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.

It is officially admitted here that the Austrians are descending the northern slopes of the Carpathians into Galicia through the Dukis pass. This movement, it is declared, may be easily controlled, however. Owing to snow and ice the mountain passes are extremely difficult for army operations. The Austrians will be forced to enter the valleys from the mountains in small detached commands, it is asserted here, and this means they will be attacked by the Russians before they have a chance to re-form,

This movement, which follows the retreat of the Russians from Hungary, is taken as being directed toward the relief of Przemysl. This will fail, as have the operations toward the relief of Cracow, it is asserted here. The Russians south and southeast of Gracow hold their lines after driving back Austro-German forces during engagements last week.

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SERVIANS DEAL CRUSHING **BLOW TO AUSTRIAN ARMS**



Scale of Miles ... Austria now admits a retirement of its big army in Servia, and a report Austria now admits a retirement of its big army in Servia, and a report from Nish that Belgrade has been retaken by the Servians indicates that the Austrians have been driven from practically all of the little kingdom after a crushing defeat. Paris gives official sanction to the Servian claim of the capture of 28,000 prisoners, 74 cannon and 44 machine guns up to Saturday. The loss of Belgrade by the Austrians was determined in the mountains near Ushitza, 75 miles away, as previous loss of the city by the Servians on December 2 had been caused by an Austrian victory in this region. previous loss of the city by the Servians on December 2 had been caused by an Austrian victory in this region. It was in this region that the Austrian right wing, supposed to have a strength of about 150,000 men, was operating. This wing in a month of hard fighting forced its way across the Drina River and through 30 miles of rough country until it struck past Ushitza and established itself at the head of the great Geliska Morava Valley, leading down toward Nish. Apparently a large Servian army was secretly gathered to meet these victors, for the Austrians lay stress on the "strong forces." The Servians here broke away through the invaders and compelled them to victors, for the Austrians lay stress on the "strong forces." The Servians here broke away through the invaders and compelled them to give up not only Ushitza, but Valjevo and the Upper Kolubara Valley, and finally forcing them to make a hasty retreat through the 30 miles of wilds from Ushitza and recross the Drina. Their defeat is so severe that the Montenegrins have again been able to cross the Bosnian frontier and take Vishegrad. The shaded portion of the map shows the territory involved in these operations. In an attempt to save their right wing the Austrians sent a column from Belgrade to Milanovatz in an effort to swing in behind the Servians. This force was defeated in turn and driven back on Belgrade, and it seems now to have been defeated again at that city. Short arrows show the direction of the Servian advance. to have been defeated again andirection of the Servian advance.

AUSTRIA HURLS RUSSIANS FIFTY MILES FROM CRACOW

Czar's Army Hotly Pursued in Western Galicia.

VIENNA, Dec. 15. Russian forces that tried to reach Cracow from the southeast have been driven back nearly 50 miles, according to an official statement issued here today saying that they have been pursued as far as the plain of Allenthal. The Australia of the control of

Two British cruisers are today reported in the Strate of Magelian, off Punta Arenas, where they are waiting for the German cruiser Dresden, sole survivor of the squadron of Admiral von Spee which engaged the British fleet of Vice Admiral Sir. Frederick Sturdes off the Falkland Islands.

Reports reaching here are mostly from pro-German accuracy of wireless communication with the Falklands. These pro-German reports declare the two British vessels have indicated their intention not to respect the neutrality laws in regard to the Dresden. The vessel, the British ships are said to have asserted, must either come out and fight, or surrender.

The Chillan Government is reported to have taken action to maintain its neutrality in the situation growing out of the arrival of the Dresden at Punta Arsnas.

GOEBEN AGAIN CRIPPLED

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 15.—The battle cruiser Goeben was severely damaged in the action at Batum, when the Turks shelled that Russian port in the Black Sea and met the answering fire of the Russians, says a dispatch from Berlin. The report declares that it will be a difficult matter to effect the repairs necessary in Turkey. sary in Turkey.

THE LAST WORD IN THE ART Xmas bags, boxes and baskets. 219 S. BROAD ST.

MONTENEGRINS CUT OFF AUSTRIAN RETREAT IN SERVIA

Capture Vishegrad and Occupy Railroad to Sarajevo.

ROME, Dec. 15. The Montenegrin army, which has seized at Vishegrad the railway line from Vishegrad to Serajevo, has cut off the retreat of the Austrian army, which is



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BRITISH SOLDIERS PREPARE FOR HARD WINTER CAMPAIGN

Troops Settling Down for Cold Weather Fighting in Flanders Trenches, "Eyewitness" Report Shows.

LONDON, Dec. 15.
"Everything has been prepared to meet the winter campaign which is before us," was the statement of the staff of Field Was the statement of the state of rich Marshal Sir John French, commander of the British troops on the Continent in another "eyewitness" narrative which was made public by the Government

Press Bureau today.

"The number of communicating trenches has been increased, drainage systems have been installed, provisions have been made for heating apparatus to keep the men warm and, in short, everything possible to make living conditions more comfortable in the trember in fortable in the trenches has been arranged. The organization of our supply and the present transport service has been brought to a much higher state of efficiency."

The parrative, which is dated Decem ber 16, covers the days of December 6. 7. 8 and 9. It states that the weather has become warmer in west Flanders and northern France, accompanied by more rain and that the British guns have silenced a number of German guns. The account follows:

GERMAN TRENCHES SHELLED. "From the 6th to 9th the operation were of the same character as those of the previous three weeks. On the 6th, on our right, our howitzers obtained direct hits on two German gun emplacements, Other guns shelled some of the enemy's trenches with good results. The nights are continually broken by spasmodic outbursts of musketry from the German trenches and the frequent figing of star or illuminating shells. This pre-cautionary measure is not altogether un-justified, for in many places the trenches of the Germans and the Indians are only

of the Germans and the Indians are only a few yards apart.

"On the centre one of our batteries fired on a German working party (sap-pers) and caused considerable loss, "Civilians in plain clothes are frequently observed in the hostile trenches, point-

ly observed in the hostile trenches, point-ing out our positions.
"A German aviator dropped six bombs on Hazebrouck, but did little damage.
"December 7.—Heavy rain fell. The Ger-

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against our central trenches for the first time, but our artillery stopped this inno vation. On our right nothing important

"Dec. 8 .- Our artillery put two German field guns out of action and also set fire to a railway station, burning some rolling stock. An observation chimney of the enemy was destroyed.

GERMANS CHEER LODZ VICTORY. "Dec. 9.-More rain fell. The Germana in the trenches opposite our left could be heard cheering. We presumed that the German official version of the battle of Lods was being read to them. The weather during the last four days has been foggy and much warmer. Our avia-tors succeeded in making valuable recon-nalasances, and, despite the absence of active operations, we have made further

Concerning Hving conditions in trenches, the "eyewithesa" tells of sol-diers listening to graphophone concerts eight miles away through a telephone. The writer devotes about 2000 words explaining why more information cannot be given. It is not to keep the public in ignorance, he says, but to prevent the Germans from getting gratis information which would otherwise cost them much money and trouble.

mans on this day fired rifle gremades | PETROGRAD WATER CUT OFF BY ICE JAM: FIRE FEARED

Government Doles Out Limited Sun ply to Inhabitants.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15. Petrograd was without water supply today. There are grave fears of a possible disnater in case of fire and the danger of blazes being started by spice who may be in the Russian capital is believed to be acute.

This is the first time in 30 years that Petrograd has suffered from a lack of water. The supply has been cut off by ice blocking the conduits from the Neva, from which the city's water is taken, All factories, tea shops, public baths and other institutions were closed today, Horses used in drawing carts and cabs in the city, as well as other animals, were forced to go without water. Government employes went from house to house distributing limited supplies of water for consumption by the people of the city. The railway stations were in darkness last night except for feeble candle light. Troops are being held in readiness to fight any fire that may be started.

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vented. It gives you a wonderful mastery of expression, it converts your piano into an 88-note Player without in any way injuring or disfiguring it.

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records at \$5.50 and a dozen double-faced 10-inch

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