### EVENING LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1916.

## **BRITISH LOSE HEAVILY** IN ATTACK AT YPRES

#### Germans Report Repulse of English Attempt to Regain Lost Position

#### BERLIN, Feb. 18.

Attempts of the English troops to recapture a position taken by the Germans south of Ypres were repulsed yesterday, the German War Office announced this afternoon. The report of the General Staff follows: "Attempts of the English to recapture a position south of Ypres were repulsed with sanguinary losses

"Northwest of Lens and north of Arras we gained some successes with mine

"A small German detachment made a night attack on Fonguevilleres, north of Arras, and took a few English prisoners and one machine gun.

"South of the Somme a French attack with fresh troops broke down under our

"On the remainder of the front there were artillery duels. "Nocturnal enemy aerial attacks in Flanders were returned by our aviators with a bombardment of Poperinghe."

ERZERUM'S FALL ADDS RUMANIA TO ALLIES

Continued from Page One

troops across the Rumanian line was reported early this week. They had already begun intrenching.

#### SLAV VICTORS AT ERZERUM DRIVE ON BLACK SEA PORT

LONDON, Feb. 18

Russian forces forming the right wing of the Grand Duke's Caucasus army are within 50 miles of the important Turkish

within 50 miles of the important Turkish Black Son port of Trebizond, according to dispatches received here today. The ancient city of Baiburt, on the road from Erzerum to Trebizond, has been captured, it was reported. The Slavs are pushing on toward the Pontine mountains, barring their march on Trebizond. As reports filter in, the extent of the Russian victory at Erzerum is magnified.

The number of guns captured is reported even greater than that of those taken at Przemyal.

The number of prisoners taken by the Russians is increasing. More than 40,000 have already been captured. Much am-munition was also taken. The pursuit of the fleeing Turks continues

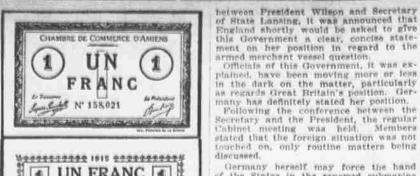
The capture of Trebizond is expected within another fortnight. Advices from Petrograd today said it was considered certain that the Grand Duke would send a force against the city before pressing his campaign against the Turka to the westward. westward.

The Russian authorities already have taken steps to ameliorate the condition of the Armenians. A tribunal will be established in Erzerum as soon so possible and investigations of Turkian atrocities against the Armenians will be begun at once. Wholesale executions of Turkian

once. Wholesale executions of Turkish civil officers responsible for the outrages are predicted. The possession of Trebizond will place the Russians within 90 miles of Batum. The last named port is connected by rail-way with Baku and thence with Rostov and the entire system of railroads in Southern Russia. Trebizond can hardly withstand an advance of a Russian army from the south supplemented by possible fleet attack from seaward. Erzerum is distant from Augora 305 miles. Between the two places the Turks

miles. Between the two places the Turks have projected a railway line, and a por-tion of the route, it is understood, has been prepared for the laying of rails. This projected railroad passes through Siwas and Josgad.

The port of Samaun, on the Asia Minor coast of the Elack Sea. is 150 miles we t of Trebizond. From Samaun the distance to the Bosphorus is 350 miles. From Erzerum to Samsun the distance over the projected railway, through Ersingian and Siwas, is 300 miles. The Turkish military railways development scheme included through rail connections from Scu-





#### FRENCH TRENCH MONEY

Gold and silver coins are so scarce in Europe now that France issues paper for amounts as small as a franc (20 cents). This shows two sides of a franc note is sued by the Bank of Amiens. It is to be noted that the number is It stamped with an ink that pene-trates entirely through the paper.

#### U. S. INSISTS GERMANS KEEP LUSITANIA PLEDGES

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the Washington negotiations grow. The efforts of Count you Bernstorff have been toward keeping pence and good relations with the United States. His rivals at home are said to be making his pathway hard by interposing objections to such ssions as the Ambassador asks Berin to make in the interest of harmo

"The intrigues of the Von Tirpitz party have been and are still a danger cloud threatening the Chancellor," says the corthe United States was concerned. fresident will decide whether to demand from Germany before March I an answer to the requests of this Government, made respondent. "Admiral von Tirpitz has been inclined to retire, but his staff has so far persuaded him to remain. His in-spired press campaign against the Chancellor is not only carried on by Count. Reventiow, but various foreign news-papers have been furnished insidious articles. It is reported, however, that the Kaiser shares the views of the diplo-matists and disapproves of the Zeppelin raids on England, which, in his opinion, are senseless, being of no military im-portance and calculated to make friendly relations with Britain difficult after the

war. "This eventuality is still hoped for in German diplomatic circles, which cling to the belief that a peace, whatever its out-ward appearance, can be so arranged as to create future trouble between Great Britain and Russia. "The German diplomatic service is add

"The German diplomatic service is still The German diplomatic service is still the favorite object of abuse among the German public. It is now understood that the Colonial Secretary, Doctor Solf, re-gards himself as the only possible For-eign Secretary after the war, and is con-fident of defeating the ambitions of Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador at Washington."

von Bernston Washington.'

U. S. WILL REQUEST BRITISH STATE POSITION ON LINERS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18. Following a 15-minute conference today



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HUGHES & MULLER

#### SENATORS SEE WAR IF U. S. BACKS U-BOATS

Continued from Page One

unscrupulous would shrink, and, there fore, such as course as has been discussed the dark on the matter, particularly In the newspapers seems to be wholly inconceivable."

in the dark on the matter, particularly as regards Great Britain's position. Ger-inany has definitely stated her position. Following the conference between the Secretary and the President, the regular Cabinet meeting was held. Members stated that the foreign situation was not touched on, only routine matters being discussed. Abandonment of the principle of the Abandonment of the principle of the right of a merchantman to arm for de-fense at this stage of the war, also, would be a distinctly unneutral act and would place the United States clearly in the po-sition of an ally of Germany, Senator Lodge said.

"The merchanimen of one belligerent have been swept from the seas." the Senstor continued. "Therefore, if we should abandon all the principles on this Germany herself may force the hand of the States in the renewed submarine of the States in the renewed aubmarine controversy. This Government has no in-tention of immediately replying to the German warning that she plans to sink armed merchantmen on sight. It will await developments. The German Am-bassador has been told that the United States expects pledges previously made to be observed. This Government has asked assurances in writing that inter-national law will be observed. There the matter will stand for the immediate present, but officials very frankly say that should the new Teutonic submarine warfare interfere with American rights there can be no further temporizing. Secretary Lansing has decimed to ask Germany to postpone the opening of her should abandon all the principles on this aubject that we have ever sustained; if we should abandon the rules laid down by Mr. Lansing in bis circular of Septem-ber, 1914, and declare that our ports were closed to armed merchantmen; or that goods and passengers from the United States could not be placed on an uncom-missioned merchantman, armed solely for self-defense, our action would affect only one belligerent; it would after conditions created by the war, and would, therefore, be unneutral. be unneutral.

"It would make us at once the ally of he belligerent whose merchant marine as been driven from the ocean. It would ut as in a position of hostility to those elligerents whose merchant marine still the Secretary Lansing has declined to ask Germany to postpone the opening of her new campaign. His position is that this Government still stands squarely on the spirit and letter of international law. The German and Austrian announcements that armed merchant vessels are to be s such without warning, in his opinion are at least a martial remodulion of hedges treely sails the scus. It would make us the ally of one belligerent and expose us to the just heatility of the others. It would be a step toward war. it least a partial repudiation of pledges

PRINCIPLE OF LINCOLN.

ady made, e has made it plain that, while the PRINCIPLE OF LENCOLN. "President Lincoln, during the Civil War, laid down the principle that he was atterly opposed to having a ship of the United States creep up under false colors, or in any disguise, upon a merchantman and capture or destroy her without visit and search. I think we may say with certainity that that great President would never have assented to having a United States submarine creep up on a merchant-He has made it plain that, while the state Department approached the Entente Powers with the suggestion that a modus rivendi be arranged whereby the Entente Powers would agree to disarm all of their Powers would agree to disarm all of their passenger-carrying ships and the central Powers would agree not to sink them without warning, nothing was said to the latter on the subject. Rejection by the States submarine creep up on a merchant man, under water, and destroy her, with Intente representatives carried a veto of man, under water, and destroy her, with all on board, including neutral and nonthe proposition as it entailed an immediate amendment to international laws. That was the situation today so far as

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combatant men, women and children, without giving them any opportunity to escape. The difference in instrument makes no difference in the principle laid down by Lincoln."

down by Lancoln." Senator Lodge contrasted the instruc-tions of Lincoln and McKinley to men-of-war in the Civil and Spahish Wars "with their humanity, morality and respect for law," with "what was actually done in the cases of the Lumitonia, Arabic and the Ancona." He then discussed at great length the purely legal side of the case in support of his general contention.

STERLING'S ATTACK.

Senator Sterling read press reports of : ate Department mem orandum to Great Britain to the effect that the Adminis-tration was strongly impressed with the reasonableness of the argument that armed merchantmen should be treated as auxiliary cruisers.

"A dangerous and vicious principle," was the way he characterized the memorandum.

Senator Sterling warned that another sea horror caused by submarines would certainly cause war, if Americans were entved. "Let another sea horror occur in which

American lives are involved, and this Ad-ministration and the world will know that there is a real America, not supine.

apathetic and hesitating, but strong, mili-tant, if need be, and ready to reapond to those noble impulses of liberty and hu-manity which have been our heritage from the beginning," he said. SHAME OUR CIVILIZATION. "If perchance wantonness and inhu

manity shall yet cost us something, the sacrifice may not have been in vain. For peace commissioners, for delegates to The Hague conventions, for international

jurists there will be a new problem and a

new cause, and that will be to limit the heatle operations, at least the destruc-tive operations, of the submarine to war-craft, be it dreadnought, cruiser, torpedoboat or strictly naval auxillary, and to prohibit forever the destruction of commerce and passenger-carrying vessels by means and at risks that shock humanity and shame our civilization."

Insistence upon the right of merc.ant-men to arm. Senator Sterling admitted, might incur some danger of war, but, he added, "I do not much foar dangers will reased beyond what they are at present.

"The vice of the suggestion of the State Department," he said, "lies in this, that because the deadly submarine is not

only at the death of one of the m became known, when the will of a Eshelman a wealthy retired farmer siding near Mechanlesburg, was filed Eshelman was named as the esta-Actary.

make the merchant ship absolutes a less against the submarine. "Of all the people in the wide w he continued, "it ill becomes us to Great Britain that right of is spea-hour in diplomatic hagsling over n-He added he referred to the shap srowth of American Irade with Ess since the outbreak of the was and is British control of the seas making commerce, possible.

DEATH REVEALS MARRIAGE

Death of Husband

Pair Kept Secret 12 Years, p

CARLISLE, Pa., Peb. 18 .- A marr

kept secret nearly 12 years and reas

strong on defense you must, therefore,

About 15 years ago Mrs. Atma a widow, became housekeeper for ba-man. Three years later they were ma-ried in Harrisburg, but never made announcement of the marriage.



LARGEST HOME FURNISHERS IN AMERICA

# to the requests of this Government, made to Count von Bernstorff yesterday, that Germany pledge in writing that it will carefully observe all of the requirements of international law. So long as Ger-many does not abridge American rights the situation can remain in status quo. A reply is really not necessary. AUSTRIANS REPULSE EIGHT

ATTACKS BY ITALIANS

The

#### Teutons Shoot Down Foe's Aeroplane Near Pola-Capture Occupants

VIENNA, Feb. 18 .- An Austrian official statement, issued under date of February 16, announces that the eighth attack by Italian outposts on the Austro-Hungarian mitions on Javereck was repulsed. The latement adds that the ground in front f the new Austrian positions in the combon district is covered with Italian

Last night's Vienna communication

Tailian artillery shelled villages in the Canale Valley, and also in the Rombon district, and the bridgeheads at Tolmino and Gorizia. An enemy attack against Montesan

Michele was repulsed. Austro-Hunzarian artillery near Pola shot down an Italian nerophine. The pilot and the observer were captured.

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tari, in the Bosphorus, with Erzerum, by way of Angora. The railroad has been completed between Scutari and Angora, the distance being 215 miles. From this it will be seen that the complete railroad to Erzerum from Scutari involves 580 milles textback

Between Angora and Erzerum the pro-jected line runs parallel with the coast line, the average distance inland being about 75 miles. The projected lines out \* Samsun and Trebizond have been ina Samsun and Trebizond have been in-tended to strike the main coast line at right angles. Still a third railway was projected in 1914 by the Turks to run south from Heracled, on a Black Sea, to connect with the main Angora railway. Heracled is 100 miles cast of the entrance of the Boshborus. Heracled, Samson and Trebizond are the only Turkish Asia Minor ports upon which railway work Minor ports upon which railway work was commenced by the Turks prior to the beginning of the war.



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