

BERLIN TO STAND FIRM UPON PLANS FOR U-BOAT WAR

Germans Feel No Further Concessions Will Be Made to United States

WANT BRITISH CRIPPLED

By CARL W. ACKERMAN
BERLIN, Feb. 22.—Nowhere in Berlin is there evident the slightest desire to withhold Germany's new submarine warfare because of protests from the United States.

The general feeling is that Americans must suffer the consequences if they embark on belligerent merchantmen carrying arms after March 1. The patient attitude toward America displayed during the London negotiations, it is plain today, no longer exists, because of the popular feeling that America already has hindered so many of Germany's plans.

The Berlin newspapers have carried no discussion for two days on reports of the American attitude toward Germany's new campaign against armed merchantmen. It is generally known, however, that with the inauguration of the new warfare only eight days distant, the difficulties between the two countries have not been solved. In some quarters it is believed a satisfactory settlement will be reached; in others the greatest pessimism prevails.

The public is impatiently awaiting the beginning of attacks on armed English merchantmen, the anti-English feeling apparently having been intensified by the German-American dispute. This was evidenced by the favorable comment on Sunday's air raids upon the English coast. Secretary Lansing's statement to Ambassador Bernstorff had not been published in its entirety. Those who have read it, however, profess to be greatly surprised in view of unofficial reports that America was willing to warn Americans to stay off armed merchant ships.

The situation today cannot well be compared with any similar situation in the past.

GERMANS SMASH FRENCH FIRST AND SECOND LINES

Continued from Page One

artillery upon the Chapelotte-Ban-de-Sest front.

Virtually every important military critic in Paris today called attention to the heavy German attack which is developing north of Verdun. For 48 hours there has been a violent artillery duel, with each side hurling a tornado of shells upon the trenches of the enemy.

The cannonade is compared with the French cannonade in the second battle of Champagne when the German trenches were literally blasted to pieces.

If Verdun falls, the road from Metz to Rheims will have been opened and the menace removed from the southern lines of communication of the Germans in France.

It would naturally compel the retirement of the French in the Argonne, in Champagne, in the Woëvre district, on the heights of the Meuse and in Alsace-Lorraine.

It is believed by some military experts that the attacks by the Germans in West Flanders and Artois were more or less of a blind to mask the concentration of troops in the region north of Verdun for the big offensive which is opening there.

Although it has been said that Crown Prince Frederick William has been put in command of the German troops between Rheims and Alsace-Lorraine, it is believed that the attacks north of Verdun are really being directed by General Von Strantz, who was recently decorated by the Kaiser.

FRENCH LINES CAPTURED BY STORM, SAYS BERLIN

BERLIN, Feb. 22.—The capture of 800 yards of trenches from the French, east of Souchez, after a bombardment, was announced today by the German war office. Violent fighting is reported from Champagne.

Following is the text of the official report:

"The weather cleared up on Monday and this led to lively artillery actions at many points on the front between the La Bassee canal and Arras. After a bombardment we captured by storm 800 yards of French trenches east of Souchez. Seven officers and 319 men of the rank and file were made prisoners.

"Between the Somme and Aisne rivers at several points in Champagne the fighting activity has increased. Northeast of Tahuro (in Champagne), an attempt of the French to make an attack with hand grenades failed. In the hills on both banks of the Maas, particularly above Dun, an artillery duel of great violence was in progress all night."

STATE FAILS TO PAY CITY \$45,250 FIREMEN'S FUND

Efforts to Collect Pensions, Due Here, Fail

The nonpayment by the State authorities of \$45,250 due the Firemen's Pension Fund on July 1, 1915, is causing the pension board considerable trouble.

The money represents one-half of the amount received by the State from Philadelphia County as premiums from foreign insurance companies during the year which ended June 30, 1915. City Treasurer William McCouch and Secretary Zane, of the Firemen's Pension Fund, have repeatedly requested the State Treasurer and Auditor General to make payment, but so far nothing has been done and the fund loses the interest and use of the money.

The State authorities are also far behind in paying the \$200,000 of \$22,000 to the School of Design for Women, the Teachers' Aid and Annuity Association and the Teachers' Annuity Fund. This sum is now eight months overdue and repeated requests for payment have met no response from Harrisburg.

Early Vegetable SEEDS
Can be Sown Now Indoors

Prepare now for early Tomatoes, Peppers, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Parsley, etc. Many varieties of flowers should be started this month, indoors, in boxes, to have them ready to set out when the weather permits.

SEED CATALOG FREE

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The War Today

The Turks are hastily evacuating all of Armenia between Erzerum and Mush. Russian troops are following up their successes at the town of Khinis and advancing on the villages of Bash Chifdik and Oghnat. One of Grand Duke Nicholas' armies is only 40 miles from Trebizond, the Sultan's naval base on the Black Sea, and another, having completed the conquest of the Lake Van zone, is moving rapidly toward the Bagdad railway. The Turks about Kut-el-Amara are menaced by renewal of British activity in Mesopotamia. A combined offensive by the Grand Duke and General Aymer, to wrest from the Ottomans control of Turkey in Asia, is forecast in London military circles.

Advance of the Austro-Hungarian troops in northern Albania has been resumed after being held up by bad weather and impassable roads, it is officially announced by Vienna. Italian troops near Durazzo tried to stem the progress of the Austro-Hungarian troops, but were thrown back. Austro-Hungarian and Bulgarian troops are closing in on Durazzo on the three land sides. Some Albanian troops have already reached the Adriatic coast. They are in command of Teuton officers.

German troops smashed the first and second line of French trenches at Givenchey, in the Artois section northeast of Arras. Paris admits the loss, but asserts part of the second line was regained. First-line trenches north of Verdun were also captured by the Germans. A great offensive against Verdun has been inaugurated by the Germans in an effort to bend back the French lines north of the fortress and open a direct road from Metz to Rheims.

MORGENTHAU, BACK FROM TURKEY, DENIES WAR OFFICE RUMOR

U. S. Ambassador to Constantinople Put Foot on Report That He May Succeed Garrison

SILENT ON DIPLOMACY

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—Henry Morgenthau, United States Ambassador to Turkey, returned from Constantinople today aboard the Scandinavian-American liner "Frederick VIII" for a holiday vacation, during which he plans to get in touch with American affairs.

Immediately upon his arrival he put down a heavy foot on rumors connecting his name with the cabinet vacancy caused by the resignation of Secretary of War Garrison. There is no truth in these rumors, he said, adding that his work "was not done" and that he expects to return to his post at least by May 1.

"There is much that I might say," he said, "secretary Lansing, however, is fearful that I might talk too much. I had a letter handed to me at the pier telling me to be very guarded in my remarks."

"I have had the unusual privilege of being of some service to my country," he said, "and in that way I have been repaying the debt every successful man owes his country."

"At Constantinople I first looked after only American interests. Later I became interested in the Jews. I finally spread the American flag over a huge umbrella as one after another of the belligerent nations sought refuge under its shelter. My duty was to see that no one nation pulled too much of the flag down over its head. If I have been successful it is due to the respect the United States receives everywhere and to the assistance from President Wilson and the State Department."

Water Bureau Employees Banquet

A Washington's Birthday dinner will be given tonight by the Dining Club of the Registrar's Office, Bureau of Water. The dinner will be at 1722 North Broad street. Chief Davis and Joseph A. Carlin, registrar, will be guests.

RUSSIANS PRESS TURKS BACK ON 200-MILE LINE

Left Wing Only 40 Miles From Black Sea Port of Trebizond

GAIN IN DRIVE FROM VAN

PETROGRAD, Feb. 22.—Russian troops in eastern Turkey are advancing over a front 200 miles long.

The left wing of the Russian army, which is advancing on Trebizond, is less than 40 miles from that city, and the Turkish defenders are falling back before the advance of the invaders. In the Lake Van sector the evacuation of Bitlis by the Turks before a second Slav army has opened up the way for an advance upon Diarbekir, which is virtually without obstructions. This would give control of the Bagdad railway.

Eighty thousand Turk troops, which were being hurried to the relief of Erzerum, are in danger of capture by the Russians. They were turned back just in time to save them from a trap, but are being surrounded, according to advices from Tiflis.

Russian victories in Armenia are having a strong influence upon the situation in the eastern theatre of war and the Balkans. It is believed that the time is not far distant when Constantinople will be seriously menaced from the east by a combined army of Russian and English troops.

A strong Russian offensive in the Caucasus was advised by both Lord Kitchener, the English Secretary of State for War, and by General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, at the last grand council of war held by the Allies in Paris.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—

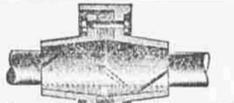
The Turks are now menaced from a new source by the movement of large bodies of British reinforcements up the Tigris toward Kut-el-Amara.

Well-trained and equipped Indian troops in large forces are moving to reinforce General Aymer, 20 miles southeast of Kut-el-Amara. As soon as the weather permits these troops will advance to the relief of General Townshend's beleaguered garrison at Kut, planning to push forward in a new offensive against Bagdad.

ROME, Feb. 22.—The wireless news agency reported today that fresh discussions had broken out between the Germans and the Bulgarians. The Bulgarian Government is demanding that the German war subsidy be increased to \$50,000,000 a month.

A German regiment has hastily been withdrawn from Constantinople, where it had been sent to help guard the Turkish capital.

Clubs at Bala Entertain
The Cynceid Club and the Country Club at Bala will both hold open house today in honor of Washington's Birthday.



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DURAZZO CUT OFF ON THREE SIDES; ENEMY CLOSES IN

Austro-Hungarians and Bulgars Move Rapidly on Albanian Port

REACH ADRIATIC SHORE

LONDON, Feb. 22.—

"Albanian detachments under command of Austro-Hungarian officers have reached the Adriatic Sea west of Kavaya," said an official communication issued in Vienna.

Kavaya is about three miles inland from the Adriatic and is 15 miles south by east of Durazzo.

In the Austro-Hungarian official report dated February 20, it was stated that an advanced Italian position had been taken by the Austro-Hungarians near Bazas-Sink, which lies about six and one-fourth miles to the northeast of Durazzo. It had previously been intimated in the Austrian official reports that the Bulgarians in Albania were operating against Avlona, about 80 miles south of Durazzo, which

it would thus seem, is now virtually surrounded.

The Greek residents of Durazzo are apprehensive of violence if hostile troops enter the city. The Greek cruiser Helle, according to advices reaching here via Rome, has arrived in port at Durazzo and will remain for the purpose of protecting Greeks in the vicinity.

PARIS, Feb. 22.—General M. P. E. Sarraill, commander-in-chief of the French forces in the Orient, accompanied by the Greek generals, Moschomovos and Himbrakakis and their staffs, inspected the front, says the journal's Salonica correspondent.

The party rode on horseback along the front and lunched in a dugout five yards below the level of the ground. The Greek general expressed great admiration for the defensive strength of the trenches.

Who Owns This Auto?

An automobile coupe is being held for its owner by the police of the 15th and Locust streets station today. The car was found deserted, on its side against a telegraph pole at Broad and Walnut streets early today. According to witnesses the machine came tearing down Broad street on the west side when it swerved in front of the Manufacturers' Club and hit a pole, turning on its side. Several persons jumped out and fled before any one could come to their assistance. The machine, which is unharmed save for a few scratches, bears a Pennsylvania license number 61023.



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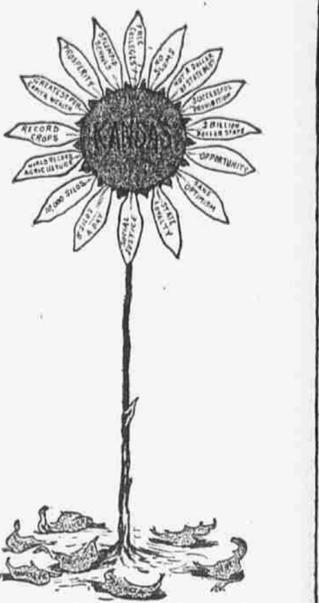
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