

VOL. II.-NO. 162

PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1916.

COPTRIGHT, 1916, BT THE PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY.

PRICE ONE CENT

VICTORY IN NORTH SEA FIGHT CLAIMED BY GERMANS AND **BRITISH; DESTROYERS CLASH**

London Asserts Four English Ships Chase Three Teuton Craft Back to Base at Zeebrugge in Running Fight Off Belgian Coast

Berlin Says Britons Fled When Torpedoboats Were Struck by Shells-Admit Foe's Fire Did Some Damage-English Reports Four Sailors Were Wounded-U-Boats Off Sweden

LONDON, March 21.

Three German torpedo destroyers were defeated in a running battle th four British vessels of the same type off the Belgian coast on Monday. official announcement of the battle, the first sea clash in the North Sea for many months, was issued by the Admiralty today.

The German destroyers fled to the German naval base established at bebrugge, but two of them were hit by shots from the pursuing British Four British sailors were wounded.

The Admiralty's statement follows:

Yesterday morning four British destroyers sighted three German destroyers off the Belgian coast. The Germans immediately turned and ran for Zeebrugge, chased by us. Shots were exchanged during a running fight. Two of the enemy's boats were hit. Our casualties were four wounded.

The German Admiralty, in an official statement telegraphed here this ternoon, reported that German gunners made several direct hits on the itish destroyers in the engagement. The British destroyers fled, according o the German statement.

BERLIN, March 21 .- German destroyers defeated British destroyers a s naval battle off the coast of Belgium yesterday, the Admiralty announced today. After several direct hits by the German gunners the enemy withdrew from the engagement, the official statement says.

The Admiralty's official statement follows:

Yesterday, off Flanders, a fight, in which we were successful, occurred between three German torpedo destroyers and five English destroyers. The enemy broke off the engagement after he had received several direct hits. He steamed out of sight at full speed. We suffered no important damage.

COPENHAGEN, March 21 .- A number of British submarines have been inted south of the Cattegat, says the Dagens Nyheter. The presence of British war craft off the Swedish coast caused a sensation in Sweden. A large flotilla of German torpedoboats passed through the sound this norming steaming northward.



GERMAN AND BRITISH DESTROYERS IN FIGHT OFF BELGIUM

Photo by International Film Service. The picture reveals a deck scene on one of the German destroyers having Zeebrugge, Belgium, as a base. Three of these vessels are reported to have engaged four British destroyers. Each side declares the other fied. Four British sailors were wounded.

VON TIRPITZ'S BRAIN SHIPWRECKED **ON WOE'S ROCKS BY U-BOAT HORRORS**

By WILLIAM G. SHEPHERD

PARIS, March 21 .- Admiral von Tirpitz has become a physical and mental wreck by brooding over the deaths of scores of his closest friends in the German navy, according to reports in general circulation in diplo-matic and military circles in Luzerne and Berne.

A high Swiss military authority, who credits the reports, gave me some of the information that has reached him recently, just before I

left Berne. "Von Tirpitz," he said, "resembles in sensitiveness the great Japanese military leader, who, overwhelmed by the memory of vast losses of Japanese soldiers he sent against Port Arthur, committed suicide upon the death of the late Japanese Emperor.

"Von Tirpitz has died a thousand deaths since the war began. He has bade farewell to hundreds of splendid young submarine officers, who went out to perish miserably under the water. The code among German submariners requires that they shoot themselves when the situation of their U-boat becomes hopeless. Von Tirpitz has pictured to himself... for such is the nature of his mentality-too many terrible underwater scenes involving his friends. It is known beyond a doubt that yon Tirpitz felt himself living in a world of horrors. Even the Kaiser himself was

unable to calm his self-reproach. "German military men say the Lusitania incident was the beginning of von Tirpitz's breakdown. He did not visit the Admiralty offices for three days after the liner and its helpless human cargo went down. Each new sinking of passenger boats only increased his depression. His sub-ordinates made it a practice not to report the disappearance of subma-rines unless von Tirpitz demanded to know the whereabouts of such and

"The strain became too much. Both the foreign and German news-papers—the latter boastingly—connected the name of von Tirpitz with submarine horrors. The thing became too personal. Von Tirpitz was a man of magnificent physique before the war, but it simply broke him down."

FOE AND GAINS HILLS, IS FEAR

Outlaw Bands Give Pursuers the Slip, Report

Possible He Has Not Yet Won Mountains-U. S. Forces Close In

EL PASO, Tex., March 21 .-- General Pershing advised his Columbus headquarters by wireless today that Carranza troops yesterday administered a severe defeat to Villa's forces. Villa was reported in Pershing's radio messages to have retreated into the Santa Clara Mountains.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 21 .--The army quartermast

QUICK NEWS

ELECTRIC COMPANY GIVES BONUS TO EMPLOYES

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., March 21.-The General Electric Company today announced a bonus of 5 per cent. on its earnings to all employes who have been with the company five years. This means a distribution of \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

NATIONAL CONVENTION CHAIRMAN NOT NAMED

CHICAGC, March 21 .- The subcommittee of the Republican National Committee today adjourned without naming a temporary chairman for the national convention which begins here June 7. The subcommittee will meet again in April to complete arrangements for the convention.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE ISPAHAN IN PERSIAN DRIVE

PETROGRAD, March 21 .- The capture of Ispahan, the important Persian town which became the goal of the Russians following the capture of Kirmanshah, is announced in an official dispatch received from Teheran today. The Russian forces entered Ishpahan on Sunday.

ALLIES' WARSHIPS CONTINUE TO SHELL DARDANELLES

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 21 .- That Allied warships are still bombarding the Turkish defenses on the Dardanelles intermittently is shown by the following official statement issued here today: "On the afternoon of March 19 a torpedoboat and a cruiser shelled the neighborhood of Sed-el-Bahr and Tekke Burnu. The bombardment was unsuccessful. A British division with two machine guns advanced in the direction of El Saile, north of Sheik Hosman, and was attacked by our troops. The enemy fied."

KILLED MAN FOR CRITICISING WILSON

Resenting ar attack on President Wilson's Mexican policy, Marcus Argeris shot and killed his friend, Gustave Zellis, while they were preparing for work today. Argeris surrendered to the police.

RUSSIANS CLOSE TO GREAT VICTORY IN TURKEY

LONDON, March 21 .- A dispatch transmitted by the Rome wireless today says;, "The occupation of Trebizond, Mosul, Bagdad, Kalputh and Diarkebr, in Turkey, by Russian forces of Grande Duke Nicholas is imminent." (Occupation of the cities mentioned in the Rome wireless telegram would give the Russians complete control of Armenia and Mesopotamia, cut the Constantinople-Bagdad line of communication and doom the Turkish army that has been fighting the British in the Persian Guif theatre of war.

\$450,000 RAISED FOR EPISCOPAL FUND

Nearly half the \$1,000,000 pledged by the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania o the \$5,000,000 general pension fund has been raised by the church pension fund committee, according to a report made at the home of Charlton Yarnall. The committee has raised \$450,000 and expects to complete the fund within a few months.

DR. SPIERS ACCEPTS CHAIR AT COLUMBIA

Dr. A. G. H. Spiers, associate professor of Romance languages at Haverford College, has accepted the chair of French as head of the College Department of Columbia University. Doctor Spiers prepared at Penn Charter, took a prominent part in activities there. He won his doctor's degree at Harvard in 1909 after having studied abroad. In the fall of the same year he went to Haverford.

KAISER'S CORFU PALACE NOW A HOSPITAL

ATHENS, March 21 .- The Kaiser's villa on Corfu Island, which was seized by the French when they landed on the island, has been converted into a how pital. There are 120,000 newly equipped Serbian soldiers at Corfu waiting to start to Salonica.

VILLA ELUDES

at El Paso

REPORTED GOING NORTH

and Retiring in North, Berlin Dispatch Admits

Northwest of Verdun VICTORY IN GALICIA TEUTONS SUFFER MUCH

LONDON, March 21.—Distinct Russian scories at both ends of the 800-mile atten battle front are reported this after-

The battering of heavy Russian guns against von Hindenburg's front in the north has forced the Germans to withfrom a salient south of Narocz The German War Office admitted stirement in an official statement Lake. this afternoon, declaring a retreat was beceasary to avoid annihilation of German troops by the encircling fire of the Slavs.

General Kuropatkin, Russian comnder in-chief in the Japanese war, comanded the army that forced the German

A few hours earlier came admission Austrian War Office of an impertant Russian victory in southeastern Baida, 38 miles northeast of Czernowitz. The strongly fortified Uscieczvo bridge-hast position, an Austrian bulwark through six months of heavy fighting, was surrendered to the Russians after a des-

The German War Office admitted that he Russians are making heavy attacks a wide front in the Riga-Dvinsk sec-tion, despite heavy losses. It is consid-wed certain here that the power of the two Russian offensive will force the with-drawal of German troops from the west-sen front and possibly end the Verdun affusive.

Following is the text of the official Garman report:

The Rusians are extending their at-

The Runians are extending their al-tacks to the northernmost end of the-front. South of Riga'they were re-pulsed with sanguinary losses and also on the Duna River (Dvina) and was of Jakobstadt. Strong reconnoitering detachments dvanced against the German lines morthwest of Postavy and between Varoes Lake and Wiszniew Lake and delivered attacks both day and night, but failed to hchieve any success. bet failed to hchieve any success. Because of the distance which it Freirided, our stillant on the front south of Lake Narocz was withdrawn

a few hundred yards toward the heights of Blianicki in order to avoid the circling fire of the enemy.

THE WEATHER

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity-inserally cloudy, and somewhat somer tonight and Wednesday; raile variable winds.

LOST AND FOUND

H-Loss, gold-filled, gentleman's watch face, with initials R. C. H., hertwoom as at Chemanic at forties to Broad St. m. going from Broad St. Station in a shi to 1923 Spring. Reward II reluroed at the fills Spring. Reward II reluroed X. J.

D HINII-Lost, three stons diamood shour a carata, a hitle reliam in other how he winning of other stores or more the stones Abbey, 200 stores of more the stores of Stat.

Sides Last and Found Ade on Paperis

BERLIN, March 21. All the French positions, northeast of Avocourt wood have been captured by storm by the Germans, it was officially

announced today by the German War Office. The Germans captured 32 officers and

sitions at Malancourt,

French were unsuccessful: Several important changes in the Phila-delphia Conference of the Methodist Epis-copal Church became known today while Bishop Berry and his cabinet, in executive Avocourt wood lies at the southeastern edge of Malancourt forest, about seven miles northwest of Verdun on the west bank of the Meuse.

Two of the captured officers were com manders of regiments.

Following is the text of the official re-West of the Mouse Bavarian regiments

and battalions of the Wurtemberg land-wehr, after careful preparations, captured by storm the entire position of the French northeast of Avocourt. In addition to considerable losses the enemy lost \$2 offlcers and more than 2500 men in prisoners.

All were unwounded. Two of the officers were commanders of regiments. We also captured much war material. Counter-attacks failed to bring the enemy any advantage. On the contrary, we inflicted serious losses upon him.

East of the Meuse the positions are un changed.

PARIS, March 21 .- The terrific attacks of the Germans against the French posi-tions in Malancourt woods, northwest of were continued throughout the ught

will succeed the missions. head of the missions. The Rev. Dr. Frank P. Parkis, retiring superintendent of the Central district, will succeed the Rev. Dr. W. G. Jones as pastor of the Grace Church, it was learned. The of the Grace Church, it was learned. The From their new positions in the eastern part of the wood the Germans launched violent assaults against the French lines in the southeastern part, known as Ava-court wood, which they finally succeeded in taking, although they suffered enormous latter will become pastor of the Cooper Memorial Church, succeeding the Rev. C. L. Gaul.

The Germans were kept by the furious fire of the French artillery from debouch-ing and the curtains of fire which were launched against them withered their ranks.

(Malancourt wood is about seven miles northwest of Verdun, on the west bank of the Meuse.) The text of the official communique

follows: Despite the severe loases inflicted by our fire, the enemy succeeded after a hand-to-hand battle in capturing Maincourt a hand-to-hand serie is captoring the southeastern part of Malancourt woods, which we occupied and which bore the name Bols D'Avcaourt (Avccourt wood). All the efforts of the enemy to debouch from the woods were checked. The night was quiet in the other

The night was quiet in the other sectors of the Verdun region.

Children March From Burning School LANCASTER, Pa. March 11.—Fire this morning in the basement of the New Street Public School Building started from

Street Public School School School is a stretch from a heater. Putling into offset the first drill the teachers, Minn Florence Marz, Sarah Houk, Edith Cosper and Catherine Brown, nuarshalled the 300 children in safety from rag building, which was saved by the Sremen's timely arrival.

PASTORS CERTAIN TO FIND TRANSIT PLAN IS NOT OUT TO HOLD PLACES Bishop Berry Announces Thought Twining Would

Mission, will succeed the Rev. Doctor

The Rev. Dr. J. G. Wilson, brother of

The Rev. Dr. J. G. What is defined a Director Wilson, will become a district superintendent, it was said on good au-thority. His appointment as a bishop at the General Conference is regarded as probable, His pastorate, the Union Church, J. Block

will be taken by the Rev. Dr. J. G. Bick-erton, superintendent of city mission work. The Rev. Dr. George H. Bickley, retir-

ing superintendent of the North district.

will succeed the Rev. Dr. Bickerton as

Another man slated for a district super

hundred and forty-eight possible

Continued on Page Siz, Column One.

Ewenty-ninth Street Church

pastorate.

Lindemuth.

Have Made It Public There Will Be 148 Posby This Time sible Changes

2500 men there. Counter-attacks by the FULL LIST TOMORROW HE HAS A "COL. HOUSE"

Mayor Smith Talks on \$86,800,000 Loan

"I expect smooth sailing with the loan bill."

Bishop Berry and his cabinet. In executive session, were making appointments at St. James' Church, Olney. The Rev. Dr. G. Bickley Burns, pastor of the Calvary Church, will be appointed superintendent of the North District. He will be succeeded by the Rev. Dr. E. E. Helm, of the Central Church, Wilkes-Barre, who, in turn, will be succeeded by "I have an agent investigating finances in other cities." "I have not learned that Sena-

MAYOR AMAZED

Heim, of the Central Church, Wilkes-Barre, who, in turn, will be succeeded by the Rev. William H. Lindenuth, of the Pottsville Church. The Rev. William Q. Bennett, superintendent of the Anthracite tors Penrose and McNichol are using delaying tactics." "References to the 'Vare power

in the loan situation are political.' "I have no interest in the po-litical side of the loan bill."

"Mr. Seger in seeking to learn the cost of the loan to the people is actuated only by the best of reasons and not at all by politics." "When Director Twining gives

out his transit report any child can understand it." "Mr. Connelly has not been asked for a legal opinion on the loan." "Many lawyers have told me that no 'enabling legislation' needed." 18

"I don't believe the loan will be attacked because of any omission of municipal improvements. I be-

lieve all were included." "I don't think the people of out-lying wards should kick on the transit item until everything is made clear." made clear.

Mayor Smith had several things to say when he got back today from his vaca

Indictments Against Hundreds They included his expressed surprise They included his expressed surprise that Director Twining had not given out for public consideration the transit plans; a statement that the eity's financial pol-icy for many years had been a cowardly evasion of public needs; a foreshadowing of an increased tax rate. The transit and financial programs of the city would both be settled in a few days he said

On the Broad street subway question the Mayor "hedged." He seemed much more willing to talk about financial prob-lems than about transit problems. uncovered by agents of the Treasury De-

HE HAS A "COLONEL' HOUSE."

He told how for weeks past he has had in his personal employ an agent, whose kusiness it has been to investigate how other citles pay their bills. This "Colonel House" of Philadelphia, thought to be George Washington Hicks, statis-tician under Mayor Royburn, but whose identity is being kept secret by his em-ployer, has been in many of the major

Continues on Page Fifteen, Column Two

reported this forenoon that 27 autotrucks had been sent forward into Mexico yesterday and that 27 more were ready to leave at once. Indications are that it will soon be possible to send forward all the supplies that can be handled at Columbus.

Latest reports from El Paso indicate that Francisco Villa, hunted by Mexican and American forces, has escaped the net in the Namiquipa region and has gained safety in the Sierra Madres.

Communications have been cut off between the Carranza headquarters in Juarez and the troops reported to be moving on the outlaws. Neither has word been received since early today from the American forces mov-ing southward to block escape of ing sout Villistas.

Confirmation of the reports to El Paso is lacking. If Villa has not yet gained the mountain fastnesses, the situation, based on this morning's advices is that he is fleeing northward after having been beaten by Car-ranzistas at Namiquipa and Las Cruces and that he is fast moving into the path of the American forces. In that case, his escape is cut off. It is stated that all the mountain

passes to the Sonora District on the west are guarded strongly by commands under General Calles, who de-clares that it is utterly impossible for Villa to enter Sonora. It is possible that Villa might

have escaped toward the east, but his course has more likely been west-ward to the country he knows best.

The United States, after a meeting of the President's Cabinet today, decided to accept the Carranza pro-posals for a protocol the terms of

TOBACCO FRAUDS ROB

of Manufacturers

Expected

WASHINGTON, March 21. - Nation

wide tobacco frauds, by which the Gov-

ernment has been swindled out of many

millions of dollars in revenues, have been

Continued on Page Five, Column One

NATION OF MILLIONS

FRENCH HERO AT VERDUN TAUGHT IN THIS CITY

Lieutenant Rene Froument, a former teacher of French in Philadelphia, has been decorated by the French War Office for gallantry on the field of battle efore Verdun, according to an official communique received by his wife today at 1605 Green street. Froument, who enlisted at the beginning of the war as a corporal, is now in the thick of the fighting around Verdun,

ANTHRACITE SHIPPING RATES UNREASONABLE

WASHINGTON, March 21 .- Anthracite rates from the Beaver Brook and Coleraine collieries, in the Lehigh district of Pennsylvania, to Elizabeth, N. J., for transshipment by water were held unreasonable today by the Interstate Commerce Commission in the case of Wetson, Dodson & Co. against the Central Railroad of New Jersey. The complainants charged they were forced to pay a rate of \$1.55 on prepared sizes of anthracite coal and \$1.40 on pea sizes on shipments aggregating 47,000 gross tons. The Commission held that reasonable rates for the service would have been \$1.45 for prepared and \$1.35 for pea sizes, and ordered reparation to the shippers on basis of these rates.

GREECE ANNEXES EPIRUS, ROME HEARS

ROME, March 21 .- Advices received here from Athens that a royal decree has been issued proclaiming the annexation of Northern Epirus, Albania, to Greece are causing some concern, the annexation being regarded in official circles as a violation of the decision of the London conference concerning Albania.

A dispatch from Athens March 8 said Greece had decided to proceed to the omplete financial and administrative assimilation of the provinces of Northern Epirus, Deputies from which had already been seated in the Greek Chamber.

MRS. ASQUITH'S LIBEL SUIT SETTLED

LONDON, March 21 .- The libel suit of Mrs. Herbert Asquith, wife of the remier, against the Globe was settled today. The suit was brought on account of publication by the Globe of statements that Mrs. Asguith had visited German prisoners of war confined at Donnington Hall and had sent presents to them. When the case was called today announcement was made that the Globe has consented to judgment for £1000 (\$5000) and costs.

TURKISH AVIATORS SHELL KUT-EL-AMARA

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 21 .- The Turkish War Office issued last night the following statement: "A Turkish aeroplane threw bombs on Kut-el-Amara. On Saturday, in an engagement with the enemy in the neighborhood of the Suca Canal, we captured five Indians."

CENSOR LEAVES ONLY "ADS" IN FRENCH PAPER

PARIS, March 21 .- All records of the newspaper censorship have been sursassed by No. 1605 of the Toulouse Ecole Laique, a four-page weekly, of which three and three-quarters pages are entirely blank, only a few lines of advertisements remaining. On the day after it was 1 the editor received this tele-gram, signed "Old Subscriber"; "Continue or magnificent campaign. You have my enthusiastic support."

REICHSTAG ADVANCES BUDGET TO THIRD READING

LONDON, March 21 .- The German Reinhstag has voted the third reading the budget, says a Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam. The feature of the budget is the special war tax. This tax, as stated by Dr. Karl Helfferich, Sec. retary of the Imperial Treasury, before the Reichstag last week, is necessary to meet a deficit of 480,000,000 marks (\$120,000,000) caused by the increase of interest on the public debt. The new tax is expected to produce 10,009,000 marks (\$2,500,000) a week.

LONDON JEWEL THIEVES GET \$100,000 HAUL

LONDON, March 21.-The biggest robbery in London for a long time was discovered today when it was learned that the Gyde Company on Warwich street and are revealing instances of defrauding of the Government which are appalling. Raids by internal revenue agents in these cities are to be made soon. Officials, while admitting that frauds had been un-covered, were reticent concerning datain. had been robbed of mole than 120,000 (\$100,000) worth of mounted and unmeasured d'amonds, pearls, supphires and rubies. The thievez brought an expansione apparatus in two cases weighing respectively 200 and 200 pounds and burned out - I A

Another man mated for a district super-intendency is the Rev. Dr. George W. Hen-son, campaign manager of the Conference Claimants' Fund, who will be succeeded by the Rev. Dr. J. D. C. Hanna, pastor of the Twaster which Erect Church. Twenty-ninth Street Church. The Rev. Doctor Parkin announced to friends that he had declined an offer from the Central Church. Wilkes-Barre, to go to the Grace Church. A salary of \$4000 a year is attached to the Wilkes-Barre ion at Augusta, Ga.

changes in pastorates, four changes in dis-stict superintendents and two changes in the special field were announced today. The list of ciergymen who will remain be settled in a few days, he said.

The list of clergymen who will remain in their present pulpits was announced by the Blabop. There are 176 of these, besides 17 who will remain in their pres-ent charges in the special detached field. Four of the district superintendents will be replaced, the only one certain to re-main in his present position being the Rev. Dr. George W. Leer, of the North-west District. So large became the crowd of laymen eagerly seeking information as to probpartment, it was announced today: Indictments against hundreds of tobacco-manufacturers, warehouse proprietors and distributors of all classes can be ex-pected in the near future, it was said. Investigations now are being conducted in nearly every big city in the country and are revealing instances of defrauding sagerly seeking information as to prob-able changes in their churches that a detail of policemen was hurried to the church from the 35th district station. This was dons as a precautionary measure on request of the clergymen. The church