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## PEOPLE OF ENGLAND ARE CONVINCED THAT BIG EFFORT IS ABOUT TO BEGIN AGAINST GERMANY AND TURKEY

### Reassuring Speeches By Lloyd George and Harold J. Tennant in Commons

### British Submarines in Bight of Heligoland Foreshadows Some Big Movement in North Sea

### Troops Being Rushed Towards Dardanelles—Turks at Head of Persian Gulf Suffer Defeat

London, April 22.—Glowing accounts as to the strength and condition of the British army and of the extent of output of munitions, which it is expected will next month amount to twenty-five times what it was last September, given by David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Harold J. Tennant, Parliamentary Secretary of the War Office in the Commons have increased the enthusiasm and confidence of the people of Britain in the war which they and their Allies are waging on the continents of Europe, Asia and Africa.

Supplementing the statement of the Chancellor that Britain has more than thirty divisions of troops on the Continent, and that the output of munitions has been enormously increased, Tennant today, speaking on behalf of the Secretary for War, Lord Kitchener, declared that recruiting has been most satisfactory and gratifying, and the health of the troops is splendid and that the wounded were in London hospitals twenty-four hours after they were struck in France. He wished to impress upon the country the necessity of increasing the supplies of artillery and ammunition, adding there is no limit to the amount required.

Frankness of Cabinet Ministers in making known the number of men at the front, and reports that reach London from various sources have convinced the people that a last big effort against Germany and Turkey is about to commence. Both in the Aegean and North Seas there are signs of increasing activity.

From to-day all steamboat communication with Holland is stopped by order of the British Government. Taken in connection with the news from Berlin that British submarines have been in the Bight of Heligoland, where the German Admiralty lays claim to having sunk one, perhaps more, this is believed to foreshadow some movement in the North Sea, where there is no longer any endeavor to hide the fact that a big Anglo-French force is prepared to go, as General Damade, the French commander, has said "To any point where it is required."

A German report says, part of this force, which is under the command of General Sir Ian Hamilton, has been landed at Enos, a Turkish town near the Turkish-Bulgarian border, on the northern side of the Gulf of Saros, under support of the Allied fleet. At the same time there is news of transports loaded with troops passing the island of Lemnos, not far from the entrance to the Dardanelles, and others being sighted off Smyrna, on the coast of Asia Minor. This makes it uncertain where the blow is to be struck.

There are Anglo-French troops in the Aegean Sea, including Sengalaise, who were transferred from France, and British Tommies from outposts of the Empire, which with the disappearance of the last German raiders are considered safe from attack.

Further east, in Mesopotamia, the Turkish advance from the head of the Persian Gulf, after having suffered six thousand casualties, is in full retreat, harassed, not only by the Brit-

## Prussian Officers In Despair

Havre, April 22.—A leading member of a famous banking firm, particularly well acquainted with the financial situation of the European States, has declared that Germany will be at the end of her financial resources by the middle of next June. The Germans have taken extremely severe measures in Belgium to prevent knowledge of the movements of their troops becoming known. Preparations have been made everywhere with a view to eventual retreat.

High Prussian officers in Belgium do not disguise their despair, and admit that the German cause is lost.

## ITALY AT WAR BEFORE MAY

Berne, April 22.—According to Angelo Crispis, the famous Italian publisher, Italy will join the war before May.

## TITANIC BATTLE IN NORTH SEA MAY BE QUESTION OF FEW HOURS

### London in Fever of Excitement

London, April 22.—Last night in a fever of excitement and anticipation of battle, rumour after rumour spread through the streets, restaurants and clubs, each fed by some line on telegraph or cable, that word of activities of the Empire forces afloat. Indications are present that "Der Tag" is near at hand. The Admiralty has been working at full pressure for days. Every naval base has been under extra guard and employees have been urged to greater exertion. The Fleet is known to be at the highest point of efficiency, and letters from the fighting ships have told of an undercurrent of feeling that action soon would take the place of monotonous patrol duty and that the French have joined their British Allies.

This is apparent from a despatch from Copenhagen, which says an Anglo-French squadron has been sighted in the waters to the north of Stavanger, on the Norway coast.

Stavanger is almost due east from the Orkney Islands, and on a line which almost marks the northern limit of the British patrol that guards that exit from the North Sea.

Reports continue to be received from Copenhagen, too, of the presence of German warships in the North Sea. Stopping of all commerce from Holland, Anglo-French guard in the north reaches of the sea, and a raid of submarines into Heligoland Bay, combine to indicate to naval observers that the closing in on German bases has begun, and that its culmination will be lost in the crucible of battles of eight months work, under high pressure, by both the British and German navies.

## Germans Capture Norwegian Steamer

London, April 22.—Germans have captured and taken into Halburg the Norwegian steamer Brilliant, from Norway for London with a cargo of granite, deal planks and paper.

According to Berlin evening newspapers, says Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent, a German submarine stopped the British steam trawler Glencarse, off Aberdeen, and took it into a German port on the North Sea.

London, April 23.—A great battle in the North Sea, the most titanic engagement in history of naval warfare, may be a question of hours. All commercial shipping has been cleared from the old German Ocean, and all preparations are complete for a trial of strength between the British fleet and the German Grand fleet, supported by Heligoland fortress.

The schr. Maggie Stone arrived from Trinity Bay yesterday with a load of firewood and coopers' lumber, after discharging she loads supplies for the home port.

## DARDANELLES AGAIN BOMBARDED

Paris, April 23.—A despatch from Athens says advice received from Chios stated that heavy firing has been heard there since Thursday morning, which leads to the supposition that the bombardment of Smyrna forts has been resumed.

Four British warships entered the Dardanelles yesterday and bombarded the forts for three hours. The Turkish fortifications also were subjected to an indirect fire from the Gulf of Saros.

They replied vigorously to the attack of the warships.

French mine-sweepers are continuing their operations actively.

All hope for the safety of the Antoinette has now been abandoned. She was expected to leave Patras about the end of December last for Barbados, and no doubt did so, though she has not since been reported. Captain Webber was in command, and she carried a crew of seven men.

## British and French Official Reports

London, April 22.—The War Office report violent recurrent attacks by the enemy on Hill 60, repulsed with great loss. German losses since the 17th are between 3,000 and 4,000.

The enemy airships in the harbour at Ghent have been considerably damaged by a bold and successful attack.

Turkish losses in the recent action in Lower Mesopotamia are estimated at not less than 2,500. A Mohmand raid on the Indian frontier was repulsed with heavy loss.

The French have captured another German trench north of Flirey.

French aeroplanes have bombarded the headquarters of General Strantz in Woivre, and the electric station at Baden.

The Russian Government reports abortive enemy attacks in the Carpathians, and the successful bombardment of Soldau station in East Prussia.—HARCOVIT.

## BOMBARDMENT TURKISH POSITIONS ON GALLIOLI PENINSULA CONTINUES

Conference Held to Decide Best Means of Hastening Passage of Dardanelles

French Minister of Marine Says Task is Perfectly Feasible

London, April 23.—"The Mail's" Sofia correspondent, in a despatch, dated Tuesday, says fugitives from Enos say that following the bombardment by the Allies, the British landed a force at Enos and the Turkish commandant ordered the evacuation of the port.

Enos is Turkey's most south-westerly port on the Aegean Sea.

A despatch from Athens says the bombardment of the Turkish positions on the Gallipoli Peninsula continues without interruption. The best means of hastening the passage of the Dardanelles by the Allies' warships was one of the principal subjects of a conference to-day between the Minister of Marine, M. Augagneur, and Winston Churchill. The conference was held in the north of France.

On his return to Paris, M. Augagneur told a representative of Havas Agency that the public would be wrong in thinking that operations to the Dardanelles had been suspended.

The French Navy, M. Augagneur, added, never has thought that the Straits could be forced without long preparation, but it has always believed, and is more than ever convinced, that the undertaking is perfectly feasible and before long the object, so ardently desired, will be attained.

## THE BRITISH SHELL TURKISH TOWN

Bulair, in Gulf of Saros, Shelled By Warships—Ottoman Positions, on Gallipoli, Under Fire

Athens, April 22.—Four British warships in the Gulf of Saros bombarded the Turkish town of Bulair on Tuesday, and also shelled Ottoman positions on the Gallipoli Peninsula, east and west of Bulair.

On the same day a British torpedo boat flotilla proceeded along the coast near Smyrna and shelled the Turkish camps at Lytel and Kato-Panagia.

## GERMANS RUSH BIG REINFORCEMENTS TO FLANDERS FRONT

Paris, April 22.—Five attacks were made last night by German troops, attempting to recapture positions taken by the British at Hill No. 60 near Zillebeke, says a despatch received to-day from St. Omer, but all were repulsed with heavy loss. Three of these attacks were made within an hour. German reinforcements are reported rushing through Belgium to Flanders front. They are reserve troops said to number more than 200,000 men. The Germans have found it impossible to shift men from the Aisne, Champagne and Argonne fronts, because French artillery is keeping up bombardment in these regions, while French infantry is maintaining its offensive in the Woivre and in Alsace.

## MAY CONFISCATE INTERNED VESSELS

London, April 22.—Britain has not yet decided to act on the suggestion to confiscate interned German and Austrian ships, in retaliation for every British merchant ship sunk by German submarines.

Asquith, answering a question in the Commons this afternoon, put by Lord Charles Beresford, added to the foregoing, that this decision did not preclude consideration of the matter should circumstances demand.

## TO SAFEGUARD BRITISH INTERESTS

Japan is Officially Informed of British Concessions in China

London, April 22.—Foreign Secretary Grey told the members of the Commons, this afternoon, that the Japanese Government had been specifically informed of concessions granted to British subjects in China.

He explained that this action was taken so that in the Chinese-Japanese negotiations, the existing British railroad concessions could not be injured by new concessions granted to Japan. He added that he had no doubt Japan would respect any rights already acquired.

## FRANCE RETIRES 29 GENERALS

Submarine Sunk Off Heligoland

Paris, April 22.—Twenty-nine more French Generals have been placed either on the reserve or retired lists, to give place to younger and more active men.

"Done duty is the soul's fre-side,"—Robert Browning.

Berlin, April 22.—An official announcement was made to-day that a British submarine was sunk in Heligoland Bight.

"Discretion of speech is more than eloquence,"—Bacon.

Following a meeting this morning of the Council of Ministers, this conference between the cabinet members is considered as highly significant.

"The highest culture is to speak no ill."—Ella Wheeler.

CARE FOR BY THE STATE

Paris, April 23rd.—It has been decided by the Cabinet that children made orphans by death in war of their fathers should be cared for by State.

Cotton Cargoes Taken to the Clyde

London, April 12.—The Norwegian steamer Mexican, and the Danish steamer Hammershus, have been intercepted by British cruisers and taken into the Clyde.

Both were carrying cotton cargoes to Scandinavian ports. They will be held until the Government disposes of their cargoes.

Italy Sends Terms to Austria

Rome, April 22.—A report has been received from Petrograd to-day, to the effect that Italy has sent a Note to Austria, which virtually amounted to an ultimatum. The Note is said to embody the minimum terms upon which Italy will consent to conclude an agreement with Austria. It is impossible to confirm this report here.

The general opinion in Rome is that an agreement may be reached. Military preparations are being continued with great energy along the frontier where Austria is concentrating troops.

All Shipping Stopped Between Holland and England

Amsterdam, April 22.—The following official statement was issued here to-day on behalf of the British Government:—

"All shipping between Holland and United Kingdom is stopped for the time being. No ship will leave the United Kingdom for Holland. After to-day ships from Holland will not be admitted to the United Kingdom. It is hoped shortly to resume limited cargo and passenger traffic. Special arrangements have been made for the transfer of mails."

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Moderate South and West winds, a few light showers, chiefly to-night, but mostly fair.

Cape Race (noon)—Wind S.W., light, fine and clear; Canadian tug passed in at 8 a.m. and Prospero passed at 10.40 a.m.

Roper's (noon)—Bar 29.60, Ther. 50.

"Point thy tongue on the anvil of truth."—Pindar.