

## Russian Invasion of Turkish Soil.

New York Times.—When at the height of the German invasion of Russia, last September, Grand Duke Nicholas was relieved from command of the Czar's defense and sent to the Caucasus, the assumption was that he had been sacrificed to royal displeasure. Some military experts thought his strategy had been brilliant in retreat, and yet it was easy to understand that in Russian eyes failure to stop the invader might have outweighed the intrinsic merits of his performance. He had baffled the Germans, he had saved the Russian Army from capture or destruction, but he had lost Poland and the greater part of rich Lithuania. The Caucasus was far away and seemed then an unimportant theatre. Developments have changed the aspect of affairs. The Germans went hardly any further into Russia. The "eastern front" is almost the same as when the Grand Duke left it. The fighting has diminished to a minimum. But in Asia Minor large events are taking place. From his Caucasian bases the Grand Duke is driving a pronged fork into Turkey. One prong, sliding along the edge of the Black Sea, is aimed at Constantinople; another is penetrating a very mountainous country in a easterly southerly direction and is intended to cut Turkey's transverse communications, and another, pointed straight at Bagdad from the northeast, has already pierced the Turco-Persian mountain barrier almost to Khanki, 100 miles from the Holy City, on the plains of Mesopotamia. The operation is somewhat like driving a fork into a mole hill. The Turk may either be impaled or trapped between two prongs. In the case of being

trapped he might escape by lateral ways, in a westerly direction, across the desert, but that would mean to abandon Bagdad and all of Mesopotamia. It would establish contact at once between the Russians and the English coming up the Euphrates River from the Persian Gulf. The character of the Grand Duke's operations is determined by the extreme difficulties of the country, which is very mountainous in all approaches to Mesopotamia, with few and wretched roads and scanty sustenance. The invading forces have to go in thin columns and rely entirely upon their distant bases for supplies. The difficulties of transportation must be enormous. There are military experts who think that when the history of the war is written in perspective, this Caucasian campaign will be one of its most interesting and important chapters, provided it succeeds. It is now possible to believe that when the Grand Duke Nicholas was relieved from command on the eastern front it was done with a view to the importance of Asia Minor as a theatre of war and his special ability to perform there a task of prodigious proportions. If that is true, Russian foresight and strategy deserve to be very highly thought of, for undoubtedly the Germans were unprepared in Asia Minor and taken off their guard.

That Child.  
Tommy—"Oh, mother look at that man! He's only got one arm."  
Mother—"Hush! He'll hear you."  
Tommy—"Why, doesn't he know two prongs. In the case of being

## CARRANZA NOW AFTER VILLA

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Dispatch of 1,500 Carranza troops northward toward the border in the Big Bend district of Coahuila, reported in border advices last, was regarded by officials here, to-day as possibly indicating that the Mexican de facto government is making renewed efforts to capture bandits who have raided American border towns. Reports that the expedition might have a hostile purpose were not regarded seriously by administration authorities.

They intimated that the action tended to strengthen the belief that American and Mexican military authorities at El Paso had reached an unwritten agreement on co-operation along the border to prevent further bandit raids.

The Mexican situation showed no sign of immediate change here to-day. President Wilson was cruising down the Chesapeake Bay on the yacht Mayflower and did not expect to return before Sunday or Monday. Secretary of War Baker had also taken a week-end tip.

General Scot, chief of staff, was on his way to Washington from El Paso to report on his conference with General Clegg, war minister for the de facto government. He is expected here early next week and administration officials probably will confer at length with him before taking up diplomatic discussions with Elscó Arredondo, Carranza's ambassador designate. War department authorities emphasized that although General Pershing is concentrating his forces in Mexico and shortening his line to 216 miles he is ready to dash southward still further if definite reports should be received of Villa or his bandits.

## The WEEK-END PROGRAMME at THE NICKEL

Knickerbocker star features present

**"THE DRAGON'S CLAW."**  
MARION LEONARD and WALTER HAMPDEN in a stirring dramatic production in 3 acts—a beautiful story—beautifully told.

**"THE VAGABONDS"**—(Adapted from the poem.) **"SONNY JIM'S LOVE AFFAIR"**—Bobby Connolly in a juvenile comedy.

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A powerful two-act Vitagraph melo-drama featuring PEGGY BLAKE, HARRY MOREY, L. RODGERS LYTTON.

**BERT STANLEY, Singing all the Latest Novelty Hits.**

SEND THE CHILDREN TO THE BIG SATURDAY BUMPER MATINEE.

### THE "MAIL" GETS THERE

A little "ad." in the columns of the popular Mail and Advocate has a magical effect when owners of lost articles wish to recover such. We had an instance of this yesterday, when a little gold cross, owned by Miss Patrice Carew, and lost by her Sunday, was returned to her by the honest finder, Miss Sullivan of the Martin Hardware Co. Few in St. John's fail to read the organ of the great F. P. U., so that its advertising columns when used by you always get results.

The Prospero which is due here to-morrow night came from Tilt Cove to Fortune Harbor. She reports the southside of Green Bay blocked with ice.

The S.S. Jansburg with a cargo of salt from Cadiz to Job Bros & Co. arrived here this morning. She made the run here in 15 days and had variable weather.

## WAR MESSAGES

### Irish Prisoners Are Well Treated

LONDON, May 26.—John O'Connor, a prominent Nationalist member, who has represented North Kilkaree for many years, declared in a statement to-day, following a visit which he paid to a prison where a large number of Irish citizens, accused of participation in the recent rebellion have been detained, since their arrival in England, that there was not the shadow of foundation for allegations of their ill-treatment by the military.

### Italian Steamer Sunk

PARIS, May 27.—A Havas despatch from Port Vendres says that two French torpedo-boats arrived there yesterday bringing 60 members of the crew of the Italian steamer Moravia, which was torpedoed by a German submarine on Thursday afternoon without warning. The crew were abandoned in two life-boats.

The Moravia sailed from New York on May 5th and was last reported passing Gibraltar on May 22nd.

### Austrian Claims

VIENNA, May 27.—Twenty-five hundred Italians, four guns, four machine guns and a quantity of war materials have been captured by the Austrians, who stormed an extensive mountain ridge on Trentino front, according to an official statement.

### Norwegian Steamer Seized by Germans

LONDON, May 26.—The seizure by German warships of the Norwegian steamer Olaf Kyrre in the Catagat, is reported in a Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co.

The steamer was bound for New York and was taken into Swinemunde.

### British Steamer on Fire

HONG KONG, May 26.—The British steamer Wesley, from New York on Pelly 29th via Port Natal for Vladivostok, is reported on fire and beached off Cape Varena in Cochin-China. Assistance has been sent her.

### Officially Denied

BERLIN, May 26.—The rumor in circulation abroad that Prince Von Buelow, former German Chancellor, is going on a peace mission to Washington is officially denied here.

### Italian Dirigible Bombs Austrian Battery

ROME, May 27.—A naval dirigible threw 28 bombs on an Austrian battery at Monte Salvore, causing considerable damage. The airship returned to its base unharmed.

Last night the police arrested a young man, a peddler, for the theft of two blankets and a bed cover from the Seamen's Institute on the 23rd. inst. The man slept there on the night of 22nd and stole the articles on leaving the place. The goods were valued at \$7.00. He tried to sell them on board a craft but as he could not get what he wanted for them he threw them overboard later. He was fined by Judge Morris \$10.00 or 30 days.

### Would Increase Up-keep.

"And the price of the car is one hundred and fifty pounds," the customer murmured, thoughtfully. "Does that include everything?"

"Yes—oh, no, of course the lamps the extra."

"Lamps extra!" said the customer sharply. "But they are shown in the illustration."

"My dear sir so is a very beautiful woman," said the salesman, smoothly, "but we do not give a lady with every car!"

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### NOTICE OF REMOVAL AND PARTNERSHIP!

Hon. R. A. Squires, K.C., LL.B.'  
ANNOUNCES the removal of his LAW OFFICES to the New BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA Building at the corner of Beck's Cove and Water Street, and the formation of a PARTNERSHIP for general practice as Barristers, Solicitors and Notaries, with MR. J. A. WINTER, eldest son of the late Sir James S. Winter, K.C., under the firm name of Squires & Winter.

Address: Bank of Nova Scotia Building.  
January 3rd, 1916. St. John's.

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