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# THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

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## Russians Rout Turks Who Lose Fifty Officers & Four Thousand Men

**Czar's Forces Capture Scores of Machine Guns and Large Quantities of Munitions—Reports From Turkish Headquarters Tell of a British Reverse Some 20 Miles East of Kut-el-Amara—Claim British Left Three Thousand and Dead on Field—Little Fighting Reported from Other Fronts—Austrian Despatches Claim Disarming of Montenegrin Forces is Progressing Without Interruption or Resistance**

London, Jan. 26.—Turkish losses in the recent battle with the Russians in the neighborhood of Ezerum, reported unofficially, are very heavy. The Turks lost 50 officers and four thousand men were made prisoners, also scores of machine guns and quantities of munitions were captured.

If reports from Turkish headquarters, coming by way of Berlin, are exact, the British forces in Mesopotamia have suffered a reverse in their endeavor to reach the besieged town of Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris River. Some 20 miles east of Kut-el-Amara, according to these advices, the Turks counter attacks on the British drove them back several miles and the British are said to have left on the field about three thousand dead. Turkish losses are declared to have been comparatively light.

Aside from the usual bombardment and mining operations and aeroplane raids, little fighting is going on in any other of the theatres of war.

Vienna asserts that there has been no resumption of hostilities by Montenegro. The King of Montenegro with his family has arrived at Lyons, France. The disarming of the Montenegrin army, according to Austrian despatches, is progressing without interruption and without any resistance.

Allied airmen have again dropped bombs on Monastir and Givigli. Hundreds of persons are estimated to be killed and wounded in the latter town.

The Germans on their part let loose explosives from aircraft on Dunkirk, where five persons were killed. An aerodrome at Nancy and factories at Baccarat were bombed.

While no battle of importance from the Russian front, Vienna says the Russians have shelled several sections of their line and they have been actively reconnoitering.

Unofficial advices from Petrograd says the recent successes of the Russians brought them within

## Dominion Liner Norseman Sunk

LONDON, Jan. 26.—A Liverpool message to the Exchange Telegraph Company gives a report that the Dominion Liner Norseman has been sunk. The only steamer Norseman mentioned in recent issues of the Maritime Register is a large British vessel of that name owned by the British and North American Steam Navigation Co. of Liverpool, gross tonnage 10,750, 500 feet long, built in 1897 at Belfast and last reported on arrival at Liverpool on Dec. 5th from New York.

PORTLAND, Maine, Jan. 26.—The Dominion Liner Norseman reported sunk in a message to-day from Liverpool made many trips to this port in previous years. She was a sister ship to the Irishman which left here Saturday for Liverpool with thirteen hundred horses and mules, and a large cargo of grain, and general merchandise.

On her last trip from Portland, in January, 1915, the Norseman took out one of the largest general cargoes ever sent from this port. Previously the vessel had been engaged in transporting troops.

## Swede Riksdag Discuss Neutrality

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 26.—The maintenance of neutrality in conformity with the principles of international law was the keynote of all the speeches before both Houses of Parliament yesterday when the debate on the budget opened. The leaders of all parties dwelt on the virtual unanimity of the Swedish people in favoring a firm and impartial neutrality. The Premier declared this to be the policy of the Government, but he added, "We repudiate the idea that our policy means we will not abandon neutrality under any conditions. It is our fervent desire to keep peace, and it is our duty to work for this end with all our might, but we must also reckon with eventualities by which the maintenance of peace in spite of all our efforts would no longer be profitable."

less than three miles of the town of Pinsk in Volhyna.

The British Military Service Bill is making fast progress in the House of Lords after its passage by the House of Commons. The Upper House has passed the second reading of the measure without division.

## OFFICIAL BRITISH

To Governor, Newfoundland:

LONDON, Jan. 25.—Headquarters in France report a successful bombardment of enemy trenches near Arras, causing considerable damage. A British patrol attacked a strongly held enemy trench, returning without casualty. Elsewhere the enemy attempted an attack near the mouth of the Yser. French artillery prevented the enemy leaving their trenches. Small enemy parties attempting to cross the Canal at Het Sas were repulsed.

In the Caucasus the bombardment of the Erzerum forts is being continued. Kurd detachments were defeated north of Lake Van.

In Macedonia French aeroplanes bombarded the cantonments of Monastir and Givigli.

A German seaplane was driven off from Dover yesterday by a British seaplane. A German seaplane was forced into the sea by a British machine near Nieuport.

BONAR LAW.

## Japs Again Make Demands On China

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The Japanese Government has delivered to the Chinese Minister in Tokio for transmission to his Government a Note embodying the seven demands which were included in the Japanese programme of last Spring, so the "Manchester Guardian" learns from Far Eastern sources.

The "Guardian" expresses the hope that this news will be authoritatively contradicted, as the demands when previously presented were full of danger to China's independence and their general effect would have been to place China under the tutelage of Japan.

It is the aim and hope of the British policy, the newspaper continues, to see China strong and independent, developing peacefully without interference from any foreign power. It is a duty we owe to ourselves and to China, says the Guardian finally, to help her in that direction, and we have enormous material interests to reinforce what is for us the only right and just policy.

## Austrian General Burned Bridges Behind Him

LONDON, Jan. 26.—Four thousand Turks including fifty officers were captured by the Russians in a recent battle in the neighbourhood of Erzerum, according to a despatch from Petrograd, Reuters say. The Russians are also said to have captured scores of machine guns and enormous quantities of ammunition. Despatch says the rout of the Turks after the battle which resulted in them being driven into Erzerum appears from later accounts to have been even more decisive than first report show. The influx of 120,000 Turks into Erzerum will considerably reduce the defensive powers of the fortress.

In the Pripiet marsh region and in Volhynia, the Russian positions are stated to be only four versts (two and three-quarter miles), from Pinsk, so successful have been the Russians' actions.

## Negotiations Are Under Way For Settlement

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The controversy between Great Britain and Sweden over the holding up of the mails by Great Britain and the retaliation by stopping British and Russian mails, and the placing of an embargo on wood pulp by Sweden, are still unsettled; but negotiations are under way for mutual concessions. Although nothing official has yet transpired it is believed licenses for exportation of wood pulp from Sweden will be granted in exchange for permission to import coal from England.

## Sing Sing Men Win on Wall St.

Details regarding the existence in Sing Sing recently of a syndicate of prisoners who got "tips" on the market and speculate heavily were sought to-day by District Attorney Crosey, of Brooklyn, in his fight to prevent the release by the State Parole Board of "Curley" Joe Cassidy, former Democratic boss of Queens, and William Willett, convicted for the sale and purchase respectively of a judicial nomination.

Crosey has written to the board that such a syndicate existed within the prison, and that its plunges in the market were so successful that several members will find themselves with greatly increased fortunes when they are liberated.

Willett was the agent for the syndicate, according to Crosey, and Cassidy was one of those who profited heavily. The district attorney says he knows the name of the go-between, the Wall street house through which the syndicate dealt, and the stock deal in.

Interesting disclosures are promised for to-morrow, when Crosey appears before Justice Whitmyer to argue for his order to prevent the Parole Board releasing Cassidy and Willett, whose fines have been paid and whose minimum terms have been served.

## OFFICIAL BRITISH

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The British official statement on Western campaign issued to-night reads as follows:

We have had a successful artillery bombardment to-day near Boiselle, Lebridoux and Boesinghe. Near Boesinghe we exploded a bomb in the enemy's line; hostile artillery have shown activity near Goumeucelle. About Loos and Hooge the aircraft on both sides have been active. We maintained our supremacy.

PARIS, Jan. 26th.—The following official statement was issued by the War Office to-night:

"Two German aeroplanes this morning dropped about 15 bombs on Dunkirk and its environs, five persons were killed and three wounded. In Artois Sector cannonading has been very lively, and east of Neuville and in the region of Valley where our fire silenced several enemy batteries. To the north a German heavy battery which attempted to destroy the bridge at Berry-au-Bac was damaged by the fire of our heavy calibre guns. On the heights of the Meuse and in the section of Mouilly a small enemy detachment which attempted to approach our lines after somewhat intense bombardment was easily dispersed by our fire.

## House of Lords Pass 2nd Reading Service Bill

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The House of Lords without division passed the second reading of the Military Service Bill this afternoon. Marquis Lansdowne, Minister without portfolio, spoke strongly of the necessity of enacting the measure. The Archbishop of Canterbury bestowed his benediction on the measure, saying he regarded it as a straight forward and vigorous effort to meet the situation which is extraordinary difficult. Earl Curzon, Lord Privy of the Seal, said no one would like better to see a permanent measure passed than himself, but it is out of the question to attempt a whole Military system in the middle of a great war and force upon the country a general system of conscription.

Earl Derby, director of recruiting, said he was convinced that the Bill when imposed on the country would not make any disturbance in industrial circles that many predicted, he believed, could be worked.

## Predicts Big Offensive by Germans

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The morning papers emphasize the renewal of heavy fighting on the Western front. It is believed there was a serious German attempt to break through the French lines close to Flanders coast on Monday. They predict the German activity on the West will probably reach the highest effort by Thursday, when the German Emperor celebrates his 57th birthday.

## Enemy Trade Act Gets 3rd Reading No Division

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The House of Commons to-day passed the third reading of the Trading with Enemy Bill, without a division after the addition of amendments concerning minor details of the application of the measure. A feature of the debate was several bitter attacks on the Board of Trade on the ground that they have too much leniency to aliens and could not be depended upon to enforce the measure with sufficient vigor. A motion put to remove it from the board's jurisdiction was negated without being put to a vote.

forced, not only by guns and ammunition, but by hard thinking and circumspection, and as the positions gained menace the vital points of the enemy's front the present pause is a good augury that the offensive can be continued with success whenever it is found necessary."

## War's Grim Tale—Suvla Battlefield at Night

By Sydney A. Moseley, official War Correspondent with the British forces in the Mediterranean. Reprinted from The Fortnightly Review.)

From the hand of a dying subaltern on the Suvla battlefield—a young, keen-looking fellow who wore pince-nez—I took at his request the following. It is headed NIGHT.

Gradually the dazzling sunlight faded, retreating before the oncoming shades of evening. Men shifted restlessly on the ground, shifted to ease their cramped and stiffened limbs. Near by me a wounded man groaned, and the snipers' bullets whistled overhead, threatening the unwary man who raised his head from behind the scanty cover of the scattered rock.

Rapidly the night descended, and with a sigh of relief the man next to me turned on his back and sat up, stretching his poor aching back under cover of the gathering darkness. Then a scream broke out almost in my ear and he rolled on his side, the blood from him bespattering my tunic, and my eyes met his stained face with its gaping eyes and clenched teeth.

I lit a cigarette—my last till day dawned now—and waited for utter darkness before I moved. Then I walked round the edge of the little hill and took stock of my men. I spread them out round our little fortress, told them to dig cover for themselves, and wondered how long we could hold out.

A moan came to my ears from the hill top, "Stretcher-bearer!"—a moan ended by a gasp and a sob; some poor soul was there, and I climbed up toward the sound, almost falling over his prostrate form. Close to him lay another. Then the voice came again, this time more controlled. "This way, Sir!" it said. "No, not him, he's dead. I've been here six hours with a broken leg, sir—can't

you get a stretcher-bearer?" I told him I had sent for one—though God knows no one could have reached us there.

Then another voice spoke to me out of the darkness. "Who are you?" it said. I told him. "Your adjutant is coming back in a bit," it volunteered cheerfully, "he's bringing some men with him."

We talked over the situation. Then, against the little strip of moon a figure appeared silhouetted against a sky. I recognized the form and gait, though the face was still in gloom.

"Good evening, sir," I said. The figure groped toward me, tripped over something that moaned in reply, and presently was by my side. We went over the whole hill, and I received my orders.

And every time the voices heard a step the cry went up anew: "Stretcher-bearer—stretcher-bearer, for God's sake, water!"

On the other side of the hill I found the medical officer. The officer turned his face to me and the moonlight shone on it. "Hallo," he said, "you here!" There was a strange lack of life in its tone, and I turned to find the reason. There by him were two of his men curled up and dead. "They were on each side of me, and a shell burst over us," he said. The air was full of the sound of pick and spade meeting stony earth, and I knew that morning the little garrison would be out of sight, and burrowed into the ground.

Then I slept a while. When I woke the chill morning wind was wafting the smell of the battlefield over us again, and the sky was a wondrous dome of delicate shades. The sun rose from behind the hills opposite us, and the day came with a rush. A sniper's bullet whistled overhead and I crawled into our shallow trench—all that stood between us and death—to wait for the night to come again.

## German Fleet Made Three Sorties Last December

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—An official statement of the British Admiralty, who arrived yesterday with despatches from London, brought news that the German battleship fleet left its anchorage in the Kiel Canal, where it had been since the beginning of the war, and made three sorties on Dec. 15, 16 and 17. The fleet did not succeed in finding the British North Sea fleet, because they kept along the coast by the mouth of the Elbe and through the Bight of Heligoland, and did not venture outside the lines of mines that had been laid down by them.

## Forced Out By Riots

In explanation of the German manoeuvre, the official said: "The real food riots at Berlin and other cities in Germany early in December and the feeling among the people have grown so strong over the British blockade that the naval vessels were forced to leave the Kiel Canal and make a pretence of searching for our warships."

"The blockade is going to be drawn tighter than ever now in an endeavor to cut off the enemy's food supply, and we expect that the Kaiser's fleet will be compelled to steam out past Heligoland into the North Sea. Then the biggest naval battle in the world's history will take place.

"Our North Sea fleet is keeping a bright look-out day and night for the Germans to come out. It has mother ships with eight and ten hydro-aero-

planes on board which are continuously making ascents to take observations of the enemy's fleet.

"The battle for the supremacy of the seas will come without warning and may take place at any time. All preparations have been made along the east coast of England for taking care of the wounded and hospital ships are waiting ready to go out and bring the injured ashore."

**British Take Control**  
The official went on to say that the recent Teutonic submarine activity in the Mediterranean would be taken care of by the British alone and that effective protection would be given the merchant vessels. The trouble had been that the guarding of shipping against submarine attack had been under a dual control, certain sections under the French and other portions under the British. This had been all changed, he added, and the patrolling of the routes from Gibraltar to Alexandria was under the British Admiralty.

The official asserted that it was well known in Paris and London that the large submarines, reported by merchant vessels in the Mediterranean, were German, because Austria had no submarines of such a size.

**MAGISTERIAL ENQUIRY**  
A Magisterial Enquiry into the Thompson fire began to-day before F. J. Morris, K.C. Mr. Higgins appeared for Thompson, and Mr. Hutchings, K.C., for the Crown. The evidence of the witness, John Kelly of Torbay, was taken and the hearing will be continued at 3 p.m.

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Was Forced to Leave its Safe Anchorage in the Kiel Canal on Account of Bread Riots in Berlin. A Sea Battle May Occur at Any Moment.

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"The British battleships cannot go inside Heligoland," the official said, "because of mines and submarines and the shoals which render navigation inside the Bight and along the shore very dangerous.

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