

BRITISH FORCES SCORE GREAT SUCCESSSES ON TWO FRONTS

Sweeping Advances Made on the Ancre River and Against the Turks

BRITISH FORCES ATTACK A TWO MILE FRONT, TAKING GERMAN POSITIONS AND MANY PRISONERS—ENEMY TROOPS WERE EXHAUSTED FROM LACK OF FOOD

London, Feb. 18.—Again the British have struck on both sides of the Ancre, cutting a wide gap in the German lines and pushing within a few hundred yards of Petit Miramont. A successful attack Saturday captured trenches on a front totalling more than two miles to an almost uniform depth of a half mile.

It was another of the thoroughly planned attacks the British have delivered recently on the Somme-Ancre front, far different from trench raids. Its main object was to push closer to the immediate objectives of Miramont and Petit Miramont, north and south respectively of the Ancre and on the road to Bapaume.

On Sunday the Germans tried to regain the positions taken from them by the British, but their attempts were fruitless. Attacking in waves, the Germans came under the concentrated fire of the British guns and were swept back to their trenches, suffering heavy casualties. At no place did the attacking forces reach the British line, and the British suffered no casualties. The British captured 780 officers and men.

A despatch from British headquarters gives the following details: "The British on Saturday carried out an attack on a two mile front west and south of Miramont on both sides of the Ancre for the purpose of gaining the higher ground commanding that town, toward which the Germans retired after evacuating Grandcourt. It was estimated at corps headquarters that approximately 800 prisoners had been passed back, with more expected.

"Not one of these prisoners had had food in 24 hours, some having been for 48 hours without food, as during this time the British guns had cut off all supplies from behind the lines. The prisoners virtually all were Prussians, and the first request made was for food.

"The British troops easily attained the first objective. Then they continued to go forward just south of Miramont in an effort to gain entire control of all the high ground. The first fog in five weeks interfered with the artillery, but last night the fighting was still in progress. British aeroplanes ventured boldly into the fog banks, but could see nothing by which to direct gunfire.

"One of the most daring incidents of the day's operations came toward the close of the preliminary bombardment, when an artillery officer crawled out of the trenches with a telephone, stationed himself forward in a shell hole and calmly directed the fire which cut the German barbed wire to pieces. An English sergeant, losing his way, was captured, and was being escorted back by two Germans when the British barrage crept up to them. The captors fled and the sergeant returned to his own lines directly through the curtain of fire. He was wounded badly, but managed to reach a dressing station unaided, where he was able to give valuable information concerning the German positions."

Daily Raids Continue "The official report from British headquarters in France Sunday night gave additional details of the Ancre victory. It read:

"The prisoners we took in yesterday's operations (on the Ancre) now number twelve officers and 761 men. We also captured a number of machine guns and trench mortars.

"This morning strong enemy forces attacked our new positions on the spur above Bailleulcourt farm. The enemy infantry, advancing in three waves, with bodies of supporting troops in the rear, came under the concentrated fire of our artillery and were driven back with heavy losses. Our lines were not reached at any point; we suffered no casualties.

"We entered German positions during the night southwest and also northwest of Arras, south of Fauquissart and north of Ypres. We inflicted many casualties on the enemy, blew up a machine gun and

THURSDAY EVENING. Hear Estele Clarey, Miss Sanderson, Miss Marjorie Jones and the Children's Choir at the Grand Opera House on Thursday evening. Tickets at Boles Drug Store.

Weather Bulletin Toronto, Feb. 19.—The weather is fair and decidedly cold in nearly all parts of the Dominion, but a disturbance now in Kansas is likely to cause unsettled weather from the lake region eastward.

Forecast: Strong easterly winds; snow tonight and on Tuesday, turning in some localities to sleet.

"Zimmie"

ZEPPELIN CAMPAIGN AGAINST LONDON PROVEN A FAILURE

Germans Realize at Last Futility of Air Raids, and Decide to Discontinue Them—Wilson in Early Days of the War Frowned Upon Zep Warfare

By Courier Leased Wire. Geneva, Feb. 19.—(From a staff correspondent of The Associated Press)—The Zeppelin campaign against London has been found to be unprofitable. The cessation of German air attacks on the British metropolis after the latest appearance of the big dirigibles over the city last fall, has been due not to fortuitous circumstances, but to the deliberate determination of the German leaders to abandon these attacks, as has long been done in the case of Paris.

To Attack Provinces The correspondent, who was then in Berlin, was informed from a trustworthy source a few days after the final London raid of the decision to send no more Zeppelins and sister ships of the Scheutellanz type, against London. Air raids against England, the correspondent was told, would not be abandoned entirely. They were considered to be of great service in holding at home guns, airplanes and men of the British aerial defense, which otherwise would be freed for service in France, but in future the at-

tacks would be directed against the provinces instead of London. The next and final expedition of the year, on November 27, was directed against the midland counties, in accordance with this prophesy and resulted in the loss of two Zeppelins. The predominant reason for the decision to discontinue attacks on London probably is the increasing strength and efficiency of the air defenses of the city but the effect of raids on neutral opinion in view of the then contemplated peace overtures, may also have been a factor.

Wilson's Disapproval It may be interesting in this direction, to record a bit of unwritten history of the war. In the early days of the conflict, when the air raids were just beginning, President Wilson caused to be conveyed to Emperor William and the German government a personal and unofficial message, which set forth that airship and airplane raids upon populous cities were looked on with disfavor by the American people, and contributed largely to stirring up anti-German feeling in the United States. In view of this the wisdom

of their discontinuance was suggested. The message did not fall entirely on deaf ears, but the views of the military party prevailed, and the air attacks, then the only German means of bringing home the realities of war to the people within the British Isles, continued. Later, they ceased for a time, to the displeasure of an element which openly accused Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg of sheathing his weapon in deference to the neutral opinion. This element was appeased, but little by Count Zeppelin's published letter to the Chancellor, wherein the Count disavowed responsibility for this accusation. The raids were renewed with the object of tying up within the islands and eliminating from the Somme offensive as large a number of anti-airship guns, airplanes, searchlights and men to equip them as possible.

Aside from this service, which is of considerable military value, the role of the Zeppelins in land warfare is now regarded in expert circles in Germany as decidedly secondary to their great value as scouting agents for operations of the fleet.

German U-Boat Sunk by French Line Steamer

Battle Off Coast of France Endured Forty Minutes and Ended in Destruction of the Submarine

By Courier Leased Wire. New York, Feb. 19.—In a forty minute battle between a German U-boat and the French Line Steamship Guyane, off the coast of France on January 22, the submarine was sunk, according to officers of the freighter, which arrived here to-day from Bordeaux.

Sub Sighted The Guyane was one day out from port. At 3:30 p.m., Captain Reusselot said, the U-boat was sighted some distance to port and apparently endeavoring to cross the freighter's bow in order to stop her. The submarine fired a shot which fell short and the Guyane then turned sharply to starboard so that her big 65 millimetre gun, mounted at the stern, could be trained on the approaching vessel.

The submarine fired a second shot

which fell considerably short and a third which struck the water close to the freighter.

U-Boat Hit Meanwhile the Guyane's gunner had sent one shell, which failed to hit, but struck very near the mark. A second shot from the Guyane, Captain Reusselot said, hit the U-boat squarely and tore the underwater boat to pieces and was seen to collapse.

Sub Lost During the next thirty minutes, the German craft appeared to be struggling for existence. No one appeared on the deck, and no further attempt to shell the freighter was made, and the Guyane refrained from firing any more shots. The Guyane, a steel vessel of 2,068 tons net, carried 37 men. She brought a general cargo of about 1,000 tons.

ATROCITIES OF THE HUN CONTINUE

Zeppelin Raid Made Over French Coast, Little Damage Done

GAS AGAIN WAS USED By German Forces Upon The Russian Front

By Courier Leased Wire. Vienna, Feb. 17.—via London—Despite the fact that some of the newspapers are taking a gloomy view of Austro-Hungarian relations and the situation brought about by the severing of relations between the United States and Germany, official circles in Vienna are inclined to believe that the situation is not entirely hopeless. This is also the view of Frederic C. Penfield, the American ambassador, who is doing everything possible to assist in reaching a friendly solution of the situation.

Russian Statement Petrograd, Feb. 19.—via London.—Except for scouting operations, there has been little activity along the fronts in Russia, Galicia, Roumania and the Caucasus, according to to-day's war office statement. The text reads:

"Western front: "During Saturday night, the enemy discharged four gas waver on other positions in the vicinity of Dunatovka, south of Lake Wishe-

"Roumanian and Caucasus fronts: "Souting reconnaissances and infantry firing are proceeding."

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR WAR LOAN TURNED AWAY

Total Subscribed to Latest British Loan Passes Figure of \$3,500,000,000

MANY APPLICATIONS Were Not Dealt With, So Great Was the Number Received

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Feb. 19.—3:38 p.m.—The new money subscribed to the new British war loan is at least \$700,000,000, exclusive of contributions from the banks, Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, stated in the House of Commons to-day.

Mr. Bonar Law said the number of applications received for the war loan on the last day was so large that 200,000 or 300,000 were not dealt with and the result would not be known until next week.

AUSTRIA STILL HOPES TO AVERT BREAK WITH U.S. ON SUB QUESTION

Believed That the Situation May Yet Be Cleared Up, Though Dual Monarchy Will Make no Important Concessions—Felt That U. S. Is Unprepared for War

By Courier Leased Wire. Vienna, Feb. 17.—via London—The Associated Press is able to say that the Austria-Hungarian Government as a result remains in almost total ignorance of what measures are needed in order to meet the views of President Wilson and his cabinet. The impression here is that in Washington it is believed the dual monarchy will recede from the position taken jointly with Germany regarding submarine warfare.

The feeling here, however, is that while the Austria-Hungarian Government might consider small modifications of the new blockade regulations, as Germany has done in the case of Holland, there is not the slightest chance that it will yield in the least so far as the principle involved is concerned. Meanwhile, it is said, the government is ever ready to listen to some proposition from Washington, provided it does not affect in any form the submarine warfare as it is directed against Germany and that the imports from neutral countries to these states.

There seems to be no doubt that official circles and the entire public have become thoroughly reconciled to the step the dual monarchy has taken jointly with Germany and that the Austria-Hungarian Government has been ready to accept all res-

TWO THOUSAND TURKS TAKEN BY BRITISH IN IMPORTANT OFFENSIVE—STRONG POSITIONS ALSO FALL—TURKISH DEFENCE IS GREATLY WEAKENED

London, Feb. 18.—By a series of attacks uniformly successful the British in Mesopotamia have tightened their hold upon the defenses of Kut-el-Amara. Turkish resistance was almost paralyzed on Thursday and Friday, and the capture of almost 2,000 prisoners, including high officers, and much war material, is reported by the War Office.

This spoil, unusually large for the Mesopotamian fighting, fell into British hands as a result of assaults upon the strong Turkish fortifications on both banks of the Tigris where it winds about Kut. A considerable sector on the right bank was completely cleared of Turks, and advanced troops now hold the south-west corner of the strong Shumran loop positions five miles from Kut.

An unusual feature is that the Turkish statements admit the British success, which usually they totally ignore. Two Turkish statements of Thursday and Friday admit that "part of our positions were evacuated according to orders to prevent needless losses" on Thursday, and that on Friday "we executed a slight backward movement to avoid unnecessary casualties."

The British statement reads: "Mesopotamia: The offensive against the Turks on the right bank of the Tigris was resumed Thursday. An important tactical point in front of the enemy's right was first seized. An attack on his right centre followed, resulting in the securing of our objective on a front 700 yards. This was afterwards extended by bombing to a depth of 500 yards on a frontage of 1,000 yards. The half-hearted Turkish counter-attacks were easily repulsed. A further advance of 2,000 yards was made Friday south of the Shumran loop. Our advanced troops now hold the south-west corner of this bend."

Turkish Alihi Two Turkish official communications received to-day admit retreats on the Tigris. The communications under Thursday's date says: "After an enemy attack against our right wing had been repulsed, part of our positions had been evacuated according to orders, to prevent needless losses."

The second communication, undated, reads: "On the Tigris front we executed a slight backward movement to avoid unnecessary casualties."

The present offensive against Kut-el-Amara began, with presumably three full army corps, or 120,000 Anglo-Indians, on December 13, 1915. Up to that time, from April 28, when General Townshend, after a siege began December 7, 1915, surrendered 9,000 armed men and 5,000 camp followers, little had been heard of this town on the way to Bagdad. Townshend had been ordered to take Bagdad with less than 20,000 men. He fought his way to within less than eighteen miles of the place, and then retreated and was caught with his rear guard at Kut.

Five Weeks' Work The present operations began with an advance along the Shatt-el-Hai, a canal which enters the Tigris above and below the city from the south, and was strongly fortified by the Turks after Townshend's surrender. On January 9 and 13 an Indian division, by two assaults, cleared the land between the canal and the river up to the trenches of the town itself. On January 25 some of these trenches were recovered; then by January 28 the Anglo-Indian forces cleared all the land southwest of the city and held the first and second lines of trenches over a front of 4,200 yards. On the same day the licorice factory opposite the town was bombarded and it became only a question of time when communication between Kut-el-Amara and Bagdad by water would be cut, and the former besieged or evacuated.

PUBLIC LIBRARY ESTIMATES. The estimates for the public library expenses for the year 1917 have been prepared and will be presented to the city council tonight. In all, the sum of \$9,098.77 will be required during the coming twelve months, made up as follows: salaries, \$2,395.65; books 1,500.00; books to the number of 474, ordered in 1916, but undelivered on account of the war, \$500.00; bookbinding, \$460; newspapers and magazines, etc., \$295.05; fuel and light, \$950; fire insurance, \$422.50; tablet, \$150; painting outside woodwork of building, \$150; library maintenance, \$550; unforeseen expenses, \$335.57.

SCHUBERT CHOIR. You can hear the Schubert Choir from any seat in the Grand Opera House on Thursday evening next. The acoustics are perfect. Tickets at Boles Drug Store.

Eleven Missing. London, Feb. 19.—Eleven men of the crew of the British Steamer Romsdalen, reported sunk yesterday, are missing. Lloyds shipping agency announced today.

Another Sunk. London, Feb. 19.—The British lolo, of 2,903 tons gross, has been sunk. Lloyds shipping agency announced today.

Did Gerard Furnish Information to Allies? Sensational Charges Made by Count Von Reventlow Against Former American Ambassador at Berlin

Amsterdam, Feb. 19, via London.—Count von Reventlow devotes the leading editorial in The Berlin Tages-Zeitung to an attack on former American Ambassador Gerard, whom he accuses of having used his official position deliberately to transmit important war information to the Entente by way of America.

Information Transmitted "Many indications," he writes, "have continually pointed to the theory that the uncontrolled cable service and letter service to the United States permitted to the American Embassy, had also been an uncontrolled method of communication with London and Paris. This was best illustrated in the events which led to the capture and execution of Sir Roger Casement. Thus London learned in good time of the enterprise which led Casement to the British coast, and his capture followed. American Ambassador Gerard and his personnel were the ones who delivered the honorable Irishman to the hangman."

An attack on American newspaper service from Berlin is appended, and the article closes with an expression of hearty thankfulness that Mr. Gerard has left Berlin.

THEATRE Features... "Twist"... "Zimmie"...