COULD SMASH GERMAN LINES

Allies On West Front Consider the Present Inopportune, and Will Wait On the Weather.

FRENGH GAIN

Operations in the Vosges Continue Successful, With Losses to the Germans Heavy.

Fris Cable. The French offen siv in the Vosges is assuming very ortant proportions. Fresh gains considerable magnitude are red officially to-day. The number nwounded German prisonere ade since the operation began, Dember 21, is now 1,862.

A despatch from Berlin to-night ys that the German War Office adits that the French penetrated the erman positions on Hartmannsellerkopi, but says they were driven t. From the official French War ffice reports, however, it does not pear that the German assertions e accurate. It is evident, on the ntrary, that gains of great im-Germans have sustained during e operations thus far very consid-

There is no indication that the of ensive, which has been apparently accessful to date, is to be dropped. would rather appear that the ad-ntages gained are to be followed antages gained are to be followed y even more determined assaults. In its connection the French communiation says:

Notwitastanding the violent counter-attacks of the enemy, the action commenced yesterday left us at the end of the day masters of a series of German works established between Renfelsen and Hirzstein, which have been added to the trenches already lost by the enemy. The number of Germans who have rallen into our hands since yesterday has reached 300. The total number of uninjured prisoners taken since the beginning of these operations is 1,668. Prisoners are that the Cormer was the since the si say that the German losses in the course of our attack of December 21 and the following days were very large.

TIME NOT YET RIPE.

Time Not yet ripe.

"The most dreaded period of winter is from the end of December to the end of January," was a French general's reply a year ago to the demands for a great offensive. The same remark would probably apply equally this year. Reuter's correspondent at western headquarters, after remarking that the British staff is confident that the allies are now after remarking that the British stall is confident that the allies are now so strong in men and munitions that they can break through the German lines whenever the right time comes, lines whenever the right time comes, declares that the weather is the chief reason for postponing the big movement, and adds: "Such a movement needs careful planning and extreme caution. Rolling-up tactics always involve the possibility of counterattacks, which may end in rolling up the aggressor. With the face of the country in a porous and mushy condition, it is impossible to effect the essential quick movements of artillery, without which any big offensive is foredoomed to fail."

The Allied troops would probably

is foredoomed to fail."

The Allied troops would probably have little trouble in occupying the greater part of the German front trenches forthwith, because the enemy holds these lightly. But then, with the range registered to a nicety from myriads of artillery and machine guns such a step would be sheer suicide until the opportunity is until ripe.

BRITISH REPORT.

London Cable.-The British officiar statement on the progress of the campaign issued to-night reads as

The enemy made an unsuccessful attack on one of our aerodromes. Of four machines only two reached their objective. No damage was done. One

utes the party withdrew. Our casualties were light.

"To-day our artillery was effective against the trenches and billets in many places between Mametz and Monchy. The enemy exploded two small mines near Gizenchy There them."

Ontario is doing her bit and doing many control of them. To-day our artillery was effective

al hembardment occurred."

FULNCH REPORT. Paris Cable .-

e icllowing communication to-

machine-gun shelters and ed workers around Ville-nu-

on a German bat-Warmont wood.

> at divers points ing indisposed. between the artmanns-Weil-

A CLEAR CASE

Seizure of U. S. Mails to Holland Justified by Results.

London Cable.—Referring to a Washington report that the American Government is preparing a protest against the British interference with the mails to and from Holland, the Daily News declares that a necessity for the rigid scrutiny of the east-bound mails has been demonstrated by the recent discovery of fifty bags of rubber in the parcel mail on board the steamer Oscar II., consigned, as the press bureau reported, to an enemy

press oureau reported, to an enemy forwarding agent in Sweden. "The moral of the incident is pat-ent," the Mail continues. "If contra-band can be assigned to Germany by post through Sweden, it can equally well, rather better indeed, be consignated. We do not ed by post to Holland. think that America will miss the point of this argument."

GERMANS FEAR

Albert Ballin Says No Peace Terms Possible.

If British Plan of Commercial War After is Confirmed.

Berlin, via Amsterdam, Cable.-(Montreal Gazette)-Albert Ballin director-general of the Hamburg-American Line, and now, at the special request of the Kaiser, in charge or the German railway system, coniributes to the Berlin and Hamburg papers an article, in which he says:

"Christmas, 1915, found the peoples of Europe still embroiled in the most cruel and idiotic war the world has ever seen. They are immersed in a hoperas struggle; in the sorrowful work of converting their beautiful old hemisphere into a mass of ruins, for the benefit of the world on the other side of the ocean, and to the joy of the yellow race—the men who one day will be called upon to construct peace. but conceive it their noblest duty not only to panish war from our genera-tion, but also to wipe out the European armaments fever for decades to

They will also have to seek guarantees that an economic war shall not follow this bloody war. The men who negotiate peace for Germany will see to it that we do not become the stepchildren of our dear lord and master."

Herr Ballins statement that Germany must seek guarantees that economic war will not follow peace may have been called forth by a speech recently made by Walter Run-ciman, President of the British Board of Trade; urging the total ruin of German trade. Mr. Runciman declared in the House of Commons on Dec. 24 that Germany is beaten from a commercial standpoint, adding: "We must see to it that she does not re-

He said the Board of Trade was taking steps to west the control of European oil fields from Germany, and to wipe out German trade in England. Mr. Runciman asserted that the economic and commercial war between England and Germany must be fought to the finish, even after armed hostilities have ceased.

Herr Ballin is one of the closest friends and most trusted advisors of the Kaiser, and is recognized as the head of the great overseas industries

ONTARIO'S SHARE organized to aid aviators.

Givings to War Purposes Average \$5 Per Head.

Kingston Report.-Hon. I. B. Lucas Attorney-General of the Province, was the chief speaker at the annual banquet in Randolph Hotel to-night of the "Last night there was a successful enterprise near Armentieres. The enemy's trenches were entered and hombed with good effect. The casualties were numerous. After ten minimum were numerous. After ten minimum described with good of the casualties were numerous. After ten minimum described with good of the casualties were numerous. After ten minimum described with good of the casualties were numerous. Our easualties the fact that describe what here ten minimum described with the fact that described what here ten minimum described when the fact that despite what had happened in the Baikans, what blunders

was no damage to either troops or trenches.

"The day was quiet south of La Bassee Canal. About Ypres a reciprogivings in money and kind since the war proke out. Contributions of the Contributions of Ontario to all-patriotic services amounted to the sum of thirteen million dollars, to the sum of thirteen million dollars, made up as follows: Canadian Patripolayed activity on both sides course of the day. To the the Alsne we destroyed by machine-gun shelters and diverses around Ville-authe Aronne we exploded two ar 2.5. To the north of the Aronne we around Court of the Aronne we around the Aronne we around the Aronne we followed These figures, Mr. Lucas said, were up to the first of December, and the grand total represented \$5 a head for the inhabitants of the Province.

The Attorney-General represented Premier Hearst, who was to have ar avintors, gave the been the guest of the Kingston knights of the Grip, but who was to have been the guest of the Kingston knights of the Grip, but who was prevented from coming, owing to his be-

> to her husband's whereabouts even after he is dead.

AUSTRIANS ARE ORIVEN BACK IN MONTENEGRO

King Nicholas' Soldiers Are Doing Great Work in Their Home Mountains.

HUN LOS HEAVY

And Their Offensive Said to Have Been Checked Most Completely.

London Cable.—The Montenegrin army, which hitherto has been debarred geographically from taking any large part in the war, is now throwing itself energetically into the contest against the Austrians.

The Montenegrin Consul-General here has received information that the Austrians directed, without result, a violent artifiery fire against the Montenegrin positions on the Tara River on December 27. The enemy attacked energetically near Liounovia, but was repuised with great ioss in the direction of Berane. The Montene-grans followed up their last success by occupying two more villages, advancing as far as Morita. On the Lovcen front the Austrians opened fire from the forts and warships on Raskova Gora, but the Montenegrins heid their ground. The hontenegrins continued fifteen hours, 2,000 large shells being fired. At the same time sharp infantry attacks were delivered, an or winch were repulsed. Notwith-standing the intensity of the Austrian ertillery fire the Montenegrins had only two killed and two wounded, which shows how poorly the guns

were handled.

The success gained by the Monte-negrins on Dec. 23 at Lepenatz was negrins on Dec. 23 at Lepenatz was greater than at first announced. Five hundred bodies were found on the right wing of the contingent operating against them, but the total Austrian icsses were more than 2,000 killed or wounded. King Nicholas sent-congratulations to the general commanding the Vassoievitch brigad. Austrian aeronlanes threw several Dombs trian aeroplanes threw several bombs on Podgoritsa Monday, killing two Austrian prisoners.

The French newspaper Echo de Paris prints the following Bucharest telegram: "The Austro-Hungarian offersive in Montenegro has been checked completely. The Austrians were faced by a stronger army than they expected to find, as many Serwho made their way into Albania marched northward and joined the Montenegrins. Southwest of Ipek the invaders were defeated in a severe bartle

FRENCH AIRSHIPS IN BALKANS. Despite numerous difficulties, such as landing grounds and a mountainous ccuntry, French aviators have succeeded, according to an official note issued here, in carrying on reconnais-sances about 93 miles into the interior of the Bulgarian lines.

In the month of November alone

there were no less than 54 reconnais-sances, during which observations and numerous photographs useful in strategie movements were taken. Aviators bombarded cantonments at Uskub, Istip, Kara, Hodzali, Strum-ritza and Petric. These bombardments were very effective.

The statement says that, thanks to wireless despatches, the French observers were able to regulate their artillery fire. It adds that a well-wrested complete perfected aerologie service has been

ITALIANS ADVANCING. Italian troops which disembarked at Aylona, Albania, have reached the vicinity of the northern frontier of Epirus in some places, according to reports from voyagers arriving from Santi Quaranta, says the Athens correspondent of the Havas agency. Italian ticops also have been seen near Tepe leni (Southern Albania).

LOST ONLY 16,000 MEN.

A despatch to the Havas Ageae; from Athens, dated Wednesday, says:
"According to information received from a Bulgarian source the third Bulgarian army corps is now between Varna, on the Black Sea coast, and Restchuck, on the Danube, while a Turkish army of 30,000 is at Burgas, to the south of Varna. A German army corps passed Uskup Monday

The Patris announced that Gen. Stephanovetch's Serbian army has made good its retreat into Albania. It was 80,000 strong at the beginning of the Bulgarian attack, and has been continuously engaged, disputing the ground inch by inch. It has saved as nost all the material belonging to it, and has caused the Bulgarians a loss five times creater than it suf-fered itself. It is now a complete army of 64,000 men."

FRENCH SEIZE TURK ISLAND.

Paris Cable.-French troops have occupied the Turkish island of as-telorizo (Kasteloryzo), in the Aegean etween the Island of Rhodes and the Guif of Adalia, according to the morning papers in Paris. The possession of Casteloriza as a naval base is characterized as indispensible.

Castelorizo is a small island Asiatic Turkey, lying off the south coast of Asia Minor, 75 miles east by couth of Phodes. It has an area of eleven square miles and is inhabited

A woman may have some doubt as skates, suggests a man in evening to her husband's whereabouts even

DOING ITS EST

French Fleet Trying to Protect snipping in mediterranean.

Paris Cable.—Ernest Outrey Deputy for Cocnin China, referring in the Chamber of Deputies to the sinking of the French steamer Villa de la Ciotat in the Mediterranean recently, asked Rear Admi al Lecaze, Minister of Marine, to make a statement which would reassure the public in France and the far east. The Deputy also asked if it would not be possible to

asked if it would not be possible to take measures of prudence or to furnish escorts for steamers in order to prevent the destruction of vessels.

The Minister of Marine, in reply, said that the question concerned the mar, and that what he might say would be heard where it must not be heard. He stated that he could say heard. He stated that he could say, however, that all the means at his disposar would be used in dealing with the problem.

Germany Fears Britain Has Taken Them From the Mails

In the Lot Which Washington is Inquiring About.

Washington Report. (Montreal Gazette)-It was authoritatively learned last night that the State Department is seriously considering the effect upon American rights of the avenue and Davenport road, Toronto, seizure by the British Government of was formally opened. American mail taken from steamships to and from this country and will don, Ont., Public Utilities Commission make representations to the British make representations to the British announced that the Hydro-Electric surplus for the past year would be \$60,000. yet been determined whether these representations will take the form of talion, died in Stratford General Hesan inquiry or of protest, but it is pital of blood poisoning; his failer-in- an inquiry or of protest, but it is known to be the purpose of the State Department to make representations, and if a protest is not made the com-munication will take the form of an inquiry to afford the British Govern-

ment an opportunity to explain.
Unofficial information has reached Washington to the effect that in making these seizures the British Government is endevering to recover Belgian securities which the German Government is understood to have sent mail for delivery in this country to be hypothecated.

While details concerning these securities their extent or character, could not be obtained, the statement that such securities were being mailed from Germany, and that the British Government, and the control of the securities were being mailed from Germany, and that the British Government of the securities of the se ernment was endeavoring to recover them by intercepting the mails, was obtained from an authoritative source. An equally interesting angle of the British mail seizures was the disclosure here yesterday that in quarters close to the German Embassy fear is entertained that important diplomatic documents destined for Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador at Washington, from the Berlin Foreign Office, may have been included in the batch of mail seized.

Consul-General Skinner advised the State Department from London yes-terday of the seizure of American mail from two steamships bound from New York for Rotterdam, The British mail eizures are part of the general plan of the Allies to isolate Germany from the rest of the world by every possible \$13,000,000.

Fire On the Steamer Bankdale Work of the Plotters.

Ontario Government Will Increase Its Shipments.

Men in Hospitals Delighted With the Treat.

Toronto Report.-The Ontario Government has decided to increase its out the steamer. The cargo, consist ing of cotton, was set on fire and shipments of apples to England for distribution amongst wounded Canadians there and in France and Cana-

dian prisoners in Germany. The action was taken following consincration of a report received from Ontario's Agent-General in Great Britain, Mr. Richard Reid, on the distribution of the apples already sent. Agent-General reports that he has already sent out 1,650 cases of apples. Of these 250 cases went to hospitals in France and about 30 cases to Canadian

prisoners in Germany.

'This latter is a trial shipment, which will be repeated when evidence comes to hand that the apples reached a Barrel to Three Cents.

states Mr. Reid. The Agent-General states that he is informed by those in charge of the hespitals that there is no fruit the men enjoy so well as the apples, and suggests that the supply be increased, as there are close on to 8,000 Canadlans in hospitals in Great Britain. "Arrangements have been made by the Government here to increase the supply accordingly," stated Hon. W. H. Hearst, "and it will endeavor to meet the requirements of the wound-

ed Canadians in this respect from time to time as ample as it is possible to do so."

Mr. Reid forwarded to the Government a number of letters from the leads of hospitals, expressing their appreciation of the action of the Government of Ontario in supplying ap-

Norway's Loss in Shipping in the War to Date Reaches the Total of \$10,000,000.

AIRMAN KILLED

Sweden Has Totally Prohibited Further Export of Raw Zinc.

Toronto Separate School Board was elected without contest. Over four hundred recruits were secured in Toronto in the last three

A deputation of London teachers visited the Parliament buildings in connection with the superannuation bill.

The Supreme Court of Canada harded down judgment on cleven appeals, allowing five. Conductor Michael J. Murray, 49

years in the employ of the Grand Trunk, dropped dead of heart failure at Eelleville station.

Arthur Cutten, of Chicago; formerly of Guelph, sent \$500 to the Geulph branch of the Red Cross Society, with his Christmas greeting. It is estimated that the Norwegian

shipping ioss in the war up to date totals 108,000 tons, and its cost is placed at \$10,000,000. The new orphanage of the Oddfellows of Ontario, corner of Ossington

Chairman Philip Pocock, of the Lon-

Pte. David Upper, 110th Perth Batlaw died Sunday, and the funeral had

not been held. George E. Minns, of Port Hope, ir spector for the Children's Aid Soclety in Dunham and Northumberland dropped dead while wrapping up pros-

ents for the children. Reports from Copenhagen to Berlin say that more than 100 ships, chiefly American, British and French, have been caught in the ice in the White Sea, and will have to spend the winter

Lieut. Rogers, of the Royal Flying Corps, was killed at Fortsmouth, Eng., Wednesday, when his aeroplane, which y as flying at a low altitude, suddenly forward and plunged to the tilted earth: A despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company, London, from Stockholm

hilited the export of raw zinc. Goods manufactured in Sweden of imported raw zinc may still be exported, how-With the sailing Wednesday of the steamer Kitano Maru from London for Japan, the Japan Mail Steamship

says the Swedish Government has pro-

Company inaugurated its new route by ay of the Cape of Good Hope instead through the Suez Canal. Speaking at the annual banquet of

the Kingston Commercial Travellers' Association, Hon. I. B. Lucas, Provincial Attorney-General, stated that Ontario's contributions in money and kind since the war broke out totalled

WAS A BOMB

New York Report.-The steamer Bankdale arrived this morning from Bordeaux, after a most tempestuous passage, in which the cattle fittings and rails were carried away and boats lifted from their fastenings. On the outward passage to Bordeaux on Nov. 19th, when 750 miles from that port, a bomb exploded in No. 6 hatch. The explosion was distinctly felt throughraged until nearing port, when it was finally subdued. All the cotton in the No. 6 department, consisting of 200 bales, was destroyed.

Cable despatches received here on Nov. 26th from Berdeaux, stated that the Bankdale had arrived there with a fire in her hold, and that an en-quiry was being instituted No mention was made in the cable despatches of a bemb explosion on board.

CRUDE OIL UP

Pittsburg Report-Another advance in the price of crude oils was announced by the South Penn Oil Company at the opening of the market today, Pennsylvania crude, the base of the list, being advanced 10 cents a barrel, to \$2.25. Ten cents also was added to Mercer black, Corning and New Castle, bringing the price to \$1.75, while 8 cents additional lifted Cabell to \$1.78 and Somerset to \$1.63. Ragland was advanced 3 cents, to 75 cents. Oil authorities expressed some hope that this latest addition to the price would bring out stocks now in the hands of producers, which are badly needed by the refineries because of the tremenous demand for oil and foreign use.

NOT FOR HUNS

No Slackening of the Blockade, Says Foreign Office.

London Cable—Concerning statement published that the British Government will permit German importations of American tobacco through neutral countries, the Daily Mail has obtained a statement from the Foreign Office declaring it to be incorrect to say that the British Government will permit or is about to permit such importations. On the contrary, it is stated, no goods having an enemy destination will be allowed to proceed. lowed to proceed. At the same time it is obvious that some goods of less importance from the belligerent point of view than others are permitted to pass. With regard to tobacco, it is considered enough to say that it is consigned to neutrals, and also the fact that Germany is able to get to-bacco from Turkey and other sources, that makes it a matter of less im-

Ancient Enmity in Dual Monarchy Blazes Up Again.

Even in Parliament the Split is Shown.

London Catie.-The Budapest correspondent of the Post, in a letter published to-day, states that the old enmity between Austria and Hungary has burst into a fresh flame, and that even the pretence of unity, which had existed has disappeared since the time when the Austrians offended the Hungarians by removing the Hungarian flag from a fortress at Bel-

grade. The seriousness of the present quarrels, the correspondent says, is instanced by the parliamentary activithe parliamentary activi-ties of the independence party, which, despite the entreaties of the Premier, have been airing the Hungarian griev-ances. Herr Urmanczy, a leader of the independence party, in a recent fiery speech, declared that the advantages gained in the war were largely due to German generalship and Hungarian bravery, and added that Austrian generalship and martial spirit had nothing to do with them. If everyone had done the same amount of work, and shown the same herojsm and sacrifice shown the same herojsm and sacrifice as the Hungarians, they would by this time be enjoying peace, Urmanczysaid. Although the Hungarians had won the praise of their arch enemies, the Italians, he said, the Austrians had shown no appreciation, and they had to face continually the brutal head to face continually the brutal head. had to face continually the brutal be-havior of Austrian officers.

The speaker continued to recount ome of these instances, remarking that the Austrian communications always slighted the acts of Hungarian heroism, and that Austrian officers deprecated and insulted the Hungarian

troops.

Count Tisza, the Austrian Premier, in defending the Austrians, replied that petty tricks of humiliation had rot been committed by anyone in authority, but by subalterns, and he would see that they were reprimanded.

DRAWS LONG BOW

Germany Says Her Food Prices Below Neutral and Enemy.

Berlin Cable.—(By wireless Sayville)-Count Friedrich von Westarp, reporting on the proceedings of the chief committee of the Reichstag,' says the Overseas News Agency today, "announces that the food resources of Germany are sufficient to feed her population, however long the war may last." Count Westarp added that the government, by taking efficient measures, had succeeded in keeping prices below the level of both neutral

and enemy countries, especially be-low that of Great Britain.

The committee expresses its absolute certainty that food for Germany's population is assured for a war of any duration whatever, and that Ger-many's economic strength is unbroken. There is no necessity to end the war one day carlier because of economic reasons, it declares, and the military and political situation give assurance of victory.

QUEBEC MURDER

Polycarps Paradis is Charged With the St. Cesaire Crime.

St. Cesaire, Que., Report .- Poly carpe Paradis, charged on a coroner's warrant with the murder of Francois Frechette here, was yesterday taken to the county jail at Ste. Hyacinthe.

Paradis told High Constable Bois vert, who work him to Ste. Hyacinth that he realized his position, and v that he realized his position, and that we that he has talked too much.

High Constable Boisvert learn that Paradis had been implicated in that Paradis had been implicated in shooting afair some time ago Farnham. He and another you man had trouble with the Syrian r prietor of a restaurant, which culn ated in Paradis drawing a revoland firing two shots at the other. is said to have gone to a border town and to have returned after the affair blew over.