

## Two More Hun Air Raids On London; Gen. Sir William Robertson Resigns

### Gen. Sir Wm. Robertson Severs His Connection With Imperial Staff

Official Announcement of His Resignation Made at London.

GENERAL WILSON HIS SUCCESSOR

Sir William Tells National News He Has Not Resigned His Post.

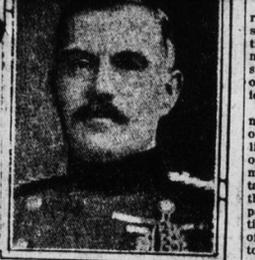
OTHER CHANGES MAY BE MADE

Earl of Derby Likely to Resign as Secretary of State for War.

London, Feb. 16.—General Sir William Robertson, chief of the British Imperial staff, has resigned, it was officially announced this evening.

General Wilson, sub-chief of staff, takes the vacant place.

The official announcement in connection with the resignation of Sir William Robertson, chief of the Brit-



GENERAL SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON

Imperial staff, says: "The extension of the functions of the permanent military representative decided on by the supreme council at their last meeting at Versailles has necessitated the limitation of the special powers hitherto exercised by the chief of the Imperial general staff by virtue of the order-in-council of January 17, 1918.

Declined to Accept. "In these circumstances the government thought it right to offer General Sir William Robertson the choice of becoming British military representative on the supreme war council at Versailles, or continuing as chief of the Imperial general staff under new conditions.

General Sir William Robertson, for reasons which will be explained in a statement which will be made by the prime minister in the House of Commons as early as possible in the coming week, did not see his way to accept either position, and the government has with much regret, accepted his resignation.

General Sir Henry Wilson has accepted the position of chief of the Imperial general staff. The appointment of the British permanent representative at Versailles will be announced in a few days.

Supreme War Council. The inference to be drawn from the British official statement regarding General Robertson's resignation seems clearly to be that the supreme war council has been given the powers which its name implies, and that it will be in fact the directing head of all the allied military operations.

There have been many rumors recently that General Robertson was to retire as chief of the British staff and be replaced by Major General Sir Henry Hughes Wilson, the sub-chief of staff and British military representative of the supreme war council.

The suggestion was, however, that should this change be made General Robertson would exchange with General Wilson, and become the British military member of the Versailles council.

Robertson Dismissed. London, Feb. 17.—The weekly newspaper National News, says it has been informed by General Sir William Robertson, whose resignation as chief of the British Imperial staff, was

### NO INDICATION OF OFFENSIVE BY GERMANS

Operations on Western Front Consist Largely of Mutual Bombardments.

AMERICANS BUSY TRENCH RAIDING

Germans Make Two Raids on London Saturday and Sunday.

Stories from front by The Associated Press tell of the interdicted actions of the Americans in trench raiding operations of their coolness under fire and in returning fire, the accuracy of aim of their gunners and their watchfulness at observation posts to see that the enemy obtains no undue advantage in a surprise attack.

The only criticism thus far heard regarding the Americans is their desire to be up and at the enemy. Like their brothers of the North—the Canadians—they are hard to hold in restraint. As one distinguished French officer expressed it, "they are too anxious to get at grips with the enemy."

There still is no indication of the near approach of the expected big offensive by the Germans, along the line in France and Belgium. The operations consist almost entirely of mutual bombardments and minor attacks by raiding parties. The roar of the big guns is greatest in the Champagne region on several sectors, particularly near Tahure, where one unit of the Americans is fighting shoulder to shoulder with the French.

The Italian Front. Likewise all along the Italian front from the Lake Garda to the middle of the Piave River artillery engagements are in progress.

Saturday night's attempted air raid on London proved a failure, only one German aeroplane of the six that came through the heavy barrage set up by the British anti-aircraft batteries. One of the enemy planes is reported to have been forced down into the sea as a result of a fight in the air, with British aviators. The Hun made another attack on London last night.

The armistice between the Germans and the Russians has ended and the communication issued in Berlin, in giving of the termination of the agreement to cease hostilities, this communication contains the grave statement that Germany reserves a free hand in every direction.

Officially announced last night, that he has not resigned.

General Robertson, interviewed by a representative of the Sunday Times at his residence at 8 o'clock last night, said: "I have not resigned. The only statement I have to make is that it is quite true that I will not accept either position," referring to the posts of chief of the Imperial general staff and British representative of the supreme war council of Versailles.

The political correspondent of the Sunday Times says: "General Robertson considers he has been dismissed. I hear that before the succession (on the Imperial general staff) was given to General Sir Henry Wilson, it was offered to and declined by General Sir Herbert (commander of the British forces in Italy), and it is anticipated that other members of the military hierarchy will follow General Robertson into retirement."

"The generals in fact have revolted against the cabinet, and the gravity of their action can hardly be over-estimated. The weakness of the soldiers position is that they cannot agree among themselves. It is not anticipated that the defection of the generals will wreck the government, as, apart from a comparatively small section of militarists there is no sympathy with the attitude of the soldiers."

The correspondent adds that the Earl of Derby may resign as secretary of state for war.

### HALIFAX HAS SPECTACULAR \$70,000 FIRE

Halifax, Feb. 17.—The fiercest fire which has raged in Halifax for some time occurred early this morning on Upper Water street, where the building occupied by the Martin Senour Paint Company, and all the stock there completely destroyed with a property loss of about \$70,000. The unusually large stock of paints and the value at approximately \$50,000, made up the bulk of the loss, the remainder being damaged to the building, which was owned by the Furness Withy Company and almost fully insured, to the extent of \$17,000. The insurance on the Martin Senour stock was placed in Montreal, and the exact amount is not known here. The building destroyed is adjoined on one side by the offices of the Furness Withy Company, and on the rear by the Halifax Meal Mills Limited. Both these buildings were saved by double brick partition walls together with the successful efforts of the firemen. The blaze, because of the inflammable nature of the contents of the building, was particularly spectacular, the flames shooting many feet in the air and making an intense heat.

### GERMAN FORCES BEING CONCENTRATED FOR AN ATTACK ON BOLSHEVIKI

Declarations Looking to the Active Prosecution of the War Against Petrograd Government Forces Will Be Made at Berlin This Week, According to Berlin Dispatch to Tijd of Amsterdam—Armistice Between Teutonic Powers and Bolsheviki Expires at Noon Today—German Authorities Anxious Regarding Fate of German Prisoners in North Russia.

### GERMAN TROOPS START REVOLT

Hun Soldiers in Russia Refuse to Go to French Front and Defeat Loyal Forces.

Petrograd, Tuesday, Feb. 12.—(By The Associated Press)—German soldiers at Grodno and Kovno, according to a report received here from Moscow, have refused to obey a command to move to the French front. The troops have entrenched themselves under the protection of their own artillery and have defeated a detachment of loyal forces which the German staff sent to punish them.

The foregoing despatch may be an echo of an earlier report of a mutiny of German soldiers on the Russian front. The Russian wireless news service sent out a message on January 5, according to which German soldiers in the region of Kovno revolted in consequence of the German government's drafting of all soldiers below the age of 35 for service on the western front. German deserters were quoted as saying the men rebelled, marched out of the battle line and entrenched themselves with rifles and machine guns against their units.

The military authorities were said to have been powerful against the mutineers and were endeavoring to cut off their supplies. One of the motives for the revolt, according to the German deserters, was that the sending of troops to western front was a contraction of the Russo-German armistice agreement.

Whether the Germans anticipate an immediate attack on the Russians has not developed, but undoubtedly there is some feeling between the German military officers and the Bolsheviki by reason of the fact that Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister has not met the desires of Germany and framed a separate peace agreement with that country.

Despatches from Petrograd indicate that German soldiers have declined to obey their commanders to move to the French front and even have given battle to brothers in arms who have endeavored to force them to do so.

In Petrograd at last accounts marked disorders were still prevailing, there being notice of the termination and looting.

An Amsterdam despatch says that Rumania intends under certain conditions to enter into peace negotiations with the Central Powers.

### WILSON REBUKES W. J. HUTCHESON

Tells Carpenters' Head Not to Give Aid and Comfort to the Enemy.

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Wilson took a hand tonight in the eastern shipyard labor strike and issued a sharp rebuke to William J. Hutcheson, president of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, who after refusing to send striking ship carpenters back to work pending action by the shipbuilding labor adjusting board had asked for a personal conference to lay the situation before the president.

In effect the president declared that if Hutcheson did not want to give aid and comfort to the enemy he would send the men to work and leave a settlement of difficulties to the adjustment board and declined to see him until he had done so.

Secretary of Labor, Wilson's appointment today of a committee representing capital and labor to come to an agreement respecting their relations during the war was seen as one of the most important moves made by the government during the war to deal with the labor problem.

### Hun Raiders Inflict Light Casualties On The City of London

Only One of Six German Airplanes Succeed in Reaching the Capital.

### COL. REPINGTON ARRAIGNED IN POLICE COURT

Charged with Unlawfully Publishing Information of Value to Enemy.

THE COLONEL TAKES ALL RESPONSIBILITY

Howell A. Gwynne, Editor of Morning Post Also Arraigned.

London, Feb. 17.—A great crowd that filled every corner of Bow street police court was present when, on Saturday Col. Repington, military correspondent of the Morning Post, and Howell A. Gwynne, editor of that paper, were called to answer the charge of unlawfully publishing information of military respect to the disposition of military forces of Great Britain and her allies.

Sir Charles Matthews, director in chief of the department of criminal prosecutions, occupied a seat on the bench with Sir John Dickinson, the magistrate. The prosecution was conducted by Sir Gordon Hewart, solicitor-general. In the court room were Lord and Lady Bathurst, Major-General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office, and other military officers.

Defence of Realm Act. The solicitor-general said he proposed to proceed with the charge of publishing plans and the conduct of military operations and pointed out that the Defence of the Realm Act prohibited the publication of any information which might benefit directly or indirectly the enemy. He argued that if a man took upon himself the responsibility for printing information relating to the disposition of any of the forces, or the conduct of any of the forces, it could not be held that he was not to be calculated to benefit the enemy.

Warning Issued. The week preceding the Versailles conference, said the solicitor general, a warning had been issued to the press that it was of the utmost importance that no reference whatsoever should be made regarding it. He pointed out that, despite the warnings and the subsequent rulings of the censor not to pass an article in its original form, it was modified without submission to the censor, but the matter was virtually the same and published with a paragraph added, which referred to the warning and said: "But there are times when we must take our courage in both hands and risk the consequences."

Counsel for the defence stated that responsibility for the article in its original form, and also as published. After several witnesses had been examined prosecution closed and the case was adjourned until next Thursday morning.

### HUN AIRPLANE FIRES ON U. S. HOSPITAL

With the American armies in France, Saturday, Feb. 16.—(By The Associated Press)—An American field hospital in a town within our lines apparently was the target for a German airplane which flew over it last night and dropped several unusually heavy bombs. The hospital, in which a number of sick and wounded officers and men, was the building nearest the place where the German dropped two different sets of bombs.

Fortunately, none of the missiles reached their mark although the hospital patients and the residents of the town were severely shaken by the explosions. American anti-aircraft guns engaged the enemy but without success. The hospital probably will be moved to a less dangerous spot.

### FIFTEEN ARRESTS

Halifax, Feb. 17.—Fifteen more arrests of draft dodgers under the Military Service Act were made since Saturday noon by the city police. The men taken to military headquarters include those of several nationalities, but there are no native Halifaxians among them. Most of them are men who have drifted from place to place on construction work and have neglected to comply anywhere with the provisions of the act.

### ANOTHER RAID!

London, Feb. 17.—German airplanes again raided London tonight. Lord French, commander of the home forces, reports that the hostile aeroplanes came in over the Thames estuary shortly after ten o'clock tonight and proceeded towards London. Some bombs have been dropped in the capital. The raid is in progress.

### Demolished House

This bomb demolished a house and buried an invalid officer and his wife and two children. Several other bombs were dropped by the raider on the outskirts on its way in, but no serious casualties or damage has been reported.

An attack which was delivered against Dover about 10.45 was driven off, some bombs being dropped in open country.

Several of our pilots engaged the enemy. One of them fought an action over the Kent coast and shortly afterwards a large enemy machine was seen from the shore to crash into the sea. Police reports of the casualties and damage have not yet been received, but apparently they were light.

German Version. Berlin, via British Admiralty, per wireless press, Feb. 17.—Reporting the German air raid last night on England the German war office statement issued today says: "Our aviators last night attacked with bombs London, Dover and Dunkirk (France) as well as the fighting forces on the north coast of France."

Raid on Dover. London, Feb. 16.—German naval activity off Dover, which opened early yesterday morning with an attack by German destroyers on British patrol forces in the Straits, where a trawler and seven drifters were sunk and continued this morning with an attack by a submarine on the town itself, apparently was undertaken in the hope of countering the British success against the German submarines which use this route to reach the open seas.

The patrol was after submarines, which it is believed sent a wireless appeal for help from Zeebrugge, when it was attacked. According to one report the patrol had in the past few weeks destroyed four submarines and had practically closed this vital waterway to U-boats. It was in an effort to break this barrage that the destroyers came out. They succeeded in sinking a few small patrols and got away before the British warships could overtake them.

This morning's affair was a small one, about thirty shells being thrown into the town. All the casualties were caused by one shell.

Eight Casualties. London, Feb. 16.—An enemy submarine bombarded Dover early this morning. It is officially announced. The submarine was fired on from the shore and ceased the bombardment, after some thirty rounds had been fired. There were less than a dozen casualties and only slight damage.