

ENORMOUS LOSS OF LIFE WHEN FRENCH CRUISER WAS SUNK BY ENEMY SUBMARINE

Hundreds of Men Trapped in French Cruiser Torpedoed by An Austrian Submarine

The Leon Gambetta, Cruising at Entrance of Otranto Canal, Torpedoed by Submarine U-5—Sunk in Ten Minutes and Only Small Portion of Crew of 714 Had Opportunity to Escape.

Brindisi, Italy, Tuesday, April 27, via Paris, April 28.—The French cruiser Leon Gambetta, torpedoed by an Austrian submarine in the Strait of Otranto, has been run ashore. Fears are now entertained that she may float away on the next high tide.

The above statement was sent out from Italy yesterday and the French official statement of today stating definitely that the vessel had gone to the bottom, with the loss of an enormous number of her crew, is subsequent to the Brindisi despatch. It is therefore likely that the vessel ultimately went down after drifting out from shore.

The French Report

Paris, April 28.—A communication from the Ministry of Marine reciting the torpedoing of the French cruiser Leon Gambetta was given out this afternoon. It is as follows: "The armored cruiser Leon Gambetta, cruising at the entrance of the Otranto Canal, was torpedoed the night of April 26-27 and went to the bottom in ten minutes. "All the officers on board perished at their posts. One hundred and thirty-six members of the crew, including eleven under officers were rescued by vessels sent out promptly to their help by the Italian authorities. "The list of survivors has not yet been received at the Ministry of Marine."

Sunk by the U-5

Brindisi, Italy, Tuesday, April 27, via Paris, April 28.—(Delayed in transmission)—The French cruiser Leon Gambetta, which was torpedoed in the Straits of Otranto, was the victim of the Austrian submarine U-5. The first report of the destruction of this cruiser came from the men on duty at the semaphore station of Santa Maria Leuca. These men at once gave the alarm, and vessels were sent out to the aid of the Leon Gambetta from Brindisi, Taranto, Otranto and Bari. The men at the station also went out in their own boat, and were the first to reach the scene. It has not yet been ascertained whether the attack on the French cruiser occurred within the territorial waters of Italy.

The Austrian submarine U-5 is the same craft whose officers a few days ago boarded the Italian steamer Jolanda. Since the beginning of Anglo-French warships in the Adriatic have limited their activities to watching the Strait of Otranto with the idea of preventing any Austrian submarine escaping from the Adriatic, at the head of which is Pola, the Austrian naval base, and reaching the coast of Turkey. This patrol duty was particularly necessary to protect the vessels of the allies operating against the Dardanelles, and in view of the fact that it is well known Austria possesses several submarines whose cruising range is sufficient to permit them to travel from Pola to the Dardanelles without replenishing their fuel supply.

Submarine Came 300 Miles.

The submarine which attacked the Leon Gambetta came from Cattaro, on the eastern coast of the Adriatic, an Austrian port about 300 miles distant from Santa Maria Leuca point. This distance could have been traveled by the submarine in about twenty hours. It was learned here today that the U-5 was sighted by fishing boats Monday afternoon. Three French cruisers were last night watching the strait between the island of Corfu and the Italian coast. This strait, when the various islands are taken into consideration, does not measure more than forty or fifty miles wide.

It appears that the U-5 took up a position about half way between Santa Maria Leuca and the Greek island of Othoni. Here the craft waited for its prey, and when the opportunity offered discharged its torpedo against the Leon Gambetta, which was one of the French cruisers doing patrol duty. Ships which went to the aid of the Leon Gambetta are still cruising in the vicinity where she was struck looking for her survivors. Those of her crew who have been brought ashore are receiving medical care, and supplies for the survivors are being sent to Taranto.

It is believed the Gambetta had on board a crew numbering 714 men,

including 22 officers. A majority of the men were asleep at the time the cruiser was struck. Those who have been saved are virtually without clothing. They were taken from the water in a pitiful condition. Some were wounded and others were almost unconscious, while all suffered from exposure. From information gathered from various survivors it is possible to construct the story of the disaster as follows:

The Survivors' Story.

"The Leon Gambetta parted company with the French cruiser Jules Ferry last night to cross the Strait of Otranto, with a view to co-operating with other French ships in an attempt to block the Austrian fleet. If it should seek to leave the Adriatic. This was not an unusual manoeuvre, as the Leon Gambetta for months had been going up and down the coast from Cape Sant Marie Leuca to Brindisi, Bari or across to Corfu and Valona. The sea was perfectly calm and the moon shone brightly. Although the Leon Gambetta showed no lights and adopted the other customary precautions, there was no suspicion of danger.

"At midnight the warship was about twenty miles from Cape Santa Maria Leuca. The lookout could see distinctly the lights on the Italian coast. A small light appeared on the horizon. "Suddenly there was a fearful explosion, which shook the cruiser fore and aft. Officers and men remained calm and, the survivors say, their first thought was not for their own safety, but rather to detect and attack their assailant. They scanned the sea for a periscope, but in vain.

"As the cruiser was listing rapidly, the commander gave orders that signals for help be sent and that the boats be lowered. It proved to be most difficult to lower the boats, owing to the position of the ship in the water. Some of the men leaped overboard in the bare hope of saving themselves. Others were washed off the deck. The commander, although urged to abandon his ship, refused to do so. None of the survivors was able to say how long it was before assistance arrived. It is probable that several hours elapsed before these men were rescued."

Austrian Report.

Bulletin—Vienna, April 28, via London.—The following official communication has been issued here: "Submarine U-5 commanded by Lieut. George Ritter Von Trapp, torpedoed and sank the French cruiser Leon Gambetta in the Ionian Sea." The Austrian submarine U-5 is a vessel of 273 tons displacement and of a capacity of 500 horsepower when on the surface of the water. Her speed is eleven and a half knots above the surface and ten knots submerged. Her maximum cruising radius on the surface is one thousand knots. Her normal complement is 16 men.

The U-5 was completed in 1910 and is of the Holland type. Bring 25 Survivors. Brindisi, April 28, via Paris, April 29.—Two Italian torpedo boat destroyers which went to the aid of the Leon Gambetta have arrived here bringing 26 additional survivors of the disaster, who were found unconscious on a raft made from boards picked up from the wreckage. They had been in the water for twenty hours. One of the survivors was clasping in his arms an almost dying comrade. When the sailor was remaining consciousness he insisted that the man he had rescued be taken care of before he himself was given treatment.

A French non-commissioned officer saved by one of the destroyers kissed the Italian flag and expressed his gratitude to the Italians for the help they had given his fellow seamen.

ARCHBISHOP SEES DANGER IN PROHIBITION

Archbishop of York Believes Reaction Would Follow—House of Convocation Unfavorable to Total Prohibition.

London, April 28.—The Archbishop of York, speaking today at the York Convocation, expressed the opinion that if a great scheme of temperance reform were introduced during the war there would be danger of reaction when the prohibition was removed. Then, the Archbishop said, there would be "real and regrettable intemperance."

In the Lower House of the Convocation the Dean of Manchester introduced a resolution against total prohibition. The resolution, which was adopted, was as follows: "Resolved, that this House, while wishing to support all such measures as may, in the opinion of the government, be necessary for the strength and safety of the nation in time of war, would look with anxiety upon the total prohibition of the sale of alcoholic drinks."

TO CHEER THE SULTAN ON HIS ANNIVERSARY

War Minister Brings Him News of a Great Defeat of the Enemy.

Berlin, April 28, via London, April 29, 1.45 a. m.—A wireless despatch received from Constantinople says: "At the celebration of the Sultan's jubilee yesterday the minister of war announced the receipt of a telegram from the commander of the Fifth Army Corps, General Liman Von Sanders, stating that the centre and right wing of the enemy had been completely defeated, and that there was hope that the left wing also was beaten."

ALLIES STRENGTHENING FOOTHOLD ON PENINSULA OF GALLIPOLI

London, April 28, 12.39 a. m.—The British War Office issued the following announcement last night on the Dardanelles operations: "In the face of continual opposition the Allied troops have now established themselves across the end of the Gallipoli Peninsula from a point northeast of Eski Hisarlik to the mouth of a stream on the opposite side. "They have also beaten off all attacks at Sari Bar and are steadily advancing. "The Turks have made considerable preparations to hamper any landings. Wire entanglements under the sea, as well as on land, and deep pits, with spikes at the bottom, were among the obstacles overcome by the troops."

Constantinople, via Amsterdam to London, April 28.—The following official communication regarding the Dardanelles operations has been issued: "The enemy renewed his attempts against Kabatepeh and the south coast of Gallipoli, but was successfully repulsed. "Fresh forces of the enemy yesterday attacked near the coast at Kumkaleh, but was obliged to retreat, abandoning three machine guns."

Captain of Swedish Ship Says He Saw German Fleet in the North Sea

Claims He Was Held Up and His Papers Examined—Sixty-eight Vessels of All Classes in the Fleet.

London, April 28.—Captain Scott, commanding a Swedish steamer reports the presence in the North Sea of a German fleet numbering no less than sixty-eight vessels all told. Captain Scott, whose vessel has just come to port, reports that he was held up by one of these German steamers while crossing the North Sea. After an examination of his papers he was permitted to proceed. The German fleet was composed of vessels of all classes, from battleships to torpedo boats. The date of Captain Scott's encounter and just where in the North Sea he sighted this German fleet has not been announced.

LARGE SHIPMENT OF LOBSTERS TO BOSTON

Yarmouth, N. S., April 28.—Another monster shipment of live lobsters is going across on the boat to Boston tonight, it consists of 1,700 crates, almost 500 larger than the big shipment of last Wednesday. There have been several good arrivals of fresh fish during the last day or two and a shipment of almost twenty-five tons is being made.

First Phase of Ypres Battle Ends, Allies Are Regaining Lost Ground

Only at One Place Have Germans Been Able to Hold Ground They Won—Germans Drawing All Available Men from Belgium—Heavy Fighting in Carpathians.

London, April 28.—"Our operations in conjunction with the French have definitely stopped the German attack." In these words, Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British forces on the continent, announces the conclusion of another German attempt to break through the Allied lines around Ypres and along the Yser Canal, which brought about one of the most sanguinary battles of the war. This, however, only brings to an end the first phase of the battle, for the Allies have yet to win back the ground which they lost in the great German sweep. For this purpose they are now delivering counter-attacks against the German lines. Only at one place, Steenstraete, have the Germans managed to keep their footing on the western bank of the canal, while to the north of Ypres the positions remain much as they were, the Allies making no claims to an advance there, and the Germans reporting that all the British attacks have been repulsed. To hold these lines the Germans have brought up further reinforcements, and Belgium, behind them, has been denuded of troops. The towns and villages in Belgium are being guarded by only a handful of sentries. Fighting also continues in Champagne, where the Germans make claim to the capture of a strong French position, in the Argonne and the Woevre, where the French say they are progressing, and in the Vosges, where both sides claim to be in possession of Hartmann-Wellerkopf. It is probable that this mountain, which commands the plains of Alsace, has changed hands several times; this would account for the contradictory reports.

In the East The Russians and Austro-Germans are heavily engaged in the region of Uzok Pass, in the Carpathians, and in the direction of Stry, where an attempt is being made to strike at the Russian communications. Berlin correspondents give the Austrians credit for the capture of a number of important heights near Uzok Pass, and also assert that they have driven the Russians completely out of Bukovina. But this is not backed up by the Austrian official report, which says that in Bukovina no important event has occurred, and simply speaks of Russian attacks being repulsed in the Carpathians. There has also been a renewal of activity on the East Prussian front, where the Germans report that minor successes for their troops have taken place.

The sensational report that 8,000 of the Allies' troops have been driven to the sea on the Gallipoli peninsula, and that 12,000 were captured, also comes from Berlin, but has no confirmation from other sources. It is expected that the operations against the Dardanelles will proceed slowly, as the Turks are strongly entrenched, and their wire entanglements and trenches will have to be heavily shelled before the troops can make any serious attempt to advance.

The French have lost the cruiser Leon Gambetta, which was torpedoed by the Austrian submarine U-5, while leaving the Adriatic Sea for Malta. Only a small part of her crew were saved, all the officers, including the Admiral, being drowned. The reports as to the intention of Italy are as varied as they are numerous, but the Italian embassy at London has authorized the statement that nothing is known there of any impending change in the Italian policy.

Nothing further has been heard of the German fleet in the North Sea, and it is contended in official quarters here that it never left the mine fields of Heligoland. In the Baltic, however, German warships are busy, and have stopped a number of Swedish steamers carrying coal from English ports to Sweden. Geneva, April 28, via Paris, 8 p. m.—During the past three days 3,000 Germans, 8,000 Italians and 1,000 Austrians, according to records made available in Geneva today, left Switzerland for their respective countries. It is believed these men are reservists and will join fighting organizations.

On the other hand, if the Gallagher bill is re-considered and passed, the miners, according to William Green, national secretary of the union, will withdraw from the conference. After the meeting representatives of both sides frankly admitted that negotiations had come to a dead standstill.

Governor Willis at Columbus was notified of the deadlock and word is anxiously awaited from the capital.

MAKING NO STATEMENT. Ottawa, April 28.—W. F. Garland, M. P., for Carleton, declined to make any statement when asked today whether he intended to emulate the course of A. De Witt Foster, M. P., for Kings, N. S., and resign his seat in the Commons, owing to Sir Robert Borden's disapproval of the connection of the two members with Militia Department contracts.

SAYS AUSTRIANS HAVE CAPTURED TOWN OF BOJAN

Berlin Hears Austrians Now In Possession of Key to Russian Positions.

Berlin, April 28, via London, (9.20 a. m.)—Telegrams received in Berlin today from Csernowitz, the capital of Bukovina, say that the Austrians have stormed and captured the town of Bojan, to the east of Csernowitz. Bojan is the key to the Russian positions, which now are thrown back to the extreme frontier of Bukovina. The attack was so surprising, the despatches say, that the Russian General Staff barely escaped capture. The Austrian mortars are reported to have caused heavy losses among the Russians.

COAL MINERS' STRIKE MAY BE PROLONGED

Operators' Representatives Threaten to End Negotiations Unless Legislature Passes Gallagher Bill.

Cleveland, April 28.—The negotiations looking to a settlement of the strike in the Eastern Ohio coal fields, which has kept 15,000 men idle for more than a year, took a turn for the worse shortly before the termination this afternoon of the second day's conferences of operators and miners called by Governor Willis.

Leaders of the operators asserted flatly that unless the legislature reconsidered and passed the Gallagher bill further negotiations with the men were useless. The Gallagher bill, recently defeated in the legislature, permitted mine owners to make contracts with miners, either on a screen or mine-run basis.

The Green law, for which the Gallagher bill would act as a substitute, makes mine-run contracts compulsory, the miners contend.

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A JOB LEFT UNFINISHED



The Blue-jay and The Hole He Tried to Fill with Acorns. (With acknowledgements to Mark Twain).