COULD SMASH GERMAN LINES

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

FRENCH GAIN

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

Pris Cable.—The French offen-siv in the Vosges is assuming very rtant proportions. Fresh gains onsiderable magnitude are red officially to-day. The number inwounded German prisoners de since the operation began, Dember 21, is now 1,862.

A despatch from Berlin to-night ys that the German War Office adts that the French penetrated the nan positions on Hartmannsellerkopi, but says they were driven From the official French War ice reports, however, it does not that the German assertions accurate. It is evident, on the ntrary, that gains of great im-rtance have been made and that termans have sustained during operations thus far very consid-

rnere is no indication that the of isive, which has been apparently coessful to date, is to be droppeg. would rather appear that the adeven more determined assaults. In connection the French communi-

Notwithstanding the violent coun--attacks of the enemy, the action enced yesterday left us at of the day masters of a series of rman works established between ntelsen and Hirzstein, which have added to the trenches already n added to the trenenes already t by the enemy. The number of fmans who have rallen into our has since yesterday has reached . The total number of uninjured ders taken since the beginning of operations is 1,668. Prisoners

that the German losses in the ree of our attack of December 21 the following days were very TIME NOT YET RIPE. The most dreaded period of winis from the end of December end of January," was ral's reply a year ago to the des for a great offensive. The remark would probably apply by this year. Reuter's correthis year. Reuter's corre-at at western headquarters, dent at western headquarters, remarking that the British staff infident that the allies are now trong in men and munitions that can break through the German

whenever the right time comes res that the weather is the chief on for postponing the big move-, and adds: "Such a movement as careful planning and extreme on. Rolling up tootice at Rolling-up tactics always the possibility of counters, which may end in rolling up ggressor. With the face of the ry in a porous and mushy con, it is impossible to effect the tial quick movements of artilwithout which any big offensive

Allied troops would probably little trouble in occupying the part of the German front er part of the German front hes forthwith, because the enholds these lightly. But then, the range registered to a nicety nyriads of artillery and maguns such a step would be ONTARIO'S SHARE myriads of until

BRITISH REPORT. don Cable.-The British offitement on the progress of the gn issued to-night reads as

enemy made an unsuccessful on one of our aerodromes. Of achines only two reached their No damage was done. One aeroplanes was shot down. trenches were entered and party withdrew. Our casual-

the trenches and billets in laces between Mametz and The enemy exploded two them. ines near Givenchy to either troops or

day was, quiet, south of La anal. About Ypres a reciproardment occurred.

TOTNCH REPORT Cable.-The War Office is-

icllowing communication to-

machine-gun shelters around Ville-au-

onne we exploded two small German post

hts of the Meuse the Warmont wood. The Attorn

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 the recent discovery of lifty bags of rubber in the parcel mail on board the steamer Oscar II., consigned, as the press bureau 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 consign-ed by post to Holland. We do not 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 of 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 hopeless 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 banish war from our generaonly to banish war from our genera-tion, but also to wipe out the Euro-pean 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 telegram: "The to it that we do not become the step offersive in Mon children of our dear lord and master.

Herr Ballins statement that Germany must seek guarantees that economic war will not follow peace have been called forth by speech recently made by Walter Runciman, 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 wrest the control of European oil fields from Germany. and to wipe out German trade in Eng land. Mr. Runciman asserted that the economic and commercial war between England and Germany must be fough to the finish, even after armed hostilities have ceased.

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

Givings to War Purposes Average \$5 Per Head.

Kingston Report.—Hen. I. B. Lucas Attorney-General of the Province, was the chief speaker at the annual banquet in Randolph Hotel to-night of the Kingston Commercial Travellers' Ast night there was a successful sociation. He responded to the toast to "The British Empire and Her Alwith good effect. The casual lies," and spoke on "The Doctrine of Good Cheer." He made reference to the fact that despite what had haphight.
y our artillery was effective had been communed would be remed-Mametz and led, and that the war would only be a

tittle more protonged because of Ontario is doing her bit and doing it well," declared Mr. Lucas, wno proceeded to show the extent of Untar.o's givings in money and kind since the war proke out. Contributions of Ontario to all patriotic services amounted to the sum of thirteen million dollars, made up as follows: Canadian Patrie ichowing communication to-elgium and Artois the artif-tlayed activity on both sides course of the day. To the the Alsne we destroyed by machine-gun shelters and councils, \$1,200,000; Belgian

Fund. \$362,000; University of Toronto hospital, \$135,000; Ontario Farmers' exploded two the north of German post of German post of the British Government, \$100.000: Queen's University Stationary Hospital, \$23,-These figures, Mr. Lucas said, were up to the first of December, and of the Meuse the the grand total represented \$5 a head for the inhabitants of the Province.

The Attorney-General represented ir aviators, gave the been the guest of the Kingston

rather spirited Knights of the Grip, but who was prevented from coming, owing to his being indisposed.

A woman may have some doubt any to her husband's whereabouts even after he is dead. after he is dead.

AUSTRIANS ARE ORIVEN BACK IN MONTENEGRO

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

HUN LOSS HEAVY

And Their Offensive Said to Have Been Checked Most Completely.

London Cable. The Montenegrin rmy, which nitherto 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 artiflery lire against the Montenegrin positions on the Tara River on December 27. The enemy attacked energetically near Lioubovia, but was repuised with great ioss in the direction of Berane. The Montene grins followed up their last success by occupying two more villages, advancing as far as Morita. On the Loveen front the Austrians opened fire from the forts and warships on Raskova Gora, but the Montenegrins heig their ground. The bombardment continued fifteen hours, 2,000 large shells being fired. At the same time sharp infantry attacks were delivered, standing the intensity of the Austrian urtillery fire the Montenegrins had only two killed and two which shows how poorly the guns were handled.

The success gained by the Monte-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 lesses were more than 2,000 killed or wounded. King Nicholas sent con-gratulations to the general commanding the Vassolevitch brigade. Austrian 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 Serbians who made their way banla marched northward and joined the Montenegrins. Southwest of Ipek the invaders were defeated in a severe

FRENCH AIRSHIPS IN BALKANS. Despite numerous difficulties, such as lancing grounds and a mountainous ecuntry, French aviators have ceeded, according to an official note issued here, in carrying on reconnaissances about 93 miles into the interior of the Bulgarian lines.

In the month of November alone there were no less than 51 reconnais-sances, during which observations and numerous photographs useful in strategie movements were taken. strategie iviators 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-perfected acrologic service has been organized to aid aviators.

ITALIANS ADVANCING

Italian troops which disembarked as aylona, Albania, have reached the icinity of the northern frontier hairus in some places, according to eports from voyagers arriving from Santi Quaranta, says the Athens correspondent of the Havas agency. Italian troops also have been seen near Tepeleni (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 th Pulgarian army corps is now between Varna, on the Black Sea coast, and Rusichuck, on the Danube, Tarkish 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 made good its retreat into Albania. It was \$0,000 strong at the beginning of the Bulgarian attack, and has been continuously engaged, disputing the ground inch by inch. It has saved ilmost all the material belongin it, and has caused the Bulgarians a loss five times greater than it suffered itself. It is now a complete army of 64,000 men."

FRENCH SEIZE TURK ISLAND.

Paris Cable.—French troops have pecupied the Turkish island of Cas-telorizo (Kasteloryzo), in the Aegean Sea, between the Island of Rhodes and the Gulf of Adalia, according to the morning papers in Paris. The pos-session 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 Rhodes. It has an area of eleven square miles and is inhabited mainly by Greek.

Going to have a fashion show on skates, suggests & man

DUING IIS EST

French Fleet Trying to Protect samping in mediterranean.

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, asktat in the Mediterranean recently, usned Rear demail Lecaze, Minister of Marine, to make a statement which would reasure the public in France and the far east. The Deputy also asked if it would not be possible to take measures of prudence or to furasked if it would not be possible take measures of prudence or to furnish escorts for steamers in order to prevent the destruction of vessels.

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

MAY HAVE GOT

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 seizure by the British Government of American mail taken from steamships American mail taken from steamships Chairman Philip Pocock, of the London and from this country and will don, Ont., Public Utilities Commission Government in these cases. It has not \$60,000. yet been determined whether these representations will take the form of an inquiry or of protest, but it is Department to make representations; and if a protest is not made the communication 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 makment is endevoring to recover Belgian Securities which the German Government is understood to have sent by mail for delivery in this country in ing these seizures the British Governmail for delivery in this country to be there.

hypothecated.
While details concerning these securities their extent or character, could not be obtained, the statement that vas flying at a low altitude, suddenly such securities were being mailed from Germany, and that the British Government was endeavoring to recover them by intercepting the mails, was obtained from an authoritative source. obtained from an authoritative source.

An equally interesting angle of the says the Swedish Government has pro-British mail seizures was the disclosure here yesterday that in quarters close to the German Embassy fear is represented in the important diplomatic documents destined for Count you Bernstoff the German Ampersal of the Bernstoff the Bernstorff, the German Ambassador at

Consul-General Skinner advised the State Department from London yesterday of the seizure of American mail from two steamships bound from New ork for Rotterdam. The British mail the rest of the world by every possible

Ontario Government Will Increase Its Shipments.

Men in Hospitals Delighted With the Treat.

Toronto Report. - The Ontario Government has decided to increase its shipments of apples to England for distribution amongst wounded Cana- finally subdued. All the cotton dians there and in France and Cana-

dian prisoners in Germany. The action was taken following con-Characio's Agent-General in Great Brian Mr. Richard and Great Brian Mr. Richard and Mr. Richar tain, Mr. Richard Reid, on the distribution of the apples already sent. The 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 omes to hand that the apples reached the prisoners in good condition,

The Agent-General states that he is informed by those in charge of the as there are close on to 8,000 Canadians 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 woundered Considers in this resolutions in this

Mr. Reld forwarded to the Government a number of letters from the eads of hospitals, expressing their preciation of the action of the fovrament of Ontario in supplying ap-

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS

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

The Supreme Court of Canala handed down judgment on eleven 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 loss 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 avenue and Davenport road, Toronto, was formally opened.

make representations to the British announced that the Hydro-Electric surplus for the past year would be Pte. David Upper, 110th Perth Bat-

known to be the purpose of the State law died Sunday, and the funeral had not been held. George E. Minns, of Port Hope, rspector for the Children's Aid So-

clety in Dunham and Northumberland, dropped dead while wrapping up presents for the children. Reports from Copenhagen to Berlin

Lieut. Rogers, of the Royal Flying

earth. A despatch to Reuter's Telegram

With the sailing Wednesday Washington, from the Berlin Foreign for Japan, the Japan Mail Steamship Office, may have been included in the Company inaugurated its new route by steamer Kitano Maru from London way of the Cape of Good Hope instead

of through the Suez Canal. Speaking at the annual banquet of Association, Hon. I. B. Lucas, Provinof the Allies to isolate Germany from kind since the war broke out totalled cial Attorney-General, stated that On

WAS A BOMB

MINIMOTO Fire On the Steamer Bankdale Work of the Plotters.

> 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. th, when 750 miles, from that port bomb exploded in No. 6 hatch. xplosion was distinctly felt throughout the steamer. The cargo, consist-ing of cotton, was set on fire and raged until nearing port, when it was

the No. 6 department, consisting 200 bales, was destroyed. Cable despatches received here a fire in her hold, and that an enquiry was being instituted No men-tion was made in the cable despatches of a bomb explosion on board.

CRUDE OIL UP

Advances Range From Ten Cents a Barrel to Three Cents.

Pittsburg Report-Another advance incommed by those in charge of the in the price of crude oils was anhespitals that there is no fruit the in the price of crude oils was anmen enjoy so well as the apples, and neunced by the South Penn Oil Comsuggests that the supply be increased, pany at the opening of the market toin the price of crude oils was anday, Pennsyivania 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, willo & central the price to \$1.75, while 8 cents additional lifted Cabell ed Canadians in this respect from time to \$1.78 and Somerset to \$1.63. to time as ample as it is possible to hand 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,
Mail has obtained a statement from
Mice declaring it to be through neutral countries, the Daily the Foreign Office declaring it to be incorrect to say that the British Gov-ernment 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. 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 tobacco from Turkey and other sources. that makes it a matter of less im-

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY OUT

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. Ine seriousness of the present quar-The seriousness of the present quar-rels, the correspondent says, is in-stanced by the parliamentary activi-ties of the independence party, which, despite the entreaties of the Premier, have been airing the Hungarian grievances. 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 heroism and sacrifice a) the Hungarians, they would by this time be enjoying peace, Urmanczy said. Although the Hungarians had won the praise of their arch enemies, the Italians, he said, the Austrians the Italians, he said, had shown no appreciation, and they 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 al-ways slighted the acts of Hungarian heroism, and that Austrian 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.

Cable,-(By wireless to 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

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 Germany's economic strength is unbroken. There is no necessity to end the war one day carlier because of econo 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 fail at Ste. Hyacinthe.

Paradis told High Constable Boisert, who sock him to Ste. Hyacinth that he realized his position, and w sorry for but one thing, and that that he has talked too much.
High Constable Boisvert learn
that Parad.s had been implicated in shooting afair some time ago Farnham. He and another you Farnham. Farnham. He and another you man had trouble with the Syrian prietor of a rosteurent which prietor of a restaurant, which cub ated in Paradis drawing a revo and firing two shots at the other is said to have gone to a border and to have returned after the a blew over. after the affair