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Three Battleships Go Down in Dardanelles

Irresistible, Ocean and Bouvet Have Fired Their Last Shot—Said to Have Struck Floating Mines—French Ship Bouvet Went Down in Three Minutes, All Crew Lost

Practically Whole of British Crews Rescued Under Heavy Fire—Gaulois and Inflexible Badly Damaged By Shell Fire

London, March 19.—The Admiralty announces that the British battleships Irresistible and Ocean have been sunk. No particulars are given. Both ships were operating in the Dardanelles. The Admiralty announces that the French battleship Bouvet also was blown up by a mine in the Dardanelles and sunk, and that virtually her entire crew was lost. The Admiralty statement adds that the battleships Queen and Implacable have been despatched from England to replace the lost British ships.

The Ocean struck a drifting mine, and the Admiralty believes that the Irresistible probably met with a like disaster.

It is announced that operations against the Dardanelles are continuing. Both the Irresistible and Ocean recently have been engaged in operations against the Dardanelles.

London, March 19.—The Admiralty to-night gave out the following statement regarding the operations in the Dardanelles:

Mine-sweeping has been in progress during the last ten days inside the Straits.

A general attack was delivered by the British and French fleets yesterday (Thursday) morning, upon the fortresses at the Narrows.

At 1.45 the Queen Elizabeth, Inflexible, Agamemnon and Lord Nelson bombarded forts J.L.T.U. and V, while the Triumph and Prince George fired at batteries F.E. and H. Heavy fire was opened on ships from howitzers and field guns.

At 12.22 o'clock the French squadron, consisting of the Suffren, Gaulois, Charlemagne and Bouvet advanced up the Dardanelles and engaged the forts at

ZEPPELINS DROP BOMBS ON CALAIS

London, March 19. (Official).—The French Government reports that Zeppelins dropped bombs on Calais. Seven railway employees were killed. No serious damage.

The Belgian army continues progress on the Yser. Elsewhere artillery duels. Some further progress in Champagne.

The Russian Government reports five guns captured in Northern Poland. No change in Carpathians or Galicia.

—HARCOURT.

German Gunners' Accurate Fire

London, March 19.—Accurate fire of German gunners, who are working great Krupp guns in the Turkish forts on the Dardanelles, has caused a cessation of the concentrated bombardment on the Turkish forts by the Anglo-French fleet, according to despatches from Athens.

A report emanating from Constantinople that the French battleship Bouvet had been sunk by Turkish forts was scouted in Admiralty circles, but no official statement had been issued up to noon.

Another Attack By Submarine

London, March 19.—The Glasgow steamer Hyndford was torpedoed off Eastbourne in the English Channel last night, by a German submarine.

One man of the crew was lost, but the vessel managed to make port, arriving at deal to-day.

BELATED CLUE

London, March 19.—The British Admiralty announced to-night that there is every reason to believe that the German cruiser Karlsruhe was sunk in the neighborhood of the West Indies at the beginning of November, and that those of her crew who were rescued reached Germany early in December on the steamer Rio Grande, which had been acting in concert with the Karlsruhe.

LORD BRYCE ON PRES. WILSON

Lord Bryce's statement in the London "Chronicle" on the position of the United States in reference to the war should put to shame those Americans who have been clamoring that we should "do something" about the flagrant breaches of recognized rules of war. Even the great name of a former President does not deter Lord Bryce from seeing the strength of Mr. Wilson's position.

The United States is the greatest of the neutral Powers. The administration might conceive that many questions will arise during the war in which the rights of neutrals would be involved, and might think that the authority with which the United States can speak on such questions would be weakened if at the outset its Government had taken up a position adverse to one or the other party to the struggle.

However high the motive, impartiality would thereafter be questioned. Upon the specific point of Belgian neutrality, he is as clear-sighted. There can be no doubt of the wrong in the attack upon Belgium. "But," he adds, "the other breaches which followed and made the violation seem more shocking, rested at first on statements which needed confirmation and any Government might feel that before protesting against the treatment of non-combatants, it needed further evidence which would carry certainty to every fair mind."—The Nation.

THE BERLIN TAGEBLATT NOT SO OPTIMISTIC

Sees Tremendous Import of the Dardanelles Bombardment—Might Induce the Porte to Conclude Separate Peace

London, March 5.—The Daily Chronicle says that Theodore Wolff, chief editor of the Berlin Tageblatt, contributes an interesting article to his paper, dealing with the bombardment of the Dardanelles, from which the paper says, it is clear that he is one of the few German journalists of prominence who appreciate the situation which the allies' progress in the straits will create.

Dr. Wolff says he has no illusions about the intentions of the allies in forcing the passage and admits that, if they are successful, the results will be of tremendous import.

"There is," he says, "first, an intention to create uneasiness in Constantinople, and strengthen the hands of the opponents of Enver and Talaat. This might force the Porte either to conclude a separate peace with the allies or to withdraw the army threatening the Suez Canal. The second object is to stiffen Roumania and Bulgaria against the central monarchy."

Von Hindenburg's recent victory and the evacuation of Bukovina have, according to Dr. Wolff, taken the strength out of the movement led by the Roumanian leader, Take Jonescu; but it requires little imagination to see that Roumania and Bulgaria "will sing another song, presumably a song of welcome," when the allies' warships appear before the harbors in the Euxine.

It is Italy, however, which the allies have mainly in view, Dr. Wolff says. For months their agent has been at work whispering in Italy's ears and warning her that a power which declines to take a part in the conflict cannot expect any portion of the spoils. "Italy seems to be Dr. Wolff's chief hope. The Italians are a nation," he says, which reckons cruelly and carefully, and it is just possible that the British politicians who are counting on its co-operation are in the position of the milkmaid in the fable, who engaged too prematurely in counting her chickens.

Besides, adds Dr. Wolff, will not the possession of Constantinople be decided on European battlefields and not in the Dardanelles? He recognizes, however, the danger, and reluctantly quotes from a leading Swiss journal which roundly declares that war is unavoidable if Italy is not squared with Trentino, and that if Trentino is not ceded a resolution is certain as well as war.

Dr. Wolff takes a most serious view of the situation and disapproves the optimism of his journalistic colleagues who smile at the news from the near east and pool the possibility of forcing the straits. He has confidence in the wisdom and restraint of the Italian government, but fears that the safety door will be opened only after the house is on fire.

JAPAN'S DESIRES RE CHINA

According to recent despatches both from Peking and Tokio, prospects for a settlement of the differences which have arisen out of the demands made by Japan of China have improved. From Peking it was stated on February 25 that the Japanese Government has given assurances that it will not insist for the present upon the group of general demands which it presented, and to which China chiefly objected. Despatches from Tokio on February 27 recorded a conversation held by Count Okuma with Prof. Shailer Mathews, of the University of Chicago, and Dr. Sidney L. Gulick, of New York. Count Okuma stated that Japan had no intention of trespassing upon the rights of China or of interfering with the open-door policy. The desire of Japan was that China should attain to real dignity and independence, and should not fall the prey of an nation.—The Nation.

BRITISH TROOPS ON FRENCH SOIL NOW 1,500,000

New York, March 10.—"There are 1,500,000 British troops in France at the present time," said an officer of the French liner Chicago which arrived to-day from Havre. "Fresh British troops arrive at Havre every day fully equipped and by April 1 this number will be greatly increased."

GERMAN SHELLS MOSTLY NOISE

French Soldier Describes the Battle of Notre Dame de Lorette—A Few Minutes of Carnage

Paris, March 8.—The manner in which a furious German attack at Notre Dame de Lorette was transformed into a defeat, in which 3,000 Germans fell, is described in The Petit Parisien by one of the contestants.

"The Germans blew in by mines our first line of trenches," says the story. "Before the echoes of the explosion had died away an avalanche of Germans poured down and forced the French into the second line of trenches after a fierce hand-to-hand struggle. The Germans suddenly raked the trenches with two machine guns, forcing the defenders into the third line from which they were forced to retire on an easily defensible position in the rear, after another bayonet battle with superior numbers.

German Shells Mostly Noise

"In an way demoralized, our men spent the night preparing to win back the lost position, which the Germans strengthened with sand bags. Our artillery was placed in position ready to fire. As soon as dawn broke the 3-inchers opened with salvos. The shells burst in our old trenches, peppering the Germans methodically. Then the heavy artillery joined in demoralizing them. Their artillery tried to reply and its shells exploded with awe-inspiring noise but did no harm.

"The din became appalling. Our pieces fired as rapidly as they could be loaded. After hours of his the guns stopped firing and our infantry bounded forward rousing on their hands and knees. The Germans fired volley after volley, working their quick triggers feverishly, but our men would not be denied. They took the third line, but could go no further. The second line was well sandbagged and crammed with Germans.

Fight in Rainstorm

"Our artillery then began again to drop shells on the Germans with mathematical precision. Fifty yards from us we could see them blown into the air.

"The second night fell and we could see nothing, for the sky was covered with heavy clouds, from which rain poured in torrents. In spite of this our infantry resumed the attack and in a splendid charge reached the second line. It was a fearful struggle in the dark. Shaken by our impetuous charge the Germans who had not been killed or wounded fled toward the holes which had been made by their mines to which they clung in the indescribable uproar.

"The tireless French again dashed forward on the enemy. In the darkness the Germans struck frantically around them, killing their own men whom they were unable to recognize.

Dawn Revealed Awful Sight

"After a few minutes of carnage the Germans fled for their own positions, leaving the ground covered with dead and wounded. An impressive silence fell over the battlefield, while 150 haggard prisoners were led to the rear.

"Dawn revealed a terrifying sight. Everywhere the Germans lay, many falling with rifles in their stiffened hands as if about to fire again. They paid dearly for their attack, for 3,000 of them fell under our fire. Their losses were three times greater than ours, although we had to deliver three counter-attacks."

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Russian Squadron Approaches Northern Bosphorus Port

Czar's Forces Occupy German Town on the Baltic—Will Sweep Down Through East Prussia to Compel Germans to Relax Hold on Poland

London, March 20.—It is officially confirmed that a Russian squadron has approached the northern port of the Bosphorus, says a Reuter's Petrograd correspondent. The appearance of the squadron has caused great panic in Constantinople.

There is also heavy fighting in Galicia, Carpathians and Bukovina, despite heavy snow.

In the Western front no operations of great importance have taken place, although the French continue their efforts to work their way forward in Champagne and Argonne regions, and the Belgians still are active in the little bit of their territory remaining in their hands.

The political situation, as regards Austria and Italy, remains obscure, but there are persistent reports in circulation in London, that negotiations for cession of Austrian territory to Italy have broken down. Italy's demands have been considered excessive.

GERMANY IS NOT TO BE CONQUERED

ays the President of the Reichstag Reviewing the War Situation

London, March 15.—The President of the Reichstag, reviewing the war situation at the opening of the Reichstag said, according to a Berlin despatch, received by Reuter's Telegram Company, by way of Amsterdam:

"In the west from the Vosges to the Channel and in the east from the Baltic to Bukovina our armies and those of our Allies are standing like a wall of steel and iron, in the south, the brave Turkish army is guarding the Dardanelles, which a great Anglo-French fleet is vainly attempting to conquer. This army is also threatening the Suez Canal and Egypt, which has become the prey of the British Empire.

"England declares that she cannot forego the right to starve Germany. Germany has replied with submarines, the crews of which have already given many proofs of their heroic bravery. Germany is not to be conquered by starvation. Our enemies did not reckon with our economic strength, with the organized strength of our agriculture, commerce and industry, the unity of the nation and our firm determination to win.

"Our sacrifices are gigantic but on the blood soaked battlefield a lasting peace is springing up which will lead our great and beloved fatherland to new and flourishing power."

Terrific Battle In The Mountains

London, March 12.—The Morning Post's Hungarian correspondent writes from Budapest:

From the Carpathian fighting, as it was termed, the great Carpathian battle has developed. The battle has lasted a long time, because the terrain is impassable and the masses cannot march, run or surround each other. The battle is the fighting of small units, sometimes companies, and seldom battalions, which confront each other in bloody encounters in small places. That is the reason why on the centre the fighting has developed into a fierce hand-to-hand battle.

In the west, on the Dunajetz and Biala line, and also beyond Dulka, entrenched artillery and infantry are carrying on the struggle.

In the east, where the hostile forces can leave the mountainous regions, strategy can, as it were, breathe more freely both in the regions of Nadvorna and Kolomea, but between the east and west in the centre the most terrific mountain battle the world has ever seen or heard of is proceeding among the snowbound precipices and unexplored woods around Dulka. In Bihar the snow is so deep that dead men remain standing. The snow would not allow them to fall, they having stood in it up to the waist.

North of Nadvorna and northwest of Kolomea new battles have developed, and are still going on, for the resistance of the Russian forces is unbending. They are continually attacking, and every now and then they make fierce bayonet charges. The possession of Kolomea is exceedingly important, it being a railway centre.

DIFFICULT WAR NAMES

The newspapers and jokesmiths have made the unpronounceable names that occur in the news reports from the battlefields of Europe the subject of numerous quips and jokes but many readers find these names anything but a joke.

In this connection the following remarks overheard on the streets of the capital the other day are particularly pertinent:

"In the eastern theater of war operations," said a man who evidently has been following the war pretty closely, "each side has won several pronounced successes—won I can't pronounce them."

THE LOST BATTLESHIPS.

IRRESISTIBLE.			
Built 1900.			
Men.	Speed.	Tonnage.	Cost.
781	18.2	15,000	\$5,240,680
Guns—4 12-in., 12 6-in., 10 12-pr., 2 smaller.			

OCEAN.			
Built 1900.			
Men.	Speed.	Tonnage.	Cost.
700	18.74	12,950	\$4,418,890
Guns—10 13.5-in., 16 4-in., and 9 smaller.			

BOUVET.			
Built 1898.			
Men.	Speed.	Tonnage.	Cost.
621	18.2	12,007	\$5,503,850
Guns—2 12-in., 2 10-in., 8 5.5-in., 8 3.9-in., and 20 smaller; 2 Torpedo Tubes.			

Berlin Reports Doings in Dardanelles

Berlin, March 19.—A despatch on Friday says, the Irresistible had been put out of action, and that another battleship had been seriously damaged in fighting in the waterway.

The Admiralty statement says that the British losses, among the

WEATHER REPORT Toronto (noon)

Moderate winds and mostly fair to-day and Sunday, a little higher temperature.

Roper's (noon)
Bar. 29; ther. 42.