

THE WEATHER.
Maritime — Fresh northeast
winds, clearing and cold.

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FORCE INFANTRY ATTACKS BY GERMANS IN WEST WHILE BIG GUNS ON BOTH SIDES KEEP UP STEADY FIRE

BRITISH STAND AT KUT- EL-AMARA BRILLIANT FEAT

One of Brightest Chapters When History of the War Shall have been Written—Gen. Townshend's Coolness and Pluck Inspires Men Behind Him to Daring Deeds and Determined Effort.

London, Jan. 31. (Correspondence.)—The remarkable stand which had been made by Major Gen. Chas. V. Townshend and his comparatively small body of British troops at Kut-El-Amara, Mesopotamia, where for nearly two months they have been besieged by a large army of Turks, has raised Gen. Townshend to a high place in the esteem of the British people. This faraway war theatre has been watched with the deepest interest by those at home since the British repulsed the Turks at Ctesiphon and began their retreat to Kut-El-Amara and the exploits of Gen. Townshend have occupied much space in the newspapers, some military critics hailing him as one of the most brilliant soldiers the Empire has produced.

During the long siege Gen. Townshend has beaten off all attacks of the Ottoman troops, and kept his little force intact. Every despatch which has come through from the commander has been read with deepest interest by the public, which had feared that the relieving army, which is said to have been held up by natural obstacles, would reach Kut-El-Amara too late. Gen. Townshend's recent report that he had sufficient supplies for his soldiers greatly relieved the minds of the British people, who now are anxiously awaiting the outcome.

One of War's Brightest Chapters. When the full story is told of the battle of Ctesiphon, the retreat to Kut-El-Amara and the siege, it is expected to make as thrilling a chapter as any in the history of the world war, and the name of Gen. Townshend will occupy an important place in that story. The conflict at Ctesiphon was desperate work, and the general himself fought as heroically as any of his soldiers who that day put to flight a body of Ottoman troops said to have been six times their number. There were critical moments and it was at these times that he showed himself to be a cool and resourceful commander and an able tactician. Four times he rallied his men and led them in their charges.

Military critics declare that the victory of Ctesiphon was a magnificent one, but that the retreat to Kut-El-Amara will equal if not surpass it as a successful military achievement under disadvantages of an extraordinary kind. It is stated that not only did Gen. Townshend stand off the Turks, but he did so with a loss insignificant under the circumstances and he succeeded in taking with him all his wounded. It has been declared that the men under him would follow Gen. Townshend anywhere.

Gen. Townshend is said to have forced his way up to a high command through sheer merit. When he was only a lieutenant he became an avid student of Napoleon's retreat to Kut-El-Amara on the military theories and practices of that great general. He made a rule to study seven hours a day, and he never failed in carrying out his investigations of the military genius of "the master."

Propheesied War with Kaiser. Further he visited every battle field on which Napoleon fought, and reconstructed for himself the disposition of the forces in the battles which decided the fate of nations. It is stated that there probably is no greater authority on Napoleonic warfare in the British army than he.

Gen. Townshend, long before 1914, had studied the possibility of war with Germany. He always held that when war did come Great Britain would not be able to rely solely on her navy, but would need to have a great army ready for the field. Believing that this country would require an army of millions, not thousands, he favored compulsory service. He expressed the opinion that Germany would make her attack on France—and eventually on England—through Belgium, and many times surveyed what he thought would be the coming battle field.

The general is fifty-four years of age.

MAJ. GRENFELL WOUNDED

London, Feb. 14.—Major Grenfell has been wounded in France. Major Grenfell was a director of the Canadian Agency Ltd., and Chas. M. Greffell & Co., which failed in June,

BERNSTORFF'S MESSAGE IS AT BERLIN

No Pessimism Over Lusitania Case Which is Looked Upon as Almost Settled.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 13.—A message from Ambassador von Bernstorff relating to the Lusitania negotiations, which arrived yesterday, was the subject of deliberations today between Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, under secretary for foreign affairs, and Count Montenegro, head of the American section of the foreign office, and other experts on American affairs of the foreign office. The message was submitted to Dr. von Jagow, secretary for foreign affairs, on his return from the headquarters of the general staff this morning.

Officials of the foreign office were reticent about expressing an opinion on Ambassador von Bernstorff's message, but certainly no air of pessimism is noticeable about the foreign office.

Dr. Zimmermann is credited with the remark that the situation looks fairly favorable.

TWO BRITISH STEAMERS SUNK

Crews of Both Vessels Rescued—One Ship Sunk in the Mediterranean Without a Warning.

London, Feb. 13.—Lloyd's reports that the British S. S. Cedarwood has been sunk. Two members of her crew were saved.

The Cedarwood, 654 tons gross, was built in 1907 and owned in Middleborough, Eng.

Sunk on Way to Calcutta.

London, Feb. 13.—The British steamship Springwell has been sunk in the Mediterranean while on her way from London to Calcutta. A steamer despatch to Malta says she was torpedoed without warning. The officers and crew, numbering 73, were picked up and landed at Malta.

The Springwell was a 455 foot boat of 5,297 tons gross. She was built in 1914, and owned by the Well Line of Newcastle, Eng.

Sunk in Two Minutes.

Hartlepool, Eng., Feb. 13.—Sixteen members of the Norwegian ship Alabama, which was sunk by a mine or a torpedo in the North Sea, Thursday night, have been landed here. Two of the men are injured.

The explosion shattered the after part of the ship and she foundered in two minutes. The crew escaped in a boat and were picked up by another Norwegian ship and brought here.

1914. Major Grenfell suffered severe losses in the future, necessitating the sale of his valuable paintings and other property. Some time later he joined the Royal Sussex Rifles, being attached to the Ninth Lancers.

HUN ATTACKS ON FRENCH LINE IN WEST FOLLOW EACH OTHER IN RAPID SUCCESSION

Berlin Claims Capture of 700 Yards of French Front Line as Net Result.

DESTRUCTIVE WORK BY
FRENCH ARTILLERY

Russian Warships Destroy Enemy Bridges and Depots on Black Sea and Sink More Turkish Transports.

The Germans are fiercely attacking the French positions in the Aisne section, as well as in Champagne. In the latter district Berlin reports the capture of a front of about 700 yards, while the French admit that the Germans have gained a footing in some of their advanced trenches.

In Aisne, near Friaux, to the southwest, the German attacks followed one another in quick succession, there being four during the course of the afternoon. Pushing forward in the face of a hail of shells and bullets the Germans, on their fourth attempt, succeeded in entering one of the French first line trenches, which, however, they failed to hold, being almost immediately driven out with considerable losses in dead and wounded, according to Paris.

Northeast of Soissons a German attack, preceded by a bombardment, resulted in the capture of a French trench near the Crotoy road, but here also they were thrown out, leaving their dead on the field.

On the British end of the line there have been sapping operations and bombardments by both sides.

Big Guns Prevent Other Attacks. All around Soissons the German artillery was busy, preparatory to infantry attacks; but the attacks did not eventuate owing to the French use of their guns in curtain-of-fire volleys. Considerable damage has been done to German positions in Argonne forest by the French. Artillery duels are in progress in Lorraine and the Argonne. Heavy guns are being actively employed on both sides on the northern section of the Russian front, but no important changes in positions have occurred.

In the isozona region the Austrians have taken from the Italians entrenched positions in the Rombon zone, while the Italian artillery has bombarded Austrian positions at various points, especially in the Gorizia sector.

Austrian airplanes have attacked the towns of Ravenna, in Northern Italy, and several other places in that vicinity. Fifteen persons are said to have been killed and a number injured.

On the Black Sea Russian torpedo boat destroyers have sunk additional Turkish sailing vessels and have destroyed bridges and depots ashore.

The French cruiser Admiral Charner, it is feared by the French ministry, has been lost while patrolling the Syrian coast. The cruiser has not been heard from since Feb. 5, when a German despatch reported that a submarine had sunk a French warship.

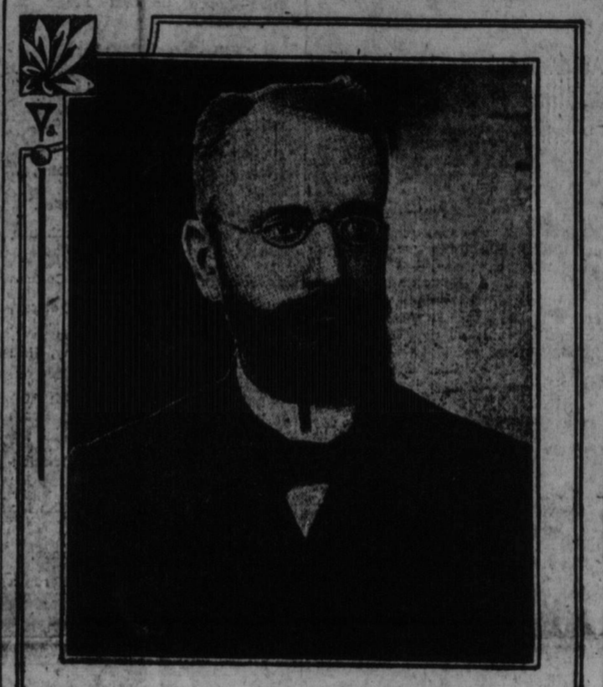
The German gunboat Hedwig Von Wissman has been sunk on Lake Tanganyika, Africa.

Germans Claim Gains in West. Berlin, Feb. 13, via London.—Heavy fighting is in progress in Champagne. The German war office announced today the capture of French positions extending over a front of about 700 yards. In Flanders the Germans penetrated positions of the Allies.

The statement follows: "Western front: In Flanders, after lively artillery fighting, our patrols and strong reconnoitering detachments penetrated positions of the enemy, several mines were exploded effectively. British artillery bombarded the town of Lille yesterday and Friday. Considerable material damage was done, but there was no loss of life or destruction of military property."

"On our front between Labasse Canal and Arras, and also southeast, hostilities were impeded by bad weather. In the fighting in the region northeast and west of Vimy, up to Feb. 9, were captured nine officers, 622 men, thirty-five machine guns, two mine throwers, and stores of various

EX PREMIER VENIZELOS DECIDES TO RETURN TO POLITICAL LIFE



Eleutherios Venizelos, former Premier of Greece, has decided to return to active political life, becoming a candidate for a vacancy in the chamber of deputies.

Athens, Feb. 12, via Paris, Feb. 13.—The Greek government is considering measures to improve the financial situation, being confronted with a large deficit. It is expected to retain a percentage of the salaries of office holders, and to levy a tax on profits realized by the merchant marine from the war traffic.

Government Protests. Berlin, via wireless to Sayville, Feb. 13.—According to the Swiss newspaper Nern Bund, the Greek prime minister has protested against the Italian proposal to protect the island of Corfu. Premier Skouliadis added that the general feeling about this step in Greece was such that the Greek government must decline all responsibility which might result from Italy's action.

Violent bombardment of our positions, the enemy attacked at four different points along our front. Three of these attacks were stopped short by our curtain of fire and the fire of our infantry. In course of the fourth the enemy succeeded in penetrating our first line trenches to the west of Hill 140. He was driven out of it by an immediate counter-attack in which he suffered appreciable losses in dead and wounded.

"A German aeroplane, cannonaded by our batteries was brought down in flames to the east of Givenchy. To the south of Friaux an attack with grenades on our works failed.

"To the east of the Oise we bombarded the enemy organizations in front of Pontigny. Between Soissons and Rheims the German artillery was particularly active. In the sectors of Soissons, Chassemy and La Peuplette our curtain of fire cut short infantry actions in the course of preparation. (Continued on page 7)

CABINET WILL LIKELY DISCUSS MEMORANDUM

Washington, Feb. 13.—Secretary of State Lansing studied, at his home tonight, the text of the memorandum from Berlin announcing the intention of the German government to regard armed merchant ships of the Entente Allies as war vessels after Feb. 23. He will discuss the subject with President Wilson either tomorrow, upon the latter's return from his week-end cruise on the Mayflower, or on Tuesday before the meeting of the cabinet. It is probable that the memorandum will be placed before the cabinet.

It is considered doubtful that an announcement of the position the United States will take in the matter will be defined until both documents have been carefully digested and considered.

Pierce Attacks Repeated by French. Paris, Feb. 13.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight: "In Aisne the day was marked by a series of German attacks, extending from Hill No. 140 as far as the road between Neuville and La Folle.

"In the morning the first attack was made without result to the west of Hill 140. In the afternoon, after a

GERMAN GUNBOAT SUNK IN NAVAL FIGHT IN AFRICA

The Hedwig Von Wissman Sent to Bottom After Clash with Allied Boats on Lake Tanganyika—Feared French Cruiser Admiral Charner is Torpedoed on Syrian Coast.

Havre, Feb. 13.—A despatch received from the Belgian forces operating on Lake Tanganyika, Africa, says the German gunboat Hedwig Von Wissman has been sunk in a naval combat off Albertville. Two of the German crew were killed, the remainder of the men on board the gunboat were made prisoners.

Paris, Feb. 13.—The following statement was given out here today: "The ministry of marine fears for the fate of the cruiser Admiral Charner, which has been patrolling the Syrian coast. No news has been received from the cruiser since Feb. 8, when, according to German telegrams, a submarine sank a French warship."

The Admiral Charner, under normal conditions, carried a crew of 370. She was 327 feet long, 48 feet beam, and displaced 4,800 tons. She was armed with two 7.6-inch guns in her turrets forward and aft, six 5.5-inch guns, four 9-pounders, four 3-pounders and four torpedo tubes. She was laid down in 1889.

NOTED BRITISH AVIATOR IS WOUNDED

Lieut. Claude Grahame-White in Critical Condition—One of Most Daring of Britain's Flying Corps.

Hazebrouck, France, Feb. 13.—Claude Grahame-White, the British aviator, has been wounded gravely. No details have been obtained. He was commissioned lieutenant last month.

Lieut. Grahame-White, one of the best known aviators, won international prominence several years ago by his spectacular flights in England and America. He enlisted in the naval corps at the outbreak of the war and was appointed temporary flight commander. A year ago he had a narrow escape from death. After participating in a raid by a squadron of aeroplanes on Belgian towns, he fell into the sea but was picked up by a cruiser.

Lieut. Grahame-White's wife, formerly Miss Dorothy Taylor, of New York, obtained last month a decree for the restitution of her conjugal rights, an action which in England is a preliminary step to a suit for divorce.

URGES WHEAT RESERVES IN GR. BRITAIN

London Times Declares Stocks on Hand Not Reassuring, but Admits Little Known Outside Government. What Canada is Supplying.

London, Feb. 14.—The Times, in an editorial article this morning, discusses the present depletion of the wheat stocks, as revealed by the issue of the official returns for January 1, which it declares are not of a reassuring character, and urges the formation of wheat reserves. It admits, however, that little is known of government purchases in Canada, about which, it states, great secrecy is preserved, and moreover there have been

Thrown Back Across Year. Paris, Feb. 12.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight: "In Belgium, after quite a violent artillery preparation, the Germans several times attempted to cross the Yser Canal at the Heenstraete heights and at Hetsas. Under the combined fire of our artillery and machine guns these attempts failed.

"In Champagne there was very marked artillery activity in the regions of the Butte du Minal and Navarin. After a bombardment lasting several hours the enemy was able to penetrate a small salient of our lines between the road from Navarin and that from Saint Souplet.

"To the northeast of the Butte du Minal the Germans attempted by a new counter-attack, to drive us from those parts of the trench occupied by us yesterday, but were repulsed. We continued to progress by the use of grenades to the east of those parts and have made some prisoners."

"In the Argonne, near the Four de Paris, we exploded a small mine which shattered the mine works of the enemy.

"In the Vosges, to the north of Wissembach, east of Saint Dieman enemy infantry attack met by our fire was repulsed."

hints in trade papers that the government has been a heavy purchaser of wheat during January.