

TWENTY OF ALLIES' MIGHTIEST SEA FIGHTERS POURING SHELLS INTO DARDANELLES FORTS

The Queen Elizabeth, One of England's Latest Super-Dreadnoughts Leads the Attackers—Men From Warships Land and Complete Work of Naval Guns—New 15 Inch Guns Used For First Time—British Flag Floats Over 4 of The Forts—Attacking Fleet Have Reached Fort Kilit Bahr, Four Miles From Entrance—Hardest Task Begun.

London, Feb. 28.—After having completed the destruction of the forts at the entrance of the Dardanelles, the Allied fleet of British and French warships, the greatest which has ever been in action, are now attacking the inner forts, which heretofore have stood between Turkey and invasion by the sea.

Apparently the outer forts could not withstand a great bombardment, and when they had been levelled, and deserted by their defenders, men were landed from the ships to complete the work of destruction, while mine-sweepers cleared a passage for ships in the Straits.

More serious work is now ahead, for the all important fortifications are at Kilit Bahr and Chanak, which guards the narrowest part of the Straits, which the fleet is now approaching. There is no doubt, however, that the Allied commanders have instructions to make their way to Constantinople in spite of all obstacles, and have been supplied with the best means for carrying out these orders.

TWENTY OF ALLIES' BEST SHIPS TAKING PART

A complete list of the ships engaged is not available, but reports from Athens and other points say that twenty large vessels are taking part, and the report issued last night by the British Admiralty up to Friday night, mentions no less than ten of these. Previous reports mentioned others that were not engaged on Thursday or Friday, the period covered by the Admiralty statement.

At the head of the fleet is the Queen Elizabeth, one of England's latest super-dreadnoughts, which has been commissioned since the war began, and which mounts eight fifteen-inch guns. The Queen Elizabeth took part in the bombardment, so that for the first time these monster weapons had been used, and, according to the Admiralty report, they did their work with great accuracy.

Other ships which assisted in silencing the outer forts were the British battleship Agamemnon, which was struck by a Turkish shell, and had three men killed and five wounded; the British battleships Irresistible, Vengeance, Cornwallis, Albion and Majestic, each of which carries four 12-inch guns, and the Triumph, which has four ten-inch guns, and the French battleships Gaulois, Suffren and Charlemagne, each of which carries four 12-inch guns.

Other vessels, including the French battleship Bouvet, and one or two British battle cruisers, are in the vicinity, to render assistance should it be required.

The Fort Dardanus, which the ships attacked Friday afternoon after the entrance to the Straits had been swept of mines, is not far from the Narrows and it is probable that the big, and more important attack has begun by this time.

Reports from neutral Balkan states say that the residents of the islands in the Sea of Marmora have been ordered to evacuate their homes and that an imperial train is waiting to take the Sultan to Asia Minor.

So far as Great Britain is concerned, however, the most important immediate result of the initial success is the reduction which it has brought in the price of wheat, which has dropped two shillings and a quarter.

The Queen Elizabeth Takes Part in Bombardment

The Admiralty announced last night that during the bombardment of the Dardanelles fortifications the battleship Agamemnon had been struck and that three men were killed. The announcement said further that the Dardanelles operations were still proceeding.

The new battleship Queen Elizabeth, one of the largest members of the British fleet, took part in the bombardment. This is the first time, it is stated, in which fifteen-inch naval guns have been in action. The Queen Elizabeth, a vessel of 27,500 tons, has eight fifteen-inch guns.

The Admiralty announcement says that landing parties went ashore from the Allied fleet. With the assistance of three of the four forts at the entrance to the Dardanelles were completely demolished, and the fourth was damaged badly.

The Admiralty statement follows: "The entrance to the Dardanelles was guarded by four principal forts, namely: Cape Helles battery, Fort Seddul Bahr, Fort Orkhanieh Tabia and Fort Kum Kaloes Tabia, which will be described for convenience as A, B, C and D. These forts were armed as follows:

A—Two 9.2 guns; B—Six 10.2 guns; C—Two 9.2 guns; D—Four 10.2 and two 6.5 guns.

"The weather having improved, although the wind was still from the southwest that attack on these was resumed Thursday morning (Feb. 26) at ten o'clock. The Queen Elizabeth, Agamemnon, Irresistible and Gaulois began by deliberately bombarding forts A, B and C, respectively, and at long range.

"Fort A replied. One shell at 11,000 yards hit the Agamemnon, killing three men and wounding five. The Irresistible and Gaulois made excellent practice on Forts C and D, while the Queen Elizabeth concentrated with great accuracy on A, putting both of its guns out of action about 11.30 a.m.

"The Vengeance and Cornwallis then ran in under cover of long range fire and engaged Fort A at close range. The reduction of Fort A was completed, while Forts C and D opened a very slow and inaccurate fire.

"The Suffren and Charlemagne next delivered an attack on Forts C and D, advancing to within two thousand yards of them. It was then seen that they were in no condition to offer an effective resistance.

"The Vengeance, Triumph and Albion were then ordered in to complete the reduction of the forts. All four were reduced by 5.15 p. m.

"Sweeping operations, covered by a division of battleships and destroyers, were immediately begun. The enemy set fire to a village at the entrance as darkness fell.

"A report also has been received of the operations of February 26. The Straits had been swept up to four miles from the entrance. The Albion

GOLD EXPORTS LARGER THAN THE IMPORTS

Last Month, for First Time Since War Began—Balance of Trade Now Almost in Canada's Favor.

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—A statement of the Canadian trade statistics for the month of January, and for the first ten months of the present year, as just published by the Department of Trade and Commerce, show that, for the first time since the war started, exports of coin and bullion are again larger than the imports.

With the restoration of normal rates of exchange, and the comparative balancing up of gold balances due from the United States to England, the flow of gold to Canada, under the arrangement with the Bank of England, for holding in trust here, has ceased, and during January the exports of gold were a little larger than the imports, the relative figures being \$363,007 of exports, and \$638,174 of imports. As compared with the figures for January of last year, the total imports of gold for the ten months amounted to \$131,257,281, while exports amounted to only \$5,042,799. The total influx of gold during the seven months of the war was a little over \$120,000,000. That amount is still held in trust in the Treasury here for the Bank of England, but from now on it is expected that the exports will exceed the imports.

Exports and Imports Almost Equivalent

For the month of January Canadian exports, for the first time in years, were practically equivalent to the imports, and the balance of trade has now almost reached the stage where it is in favor of Canada.

Total imports for the month amounted to \$30,938,331, a decrease of a little over \$10,000,000, as compared with January of last year. Total exports amounted to \$30,830,337, an increase of approximately \$1,000,000, as compared with January of last year.

For the ten months of the fiscal year the total trade in merchandise amounted to \$762,478,347, a decrease of \$171,000,000, as compared with the corresponding ten months of the previous fiscal year.

For the twelve calendar months of the year ending with January last, the total trade of Canada was \$902,094,473, as compared with \$1,113,428,320 for the preceding twelve months.

STR. EVELYN WAS NOT OFF HER COURSE

More Canadian Names on Latest Casualty List—Promise to Surpass British Soldiers in Marksmanship.

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—While nothing official as to the whereabouts of the First Canadian Contingent in France has yet been given out by the government, it is understood that the report shortly received by the Canadian authorities as to the condition and situation of its Overseas Expeditionary Force, The casualty list received today contains the names of two members of the First Contingent, which would indicate that some of Canada's

Washington, Feb. 27.—The first report of Commander Genardi, naval attaché at Berlin, on the sinking of the American ocean steamer Evelyn by a mine in the North Sea, received here today, indicates that the ship was not off her course, as was suggested, and was, in fact, in waters where she should have been safe.

According to the report of naval officers here the Evelyn probably struck a mine which had broken loose from its moorings somewhere along the German coast.

WHOLE VILLAGE SNOWED UNDER

Paris, Feb. 27.—A snow avalanche near Radou, in the department of Haute-Alpes has completely buried the village of La Galie. The houses are obliterated from sight, and it is believed that some of the people must perish before they can be dug out.

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The Dacia Captured By French Cruiser



MR. EDWARD N. BEITING

Paris, Feb. 28.—A French cruiser would be seized on her way to Rotterdam as Great Britain questioned the validity of the recent transfer of the Decatur from German to American registry. The announcement of the capture of the Dacia, which was issued by the Marine Department, gave no details, nor the name of the cruiser which took her under arrest.

PANIC IN CONSTANTINOPLE, CABINET MOVING TO BROUSSA

London, Feb. 28.—There is a panic in Constantinople and many inhabitants are leaving, says the Athens correspondent of the Weekly Despatch.

"Internal trouble is imminent. The cabinet has decided to transfer the seat of government to Broussa, Asia Minor."

London, March 1.—"It is officially announced," says the Morning Post Cairo correspondent, "that the Turks have evacuated the Sinai Peninsula. This confirms the belief here that all danger of a second invasion of Egypt is now removed."

First Contingent In Thick of The Fighting

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TUG LORD KITCHNER IS MISSING; LEFT YARMOUTH WEDNESDAY

Halifax, Feb. 28.—The steam tug Lord Kitchener, from Yarmouth for Lunenburg is missing and some anxiety is felt regarding her safety. The tug sailed last Wednesday and has not reached her destination. The marine department has been asked to make a search for her.

N. S. SOLDIER FELL OFF TRAIN AND WAS KILLED

Halifax, Feb. 28.—George Woods, a private in the 25th Nova Scotia Regiment, was killed near Brookfield, N. S., Saturday night. He belonged to Truro and was on his way home to spend Sunday with his wife and family. He was on a freight train, and in some way fell off and under the wheels, the body being badly mangled.

TIDE OF BATTLE TURNED IN RUSSIAN POLAND

Germans, on Offensive Few Days Ago, Now In Retreat Before Czar's Forces—Heavy Fighting in Western Galicia—Battles in Western Theatre Confined to the Champagne and Vosges Regions Without Any Results of Importance.

London, Feb. 28.—The Russian offensive operations appear at the present time to extend along their whole front—an indication that they have been able to bring very strong reinforcements into the field. They have successfully checked the German advance in North Poland, where the Germans are reported to be in retreat, and the re-capture of Przasnysz, after heavy fighting, has given them an excellent point from which to carry on further operations.

All the Petrograd correspondents refer to the capture of a large number of officers among the German armies, and the large number of young untrained men who have been drafted into them.

The Russian offensive extends to the front, where they successfully opposed Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's attempt to advance on Warsaw in December and January. There has also been heavy fighting in Western Galicia and in the Carpathians, but without bringing any notable change in the situation. In Eastern Galicia the Russians report another repulse for the Austrians, who have again lost a number of prisoners.

Representations were made immediately by the British embassy at Washington, questioning the validity of the transfer of the interned German vessel, and it was generally understood that if the ship sailed she would be seized by British or French warships and taken before a prize court.

With Russia it would seem to be a case of keeping up the supply of ammunition, which the opening of the Dardanelles would greatly assist. The attempt to force the Straits by the allied fleet is indeed of momentous importance to the Allies.

The opening of the Straits would release the Russian grain which the Allies want, and would give to Russia war material which she herself cannot produce, while it would be certain to have a marked effect on the future policy of the Balkan States.

The Allies, however, do not anticipate that their success in the Dardanelles undertaking will be immediate, for they are now facing the hardest part of the problem, having the strongest forts ahead of them, although the guns of these forts have not the range of the guns of the larger ships, particularly the fifteen-inch guns of the Queen Elizabeth.

The fact that the Queen Elizabeth is in commission suggests that her four sister ships, of which only one was laid down within a few weeks of each other, are either in the fighting line or ready to join it. These five ships

are considered the greatest fighting machines in the world, and besides being heavily armed, are almost as fast as battle cruisers. Although their speed is given as 25 knots, the Queen Elizabeth made 28 in her trials, and she may exceed that.

The Belgian army, re-organized and re-equipped, has again been taking part in the fight for the recovery of its country, and, according to the French report has advanced across the Yser and taken a farm from the Germans, while its artillery has demolished two German works.

Otherwise, the battles in the west are still confined to the Champagne and the Vosges, where both sides claim to have been successful.

The Labor Situation Creating Interest The labor situation and the government's demand that work be resumed on the Clyde tomorrow is creating a lot of interest in England. The Clyde workmen will hold a series of meetings in Glasgow tomorrow, so it is not likely that they will return to work until Tuesday, at least, but that they will then obey the government's order is almost certain, as all their leaders urge them to do. Should they disobey the order, the government can declare martial law.

David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, today intimated that as a small minority of the employees of the armament works were not working full time owing to the lure of drink, the government was considering measures to further control the sale of intoxicants. He did not explain what the regulations would be, but it is thought that they will not go further than shortening the hours during which the saloons may remain open.

The capture of the American steamer Dacia, formerly sailing under the German flag, by the French is welcomed here, as it will enable a French prize court to decide her fate, and the English court will deal with the cargo of the American steamer Wilhelmina. Thus the responsibility for stopping goods in neutral bottoms bound for Germany will be borne equally by the two allies.

The larger question of the Allies' prohibition of goods to Germany, it is expected, will be expounded by Premier Asquith in the House of Commons tomorrow. At the same session the Prime Minister is expected to announce more money to carry on the war, explain the financial needs of the country. It is understood that no new tax or ready to join it. These five ships

If Allie Should Fail U.S. at Mercy of Germans

Lloyd George Says Chancellor of Exchequer Says States Would be at Mercy of German War Machine, if Victory in Europe Favored the Kaiser—British Government to Take Firm Stand on the Drink Evil.

Bangor, Wales, via London, Feb. 28.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, David Lloyd George, made a pointed reference to the United States in an address here today.

"If Germany is triumphant over this country," he said, "she would be practically dictator of the world, and where," he asked, "could we then look to a chivalrous country to protect us—to America?"

"If countries like France and Russia, with huge armies, and we, with the most powerful navy in the world, could not face this terrible machine, how could America stand? It would be more than America could do to defend her interests in her own continent. America is already more than we were."

The Chancellor then took up the liquor industrial questions. "The government has wide powers to deal with the drink question, and it means to use them," he declared. He said a small minority of workmen employed in the armament factories had refused to work a full week because of the lure of drink.

No Time For Industrial Differences. The government would use its powers discreetly, and in a spirit of moderation, Mr. Lloyd George asserted, but "fearlessly." He was sure the public would support whatever action

was taken, and allow no indulgence of this kind to interfere with the country's prospects in the war.

"The war," he said, "is to be won or lost by the engineers. We need men, but we need arms more than men, and every day of delay is full of peril to the country. For one reason or another we don't get the assistance we have a right to expect from our workshops. Industrial differences are inevitable but we cannot afford them now."

"It is intolerable that the lives of Britons should be imperiled for the sake of a farthing an hour. During war governments should have the power of settling differences so that work shall go on. If men are entitled to more money the government should give it. I do not believe the parties involved will refuse to comply with the urgent command of the government that there should be no delay."

Expressing confidence in the outcome of the war, the Chancellor said the people of the country hardly realized yet the importance of the struggle in which they were engaged, and warned them that victory could not be won without a long struggle. He declared that while England had enrolled the largest volunteer army ever gathered in any country, or in any century, it ought to be larger still.