

RUSSIANS TAKE OFFENSIVE ALONG FRONT OF NEARLY 100 MILES IN THE CAUCASUS

ITALY WILL AID HER ALLIES SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Cabinet Taking Steps to Provide Adequate Assistance - King Victor Discusses Question with Foreign Minister and Head of Army and Navy Departments - Montenegrin Government Now at Scutari.

Paris, Jan. 15 (delayed). - Information received from Rome indicates that the Italian cabinet has taken steps to give adequate assistance to Serbia and Montenegro.

Berlin, Jan. 16, via wireless to Sayville. - The Montenegrin government has arrived at Scutari, according to advices from Vienna, received by the Overseas News Agency.

Podgoritz, to the east of Cetinje, and Nisic, are said to have been evacuated by the Montenegrin forces.

Russian Success Against Turks. Petrograd, Jan. 16, via London. - An official statement given out today by the Russian war office says:

"Western (Russian) front: There is no change in the situation. "Caucasus: In the course of the fighting Jan. 14, we captured two Turkish officers and more than 400 men; a quantity of war and engineering material and provisions, one heavy gun and seven other guns and eight machine guns.

"Persia: In the fighting at Kangavir, half way between Hamadan and Kermanshah, we took many prisoners. First Train from Berlin to Turke Capital. Dresden, via London, Jan. 16, 11.12 p. m. - The first Balkan train, which left Berlin at 7.30 Saturday morning for Constantinople, passed through Dresden a few hours later.

British and Belgian Artillery Working Together. Paris, via London, Jan. 16. - The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:

"In Belgium our artillery in concert with the British artillery, did serious damage to the enemy trenches in the region of Hetsas and caused two powerful explosions in the German lines. "Our batteries successfully bombarded the approaches of the road to Lille, to the south of Thelus, and blew up a munitions depot. At Hill No. 119, northeast of Neuville-St. Vaast, one of our mines destroyed a small German post.

"In the Argonne there has been an engagement with bombs and grenades in the region of Vanocua. "In Lorraine we took under our fire enemy troops who are assembling to the south of Tremont, northeast of Badoviller."

LT.-COL. GUTHRIE AND CAPT. TILLEY TO MAKE TOUR OF NORTH SHORE

Special to the Standard. Fredericton, Jan. 15. - Lt. Col. Guthrie returned on Saturday evening from his recruiting tour of Charlotte county and will leave tomorrow evening for Dauntown to commence a tour of the North Shore with Capt. L. P. D. Tilley. They will boom recruiting for Lt. Col. Fraser's 132nd Battalion which is being organized.

SAYS FOREIGN OFFICE HAMPERS WORK OF NAVY

Well Known Authority on Marine Law Declares Sir Edw. Grey Impedes Effective work of British Fleet.

London, Jan. 16. - Thomas Gibson Bowles, well known as an authority on maritime law, in a speech here today severely criticized what he termed the ineffectual methods of the Foreign Office against Germany.

"Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary," said Mr. Bowles, "has held the opinion that Germany must not be starved. For a decade he has tried to surrender our maritime rights. He went to The Hague in 1906, prepared to abandon the rights of contraband search and capture in return for the illusory promise of universal disarmament. And even today he is hampering the right and duty of the fleet to inflict loss on the enemy."

MUST PROVE FIT BEFORE HE CAN BE AN OFFICER

No Man Appointed to Rank Higher than 2nd Lieutenant Until He is Tried Out.

Ottawa, Jan. 16. - (Via leased wire) - The policy being followed by Col. McLellan, of the 121st Western Infantry Battalion, of Vancouver, by which no man is appointed to rank in the regiment until he has been tried out, is being followed by the 1st Canadian Trench Battalion, which is being organized.

Under the general scheme in force throughout the Dominion, men are appointed temporarily lieutenants, captains or majors, and it is often difficult to reduce them to their original rank if they are found incompetent for the command which they hold. Under the new plan no reduction is necessary as each man enters the regiment as a lieutenant and whatever higher rank he may hold is only in an acting capacity until he is proven worthy of it.

Strongly Reinforced and Hammering Hard --- Germans and Turks Fighting Together in Persia where Petrograd Claims Successes for Russians --- Lille Bombarded by British Guns --- Serbia to Provide New Army of 100,000 Within Two Months.

Constantinople, Jan. 15. - A new general offensive along a front of almost one hundred miles has been undertaken in the Caucasus by reinforced Russian columns, according to an official statement issued today at the Turkish war office.

Petrograd, Jan. 16. - The following official statement was issued by the Russian war office tonight: "There has been no change on the western (Russian) front. "In Persia on the road to Kermanshah, we occupied the town of Kangavar."

London, Jan. 16. - The Russian official statement issued today gives the first official intimation that the Germans are fighting with the Turks in Persia.

London, Jan. 16. - The Turks are now being attacked by both Russians and British. In the Caucasus the Russians, greatly reinforced, are on the offensive along a front of almost a hundred miles, while in Mesopotamia the British have forced the retirement of the Ottoman troops along both banks of the Tigris river to the south of Kut-el-Amara, and still are closely pressing them on the east and the north.

Constantinople reports that near Karadach the Russians were defeated, with heavy casualties, while Petrograd asserts that at some unnamed place a large number of Turkish officers and men, war materials and provisions, eight guns and eight machine guns were captured by the Russians. Success for the Russians in the fighting in Persia also are claimed by Petrograd. In its official report Petrograd makes the first announcement that the Germans are fighting with the Turks in this region.

The Turks in retreat along the Tigris are those who have held back Gen. Aylmer's column proceeding up the river to the relief of the British in Kut-el-Amara. "On the other fronts, except in Montenegro, little fighting is in progress. The offensive of the Russians in East Galicia and along the Bessarabian front has again died down.

British Shell Town of Lille. On the line in France and Belgium the operations have consisted mainly of artillery duels and mining and counter-mining work. The big British guns have thrown shells into Lille, but Berlin says only slight damage was done.

A trench taken by the Austro-Hungarians from the Italians near the Tolmino bridgehead and an increase in the Italian bombardment of this region and also of Gorizia, Merdiviv, and Mont San Michel, form the chief events on the Austro-Italian line. In Montenegro the Austro-Hungarians continue their pursuit of the Montenegrins, capturing from them positions and men. Podgoritz, to the east of Cetinje and Nisic, are the latest places reported evacuated.

The Montenegrin government is now at Scutari, Albania, according to an unofficial report from Berlin. "Advices from Rome say that the Italian cabinet has begun plans for giving adequate assistance to Montenegro and Serbia, but the nature of this aid and the manner in which it will be rendered is not known."

The semi-official Overseas News Agency of Berlin discredits the announcement that the French submarine Foucault recently sank an Austro-Hungarian cruiser of the Novara type in the Adriatic. "Since no Austro-Hungarian ship is missing," says the News Agency, "the Foucault must have sunk a ship of the Entente Powers by mistake."

A Turkish Report. London, Jan. 17. - A despatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from Amsterdam gives a Constantinople despatch received there which says: "According to reliable news from Persia, the governor general of Luristan has taken over command of the national forces fighting against the British and Russians, declared war on Great Britain and Russia and opened hostilities."

Italian Report. Rome, Jan. 16, via London, Jan. 17. - The following official communication was issued today: "Between the Sarca and Adige valleys Friday, after a lively artillery action, an enemy detachment attempted to approach our positions at the mouth of the Cresta Valley, but was immediately repulsed. One of our detachments has occupied the little island of Dioppio."

Luristane is a mountainous region on the western frontier of Persia. "On the same day our artillery caused an explosion in one of the enemy's munitions depots in the region of Ombratta, and dispersed an enemy column ascending the Ravi road in the Zebach Valley. "On the heights northwest of Gorizia the intense bombardment of Friday was followed during the night by an attack in force on our positions in the region between the Primico Torrent and Onalva. Although at first repulsed, the enemy renewed his attack a second time with greater forces, and succeeded in penetrating some of our trenches between Hill No. 188 and Onalva. "The following morning, however, our troops, by a violent counter-attack, drove back the enemy well beyond Onalva, and strongly re-occupied the trenches between Hill No. 188 and Onalva. "The following morning, however, our troops, by a violent counter-attack, drove back the enemy well beyond Onalva, and strongly re-occupied the trenches between Hill No. 188 and Onalva. "The following morning, however, our troops, by a violent counter-attack, drove back the enemy well beyond Onalva, and strongly re-occupied the trenches between Hill No. 188 and Onalva."

PROHIBITION LIKELY SUBJECT FOR DEBATE

Not Definite Yet that Government Intends to Bring Down Legislation on Matter, but Debate on Subject Seems Certain.

Ottawa, Jan. 16. - There is no indication as yet that the government intends to bring down the legislation regarding nationwide prohibition, although Sir George Foster has intimated that if anything like an overwhelming majority of the Canadian people desire prohibition they will not be balked by their representatives in parliament.

However, there is no reason to believe that the government has determined upon its policy. It was not referred to in the speech from the throne.

The subject will come up for a prolonged debate in the House of Commons is evident. In course of that debate the leaders of both political parties will be forced to take some stand. It is also quite likely that the advocates of temperance during the session may force a roll call during the session in the House.

If the subject is brought into the House by the introduction of a resolution or bill by some private member it will probably be side tracked by the old parliamentary device of "adjourning the debate," thus adjourning can never be resumed until "public bills and orders" are reached on the calendar, and they never are reached after the fourth Thursday of the session - this fact by the way may have something to do with prolonging the debate on the address. Of course any private member might bring on a debate, or even a division by moving the temperance resolution as an amendment to the motion for the House to go into committee of supply. Such an amendment, however, would be a want of confidence motion and could be voted down or that grounds as it probably would be.

A Grit Plot. The initiation is apt to cut a zig zag line running across both sides of the chamber and practical politicians are already trying to figure out what the effect will be politically. The fact that many men behind the movement are Liberals leads to the insinuation in some quarters that the propaganda is intended to embarrass the Borden Government. On the other hand some Liberals say that the movement if persisted in will give the Hebert government an opportunity to evade the demand for a dry Ontario by pleading that the whole subject has now been transferred by the temperance people to the federal field.

It is quite possible that the government may answer the demand for nationwide prohibition by saying that action should be taken in the first place by the provinces. If all the provinces passed prohibitory legislation it would then be up to the federal government to make that legislation effective by prohibiting the manufacture of liquor, its importation from foreign countries and inter-provincial trade. The question of revenue is also a factor to be considered. The federal government has a great deal of money to raise and prohibition would reduce the receipts of the inland revenue department by about \$15,000,000 a year. True, there has been a marked increase in the customs receipts of late. But the net increase is not so large as appears on the surface. A great deal of raw material has been brought in for the manufacture of war munitions. It pays duty on entering but the manufacturer gets a rebate of 99 per cent. upon such raw material when it is exported in the shape of finished manufactures. But it is not believed

that the loss of revenue would prevent prohibitory legislation if public sentiment earnestly and overwhelmingly demanded the same.

TURKS IN RETREAT BEFORE BRITISH NEAR KUT-EL-AMARA

Enemy Forces on Both Banks of the Tigris Defeated by British in Stiff Fight - Arab Forces in Egypt Located by British and Routed.

London, Jan. 16, 12.32 p. m. - Turkish forces occupying positions on both banks of the River Tigris, 35 miles south of Kut-el-Amara, in Mesopotamia, are retreating, according to an announcement made today by the official press bureau. The war office says that after hard fighting, the Turks began to withdraw on January 13 and January 14, and that they are being closely pressed by British troops under Commanding General Aylmer. The text of the statement follows: "After their defeat on January 8-9, the Turkish force opposing Gen. Aylmer retired to a position astride the Tigris, at Orah, 25 miles down stream from Kut-el-Amara. "Gen. Aylmer attacked the position Jan. 13, hard fighting continuing till nightfall.

"During the evenings of January 13 and January 14 the enemy began to retire, and in being closely pressed on the east and on the north by the British forces.

Arabia Put to Flight. Cairo, via London, Jan. 17. - The following British official communication issued today says: "A column from Matruh dispersed, on Thursday, 400 Arabs who had been located forty miles from Matruh. The Arabs showed no resistance and fled on the approach of our forces. More than one hundred camels and all of the sheep, goats and tents belonging to the Arabs were captured, in addition to two prisoners. There were no British casualties."

Explosion of American Submarine in New York Navy Yard; 3 Killed

Washington, Jan. 15. - Official reports to the Navy Department say three men were killed and eleven injured in the explosion on the E-2 today at the New York Navy Yard. The submarine E-2 was built in 1910 and displaced 430 tons. The E-2 was 160 feet long and 13 feet beam. She was driven with two screws and was equipped with four torpedo tubes. She was capable of travelling fourteen knots on the surface and eleven knots when submerged.

New York, Jan. 16. - A statement indicating that the new Edison storage battery was not in any way responsible for the explosion on the submarine E-2 at the navy yard yesterday, was made tonight by Miller R. Hutchinson, chief engineer for Thomas A. Edison, and a member of the Naval Consulting Board. The preliminary inquiry into the explosion was held in secret today by the board of inquiry appointed by Rear Admiral Nathaniel P. Usher, commandant of the navy yard. Neither Admiral Usher nor any of those present would discuss what transpired.

STORY OF HEAVY CANADIAN LOSSES WAS EXAGGERATED

Sir Sam Gets Denial of Report that Two Western Units had Heavy Casualties Recently.

Ottawa, Jan. 16. - (Via Canadian Press) - Gen. Sir Sam Hughes, minister of militia, is in receipt of a cable from Major Gen. Carson, denying the alarmist report cabled Saturday that two western units, the 3rd Canadian Mounted Rifles, and the 31st Battalion, had suffered heavy losses in recent fighting. Canadian casualties on Jan. 14 were four killed and thirteen wounded, and on January 15, totalled seven killed and fifteen wounded.

December losses among officers of the Canadian forces were correctly given as ten killed and twenty-nine wounded in a Canadian Press despatch Saturday.

The probable reason for the error of the London correspondent is due to the fact that casualties among members of the Canadian forces with English addresses are published simultaneously in London and Canada, while the losses of members with Canadian addresses are usually published in London only once or twice a month, after being confirmed by the Ottawa Casualty Office and mailed to London, although publication in Canada of the latter takes place from day to day as soon as relatives are notified. Recently the same correspondent cabled a story that the 1st Battalion had been nearly wiped out, and as a result of the two reports causing such alarm and wide-spread inquiry, Gen. Hughes is taking steps to see that there can be no recurrence of publication of stories of this nature, unless they are borne out by the facts.

That the loss of revenue would prevent prohibitory legislation if public sentiment earnestly and overwhelmingly demanded the same.

CAPT. D. KING HAZEN GOING OVERSEAS WITH CANADIANS

Son of Minister of Militia Has Been Ordered to Report in England for Duty.

Fredericton, Jan. 16. - Capt. D. King Hazen, son of Hon. J. D. Hazen, minister of marine and fisheries, has been ordered to report to Major General Carson, of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces for special duty. He is going to England at once, accompanied by his wife, and expects to be on the frigate soon. Capt. Hazen is an officer in the 3rd Canadian Regiment of Artillery, having been an officer of that corps for several years. His promotion from the rank of Lieutenant to a captaincy is announced in connection with his having been ordered overseas.

PRESENTATION TO SPEAKER LANDRY

Ottawa, Jan. 16, via leased wire. - Hon. A. C. P. Landry, speaker of the Senate, was presented with a bust of himself yesterday by the staff of the Senate. The occasion was Speaker Landry's birthday.

The bust is the work of Mr. Laliberte, the well-known Montreal sculptor. The bust is now in the Speaker's chambers, between busts of Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

WILL ASK LAVERGNE TO EXPLAIN

Quebec, Jan. 16. - At a meeting of the committee of management of the Quebec Garrison Club held here on Saturday it was decided to summon Lieut.-Col. Armand Lavergne before that body, and ask him for an explanation of his statements in the Quebec legislature last week, when in violent terms he denounced Canada's participation in the war.