

The Herald

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The war spirit is again manifested in the decision of the owners of the sealing fleet that will set out from St. John's Nfld. in the middle of March, to ship no slackers. No unmarried man between the ages of twenty and thirty who has not offered his services to the country, unless he can establish that he remains at home to permit other members of his family to be at the front, will be given a coveted berth on the hunting trip. The decision is popular. The sealing fleet will be the smallest on record. It will consist of ten wooden ships of the old type.

The Scandinavian American liner Frederick VIII from New York, with Count Bernstorff, dismissed German Ambassador from Washington, and suite and many Consul, on board, arrived off Halifax at ten o'clock last Friday morning and put off to sea again. She came in the harbor after night-fall. The ship is en route to Copenhagen and has come to Halifax in accordance with late admiralty regulations requiring all neutral ships to call at Halifax for examination, instead of Falmouth or Kirkwall, as formerly. The task of examining the credentials of the German party on board was commenced Saturday morning by a corps of Canadian Immigration and Customs officers. The ship was on Friday night taken to a secluded portion of Halifax harbor for this purpose. A small army of officers were taken out to the steamer Saturday morning, and it will depend on whether they will find everything satisfactory with the papers of the German party, which includes Count Von Bernstorff and other high consular officials leaving for the Fatherland, whether the ship is long detained in Halifax. The most careful secrecy prevails about the operations of the examining force. It is composed of immigration officials, translators and women examiners. It was indicated that the work was to be careful and thorough.

The New York World publishes a report that Colonel Roosevelt is planning an expeditionary force to take to Europe in case of war with Germany. He would lead the force under direction of the entente Generals. His present plans are known to cover the possible raising of a corps or even an army of 200,000. One of the matters which Roosevelt has under consideration is to go to Canada and organize his force there, in case his plans would interfere too much with those of the General staff in the United States.

The new money subscribed in England to the British war loan is at least \$700,000,000, exclusive of contributions from banks. Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated in the House of Commons Monday. Mr. Bonar Law said the number of applicants for the war loan on the last day was so large that \$200,000 or \$300,000 were not dealt with and the result would not be known until next week.

The average daily expenditure of Great Britain is now £5,790,000 or nearly \$29,000,000. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, the other day that the total expenditure since the beginning of the war was £4,200,000,000. At the end of the current year the national debt would stand between £3,800,000,000 and £3,900,000,000.

900,000,000. Advances to Allies, and Dominions would be approximately \$390,000,000. The number of applications and the amount applied for by the general public for the new loan, the Chancellor said, were larger than ever before.

It is intimated from Ottawa that next month a new war loan, probably for a hundred million dollars will be offered in Canada. There is the precedent of two former loans of equal amount to suggest that the venture will be a success. There is also the supporting fact that besides \$458,000,000 of deposits in the banks payable on call, chiefly mercantile balances, there is \$845,000,000 "payable after notice," which includes much that may be invested in long term securities. It is to be added that the success of the war loan will be a good thing for the country. The more interest on the war debt there is payable in Canada the less money will have to be raised to send abroad.

Indirect taxes and monopolies in France procured a revenue in Jan. 109,000,000 francs larger than in the corresponding month last year and 36,500,000 francs more than in that month of a normal year. Only 48,000,000 francs of this increase was due to importations. The remainder was in consequence of recovered economic activity and of the new taxes voted at the end of the last year. The new sugar tax yielded 8,500,000 francs. The additional taxes in wine amounted to 2,500,000 francs and on tobacco 3,600,000 francs.

Progress of the War

London, Feb. 14.—The official report from British headquarters in France tonight reads: During the day we captured 20 enemy strong going southeast of Grandcourt and took a few prisoners. Another very successful raid was carried out this morning northeast of Arras. We penetrated 250 yards into the enemy's defenses, and reached his third line of defenses. Two machine gun displacements and a number of dugouts were captured or destroyed. Many of the enemy were killed in the dugouts, which they refused to leave. We captured forty prisoners and a machine gun. Our casualties were very light. We also entered the German lines last night on the Somme and northeast of Ypres and inflicted considerable losses.

A hostile raid attempted east of Arras during the night was repulsed. A second enemy party reached our trenches south of Messines, but was quickly ejected. Three of the enemy's ammunition dumps were exploded today by our artillery fire. North of Ypres we caused a fire in the enemy's lines. One German airplane was destroyed in the air fighting yesterday on our side of the line, and one of our machines was brought down.

Paris, Feb. 14.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads: East of Rheims we carried out a surprise attack in the sector of Proseaux. The two artillery detachments were active during the day in the regions of Les Maisons de Champagne and St. Hilaire, and also on the left bank of the Meuse, in the sectors of Hill 304 and Le Mort Homme. In the Woëvre, our batteries destructively shelled enemy organizations north of Filirey. The day was relatively calm everywhere else.

London, Feb. 15.—While fighting is going on in all the principal theatres of the war, in none of them has there occurred a battle of great importance. For the most part the operations are being carried out by small raiding and reconnoitering parties, and by the artillery of both groups of belligerents. There has been considerable aerial activity on the western front in France—bomb dropping exploits and fights in the air. In these latter engagements both the Entente and the Germans have lost airplanes. During the past 24 hours three

British vessels have been sent to the bottom by submarines—the steamers Clelia, 3,750 tons; Margaria, 375 tons, and Ferga, a new ship, the tonnage of which is not contained in available shipping records.

For the first time in several days the British war office reports not any gains for the troops of King George fighting in France, although a small raiding party near Guedecourt, in the Somme region, entered a German position and brought back several prisoners. Northeast of Ypres the Germans succeeded in reaching a British post, but later were driven off with losses. Artillery duels of violence have been in progress in the Somme and Ypres sectors and in the region of Verdun, on the sectors of Les Maisons de Champagne, Hardaumont and Vaux, and in Lorraine. In Galicia, north of the Tarnopol-Ziochoff railroad, the Germans entered Russian trenches on a front of one hundred yards and captured six officers and 275 men. Tunnels the Russians were pushing beneath the German trenches were destroyed by the Germans. Petrograd admits an attack by the Germans in this region, but says that according to the last reports the battle was still in progress. To the north in Volhynia surprise attacks by the Germans against the Russians met with success.

Paris, Feb. 16.—Striking at the French line in Champagne, midway between Verdun and Rheims, troops of the German Crown Prince have taken ground to a depth of half a mile on a front of a mile and a half. The attackers captured 858 prisoners, including twenty-one officers and twenty machine guns. The Crown Prince had not been active since his partly successful attack on French positions northwest of Verdun on Jan. 26. The latest thrust in Champagne comes a few days less than a year after the beginning of the attack by him on the outlying fortifications at Verdun. South of Ripout, between Tahure and Cernay, was the scene of the German's success. Most of the ground gained was contained in the Maisons de Champagne Farm and on Hill 185, which lies about one-third of a mile south of the farm. The latest French official statement mentions only artillery activity in the vicinity of Maisons de Champagne, and declares there was no infantry activity there.

London, Feb. 18.—The British advanced on a mile and a half front south of the Ancre to a distance of 1,000 yards, capturing German positions opposite Miraumont and Petit Miraumont, and advancing their line very close to the latter, north of the Ancre. Important enemy positions on the hill north of Aulieu Court Farm were captured on a 100 yard front. The Huns suffered heavy losses, including 268 prisoners and many more not yet counted.

Paris, Feb. 18.—Sunday's reports state that the French last night invaded German trenches in Bois Le Pretre, left bank of Moselle, and destroyed works and sheds. On the rest of the front there were only patrol encounters.

Petrograd, Feb. 18.—A Roumanian and Russian detachment surprised and captured a strongly fortified Austro-German position southwest of Okna, without firing a shot. Two counter-attacks were repulsed.

Gen. Nivelle Well Represents The Two Races

When the British Expeditionary Force landed in France, and the name of its commander became known by the French people, it is said that they considered it a particularly happy omen, and it was partly on account of his name that General French was so enthusiastically received and established on such good terms with the commanders of the French army. So it is with General Nivelle, the commander-in-chief of all the French armies. The fact that he is half English makes him doubly interesting to us and will add additional enthusiasm for the great things that are expected of him when the time comes for him to strike

the blow. The reason more has not been published about General Nivelle is that he has become a National or indeed international celebrity only since the war began. Even when he had become a general, and was entrusted with one of the greatest tasks ever laid upon a general's shoulders, the defence of Verdun, the popular idea was that the hero of Verdun was Gen. Petain. Now it is known that, while Gen. Petain did not receive a word of undeserved praise, he was really working out the plans of Gen. Nivelle, his superior officer.

A man as distinguished as Gen. Nivelle can well afford to dispense with distinguished ancestors. It happens, however, that he had them, both in England and in France. It is recorded that in 1784 Dr. Johnson, at the invitation of Garrick's widow, dined with Mrs. Elizabeth Carter, Miss Hannah Moore, and Miss Fanny Burney. On his return he observed "there are not three women like them," and the names remain in our literature. Mrs. Carter was the great grandmother of Gen. Nivelle. She was a learned woman and translated "Epictetus." The general's great grandfather was the author of a couple of books of travel in France. He was, says Sterling Hellig, Paris correspondent of the Washington Star, a true Briton, and was ready to praise everything French when it was just the same as English. Gen. Nivelle's mother was a Miss Sparrow, and had relatives in both the English army and navy.

On the father's side Gen. Nivelle is soldier born. His grandfather was an officer decorated by Napoleon. His father too, was an officer and the present general was born in a garrison. He was naturally destined for the army, and as a boy began the long scientific studies as an officer at the Ecole Polytechnique. He emerged an artillery lieutenant, but in order not to become acquainted with only one branch of the service he next went to the famous cavalry school at Saumur. After a successful course there he passed the severe examinations of the Higher School of War. He was through the China campaign of 1900 and 1901, and rose from captain to the chief of squadron. He was next chosen for a special military mission, and after that he returned to command artillery in Corsica, and while there was made chief of staff for the army division, later on being appointed to the superior council of war. When the present war broke out he was merely a colonel of artillery, but he enjoyed the confidence of his superior officers. He was with the vanguard into Alsace, and his regiment smashed some 27 enemy guns at the Battle of Dornach. At the battle of the Marne, Nivelle had his first chance of really distinguishing himself. It appeared at one moment that the pursuing Germans would force the French across the Ourcq River, just outside Paris. The French infantry appeared to be badly shaken, but at the critical moment Nivelle gathered together all the cannon he could command, rushed the guns in front of the retreating French and poured a deadly fire into the ranks of the Germans. The Huns were checked, the French rallied and the Marne battle line held. Two weeks later the guns under Nivelle did wonderful execution among the Germans at the Aisne, and Nivelle won his stars. In November he was in command of a brigade that stopped the enemy before Soissons.

Submarine Policy Is a Failure.

New York, Feb. 14.—The Herald says: "Comparing the number and character of the belligerent and neutral vessels destroyed without warning by the Buccaneers with the number and character of the British port arrivals and departures, of belligerent and neutral ships, the results are inconceivable in degree and kind from those the sea brutes achieved before the fateful Feb. 1, when the illegal zone was decreed. This is the first month of the six months on each of which a million enemy tons of shipping were to be offered as burnt sacrifices on the altar of that awful Mumbo Jumbo to whom the Kaiser blasphemously crooks his knees in supplication—and up to the thirteenth day, what has been achieved? "Leaving out three days which have been happily unprofitable to diminishing attack, the first ten days saw an average of destruction of eight vessels in and around the zone; during the same period the arrivals in British ports of steamships loaded to the Pilsnol mark with valuable contraband numbered above seven hundred and at the same time above four hundred departures of intrepid merchant adventurers have been logged. And this is the broad highway by which England is to be starved as foretold by that eminent sailor fresh from the Silesian marches, Von Hindenburg the Great—first President of the German Republic to be. "Even this comparison does not tell the whole story, for it takes no account of the activities of the British seamen, whose skill and cunning have logged their home ports with row after row of captured Prussian submarines and whose industry and ingenuity have swept clear of these pests the North Sea, the Straits of Dover and the Channel. What it may be asked, have they been doing within the Zone and what has been the toll taken and the harvest reaped? Starve England, with all sea powers that count arrayed on her side? Starve England? It is a pipe dream!"

The following February he was placed in command of a division, and in June he broke the German line of trenches at Quiennes near the exact point for him assigned in the attack, and it was in this engagement that the attention of Joffre was particularly called to the fact that Nivelle had the gift of exterminating the enemy at a very slight cost to his own troops. At the end of the year he was commanding the Third Army Corps, and in January and February a year ago, he made a series of brilliant sorties which resulted in recapturing along the Somme several positions that the Germans had gained in surprise attacks. In March he was sent to direct the operations at

Verdun. There in fifteen days he won eleven fights, and for this brilliant work was placed in charge of the entire Second Army on both sides of the Meuse. At this time he was destined to succeed Joffre, it is said, but was permitted to return to Verdun for the offensive which won back in as many hours all the Germans had taken in weeks. Nivelle is said to look more like an Englishman than a Frenchman, and to have the impassivity that is supposed to be a British trait. As to the sort of man he is, the answer to this question was given by an officer who had fought under him to an officer who did not know him when he went to Verdun: "He is a man."

Deutschland Captured.

Baltimore, Feb. 17th.—That the merchant submarine Deutschland has been captured and that he saw her in Plymouth harbor with 186 other German submarines, was the statement made here today by William Palmer second engineer of the American Transport Liner Mongolia. Palmer said that the British had captured 400 enemy submarines and that 187 of them were in Plymouth, chained together, and in the centre of a huge network of chains attached to buoys and wharves.

Captain Koenig, commander of the sub-sea freighter, and his crew are in English jails, said Palmer. The Mongolia left Plymouth Jan. 27 and arrived at New York Feb. 7. Palmer was formerly an engineer here with the Chesapeake S. S. Company. Photographs of the Deutschland, wrapped with the chains which held her to others in the harbor, were on exhibition, Palmer continued, and it was generally known in shipping circles that the freighter had been captured. Where Captain Koenig and his crew were detained he did not know, but said all were put in jail as soon as the vessel was brought to port. He did not learn how the Deutschland was captured.

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