

# THE STUBBORN FIGHT ON GALLIPOLI PENINSULA

Official Account Day by Day--A Terrific Slaughter Among the Turks--Bodies Lie so Thick As to Form an Obstacle--Splendid Work Of The Australians

London, May 27.—A statement given out to-night by the Official Press Bureau says the losses of the Turks in the recent fighting at the Dardanelles is considerably heavier than had been supposed. The statement was in the form of a report from Major-General William R. Birdwood, transmitted to-day from Cairo. It follows:

"To-day General Birdwood reports that during the suspension of fighting in order that the Turks might hurry their dead, much larger losses than 3,000 dead already reported came to light. Two areas in front of one of our sections where heavy punishment to the enemy had not been previously reported were covered with dead. The corpses were counted in an area 80 yards by 100 yards, and numbered about four hundred.

"Turkish burying parties worked quietly and quickly. They were all supplied with cotton wool, prepared with some solution to deaden the stench—a most necessary precaution. "Over 12,000 Turkish rifles were picked up on our side of the dividing line during the suspension of hostilities.

"On the 25th of May, an advanced trench 150 yards in front of General Cox's brigade was rushed and occupied by our men."

### Severe Fighting

Official narratives of the military operations on the Gallipoli Peninsula from May 6 to May 19, were given out in London this afternoon. They set forth that on May 6, after the arrival of fresh troops, which included part of the Territorial Division, a general advance to the Allied troops took place. A heavy covering fire was maintained by the Allied fleets.

During the night of May 6, a portion of the Australian and New Zealand corps had been transferred from Kales Tepe to take part in the attack. Very severe fighting took place all day long, and by nightfall the entire Allied line had been advanced from 1,000 to 1,500 yards. But the left of the advance was checked by a strong Turkish redoubt manned with machine guns. Just at dusk French troops obtained possession of an important tactical point.

### Drove Enemy Back.

On May 7th the attack continued, the French troops again improving their position, while on the left the Twenty-Ninth Division succeeded just before sunset in driving the enemy back nearly into the village of Krithia. May 8th, the attack was again resumed, and an advance in the face of a very heavy fire was begun. French troops attacked the Turkish trenches with the bayonet and the whole line, except on the extreme left, advanced steadily. During the night the Turks attempted a counter-attack, but this was everywhere repulsed with heavy loss.

### Australians Good Work.

During the fighting of these three days the Australian corps at Sari Bair, in spite of having sent reinforcements to support the main attack successfully held their own and resisted all attacks. The fighting on these three days were severe. Happily a large proportion of the British casualties represented only slight wounds. It had been clearly demonstrated that the Turkish defences were strongly constructed, and that their capture must be achieved by the slow and methodical methods of trench warfare.

The French forces throughout these operations fought with magnificent courage and dash, also they suffered heavy losses.

During May 9th, ground was gained everywhere and consolidated.

### Won With the Bayonet.

At 10.45 p.m. an attack was brilliantly carried out by the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Battalions of the Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade. These detachments attacked and carried with the bayonet three lines of Turkish trenches at Sari Bair and established themselves therein.

A heavy Turkish counter-attack was launched at dawn of May 10th and forced the Australians back to their original trenches, but the guns of the corps were in readiness and they opened fire on the enemy at close range. The execution was terrible and the bodies of Turks lay so thick upon the ground as to form an obstacle.

During May 10, 11, 12, further reinforcements for the French, British and Australian troops arrived. On the night of May 12th, troops of the Twenty-Ninth Division under Major General Hunter Weston, undertook an attack against the enemy's extreme right, under cover of a demonstration by artillery and infantry. A double company of Gurkas crept along under the sea cliffs and occupied a cliff in front of the Allied line, where they dug themselves in during the night.

### General Bridges' Death.

On May 13 and 14 the left of the Allied line was again further advanced, and the position of the Indian Brigade made secure.

On May 17, the Twenty-Ninth Division worked further forward and established themselves in trenches 200 yards in advance. The Allied artillery was well handled. Aided by aeroplane observation it destroyed, by direct hits, a Turkish howitzer and exploded a wagon load of heavy gun ammunition, as well as demolishing some new Turkish entrenchments.

On this day, General Bridges, commanding the Australian Division, was mortally wounded during an attack on the Australian position. His subsequent death caused an irreparable loss to his command.

A further advance was made on the night of May 18 by the French troops, supported by the Royal Naval Division.

During the night of May 19 a continuous fire was maintained against the Australian and New Zealand corps but no attack was delivered.



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### AUSTRIAN WARSHIPS RETREATED

When Italian Squadron Appeared—Three of Enemy's Destroyers Damaged and Many Men Killed

Rome, via Paris, May 28.—A communication issued by the Italian Ministry of Marine gives the details of the naval losses by Austria up to the present as follows:

"On May 24 the Austrian torpedo boat S-20, having approached the canal at Porto Corsini, was so seriously damaged by the fire from our masked batteries that she was forced to be conveyed to Pola. The torpedo boat destroyer Scharfschutze, which was operating with the S-20 also was damaged, suffering the loss of many of her crew. She called the scout ship Novara to her assistance, which also was struck several times and also several of her crew killed including an officer.

#### Cruiser Damaged.

"The destroyer Ozpel, which is of the same type as the Tatra, also suffered severe losses due to the arrival of our naval squadron during the action commenced against the destroyers.

"The above news had been confirmed by enemy communications which were intercepted by us. We believe, although no confirmation of it has yet been received, that the Austrian cruiser Helgoland suffered severely in the action against one of our ships, as she was seen listing heavily and was conveyed from the zone of action by another destroyer.

"After the preceding brilliant action we regret exceedingly to announce the loss of our destroyer Turbine. She was built in 1901 and was of approximately 330 tons. The latter, during the morning of May 24, while on a tour of reconnaissance, sighted an enemy destroyer and gave chase. The chase lasted half an hour, when four other enemy war vessels appeared, including the light cruiser Helgoland. The Turbine immediately turned about to return to her naval base, but was struck twice in her boilers, thus reducing her speed.

"She continued the battle for about half an hour, although fire had broken out aboard and there was a lack of munitions. Then the commander ordered the water intake valves opened in order to avoid capture. The Turbine commenced to sink, with all her men gathered at the stern, the enemy keeping up their fire all the while.

#### The Austrians Retreated.

"The commander, who had been wounded at the beginning of the battle ordered his men to jump overboard. As soon as the Austrians saw the manoeuvre they launched small boats, in order to save as many of the men as possible. Meanwhile the squadron to which the Turbine belonged was seen approaching on the horizon and the enemy left the small boats in the water and departed.

"Our squadron fired several times at the retreating enemy vessels, and an enemy ship of the same type as the Tatra, and also the cruiser Helgoland appeared to have been struck.

"Nine men of the Turbine were saved by our feet. From Austrian communications we learn that thirty-five more were picked up by the Austrians including the commander."

#### Sank Austrian Submarine.

"The port commander of Venice gives further details concerning the operations of the Italian torpedo boat destroyer Zeffiro at Porto Buso. He confirms that the ship entered the port by surprise and bombarded the barracks, destroyed the wharves and autoboats. A first lieutenant of infantry named Yohamartin, after hoisting the white flag, boarded the Zeffiro with his men and handed his sword to the commander of the destroyer.

"Two of our torpedo boats yesterday engaged an Austrian torpedo boat and two submarines. One of the latter was hit several times. Thick black smoke poured out of the submarine, a column of water shot up and she disappeared with a loud humming sound, leaving patches of oil on the surface. Our torpedo boats were not damaged.

### ACTUAL STATE IN MATTERS OF EXPLOSIVES

British Require High Explosives But Are Gradually Dynamiting a Way Thru' Germans

London, May 28.—A correspondent of the London Morning Post telegraphs from the north of France as follows:

"I have made it my business to make particular inquiries as to the actual state of matters regarding our shell supplies. I am assured from a number of reliable sources that our artillery is doing magnificently, and that, while we certainly require high explosive shells in ever-increasing quantities the situation in respect of this has been altogether exaggerated in some quarters. To quote an expression, we are dynamiting our way through the German defences much in the same way as the French

#### Doing Work Well.

"We are blowing parapets to bits and doing it rapidly and well. In certain instances we were into the German trenches and had their occupants caught trembling with fear in their hearts. Then trenches themselves, concreted and steel plated though they have been, have been rendered absolutely untenable. In one instance so paralyzing had been our rapid onrush that we actually found a gramophone playing away in a dugout, no one having the presence of mind or perhaps the time to shut it off.

"The German trenches were found to be lighted with electricity in many cases and to be fitted with electrical pumps against wet weather.

#### Soldiers and Kitchener.

"I find among our soldiers widespread indignation in respect of the attacks upon Lord Kitchener. It is logically urged that had the matter been really meant patriotically, properly serious representations in the right quarters would have been sufficient to call attention to the matter, or, failing that, a plain public statement requiring no sensational headlines or the aggressive harping upon the already loudly strummed cords, would have amply awakened the public."

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### Clever Stupidity

A young foreigner was being tried in court and the questioning by the lawyer on the opposite side began.

"Now, Laszky, what do you do?"

"Ven?" asked Laszky.

"When you work, of course," said the lawyer.

"Vy know?"

"I know," said the lawyer, "but what at?"

"At a bench."

"Oh," groaned the lawyer.

"Where do you work at a bench?"

"In a factory."

"What kind of a factory?"

"Brick."

"You make bricks?"

"No, de factory is made uv bricks."

"Now, Laszky, listen. What do you make in that factory?"

"Eight dollars a week."

"No, no! What does the factory make?"

"I dunno, a lot uv money I think."

"Now listen. What kind of goods does the factory produce?"

"Oh," said Laszky, "good goods."

"I know, but what kind of good goods?"

"The best."

"The best of what?"

"The best there is."

"Of what?"

"Of dose goods."

"Your honor," said the lawyer, "I give it up."

### Last Battle Fought On British Soil

The last battle fought on the soil of Great Britain took place in the middle of the eighteenth century. While George II. was engaged in the war of the Austrian succession, Charles Edward, who was called the Young Pretender, a grandson of King James II. of England, landed in Scotland and made two attempts to obtain the throne of his ancestors. He was victorious in the battle of Falkirk, but the Duke of Cumberland, son of George II., having been recalled from the continent to take command of the king's forces, the Pretender was defeated at Culloden Moor, on a plain in Scotland, four miles from Inverness. This was the last battle fought on the island of Great Britain, and took place April 16, 1746, and it was also the last attempt on the part of the Stuart family to recover the throne of Great Britain. Charles Edward Stuart escaped to France after he had wandered five months in the Highlands. He died in Rome, January 30, 1788. The Duke of Cumberland gave no quarter. The wounded were all slain, and the jails of England were filled with prisoners, many of whom were executed. Among the latter were Lords Balmerino, Kilmarnock and Lovat, Lovat being the last person who was beheaded in England.

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