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## War News.

Messages Received Previous to 9 A.M.

### BRITISH OFFICIAL.

LONDON, March 23. Encounters between British and German detachments occurred along the general line from Beaurains to Etrepelles, says the official statement from British headquarters in France issued to-night. South of Arras near the centre of the line German counter attacks, the statement adds, were driven off and British positions maintained. British troops made further progress in the region of Croisilles and Ecoust southeast of Arras.

### GERMANS OFFER RESISTANCE.

LONDON, March 23. For the last 24 hours the weather at the front in France has been the worst possible of a wintry type, with the result that field operations have been brought almost to a standstill. Reuter's correspondent at the British headquarters wires that more definite resistance is being offered by the German rearguard as they are pressed back by the British advanced troops. This is particularly noticeable along the irregular line running in the northern and northwestern direction from Debay wood, which lies about three miles west of St. Quentin. In most of the northerly sector affected by the retreat, the Germans continue to maintain strong covering patrols. Cavalry guards are also posted, and there are many machine guns on chosen vantage points, indicating they intend to prevent the British from continuing their progress as rapidly as they have done heretofore. Although some cavalry skirmishes are reported as well as small clashes of reconnoitering parties, there was no appreciable change in the situation to-day, in accordance with the tendency of the Germans to offer greater resistance. Behind all the newly acquired British front the greatest activity continues, both in the way of troops' movements and construction and repair of roads and railways. Thus far about 1,000 inhabitants have been left behind by the Germans during the retreat, mostly elderly or very young persons. Reuter's correspondent reports that all the women betw. the ages of 17 and 25 are being sent to the fortress of Subeuge, as the Germans say if they were left behind they would make munitions for the French, and so they are keeping them making munitions for themselves.

### RUSSIANS ADVANCING.

PETROGRAD, March 23. Russian troops pushing west of Kermanshah, in Persia, have reached a point less than 45 miles from the Mesopotamia border, the war office announced to-day. After the Turkish army had been beaten in a 16-hour battle outside of Kerind, the Turks retreated to the vicinity of Kerind and made another stand. Another Russian column attacked the Turks along the Sherwan River, a tributary of the Diala about midway between Kermanshah and Sakkiz, from which last point another Russian army has been pushing southwestward into Mesopotamia. By numerous counter attacks the Russians have repaired the breach made in their lines by the Germans recently, near the Beresina River, east of Lida, on the Russian front, the war office announced to-day.

### GERMAN REPRISALS.

NEW YORK, March 23. A News Agency despatch from Lausanne, Switzerland, to-day says Germany has sent many of her captives to the front lines of battle as reprisals, according to a statement issued by the International Red Cross to-day. The statement said the Red

### GERMANS EXTENDING BLOCKADE.

LONDON, March 23. A Reuter despatch from Christiania says that the German Minister has sent a communication to the Norwegian Government on an order from his Government, that it future that part of the Arctic Sea, lying east 24 degrees east longitude, south 75 degrees north, latitude, excepting Norwegian territory, is to be regarded as dangerous for all navigation. Ships will be met with all weapons, and neutral vessels entering those waters must do so at their own risk. Neutral ships already on the way for or returning from ports in this zone, will not be attacked without warning until April 5.

### TENSION BETWEEN NORWAY AND GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, March 23. Indications of renewed tension between Norway and Germany are appearing in the German papers. The Cologne Gazette makes a feature of its editorial headed "Norwegian Insolence," in which it says the press of Norway these days has assumed a tone of an insulting character, which Germany cannot tolerate. Norwegians would do well to remember that their unbridled press campaign once before tended to create diplomatic tension; hence those in responsibility should have kept the papers from again singing in the same tune.

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### Cross was endeavoring to dissuade the German authorities from such re-

prisals.

### BRITAIN'S FOOD SITUATION.

LONDON, March 23. Speaking in the Commons on behalf of the Food Controller this afternoon, Chas. Bathurst said: While the food situation and the outlook for the future are not wholly satisfactory, the poorer class of the country are suffering less than those of any other of the belligerents. The greatest danger at present is arousing unnecessary panic. Admitting the shortage of potatoes, the speaker urged all patriots to use a substitute for this article of food during the next two or three months. Everyone while practicing the greatest possible economy, he added, should at the same time maintain that spirit of patience which will carry the nation through what are bound to be critical months ahead.

### GERMANY'S FOOD SITUATION.

AMSTERDAM, March 23. Bread rationing in Germany will be diminished "one fourth" beginning April 15th, owing to the scarcity of wheat, according to a despatch from Berlin to the Weser Zeitung of Bremen. The potato ration will be continued at five pounds weekly, and meat rations will be increased 250 grams weekly, it is announced, says the despatch. The curtailment of the use of wheat is necessary to insure present stocks lasting until the next harvest. The announcement of the bread ration reduction caused surprise and consternation throughout Germany. The Rheinische Westfaelische Zeitung, says, "the reduction is a very painful surprise." The Cologne Volks Zeitung reproduces the semi-official statement, which contains the following: "It should not be concealed that the new restriction means great sacrifice, and can only be borne by people who for the sake of our highest aims will bear even a heavy burden, and who have a firm confidence that their patient endurance will be rewarded before long by a 'glorious peace.'" The Volks Zeitung says editorially: "If the measure is absolutely necessary it must be accepted, but it must be stated for many the limits bearable are thereby exceeded. The grounds adopted for the measures are not adequate even now only with great deprivations is it that the industrial populations of the towns manage with the bread rations."

### HOLLAND REFUSED U.S. REQUEST.

THE HAGUE, March 23. The Handelsblad, of Amsterdam, says to-day a rumor has reached it that Holland refused the request of the United States for the admission

### of American armed merchantmen to

Dutch ports, and that consequently Dutch harbors will be closed to American and British ships. The Government, adds the newspaper, will assume a great responsibility whichever way the decision may fall, but the Government seems to believe that Germany would interpret as an unfriendly act any decision on our part which would come into line with international usage or justice which Germany recognized before the war. The fear of reprisals by the States or Britain or their antagonism after the war is expressed by the newspaper, but the Dutch Government, has declared it can do only what justice and the interest of the Netherlands indicate.

### WILL RESUME DEPORTATIONS.

RAZEBROUCK, France, March 23. It is reported here that deportations from the invaded district of Northern France are about to be resumed. Germany for some time is said to have been distributing blanks to be filled out in order to organize the deportation of young men and young women for spring farming. The Germans continue the requisition of metal, having taken more from the churches of Lille, their bells and organ pipes, and from other places quantities of sheet steel.

### HOLLAND'S FOOD SHORTAGE.

NEW YORK, March 23. An Associated Press despatch from Washington to-day says a fleet of 15 Dutch steamers are said here to-day to have recently sailed from a port in Holland for the United States, by way of Halifax. The vessels all steamed out the same day and are now believed to be well north of the German submarine zone around the British Isles. It is intended by the Netherlands Government which has the ships under charter to have them load grain, probably at New York, and then return by the same route they came. It was explained here to-day that lack of foodstuffs in Holland made it necessary for large quantities to be obtained at once, and it was felt a merchant fleet could better brave the dangers of the seas than individual ships. Many Dutch ships loaded with grain are now being detained in British ports, either by the British authorities or through fear of the German submarines.

### GERMAN OFFER REJECTED.

THE HAGUE, March 23. The Dutch foreign office statement with reference to the seven Dutch steamers torpedoed off Falmouth recently, says, the German Government on March 6th offered to pay an indemnity for the loss of the members of the crews, and help the owners by

### facilitating the purchase of German

ships after the war. This offer, the statement adds, was made on consideration of humanity and good neighborhood. Further steps led to a reconsideration of the offer by Germany which now offers German ships for rental on reasonable conditions. Holland, it is declared, rejected the offer for the owners under the circumstances who refused to accept the proposal of indemnification for crews.

### OFFICIAL NEWS LACKING.

BERLIN, March 23. Although official news is still lacking with regard to press reports that China has broken off relations with the Germans, it is now accepted by the German press that the rupture has come.

### ENTENTE LOSSES IN WARSHIPS.

BERLIN, March 23. The Entente losses in warships has now reached a total of 850,000 tons, says an Overseas Agency announcement to-day. This compilation includes the French battleship of the Danton class, recently announced sunk by a German submarine in the Mediterranean.

### WOMEN TO ACT ON COMMITTEES.

LONDON, March 23. The Town Council of Petrograd has unanimously agreed to appoint a certain proportion of women to several of its committees, says a Central News despatch from Petrograd to-day.

### AMERICA AND THE WAR.

WASHINGTON, March 23. The American Government has decided that the steps to meet the situation with Germany shall include preparation for effective and aggressive warfare in addition to measures for protection of shipping. So far as it was learned after to-day's cabinet meeting, there had been no decision as to whether the sending of a military force to Europe shall be proposed, but the army as well as the navy and industrial resources of the nation are to be made ready for any demand that may be made upon them.

### FRENCH NOW ADMIT LOSS.

LONDON, March 23. In the sinking of the French battleship Danton in the Mediterranean on March 19, says a statement from the French Admiralty received here, 266 men were drowned. The Danton was torpedoed by a hostile submarine.

### THE 'MOEWE'S' WORK.

LONDON, March 23. The British official issued to-day says that according to the German wireless announcement, one Norwegian and ten British ships were sunk

### or captured by the German raider

Moeve in addition to the ships reported destroyed on Jan. 17th last.

### THE COAL PROBLEM.

OTTAWA, March 23. Sir George Foster has been summoned to the conference of Nova Scotia coal operators on April 2, to consider a means for overcoming the decreased output of the mines, which has fallen off on account of the labor shortage.

### MORE ABOUT THE 'HEALDTON'.

THE HAGUE, March 23. The second boat from the Healdton has been brought to Terschelling by a Dutch torpedo boat with eight men, including one badly injured. One Dutchman had jumped overboard, losing his life. The third boat, containing 19 men, overturned when the ship capsized. All were drowned, making a total of 20 lives lost out of a crew of 41. Of 13 Americans on board, only 6 were saved. Two Dutchmen also are among the victims, the others of whom were a Spaniard, Norwegian and a Finn.

### RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

LONDON, March 23. During the release of political prisoners at Kisereson, says a Reuter despatch from Petrograd, to-day, 1,700 convicts disarmed the prison guards and broke into another wing of the jail, where they released 500 more convicts. The released men scattered through the town, but no serious trouble has been reported.

### THE DAILY REVIEW.

NEW YORK, March 23. Temporarily at least the retirement of the German forces in France appears to have halted. Both British and French communications report counter attacks and stubborn resistance at various parts of the line along the front. Despite this apparent change in German tactics, the British report progress southeast of Arras, and the French, Paris says, have moved forward between one and a quarter and two and two and a half miles. In the St. Quentin region the French troops have also made gains on the heights overlooking the Oise valley, to the northeast of Terguier, and have repulsed German attacks before Thill, northeast of Rheims. Paris asserts the Germans are inundating the Oise region and that the city of La Fere, thought to have been one of the strong points in the German line is under water. South of the Oise the French continue to cross the Allette River, north of Soissons, Paris says, and considerable progress has been made toward Margival. Stubborn resistance by the Germans is said to have marked the French successes

### northeast of the Canal between the

Somme and the Oise, where much ground was gained. From Beaurains, about two miles south of Arras to Etrepelles, five miles west of St. Quentin, London reports encounters between British and German forces. At Vracourt and two points in the centre of the line German counter attacks are said to have been repulsed and British positions maintained. Southeast of Arras in the neighborhood of Ecoust and Croisilles the British made further gains. The latest official statement from Berlin says that the French were repulsed in attacks along the Somme-Croisat Canal, between the Somme and the Oise, and 230 prisoners were taken by the Germans. Except for French activity near Monastir, Serbia and Russian advances in Persia, there have been no important operations on other fronts. North of Monastir, after a violent fight, Hill 1248 remained in the hands of the French. The German-Bulgarian troops made repeated unsuccessful attacks to gain possession of the Hill, but were repulsed.

### A TIMELY REMINDER!

Owing to the scarcity of that well known Family Remedy, we would remind our city and outport customers that we have a limited supply of DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS on hand. Price 50c. box. Postage 2c. extra.

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On Sunday evening the Rev. Dr.

Bond will occupy the pulpit of Cochrane Street Centennial Church. Subject of discourse, "Workers together with God." In the afternoon the Sunday schools holds its missionary service in the school building to commence at 2.30. Good programme has been prepared and a pleasant hour is anticipated. Collection for the school's own missionary in China, the Rev. Lin Suen San. Parents and friends welcome.

NOTE OF THANKS.—Mr. Azariah

Yvetman and Mrs. James wishes to thank Dr. Rendell aqd nursing staff, Rev. Canon White and sisters of Davidson Lodge, L.O.B.A., Miss Mary Noseworthy for wreaths and Mrs. J. M. Noseworthy for kind attendance and all other friends who helped through the illness of a dear daughter and a loving wife.

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