

ALLIES' GUNS SUPERIOR TO ENEMY'S IN THE AISNE VALLEY

ARTILLERY DUES IN THE AISNE VALLEY

SCHOONER SUNK BY ENEMY CRUISER

WAS CAPTURED IN LUNENBURG, N. S.

The Wilfred M., One of Five Vessels Sunk by German Cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm, Off So. America, Left St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 19th — Captain Well Known in These Ports.

Buenos Ayres, Feb. 18.—Four British steamers and a British schooner of a total tonnage of 11,874, have been sunk off the east coast of South America by the German converted cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm. This was learned today from Captain Dreyer of the German steamer Holger, which arrived last night with 314 persons comprising the crews of the destroyed British ships.

The steamers sunk were the Highland Brea, 4,842 tons; the Potaro, 2,310 tons; the Hemphire, 2,350 tons; and the Semantha, 1,411 tons. The three masted schooner Wilfred M., 1,000 tons, was also sent to the bottom. The Holger was "summoned from Pernambuco by the cruiser to take aboard the passengers and crews of the British vessels. After leaving the Kron Prinz Wilhelm the Holger was pursued near Montevideo by two British cruisers, but succeeded in escaping, owing to a heavy fog.

Lunenburg, N. S., Feb. 18.—The schooner Wilfred M. left here on the 1st of November for St. John's, Nfld., and loaded drum fish for Bahia, Brazil. After leaving St. John's on December 19th nothing further was heard from her, and being a long time overdue grave fears were entertained for her safety. The captain was Cyrus Parks of Parks Creek, well known in shipping circles. The mate was Sedley Young of Lunenburg, who has had a varied career of shipwrecks, travel and romance on the high seas, and this appears to be the culminating event in his exciting experiences. Kenneth Iveson, son of Captain Christian Iveson, manager of Robins, Jones & Whitman of this port, was another of the crew.

The Wilfred M. was captured by the converted cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm on the eastern coast of South America and the crew were landed at Buenos Aires yesterday afternoon together with the crews of four steamers which this German highway ship had captured. The five British crews num-

bered three hundred and twenty-three men and are being cared for by the British consul at Buenos Aires. The captured Lunenburg vessel was five years old, two hundred tons, and her owners are William Duff, managing owner, Howard Hebb, J. J. Kinley and others. It is ascertained that the cargo is fully insured, but whether there was a war risk could not be ascertained. After the crews were removed from these ships the Prinz Wilhelm gave them each a broadside and sank them.

The schooner Cortado, now thirty-eight days out from this port to Ponce, Porto Rico, has not been reported and has no doubt foundered at sea.

Halifax, Feb. 18.—The Wilfred M. sunk by the Kron Prinz Wilhelm, was a Nova Scotia built schooner of 199 tons. She sailed from St. John's, Nfld., December 19 for Hornilla, arriving there January 14. According to the account given by one of the sailors of the Highland Brea, that steamer was captured by the Kron Prinz Wilhelm on January 14. The crew and passengers were taken aboard the German auxiliary cruiser. The Kron Prinz Wilhelm took the Highland Brea along with her, but on January 31 discharged her cargo and sank her.

The auxiliary next captured and sank the schooner Wilfred M., bound for Bahia, Brazil. The German steamer Holger joined the cruiser and took on board the crew of the British steamer Hemphire which the Kron Prinz Wilhelm captured on December 19. The ship was sunk. The Potaro was captured January 10, as well as the Viscount Humphreys. The sailing vessel Sumatra was taken off Santos on Feb. 2nd. The crew of twenty-two were taken aboard the cruiser, and the ship was sunk. All the prisoners on the Kron Prinz Wilhelm were transferred on Feb. 13 to the Holger, which proceeded to Buenos Aires.

Kipling's Appeal For Music in The Armies

Few Drums and Fifes in a Battalion worth five extra miles on a Route march, he says.

London, Feb. 18.—At a Mansion House meeting promoted by the recruiting committee recently, Mr. Rudyard Kipling appealed strongly for funds for the provision of bands. The new armies, Mr. Kipling said, were quite rightly born in silence, but that is no reason why they should walk in silence for the rest of their lives. At present, unfortunately, most of them are obliged to walk in silence, or to no better accompaniment than whistles, concertinas, and other meretricious but inadequate instruments of music which they provide for themselves.

From the lowest point of view, a few drums and fifes in a battalion are worth five extra miles on a route march, quite apart from the fact that they swing the battalion back to quarters composed and happy. And even where there is no route marching, the mere come-and-go, the roll and flourish of the drums and fife round barracks is as warming and cheering as the sight of a fire in a room. Or a band, not necessarily a full band, but a band of a few brasses and woodwinds, is immensely valuable in districts where troops are billeted. It revivifies memories; it quickens associations; it opens and unites the hearts of men more surely than any other appeal. In that respect it assists recruiting perhaps more than any other agency.

"A wise and sympathetic bandmaster, and most that I have known have been that," Mr. Kipling continued, "can lift a battalion out of depression, cheer, and steady and recall it to itself in times of almost unendurable strain. You will remember a beautiful poem by Sir Henry Newbolt de-

scribing how a squadron of 'weary big dragons' were led on to renewed effort by the strains of a penny whistle and a child's drum taken from a toyshop in a wrecked French town. A man who has had any experience of the service can testify that a battalion is better for music at every turn, happier, easier to handle, and with greater zest for its daily routine if that routine is sweetened by melody and rhythm.

"Our new armies, as we know, have not been well served in this essential. Of all the admirable qualities they have shown none is more wonderful than the feeling which has carried them the laborious and distasteful ground work of their calling without a note of music, except what that same indomitable spirit supplied, out of its own head.

"We are a tongue-tied breed at the best," Mr. Kipling concluded. "The band can declare on our behalf, without shame or shyness, something of what we feel, and so help us to reach a hand towards the men who have risen up to save us.

"The war office has authorized the formation of bands for some of the London battalions, and we may hope to see that permission presently extended throughout Great Britain. Of course, we must not cherish unbridled dreams of ambition, because a full band means forty places, and on that basis a band towards the men who have risen up to save us.

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Only a Clue to the Losses

All such estimates are conjectural, because care is taken in all the countries concerned not to reveal their strength and disposition of their armies. To a certain extent the losses, even though made known only tardily and in a fragmentary way, give a clue to the forces in the field, though not without a large margin of error. The latest definite information we have comes from Britain, which admits losses of 104,000 men. But these figures serve very inadequately to show the force in the field, because that has been increased greatly, irregularly and with secrecy. The expeditionary force of last August numbered about 80,000 men; the veterans of that forlorn hope of Mons who have served continuously must be few, but the force need not be regarded as annihilated for many must have been saved by illness or a minor wound from more serious peril.

British Strength Unknown

While the figures show that the British army has done hard fighting during the past six months, they do not reveal the present strength of the army, which has lately received reinforcements. But these reinforcements, though considerable are probably much less than is commonly supposed; the figure has been put as high as 500,000, but the section of the battle line occupied by the British would not suggest more than 200,000, and some critics allow for but 150,000, which may be an under estimate. Even if it is as high as 200,000, a loss of 104,000 in six months, or over fifty per cent, is very high; forty per cent in a year is the usual estimate of wastage in war, with some extra allowance for a great battle. But this war has been one great battle which is yet unfinished.

More Than 5 Per Cent a Month

In 1870 the German authorities went on a basis of a loss of five per cent a month, and estimated each month from depots enough fresh troops to meet such a loss in order to keep the field armies at their full strength. But in this war it has not been enough to fill the gaps; the field army itself has had to be very greatly increased, though the ratio of increase has been much less than in the British army. Putting the original German army at 2,000,000, the monthly losses to be made good on the 1870 basis would be 100,000 men, and to keep the army at full strength for six months would call for 600,000 additional men, with extra allowance for great extra allowances for the losses in the campaign. The admitted Prussian losses alone come to 1,000,000 or more, and the total German losses can hardly be less than 1,500,000 and have been estimated as high as 1,800,000.

Germany's Millions Questioned

Here again, even by the lowest estimate, we must assume either a very high ratio of losses, or suppose that the German field army has been extraordinarily increased. It is likely that the extraordinary energy which Germany has shown on two fronts, with enough surplus to lend-troops to Austria for the Kukowina campaign, has led to a popular overestimate of its field army, which the London Mail rates at 5,000,000. Other critics, on the contrary, may perhaps have gone to an extreme in estimating the present German armies in the field at but 2,500,000 men. If there are 2,000,000 still in the western field, as the London Times expert figures, this would leave but 500,000 in the east, and the German contingent there appears to be much larger than that. But even at 5,000,000, a loss of half that in six months of fighting bears witness to the extraordinary severity of this war.

The Coming Sacrifice

Yet apparently the hardest fighting and the heaviest losses are still to come. For some months the campaign, while kept up with remarkable persistence for winter warfare, has languished, partly because of the difficulty of sustaining the offensive in bad weather.

ALLIES IN SURPRISE MOVEMENT

INFLECT HEAVY LOSSES ON ENEMY

Paris, Feb. 18.—The French war office this afternoon issued a report on the progress of the war which reads as follows:

"From the sea to the Oise nothing new was recorded last night.

"It has been confirmed that the successful surprise movement which made us master of the two lines of German trenches to the north of Arras northwest of Rollcourt, inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. We captured a bomb thrower and several hundred prisoners.

"In the valley of the Aisne and in the section of Rheims there have been artillery engagements in which our batteries have had distinctly the advantage.

"In Champagne, in the region of Perthes, all the territory conquered by us yesterday and the day before

SPAIN'S POLICY

IN PRESENT WAR

TOLD TO FRENCH

Temps publishes statement from leader of Liberal Conservative Party declaring country's desire for neighbors' respect

Paris, France, Feb. 18.—The attitude of Spain towards the European war is illustrated by a number of quotations from papers expressing the view of various political parties published in the Temps.

This paper states that it has been permitted to publish the following statement with regard to the attitude of Spain made by one of the leaders of the Liberal Conservative party in that country: "Spain from the beginning of the European conflict, left no doubt as to her attitude; she promised to remain neutral and to be subject of anxiety to none; she has kept her word, as is proved by her diplomatic relations. We are of the opinion that the status quo of our situation in the Mediterranean should be maintained, even though it were capable of being modified afterwards, for Spanish aspirations have never been checked by France.

"For the present any government anxious to save the nation from a grave danger must firmly insist on agreements being respected, particularly those with France and Great Britain. This does not mean that Spain is necessarily neglecting her interests. On the contrary, her attitude, as has been said by some papers, is expectant, and it is because of this attitude that the army for service in Morocco is being maintained on a war footing, even though quiet reigns in the Spanish zone and great sacrifices are entailed by such action. Any government which should try to alter this line of policy would experience grave difficulties, if not worse.

"The government is at the helm, but the boat must follow the current, the river, that is to say, the direction of public opinion. Spain is neutral and has received no official warnings from any of the belligerents; her great desire is to live on good terms with her neighbors who, whether victors or vanquished, will always have a right to her good will. It would be well that this should be known in France, not only in high political circles, where the honesty of Spanish policy is well known, but among the general public.

er, but also because in the Western field operations were waiting upon the advent of Lord Kitchener's new army. That is, the field army itself has had to be very greatly increased, though the ratio of increase has been much less than in the British army. Putting the original German army at 2,000,000, the monthly losses to be made good on the 1870 basis would be 100,000 men, and to keep the army at full strength for six months would call for 600,000 additional men, with extra allowance for great extra allowances for the losses in the campaign. The admitted Prussian losses alone come to 1,000,000 or more, and the total German losses can hardly be less than 1,500,000 and have been estimated as high as 1,800,000.

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GERMANS CLAIM TO HAVE TAKEN

OVER 64,000 PRISONERS IN FIGHT

ON EAST PRUSSIAN FRONTIER

Army Headquarters Says Results in Engagements in East Progressing in Favor of Germans — French Attacks in Champagne Have Ceased, Report Says — Nothing New South of Vistula in Poland.

Berlin, Feb. 18. (By wireless to Sayville)—The German army headquarters today issued the following statement: "On the road to Arras and Lille fighting continues for a small section of a German trench into which the enemy entered on February 16.

"The number of French prisoners taken yesterday to the northeast of Rheims has been increased. The French losses in this region especially were heavy.

"French attacks have ceased in Champagne. To the north of Perthes fighting continues. To the east of Perthes the French were repulsed, suffering heavy losses. The enemy has only in a few instances advanced to the German trenches.

"The number of prisoners reported to have been taken by us yesterday has been increased to eleven officers and 735 soldiers.

"The enemy's attacks against the German positions near Vauquois, to the east of the Argonne forest failed completely.

"Height No. 365 and the village of Norroy, to the north of Fontenoy, were taken by the Germans on February 13, have been evacuated after the destruction of the French fortifications. The enemy had made no attempt to re-conquer these positions.

"Otherwise there is nothing important to report on the western front.

"Near Tauraggen and in the district to the northwest of Gredam, the pursuing Germans are fighting the enemy. A Russian detachment bearing near Kolno was reinforced to the north of Lomza by fresh troops. The enemy was then again attacked by us.

"Engagements near Plock and Raczyn have been decided in favor of the Germans. In these encounters we have taken up to the present 3,900 prisoners.

"There is nothing new to report from the south of the Vistula river in Poland.

"The results obtained near the East Prussian frontier are increasing in our favor. So far we have taken 64,000 prisoners, 71 guns, more than 100 machine guns, three hospital trains, 150 cars filled with ammunition, searchlights, countless cars filled with goods, and horses. A further increase of booty can be expected."

Business as Usual

"Business in Moncton seems to be pretty good, all things considered," said W. F. Humphrey, M.L.A., of Moncton, who was at the Royal yesterday. "Personally I have nothing to complain of; in fact we have been

NOVA SCOTIA

LEGISLATURE

IS OPENED

Speech From Throne Tells at Progress During Year — Sentries on Guard Around Building.

Halifax, Feb. 18.—The legislature of Nova Scotia was formally opened with the usual ceremonies this afternoon. The speech from the throne dealt with progress made by the province during the past year. No important legislation is forecasted.

An innovation this year was the posting of sentries about the provincial building. These sentries will be retained throughout the session.

The speech also referred to the abundant yield of standard crops of agriculture, a larger production of apples than in the previous year, a thirty per cent increase in output of dairy industry and 15 per cent more land has been fall plowed. The output of coal exceeded 7,000,000 tons, gold shows one third increase over last year and there was an increase in gypsum and barytes. Fishermen reaped a bountiful harvest. The war has affected the lobster market in Europe and a general revival of the lumber industry is anticipated. Continued progress has been made in technical education. Legislation affecting workmen's compensation and mechanics' liens are foreshadowed.

doing much business as usual. One thing we are kicking about; one of our schools was burned down and several alleged incendiaries have been arrested, but we don't know if the culprit has been secured yet."

Don't Forget!

An eminent physician lays down these simple rules for better health:

- 1.—Drink a great deal of water.
- 2.—Eat very much more slowly.
- 3.—Always chew your food well.
- 4.—Be sure to have plenty of chewing gum on hand. Begin chewing shortly after the meal and chew until all "fullness" disappears from the region of the belt.

Be sure of the Perfect Gum in the Perfect Package—made clean, kept clean—sealed airtight:

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