

NO ATTEMPT YET TO CROSS FRONTIER AND ATTACK ALLIES STRONGLY ENTRENCHING AT SALONIKI

BRITISH HARASS TURKS ON TIGRIS; ENEMY LOST 2,500 IN REAR GUARD ACTION

Paris, Dec. 20.—Fighting between small detachments of Greek and Bulgarian troops is reported in a despatch from Brindisi, Italy, to the Havas News Agency. It is said several Greek officers and soldiers were killed or wounded, and the Greek government is hastily forwarding reinforcements to the scene of the fighting.

British Lost 1,278 in Saloniki Expedition

London, Dec. 20.—The total of British casualties resulting from the Saloniki expedition into Serbia was given as 1,278. These figures were given in the House of Commons this afternoon by Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary secretary for war. Mr. Tennant said that of the total only one officer and 85 men of other ranks had been killed.

Westende Bombarde

Berlin, via London, Dec. 20.—Entente allied monitors yesterday shelled the German positions at Westende, on the Belgian coast, but were finally driven away by land batteries, says the official statement issued today by the army headquarters. The statement adds that German aviators attacked the town of Poperinghe, near Ypres, and numerous hostile troops being concentrated there. The text of the statement follows:

Bulgarians Halt at Border. Sofia, via London, Dec. 20.—The Echo de Bulgaria announces that the Bulgarian troops have halted on the Greek frontier for the present, in order to avoid embarrassing the Greek government, while the allied troops are gradually massing around Saloniki. It declares, however, that it may become necessary for the German and Bulgarian armies to invade Greece in pursuit.

The paper says that King Constantine recognizes that the Central Powers may be forced, by military expediency, to attempt to expel the Allies, and has cautioned the Allies that they cannot expect that Bulgaria's respect for Greek neutrality will last forever.

London, Dec. 21.—A fair degree of quiet has continued on the war fronts during the past twenty-four hours, and none of the oft-expected threats of Russia, Galicia, and the Balkans has yet actively materialized.

Persistent reports of a Greece-Bulgarian encounter, resulting from a Bulgarian surprise attack, have been cleared up by the Greek statement that the encounter took place in Albanian territory. No one was killed and few were wounded. Order was restored promptly, and an amicable inquiry is proceeding.

It is announced from Paris that no enemy detachment has yet crossed the Greek frontier. Meanwhile work on the defensive lines around Saloniki is being actively pushed, and the Greek villages in the neighborhood of the lines are being evacuated by the population.

French Interrupt Movement of Enemy Troops. Paris, Dec. 20.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:

In Artois rather violent artillery actions occurred in the region of Loos; they were less intense in the direction of Bully, the Givenchy and along the road from Lille. Between Solmes and Rheims our shells destroyed a magazine and the shells of the enemy were scattered. The fire of our artillery and of our trench cannon, directed on the German trenches at the Ville au Bois caused there powerful explosions.

The Champagne we bombarded and dispersed an enemy troops which was changing positions to the north of Auberville. To the north of Graucourt our heavy artillery damaged a railway, where great activity was reported, and interrupted the movement.

In the Argonne there was an effective bombardment of the German trenches at La Fille Morte, in the Courtes Chaussees; we exploded a munition depot.

The fire of our artillery on the enemy works in the Bois de La Marville, to the northeast of St. Mihiel, was very effective, the trenches vacated in several places, a blockhouse containing machine guns was destroyed.

London, Dec. 20.—Operations in other sectors of the front on the Gallipoli peninsula than those from which slight parties had been sent here been withdrawn are to be continued.

OPERATIONS ON A NEW FRONT AT DARDANELLES

Transfer from Suva and Anzac Not Indication Campaign to be Abandoned—Turks Were Completely in Dark Regarding Movements of Troops Which is One of Brightest Features of the War.

London, Dec. 20.—The announcement of the British withdrawal from Gallipoli overshadowed all other war news tonight. For the British public the abrupt war office statement marks the end of one of the great chapters of the war's history. The shock of the news was hardly broken by the fact that rumors had been current in the street for some days, and the withdrawal of the forces had been a matter of widespread pro and con discussion ever since Lord Ribblesdale's famous speech in parliament, in which he declared that withdrawal had been recommended by a high military authority.

The feelings of the man in the street, was generally one of relief, mixed with regret. A popular half penny paper sums up the British public's attitude as follows:

"Thus ends the enterprise on which the highest hopes were built, and which, if it had succeeded, would probably have turned the tide of the war. Our troops, from first to last, were within a few miles of victory."

The policy underlying the Dardanelles expedition may yet be carried to a successful issue in some other quarter of the Near East, but the prospect of forcing a way to Constantinople through the famous Straits, is apparently relinquished.

British troops continue to occupy the tip of the peninsula at Seddul Bahr, commanding the entrance to the Straits, where many British have declared a new Gibraltar will one day arise. The position here is protected by a double line of ships, and it is assumed that this will be held.

An Apparently Impossible Task. The withdrawal of the British troops from Suva Bay and the Anzac zone ends more successfully than most military men thought possible, the unfavorable chapter of the British arms in this war. Thousands of lives were sacrificed in gaining these positions and other thousands in holding them.

The question has been constantly discussed why the general commanding the Dardanelles expedition did not try to make a landing near the centre of the peninsula in the beginning, and out of the Turkish troops on the lower end. When the attempt was finally made to secure a foothold higher up the peninsula the Turks were fully prepared to meet it.

Moreover, the British arrangements lacked several essential features, particularly a supply of drinking water. On landing, the soldiers found barbed wire entanglements stretched clear out under the water when they jumped from their small boats. To add to their sufferings the supply of drinking water was very short.

John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, said in a speech in the House of Commons that the sufferings of the Irish troops on the Gallipoli were the worst known in the present war. An official announcement was made recently that the general responsibility of the Suva Bay operations had been removed from his command, but his identity is not yet known to the British public. Gen. Sir Charles C. Monro reported in favor of withdrawing the troops when he took command at the Dardanelles, but the popular belief, shared by military men here, was that thousands of soldiers could not be taken aboard transports and effect complete withdrawal, from their trenches without calamitous losses. The achievement must have been a difficult one, and the country is relieved that it has been done without disaster.

NEW PHASES IN GERMAN PLOT ARE REVEALED

Blowing Up of Welland Canal Only an Incident in the Conspiracy.

SAMUEL GOMPERS ON WITNESS STAND. Koenig Had Twenty-five Agents in New York Alone—Activities Extended to Quebec.

New York, Dec. 20.—Information obtained by the federal authorities today from witnesses appearing before the grand jury which is investigating the alleged plot of Paul Koenig, head of the detective bureau of the Hamburg-American line, to blow up the Welland Canal, have widely extended the scope of the inquiry. After the grand jury had adjourned for the day, federal officials stated that the Welland Canal plot might prove to be merely an incident in a conspiracy which extended throughout the country.

Indictments against Koenig and Richard Emil Leyendecker, the New York arts goods dealer, who was arrested with him, are expected to be returned on Wednesday. United States Attorney Marshall admitted, however, that these indictments would probably be merely the forerunner of others to be sought from subsequent grand juries, dealing with other activities of Koenig.

Gompers a Witness. While the Koenig case was occupying the attention of one federal grand jury, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, was appearing before another, which is concluding its inquiry into the case of Franz Von Rintelen, charged with instigating strikes in munitions factories.

After leaving the grand jury room, Mr. Gompers declared that he knows of no instance in which any leader of organized labor had been corrupted by German agents. He intimated, however, that he had information in regard to attempts being made to bribe union heads. Mr. Gompers will give his testimony tomorrow when Frank Morrison, secretary of the Federation of Labor, will also appear before the jury.

Had 25 Agents in New York Alone. Frederick Metzler, held with others in connection with alleged plots to embarrass the Allies by hindering the manufacture of or destroying munitions, made a full statement to the federal authorities today concerning the activities of Paul Koenig, of the Hamburg-American line. Koenig, he said, had twenty-five agents in New York alone, and reported the results of his investigation to Captain Von Rintelen, the German military attaché.

According to Metzler, Koenig's activities through agents extended to Quebec, Burlington, Vt., Boston and Portland, Maine. His activities in this city, Metzler charged further, brought into his possession, among other things, secret reports made by attaches of the Russian embassy on the results of test sped boats in Long Island Sound. These, said he, Koenig got through Frederick Scheinold, of the National City Bank, now under arrest. Metzler charged that it was Koenig who sent George Fuchs to destroy the Welland Canal, but Fuchs, he said, reported, after visiting the canal, that its destruction could not be accomplished at that time.

Ten authorities have evidence which they believe connects Koenig with the fire on the Atlantic transport liner Manahatta, though through this evidence was obtained they did not state. After making his confession Metzler went before the grand jury. That body heard also witnesses from Buffalo, who testified concerning the Welland Canal plot.

It is believed that the grand jury will finish its work by Wednesday of this week, and that time indictments are expected.

The case had attracted widespread interest in the west and a largely signed petition had been sent here asking for clemency for the woman.

SUCCESS OF THE ALLIES DEPENDS ON ORGANIZED LABOR, SAYS LLOYD GEORGE

80,000 Skilled Men Needed and Over 200,000 Unskilled Workmen to Speed Up Munitions Output—Remarkable Advance Since War Began Outlined—Forecasts Output of Guns of Largest Size and Declares Britain Shall be Able to Supply Allies With Explosives.

POSTBELLUM TAX ON WAR PROFITS IN GERMANY

Companies Must lay Aside 50 per cent. of Profits—People Informed they Must Expect to Pay Heavy Taxes After War.

Berlin, via London, Dec. 20.—The debate in the Reichstag on the government's measure to prepare the way for a post bellum tax on all war profits, by requiring companies and corporations to lay aside a special reserve of fifty per cent. of their war-time profits, promised to extend itself into a discussion of methods to recover for the state undue or excessive profits on war contracts.

The reports that great profits are being gathered by contractors for army and navy supplies have resulted in the initiation in Germany, as in other belligerent countries, of a popular movement for special taxation on war profits, but the government, in introducing the preparatory bill, felt compelled, for technical reasons, to adopt the principle of general taxation on all increases of profits during the war years.

The Centre and National Liberal parties introduced resolutions in the budget committee calling for specific war contracts, as such legislation would force those deriving financial rewards from war contracts "exceeding the customary amounts, and in striking contrast to the efforts involved," to make good the damage thereby done to the state.

After the minister of justice and a representative of the war ministry expressed approval of the principle involved, the committee adopted resolutions, which will be discussed at a plenary session to be held this week in connection with the governmental measure.

Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the treasury, announced in the Reichstag today that the next budget cannot be balanced without additional income, and that proposals for new taxation are now being drafted for submission to the Reichstag.

The secretary declared that no matter how large a war indemnity was received, the war would impose a colossal burden of taxation on the Germans, and they must therefore expect greatly increased taxation after the war.

COMMISSION WILL DEAL WITH MATTER OF FRUIT MARKETING

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Dec. 20.—The economic and development commission announces that it will take up the question of marketing fruit as it affects growers in different parts of the country. The commission will meet in the west at an early date and while out there will investigate the disabilities which the British Columbia fruit growers complain they are under in marketing their fruit. The commission invites suggestions on this or other matters. They can be sent to the secretary at Ottawa.

ANOTHER HOSPITAL SHIP SUNK?

Toronto Newspaper Reports Loss of H. M. S. Cambria in the English Channel.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The Toronto Star this afternoon says: H. M. S. Cambria has apparently been lost in the English Channel, where another L. & N. W. boat, the Anglia, was recently sunk. Like the Anglia, the Cambria was probably a hospital ship.

The first word of the disaster was received here in a cable from Lieut. Charles E. Harmer, a Toronto man who was on board the vessel. The cablegram was addressed to his father, Mr. Robert Harmer, Spadina avenue, and reads:

"Ship lost. Am safe. No worry. Best wishes. Dr. Charles E. Harmer."

The Cambria was a London and Northwestern Railway line's vessel. She was laid down in 1897, had a gross tonnage of 1,842 and length of 328 feet. Her speed was 21 knots. She had been used as a naval auxiliary and has apparently been plying recently between France and Dover.

ber for Derby, and assistant general secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, speaking for the Labor party, after Mr. Lloyd George had concluded, said that organized labor would be found willing to follow wherever the Minister of Munitions led, if their rights were properly guaranteed.

"Every appeal that has been made to the workmen," he said, "has been met. The workmen are not unmindful of their responsibilities. What the minister sought to do is to pass a bill guaranteeing to trade unions the re-establishment of the status quo at the termination of the war."

8 Months' Extension of Parliament, Assured. London, Dec. 20.—When the bill to prolong the life of the present parliament was brought up in the House of Commons today Premier Asquith suggested that, as a compromise, the present parliament be extended eight months, instead of a year, as previously proposed. This was accepted by a vote of 158 to 22.

The long lived rumor of the destruction of the German submarine which sank the Cunard liner Lusitania was buried in the House of Commons this afternoon. Asked if the British admiralty had received any official report as to the loss of the undersea vessel Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, replied:

"We have no such information."

Austrian Report. Vienna, via London, Dec. 20.—The following official communication was issued today:

"Russian theatre: There is nothing special to report. "Italian theatre: On the entire front there has been moderate activity but only in the Chinese sector and the district of Col Di Lena did it increase to vigorous proportions. "Southeastern theatre: Gen. Koenigs' troops stormed the strongly consolidated enemy positions on the Tara, southwest of Bjelopole, and near Golubas, north of Beran. In the fighting on the Tara, three mountain cannon, two field cannon and 199 rifles were captured."