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## MORE VILLAGES CAPTURED

### Ontario Women Get the Vote Moslem Soldiers Surrender in Shoals War Declaration Up to U. S. Congress

#### VOTES FOR ONTARIO WOMEN ANNOUNCED IN LEGISLATURE

**Premier Hearst Pledges Himself and His Government To Pass Legislation Extending Franchise to Women on Same Basis As Men.**

The franchise is practically in the hands of Ontario women. Premier Hearst came out yesterday with an announcement that his government would support the principle of J. W. Johnson's bill "to grant women the right to vote at elections to the legislative assembly" on the same basis as men. He called upon his supporters to vote for it, and took responsibility for it, and for the vote upon it.

The government would bring down a measure incorporating the principle of the bill, and providing the machinery to give women the vote before the next general election, he said.

Mr. Rowell, leader of the opposition, supported the measure, pointing out that his party had long advocated it, and saying it was the most radical change in the basis of this province's government since confederation.

The member for West Hastings in introducing his bill asked the government to get behind it.

It is possible that after supporting it in principle by voting for it at the second reading, the government may reject it in detail at the third reading, and so clear the way for a government measure.

**Will Double the Vote.**  
 Sir William began his address on women's suffrage by pointing out from census figures that such action would practically double the vote in the province. Since the war had reduced the number of men, the women might outvote them, if they voted solidly together. He did not expect, however, any distinct line of cleavage.

Sir William said the great question was, would the ballot increase woman's

#### Citizenship for Women

It is many years since The World proclaimed itself in favor of woman suffrage, and the we stood alone at the time, we felt confident that the principle of justice underlying the demand for the franchise must eventually lead to success. There has been a good deal of campaigning necessary to bring about the consummation to which Sir William Hearst set the seal of his approval yesterday. Sir William by this act of progressive statesmanship, and while we have differed with him on some matters, we are free to acknowledge his timely action now, and to recognize his adoption of the principle for which we have contended so long.

No details have come to hand as to the scope of the act, but it was stated that women would vote at the next provincial election. We trust that the vote will be on the same basis for both sexes, and that there will be no discrimination against one more than the other.

#### OVERT ACT RECOGNIZED IN ATTACK ON LACONIA

**Washington Officials Admit Clear Cut Violation of American Rights and Consider Inquiry Unnecessary—Answer Must Come From Congress.**

Washington, Feb. 27.—The sinking of the Cunarder Laconia by a German submarine was stated officially today to constitute a clear-cut violation of American rights. "Conclusive official information at the state department shows that two American women lost their lives, that if four other Americans among the passengers and the 14 among the crew were saved it was only by good fortune, and that the vessel was sunk without warning in direct defiance of all the principles for which the United States has stood.

Consul Frost's reports from the survivors landed at Quezestown and Hanbury show that the vessel was struck by a first torpedo without warning at 10:30 Sunday night 150 miles off Eastport, when the steamer was traveling at 17 to 18 knots on her voyage from New York to Liverpool. The engine was stopped, as the ship listed starboard, wireless calls were sent broadcast, and six large rockets were sent up. Thirteen boats with passengers and crew got away, and scattered over two or three miles to prevent collisions in a high sea rolling in 15-foot swells.

**Considered Overt Act.**  
 About 20 minutes after the first torpedo, the reports add, and while some of the boats were still nearby, a second torpedo was driven into the vessel, which sank three quarters of an hour after the original attack. The small boats with survivors pitched about during the long hours of the night until rescue came up. During this time the two American women, Mrs. Mary E. Hoy and Miss Elizabeth Hoy, of Chicago, died of exposure and were buried at sea. There were several other deaths, but not of Americans.

No further facts are needed by this government, it was stated officially, and no inquiry of any sort is necessary to establish the facts of the case. Officials are entirely clear in their belief that Germany has committed the act which President Wilson has said it was impossible for him to believe she would commit.

Both White House and state department officials seem to feel that the answer must come from congress. The president, they point out, asked for authority to take steps to prevent just such an act at the very moment when the first news was coming over the cables.

**Situation in Congress.**  
 In congress little progress was made during the day toward enacting the legislation for which the president asked in his address yesterday. The senate foreign relations committee by a divided vote reported out a bill similar to the one introduced in the house, to authorize the president to arm merchantships and employ such other instrumentalities as he may deem necessary.

#### UNITED STATES BRITAIN'S TOOL SAYS HOLLWEG

**Severing of Relations Inspires Bitter Taunt in the Reichstag.**

**NO "GOING BACKWARD"**  
**Success of U-Boat Warfare is Said to Be Surpassing Hopes.**

Berlin, Feb. 27.—Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's address to the reichstag, postponed from last week, was delivered today. In speaking of relations with the United States toward the close of his address, he said: "I would fully understand it if the United States, as a protector of international law, should have bartered for its re-establishment in equal fashion with all the belligerents, and if, desiring to restore peace to the world, she had taken measures to enforce the end of the bloodshed. But I cannot possibly consider it a vital question for the American nation to protect in-



First photograph of the departure from Toronto of the 188th (Buffs) Battalion, taken at the Union Station. A motion picture operator was just starting to take some "action" pictures when everybody looked his way.

### BRITISH STILL ADVANCE LIGNY AND BARQUE TAKEN

#### Premier Borden and Party Will Pay Visit to Front Now Busily Engaged on Imperial Problems Pending Opening of Conference.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.  
 London, Feb. 27.—Premier Borden had an interview today with the colonial secretary. Subjects to be considered at the war conference were discussed. Premier Borden also visited the officers of the war cabinet and inspected a mass of documents relating to the prosecution of the war.

#### Col. Marlow's Report

By a Staff Reporter.  
 Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 27.—Recommendations designed to eliminate conditions which he considers justify criticism, are contained in the report made by Lieut.-Col. F. W. Marlow, assistant director of medical services for the Toronto district, following an inspection of the military medical services in Canada generally, and of those of the Canadian expeditionary force particularly, which was obtained for publication tonight. Col. Marlow's report contains almost no criticism of the administration of the military hospitals commission, but he does find some conditions which he considers unsatisfactory in the medical services generally. The report was based upon an inspection made last autumn and attached to it is a memorandum in reply from Col. Potter, acting director-general of medical services.



First photograph of the departure from Toronto of the 188th (Buffs) Battalion, taken at the Union Station. A motion picture operator was just starting to take some "action" pictures when everybody looked his way.

### BRITISH ROUT FLEEING TURKS TAKE THOUSANDS PRISONER

**Operations in Mesopotamia Move Up Tigris River—Capture of Kut-el-Amara Removes Slur on British Arms.**

London, Feb. 27.—Turkish troops taken prisoner by the British at Kut-el-Amara now number several thousand, stated Earl Curzon, member of the war council, sitting in the house of lords today.

The retreating Turkish army was being pursued, and an artillery and infantry action was taking place 15 miles northwest of Kut, he added. Besides the additional prisoners, the British had taken further quantities of equipment, munitions and stores.

It was obvious from the telegram from General Maude, continued Earl Curzon, that the scene of the operations had been transferred further up the river, and that the initial success was being followed up. The prisoners accumulated have been taken at different stages of the operations.

The following telegram received from General Maude at Kut was read by Earl Curzon:

"On the morning of the 25th our gunboats, cavalry and infantry moved westwards in pursuit of the retreating enemy. Strong Turkish rear-guards, supported by artillery, were found to be occupying trench positions 15 miles northwest of Kut, evidently covering the withdrawal with their guns.

"After an intense bombardment our infantry assaulted the enemy's position and obtained a footing therein, while our cavalry operated around the Turkish northern flank. During the day numerous flocks of at least sixty prisoners, equipment and stores were captured.

"The steamer slipped its tow on being bombed by airplanes, and the pontoons floated downstream for some distance."

Regarding a question as to the degree of confidence these events might inspire in the future, Lord Curzon remarked that he should like to wait a little before answering it clearly.

"The slur upon our arms—if that might be the phrase applicable—caused by the events of last year," continued Earl Curzon, "is entirely wiped out. The whole position unsuccessfully held by our troops and subsequently occupied by the Turks has been wrested from them, and a series of engagements which has taken place and which has carried the fighting more than 12 or 15 miles west of Kut constitutes more than merely local events and must alter, if not entirely transform, the Turkish position in Mesopotamia."

#### Positions Also Established West and North of Puisieux, While Successful Raid is Carried Out East of Armentieres.

London, Feb. 27.—Additional progress has been made by the British forces north and south of the Ancre region in France and also south of Lens. In the Ancre district the Village of Ligny, southwest of Bapaume, has been occupied and north of the stream the western and northern defenses of Puisieux have been taken from the Germans, according to the British official communication issued tonight.

The communication says: "We have made further progress north and south of the Ancre. During the night we captured the village of Le Barque. Today we have occupied Ligny and established ourselves in the western and northern defenses of Puisieux.

"We raided the enemy's positions this morning southward of Lens and destroyed a number of dugouts, machine gun emplacements, and took a few prisoners. Another successful raid was carried out by our troops during the night east of Armentieres, on a front of a half mile. Three lines of hostile trenches were entered and considerable damage was done to the enemy's defenses. We captured sixteen prisoners and brought back searchlights and a machine gun.

"Artillery activity has continued on both sides north and south of the Somme. There was sharper resistance all along the line of the German retreat today than at any time since the movement began. There is no indication as yet of a fixed purpose by the Germans to make a definite stand, but they are doing everything possible to hold up and interfere with the British advance. The rear outposts were immensely strengthened, and this led to stiff fighting with the British forward patrols.

The Germans prepared carefully for their retirement, apart from choosing the moment when spring was just beginning, bringing with it new depths of clinging mud. Belt after belt of barbed wire marks the German retreat. Always great belief was in the Germans' method of defence, the Germans appear to have outdone all previous efforts in the way of wire barriers in the Somme and Ancre areas.

The British, however, pushed forward today all along the 11 mile line stretching from south of Gommecourt to west of Le Transloy. They pushed further into Puisieux-au-Mont, south-east of Gommecourt, in which more five were visible last night. Searchlights were also playing anxious lights about.

The present objective of the British is generally which overlooks the high ground running between Achiet-le-Petit to Bapaume, where the Germans may attempt to hold for a time. The Germans just prior to retreating their carefully built and long occupied dugouts have been converted into a mass of wreckage by explosives and fire.

#### DUMA QUIETLY RESUMES POSTPONED SESSIONS

Sitting of House Attends Chiefly to Debate on Agricultural Report.

Petrograd, Feb. 27, via London.—The resumption today of the sessions of the duma, which were interrupted by the holidays and further postponed on Jan. 19 by an imperial ukase, resulted in an anti-climax. In view of the sensational character of the last days of the previous meeting, and the general anticipation of similar events attending the re-opening of the house, the session was devoted chiefly to a discussion of the report of the minister of agriculture.

Vladimir Purishevitch, vice president of the Union of Trade Unions, whose violent attack upon the government continued his criticism of the imperial authorities, but in a moderate vein, and his remarks caused little commotion.

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(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3 and 4.)

(Continued on Page 7, Column 6.)