GERMAN FORCE **NEAR WARSAW**

Within 40 Miles of Polish Capital On Right Bank of the Vistula.

HEAVY FIGHTING

Raging On Long Front in Poland-Czernowitz Taken By the Austrians.

Petrograd Cable:-The frighting in Northern Poland has attained to a "climax of stubbornness," in the words of to-night's official statement from the Russian general staff. The most intense engagements now proceeding in this section of the eastern war theatre are at the two extremities of the front, in the region of Augustowo, Suwalki Province, and on the right bank of the Vistula along the roads from Sierpec to Plonsk. The last mentioned place is about 15 miles from the fortress of Nowo Georgiewsk, and less than 40 miles to the northwest of Warsaw.

The new German advance towards the Polish capital appears to be directed wholly on the Vistula's right bank. On the left bank, west and south-west of Warsaw, the scene of the enemy's furious onslaughts against the Bzura-Rawka defences last month, the Russian commanderin-chief announces to-nighthere has been "no fighting." to-night that

In the Carpathians heavy fighting continues, and the Russian staff claims to have repulsed all the Austro-German attacks, especially on the upper courses of the San River, to have made a number of successful counter-attacks in the mountain

AUSTRIANS TAKE CZERNOWITZ The Austrians, on the other hand, have made progress in Bukowina, and have occupied Czernowitz, the capital of the Province. It is admitted in Russian official report to-night that the Czar's columns have been withdrawn northward beyond the Pruth River, on which Czernowitz is

In South Poland, between the German column advancing towards Mesolaborch and the force moving on Wyszkow, there are virtually no troops of either side. Around Mesolabroch the Russians are reported to be successfully holding their posi-tions, and at several points to have

repulsed the Germans. The German advance from East russia upon the Towns of Kovno and Grodno appears designed to cut the railroad communications to Warsaw rather than to an effort to take the Russian fortified positions in that territory

Along the Plock-to-Niemen line, which is a little short of 200 miles in length, there has been intermittent fighting. From all the towns in district, which is the most populous of the empire, the civil population is fleeing, thronging the highways and railways. The latter are offering the service possible to transport the inhabitants to places of safety in the

TWELVE MILES FROM GRODNO

The German advance guards are reported to have proceeded from Augustowo towards the railroad between Grodno and Bialistok, and to have reached within 12 miles of the former place, where they are said to have been checked by the Russians.

Traffic on the Petrograd-Warsaw line through Vilna has been temporarily suspended for military purposes. Germans also are reported to

be attempting to break through tween Kovno and Grodno, taking advantage of the frozen Augustowo marshes and Niemen River, and fac-ing the possibility of an early thaw, which might leave them at the mercy of the Russians, as developed during a previous similar advance in the early Fall, when the swamps made the country impassable.

The line to the north of Warsaw between Plonsk and Nowo Georgiewsk and Serock, is well defended.

WILD FOR WAR

Romans Demonstrate Against Teutons Before Parliament.

Rome Cable: -A wild demonstration by thousands of men and wemen against Germany and Austria marked ery precaution has been taken by all the opening of Parliament this after-Shouting, Hurrah for Trent and Trieste!" and "Down with Germany and Austria!" the mob surged toward building intent on forcing the Deputies to take action toward the intervention of the war.

Ten thousand troops, rushed to the city in anticipation of the outbreak, had to charge the crowd repeatedly before it dispersed, and it took an hour to clear the street in

street as little as possible.

cently killed by earthquake were commemorated in the presence of 300 De-

A fellow is apt to do some thinking when he is short.

MENINGITIS

A Number of Cases Among Kitchener's Army, Too.

London, Feb. 18.-The statement in the House of Commons by Dr. McNamara that 15 cases of meningitis, with eight leaths resulting, occuring in the Crystal Palace, where there were 6.578 officer.

deaths resulting, occuring in the Crystal Palace, where there were \$,5% officer and men, shows that the dread disease was not confined to the Canadian continingent at Salisbury Plain. It has been a disputed point here whether the disease was brought to England by the Canadians or was induced by environment.

A private view of the Ducarss of Connaught's hospital at Cliveden was given to-day, when a number of Canadians in London responded to the invitation of Mrs. Waldrof Astor to inspect the building. This will be the chief Canadian will contain 150 beds.

The military authorities have at last recognized the unnecessary inconvenience and anxiety caused relatives and friends in England of the Canadian contingent through the system of noutrons. Ottawa of casualities. At previous cables pointed out, solders' relatives and friends living in the British Isles were not notified of casualities unless, they were next of kin. Canadian casualities appeared in the London newspapers to-day for the first time. Ottawa will still be given two day's preference. The new order of things will do more justice to the Canadian contingent by reminding people here of their participation in the war.

LAYING MINES AROUND COAST

Germans Disguised as Neutrals Believed to Be Busy.

Britain Thinks U. S.-German Trouble Likely.

London Cable: - England awaits the fulfilment of the German threats. Your correspondent has it on high authority that naval experts fear mines far more than submarines, and it is believed that German mine-layers, flying neutral flags and disguised as fishing vessels, have already strewn some mines, although there is no absolute confirmation for this. The real confirmation may come only with the destruction of some ship.

Germany's reply to America heightens the belief that trouble between the two countries is likely, although it s admitted that the actual destruction of an American ship may be needed to bring America to the point of a delaration of war.

It is not considered that Germany's esponse is a satisfactory answer to American demands for assurances regarding the safety of American ships and lives. The suggestion of a convoy is ridiculed for the reason that neithe Germany nor the convoying is ridiculed for the reason that neither Germany now the convoying warships can ob-tain safety from floating mines for American merchant steamers. In fact, the convoys themselves would be imperiled, for under no circumstances could the Germans furnish guides

through the mined areas.

The Daily News correspondent at Amsterdam says: "I learn authoritatively that Germany intends carrying on her threatened blockade by combined Zeppelin and submarine action Great airship activity continues in the

"According to the lastest informa tion from Berlin the Unter den Linden cafes and restaurants have been filled with excited crowds reading bulletins entitled 'Der Tag..'"

A despatch to the Daily Mail from

Copenhagen, later Thursday, says: his brother Admiral Prince Henry of Prussia, and Admiral von Tirpitz, the Minister of the Navy, and their respective staffs, left Berlin to-day, for Wilhelmshaven, Heligoland, and other naval stations direct the arrangements for blockading England.

"It is reported that the Germans have built 120 big mine-laying sub-marines during the last six months, each with a carrying capacity of over one hundred mines.

HOLLAND READY

Blockade Causes Her to Prepare for Emergencies.

The Hague Cable, via .London: The critical situation brought about by the German naval demonstration. which it was announced would begin yesterday, has greatly impressed Governmental circles nere. A reply to the Dutch protest against the proposed submarine blockade has not yet been received, but is expected momentarily. Work was continued in all Govern-ment offices until late last evening, and several conferences were held be tween Minister. No real uneasiness is felt as to Holland's position, but ev-

branches of the defensive forces in view of possible eventualities. Considerable troop movements are reported along the eastern frontier, facing Germany, but information regarding them is closely guarded. The water defences are understood to be ready for any emergency. New re

cruits for the army

tend to attack neutrals.

training depots yesterday, and more will arrive to-day. Many Dutch vessels are now in British waters, on their way to or from front of the building.

The feeling against Germany and Austria grows more bitter almost hourly, and subjects of those two hourly, and subjects of those two hours have those show themselves on the life tish waters, on their way to or from ports in Holland. Some apprehension is felt in shipping circles, but it is pointed out that these merchantmen are easily distinguishable, and consequently it is hoped there will be no deaths of the thousands re. untoward happenings. The reported encounter of the Dutch steamer Helena with a Zeppelin airship in the North Sea, and the fact that the ves-al was not harmed, is regarded as sel was not harmed, is regarded as indicating that Germany does not in-

GERMAN LOSS

Regiments Half Slain in Attack On French Positions.

Yesterday's Western Fighting Disastrous to Them.

Paris Cable:-The official com muniques issued to-day give in detail a considerable list of triumphs which have crowned the allied army during the past two days, the most notable of which is unquestionably the recapture of the village of Norroy in Lor raine, which the Germans took of Feb. 13. In this connection the War Office notes that the German general staff has announced that Norroy was evacuated and that the French did not deliver an attack there. To this an emphatic denial is made in the night statement, it declaring the enemy was literally driven out of his positions at that point.

The score of an allied offensive had

been measured on every occasion the strength of the counter att.
with which the Germans have rep.
The enemy's efforts yesterday and t. day show that the recent progress of the allies has been most decided, for the Germans have launched assault after assault in a vain effort to re-cover the ground they have lost. SANGUINARY BAYONET CHARGES.

The fighting has been unusually violent, particularly in Champagne, along the front of Souain, Perthes and Beausejour. There the Germans made tremendous efforts to recapture the trenches taken from them on Feb. 16. and were not repulsed until the French infantry swarmed from their cositions in an irresistible and sanguinary bayonet attack. The German regiments engaged suffered losses from one-half to one-quarter of their com-

The capture of a position south of the Sudelkopf in Alsace by the French in the engagement yesterday turns out to have been a most valuable accomplishment. The Germans were driven from an important defence work in which the allies found a vast amount of war material, including bombs, bomb-throwing machines, breas plates and other munitions, together with thousands of cartridges.

ADVANCE IN ARGONNE. The afternoon communique gat details of Wednesday's fighting, which showed that the surprise attack made north of Arras had had much greater effect than was anticipated, the Germans suffering unusually heavy losses It was also stated that the French had nade a noteworthy advance in the Argonne, progressing more than 400 metres in the forest of Chephy, north of Malancourt, and an equal distance south of the forest of Fosges.

A report is current here, but not confirmed, that mutiny occurred at Ghent in the beginning of the menth, in which about 5,000 men, including 30 officers, were involved. According to this report, the mutineers were bound two and two and sent in the direction of Brussels, Malines, Antwern and Namur

Rheims continues to be bombarded daily by the Germans, and hundreds of persons have taken refuge in the immense cellars of the large champagne companies. The cellars also are being used as schools for the children. Night and day classes are being held. The authorities have notified parents that they cannot be responsible for accidents to their children.

CASUALTIES

Princess Pats' Dead, Wounded and Ill.

Otawa Report.-The following asualties are announced to-day: Accidentally drowned—Feb. 16.— Private Alfred Ellis, Canadian Array Veterinary Corps. Next of kin, John Ellis (father), 72 Union street, Runcorn. Cheshire, England

Wounded—Private Thomas Flinteft, P. P. C. L. I., admitted to No. 4 General Hospital, Versailles, Feb. Stu, with gunshot wound on wrist. Next of kin, Mrs. J. Flintoft, Waterdown,

Private Michael Weirnick, P. P. C. L. I., admitted to No. 4 General Hospital, Versailles, Feb. 8th, with gunshot wound in leg. Next of kin, A. Weirnick, 60 Compton street, Boston,

Lance-Corporal A. Vivian, P. P. C. L. I., admitted to No. 4 General Hospital, Versailles, with gunshot wound in knee. Next of kin, Mrs. A. G. Next of kin, Mrs. A. G.

In Ruce. Next of Rin, Mrs. A. G. Hughes, Calgary, Alta.
Private R. J. Starke, P. P. C. L. I., admitted to No. 4 General Hospital, wound in leg. Next of kin, Mrs. E. Starke, Great Hockham, Norfolk, Eng. land.

Seriously ill-Captain J. F. Foulkes. 2nd Infantry Prigade, at Royal Infirmary, Bristol, with Pleuro-pneumonia. Next of kin, Mrs. J. F. Foulkes (wife), in England.

DRIVES OFF MONITORS.

London Cable—A Daily News correspondent's despatch from Beis, and uated to-day says:

"To-day I witnessed a three-hour bombardment of Belgrade by the Austrian monitors at Semlin. While arriving from the Royal palace i saw many buildings destroyed. Soldiers and civilians were killed by a shell which fell a few yards from our carriage. The Serbian guns on the citadel got the range, and the monitors were driven off and Semlin was damaged."

REBUILD LOUVAIN UNI ERSITY REBUILD LOUVAIN UNITERSITY:
Rome, Cable—Mgr. Deploige, president
of Louvain University, had an audience
with the Pope to-day, at which he explained the extent of the damage to the
college. The information had been partially withheld from the Pope.
The Pontiff was greatly impressed and
much grieved over the story told by
Mgr. Deploige and promised to raise the
necessary funds to rebuild the university
with the aid of the Catholics of the world.

TWO SHOT

Winnipeg Woman Dead, and a Roomer Arrested.

Winnipeg Report.-Acting, it is understood, upon a statement made in the hospital by George Stark, Geo. Shortreed, aged about thirty, a roomer at the house of Mrs. R. W. Stark, was his afternoon charged with the murder of Mrs. Stark, who was shot dead last night at her home. At the police court Shortreed was remanded until

Mrs. Stark was shot last night at a quarter past eight, the bullet entering her left side and penetrating her heart and lung. Her son, George better known as "Bud," 30 years of age, lies in the hospital with a bullet wound n the stomach.

Shortreed, who was taken into cusody as a witness, told the story that Stark drew a revolver and shot mother, afterwards turning the weapon against himself. "Bud" Stark had been confined to the Selkirk Asylum, but escaped from that institution in

Yellow Republic's Memorandum Shows Differences.

Powers Are Growing Worried About Far East.

Washington Despatch-China has instructed her Ministers in the United States, Great Britain, France and Russia to deliver to these powers a memorandum of the demands originally made by Japan for concessions and provides in return for the restoration of the territory of Knau-Cnau to China.

Kai Fu Shah, the Chinese Minister here, has just presented the memorandum to the State Department. This, on comparison with the memorandum which the Japanese Foreign Office on February 9th gave to the diplomatic representatives of Great Britain, France, Russia, and the United States, contains several other demands, about seven or eight in number.

Officials of the American Government had under consideration to-day the directing an informal enquiry to the American Ambasador at Tokio and the Minister at Pekin to learn which of the two versions was the present basis of negotiation, but this plan, it is believed, would not be car-ried out because of the expectation that with the publicity already given to the Japanese demands, a volun-tary explanation of the differences in the two versions probably would be forthcoming. High officials here were disinclined to discus the various demands, Secretary Bryan announcing that while the State Department had the matter "under consideration" no opinion could be given at this time. He denies published reports that a note had been sent to Japan, however, and it was stated authoritatively to-day that the American Government had not since the beginning of the had not since the had not since

ANXIETY IN BRITAIN London Cable.—The anxiety felt here concerning the demands Japan made upon China in the course of the negotiations which almost immediateof the German concession of Kia Chau. was exemplified in a request made in Parliament this afterneon for the publication of the text of these demands. Answering his questioner, Foreign present in a position to communicate to the House information on this sub-ject, which has been given me confidentially by the Japanese Covernment.'

EXTENDING HER INFLUENCE. Tokio Cable.-Japan has explained the tenor of her demands China to certain friendly powers, including the United States, it was learned here to-day. It is assumed without authority that the Nipponese Government will seek to extend the sphere of their influence in China without disturbing the "spen door" policy, the spheres of influence of other nations or the integrity of the lestial Empire. Japen feels that her position entitles her to a predomnating influence in the development of that country.

SEIZE CEREALS

Russia is Planning Requisition of All Stores.

London Cable: - A Petrograd despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company says that at an important conference attended by the Minister of Agriculture it was resolved to recommend the requisition of all stored cereals, amounting to 50,000,000 poods (1,803,500,-pounds), now in the hands of speculators. Prices, according to the resolu-tion, would be fixed locally after a consultation between the Bourse committee and the Zemstvos.

The Ministry of Finance is organizing an international competition, with prizes running up to \$15,000 rendering methylated spirits rendering methylated spirits and similar harmful beverages absolutely undrinkable. Prizes of \$37,500 are of fered for new or improved methods of utilizing spirits as combustibles. These awards with other prizes proposed ag-

The press is the fourth estate of the realm.-Carlyle.

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS

General Villa Prohibits Sale of All Liquor in His Territory.

IRISH VICEROY

Wholesale Poisoning by Ice Cream in Mexican Capital.

The Provincial Seed Fair was opened A central Collegiate Institute, to cost \$250,000, was decided upon by the Toronto Board of Education.

Pte. Benjamin Matheson, of the 19th Regiment, died at the Toronto General Hospital of meningitis.

A Reuter despatch from Berlin says Emperor William has returned to Ber-lin from the East Prussian war thea-

So great is the distress in Montreal Archbishop Bruchesi told the Board of Control, that many people are facing

The Bulgarian Government has notified the powers that it will not allow foreign refugees from Turkey to settle

in Bulgaria. Gen. Villa to-day issued an executive order prohibiting the sale of all liquor in his territory, with the exception of Juarez. Death is the penalty.

Frank James, brother of James, famous outlaw, died at Excelsior Springs, Mo., on the farm on which he was born 74 years ago. A despatch from Field Marshal Sir

John French recommends 2,900 men of all ranks for preference because gallant and distinguished services. The crown has refused to disclose further particulars to the defence in connection with the treason charges against Mr. and Mrs. Nerlich in To-

Fire caused by a chimney blaze early Thursday night completely destroyed the Malough House, a temperance hotel at Dungarnon, twelve miles

north of Goderich.

Home Guards are not entitled to be supplied with rifles and ammunition by the Department of Militia, according ta a statement in the Commons by Major-Gen. Hughes.

Students in short course agricultural classes in Brant county have started a Junior Farmers' Improvement Asso ciation to increase the interest of oung men in farm life.

The British steamship Ocroma, which Berlin official despatches have more than once asserted was sunk, has arrived safely at Liverpool. She was never even attacked, her captain re norts.

Baron Wimborne was sworn in as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland at a meeting of the Privy Council held in Dublin Castle. The ceremonial which is customary on this occasion was fully

ing accident on Galena stable which resulted in her death. street hill

A Mexico despatch to Austin, Texas, says the death of several Constitu-tional soldiers, caused by eating poitional soldiers, caused by ice cream, led to the arrest of 84 ice cream vendors in the city, and all were made to eat their own wares with the result that 35 of them died of poisoning.

MORE HEROES

Medical Man Gets Clasp for Former Crcss.

Irish Non-Com. Took Enemy's Position Alone.

London Cable: - Lieut. Arthur Martin-Leake, of the Royal Army Medical Corps, has been awarded a clasp to the Victoria Cross, an extremely unusual honor.

Lieut. Martin-Leake won the Victoria Cross in the South African War, and, as this decoration is bestowed only once on an individual, the clasp has been given him for 'most conspicuous bravery and deotion to duty throughout the campaign, especially during the period from the 29th of October to the 8th of November near Zenebeke, in rescuing, with exposed to constant fire, a large number of wounded, who were lying close to the enemy's trenches.'

Lieut.-Col. E. W. Alexander, of the Royal Field Artillery, has been awarded the Victoria Cross for saving his guns at Elouges, Belgium, while under a flank attack, and for rescuing a wounded man while under

Among others who have received Among others who have received the Victoria Cross are Drummer William Kenny, for rescuing men on five occasions while under fire and twice saving machine guns by carrying them out of action; Lieut. J. A. O. Brooke, of the Gordon Highlanders; Capt. John Franks Valletin and Lieut. F. A. Depags, all of whom were killed, for leading attacks on

German trenches and rescuing James Mackenzie, of the Scots Guards, who also was kuled, and Ptes. Henry Robson, of the Royal Scots; Abram Acton and James Smith, of the Border Regiment, and Lieut. Philip Neame, of the Royal Engineers, for rescuing wounded: Lanca-Corporal Michael Leary, of the Irish Guards, for conspicuous bravery at Cuinchy Feb. 1st.

Leary, according to the official ac-count, formed one of a storming party which advanced against the German trenches. He rushed to the front and killed five Germans who were holding the first barricade, af-ter which he attacked the second barricade, which he captured after two others prisoner. "Leary thus," says the official report, "practically captured the enemy's position by himself and prevented the rest of the attacking army from being fired

A large number of military crossos and other honors have been awarded to officers and men for conspicuous services during the operations in Flan-ders

BRITONS WERE

Prisoners of Germans Got Very Bad Treatment.

Some of Those Exchanged Teil Awful Tales.

London Cable:-In describing the arrival at Rotterdam of 100 British who had been incapacitated, and are on their way home from camps, the correspondent of the Daily

Mail says:
"The soldiers were welcomed by the Dutch officials and the Dutch civilians cheered them and loaded them with gifts of pipes, tobacco, cigarc, chocolate and other luxuries, all of which wer wrapped in the Dutch colors. Many of the soldiers went at the kindnesses shown them. All were severely wounded, and the injuries of many were terrible. Many of the men were on crutches.

'All of the prisoners were most anxious to know how the many German prisoners were treated in England, as their guards had told them that the prisoners had been abominably treat-ed. The British prisoners thought was the reason for their rough treatment in the German camps.

non-commissioned officer said:
"We were treated all right at the hospital, especially by the nurses, but the fellows in the concentration camp had an awful time, for on the slightest complaint they were kicked, while for a serious breach of discipline they were tied to a post for hours. The food, which was chiefly beauty, poor quality and small in quantity. men protested that they were starving they were told: "Your friends in England have cut off our field sup-

"This man confirmed the previous reports that the French prisoners were treated in the most friendly manner, in striking contrast to the treatment of the British prisoners.'

LOST ANOTHER!

Two German Dirigibles Wrecked in Two Days.

London Cable: - A second German land, according to despatches from Copenhagen. According to one report, emanating from Esbjerg, Jutland, the aircraft was a which fell into the water off the west ccast, eleven of her crew being saved and four drowned. Another version comes by way of Copenhagen, in despatch which describes the ed craft as a Parseval and states that all its crew was rescued.

A Reuter despatch from Copenhagen says: "Yesterday evening eleven Germans presented themselves at the coast guard station north of Blasvand, on the west coast of Jutland. said they belonged to a Zeppelin which had descended at a place on the coast which it was impossible to recognize owing to the snowstorm.

NOVEL WEAPON

British Private Killed Four Germans With Shovel.

London, Cable-The offical Eye-witness with the British forces on the

London, Cable—The offical Eyewitness with the British forces on the
continent describes as follows the recapture by the British on February is
of the position south of the Ypres Comines Canal, which the Germans may taken
from them:
"During our bombardment previous to
the assault the Germans took refuze in
underground dugouts. Our assault was
so well timed and sudden than when
they emerged they found our infantry
on top of them. Those who showed fight
were bayoneted. Many surrequered,
some crying for mercy and offering
watches, money, clears and fruit in order
to buy their lives.
"One German officer was bayoneted
while telephoning presumably for reinforcements. Four Germans were killed
by one of our men who was armed only
with a shovel.

Among the spoils of war captured was
a large amount of dum-dum ammunition.
"Repeated references to the rise in
prices and scarcity of foodstuffs, in letters found on the Germans, are significant."

NORWAY WILL RETALIATE.