GERMANS' PRISONER HAD FORTY WOUNDS

Warsaw Correspondent Tells of Atrocities Against Russians.

WITNESSES THRILLING BATTLE IN THE AIR

Taube Monoplane Makes Escape After Unequal Battle with Four Biplanes.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Jan. 30.—Percival Gibbon, "The Daily Chronicle" correspondent at Warsaw, gives well authenticated instances of German outrages on the Russian prisoners. He says:

"Private Piotre Parfentiaff Krifsoff, of the Siberian Trailleurs, was picked up near Brhiny by a captain commanding the Red Cross. He had been captured while scouting in uniform and taken into a cottage where two officers were sitting. He was held by soldiers while another soldier stabbed him all over the body with a bayonet, making forty wounds, none over one inch in depth. He was then thrown out and left lying in the open and was still living when found. His statement was shown to a captured German officer and 150 German prisoners. The German officer was Rutmeister Sandrock, who signed a written statement of the facts which I have seen and copied.

"Cases equally well authenticated are those of Lieutenant Alexis Nekloudoff, captured with his machine guns and ordered to fire on the Russians. On his refusing all the nails on his left hand were torn off and three from his right hand. He was kept without food for six days and has gone mad.

"Trooper Piotre Kurlukoff, of the Cossacks, was tied to a tree at Boroff, in the Kaluski district, soaked with petroleum and burned to death in the presence of Polish peasants."

The correspondent gives the following thrilling description of an air fight between a Taube and a Russian biplane, which he witnessed in Warsaw:

"The Taube had already ineffectually shed bombs over the city when over the roofs appeared, easily identifiable, a Russian biplane. It was a glorious piece of sheer daring, for a 70-horse-power biplane, while admirable for reconnoissance and observing gunfire, is overmatched in such a competition as this by a 12-horsepower Taube monoplane.

"The Taube came round quickly, straightened up, and then stopped like a sparrow hawk, shooting down the air in a plunge so swift and steep that from the groups on the street corners a cry went up that it was falling. The two machines passed abreast of each other at a distance that appeared to be small, and as they came abeam I could see a twinkle of pale fire as the gun of the monoplane spat at her opponent. Then they were apart again and the monoplane was climbing swiftly to repeat the manœuvre.

"Some minutes elapsed before the strategy of the overmatched biplane was apparent. The fight flickered away in dives and circles across roofs and threatened to pass out of sight. Suddenly the colorless sky showed a rag of smoke drifting across it. Immediately afterward three more biplanes had driven the Taube clear of the streets, to where the guns from the batteries could bear on her. Instantly the Taube was circling and climbing in a panic to get out of range of the shrapnel which burst around her. The last seen of her was her bee-line retreat due west, having accomplished nothing."

EMPEROR WILLIAM RETURNS TO BERLIN

Berlin, via London, Jan. 30.—Emperor William returned to the capital to-day for a short stay after his tour of inspection along the western battlefront.

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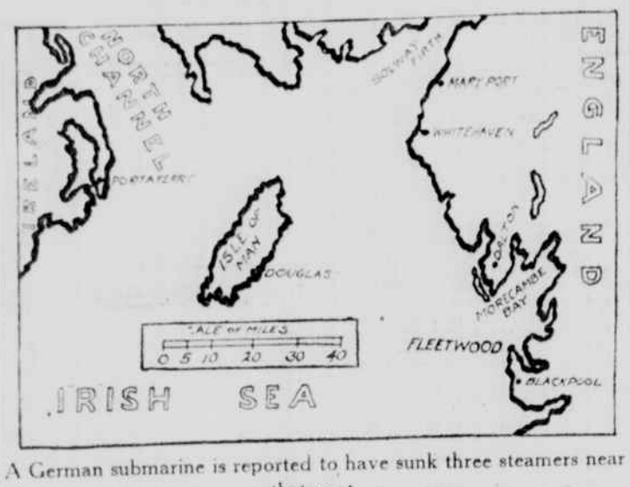
SALES CONDUCTED BY MR. FREDERICK A. CHAPMAN.

MAP SHOWING FLEETWOOD, ON THE WEST COAST OF ENGLAND.



A German submarine is reported to have sunk three steamers near that port.

KAISER OFFERS $175 FOR EACH FRENCH GUN TAKEN

German Soldiers Fail to Win Prizes in Attack to Celebrate Founding of Empire, Paris "Eye-Witness" Reports.

Paris, Jan. 30.—An official "eyewitness" statement was issued by the French War Office to-day covering the period of the campaign in France from January 16 to January 25. It says:

"Our advance has been slight, but regular. Under the cover of night, troopers protected by portable bucklers slip along the dunes and roads, rapidly improvising new defences with sacks, baskets and cases filled with earth, for deep trenches are impossible in the ground. The artillery supporting these operations have made many of the German trenches in the dunes untenable.

"The only infantry action around Ypres occurred at dawn on Monday, January 25, when a German infantry company deployed 150 yards from our lines and charged at double quick. Three companies folowed each other at short distances, suported by an entire brigade. This attack was instantly checked by the violent fire of our infantry, supported by artillery.

"The officer commanding the leading company was the first to fall, and in a few minutes the ground was covered with more than three hundred dead, while many became entangled in the barbed wire and were made prisoners. Some of them, notwithsetanding painful injuries from the barbs, tore themselves out of the tangle. The prisoners said that the attack was to be supported by other forces, which were exposed by our artillery fire.

German Losses 2,000.

"British infantry and French artillery repulsed a violent attack at La Bassee. Hundreds of dead still lie on the field. The attack was again repulsed, the German losses being at least two battalions (2,000 men).

"From La Bassee to Arras there have been continuous artillery engagements, the most violent at Biangy, which was followed by an infantry charge in force. The entire shock was received by three companies, which held their ground in spite of a formidable cannonading by three-inch, four-inch, six-inch and eight-inch guns, bombs and grenades. It became necessary to abandon the burning houses at La Fonderie, which were destroyed by grenades. Part of our force succeeded in retaining; the others were killed or wounded and fell into the enemy's hands.

"Three companies from the second line of defence delivered several counter attacks with fire and bayonet until the lost ground was regained.

"The action was particularly violent at La Boiselle, being nearly continuous from January 16 to January 26. A prisoner taken January 18 said that Emperor William had ordered the occupation of this place in honor of the anniversary of the founding of the empire, and promised 700 marks to whosoever brought back a French machine gun. No machine gun was captured, but nine successive attacks were repulsed.

"The explosion of a depot of melanite permitted the enemy to capture a small section of the trenches, but they were driven out half an hour later, and the cemetery at La Boisselle was found to be full of German dead, including several officers.

Fight with Cold Steel.

"Around Soissons the enemy had gained no advantage since January 14. At Paissy the two adversaries are within twenty yards of each other and the same line of barbed wire serves as a defence for each side. Four companies of Germans attacked at this point after the explosion of a mine, but were repulsed, and a counter attack drove the enemy from the trenches. They left hundreds of dead and many wounded. Our loss was forty killed.

"There was a three days' battle at Berry-a-Bac, beginning with a bombardment on January 20, which demoralized our trenches and permitted a successful attack by the infantry. The enemy installed himself in our advance trenches and resisted our counter attacks on January 21 from 8 o'clock until 11, when we recaptured one trench and took a number of prisoners. The other trench was held until the 23d, when an attack by a single company of French infantry succeeded. The enemy left twenty prisoners in our hands, but engaged in an artillery action lasting four hours. This was followed by a counter attack by the German infantry, which was repulsed with heavy loss.

"In the region of Perthes the Germans tried desperately to reconquer the positions they had lost, but we maintained our position and made further gains. The Germans gained about 100 yards of our advanced trenches, but we gained more than that.

"In Le Prêtre Wood, northwest of Pont-a-Mousson, we have gained important successes in spite of the fact that part of the ground has since been lost. The entire forest two months ago was in the hands of the Germans. Foot by foot we have conquered nearly the whole of it.

Argonne Fighting Severe.

"The fighting in this region has been particularly severe. In one instance, on January 17, we captured several of the enemy's works in a counter attack. An entire German company was taken, including several officers. On the 17th we gained 500 yards of the enemy's trenches, while on the 19th we made an advance of 100 yards beyond these trenches. We picked up dead and wounded in sufficient numbers to indicate that the enemy's losses in these engagements were more than a battalion.

"Since the 19th the Germans have continually attacked this point desperately, but have regained only a third of the ground lost.

"In the Vosges, Hartmann-Weilerkopf was held by two sections in the beginning (a section number sixteen men). Later these were reinforced by three companies. Here our chausseurs made a heroic stand, but this force was obliged to succor the small guard at the summit, which was furiously attacked by important forces of the enemy. In a heavy snowstorm and fog and unable to see more than ten yards ahead of them, this small detachment, knowing that the guard had only 300 cartridges, set out on January 19 over the rocky declivity, which was obstructed by thickets, to save their comrades.

"Two companies tried to reach the enemy's left; two others marched toward the right, but the Germans were strongly organized and the advance was slow. The men, slipping on the ice and falling back on accessory defences, fought all day. From the summit the guard heard the firing, and in the evening their trumpets sounded a salute. Our men continued to gain ground on the 21st, up the slope, but slowly. The chausseurs still held out. Assault after assault was delivered. Two officers fell at the head of their men, but in spite of ice and barbed wire the force advanced. At night nothing more was heard from the summit and the handful of valiant defenders succumbed before help arrived. The relieving party now commands the summit of the heights, preventing any offensive movement by the enemy."

OFFER FOR CARGO OF WILHELMINA

Relief Commission in London Seeks to Divert Food from Germany to Belgium.

London, Jan. 30.—The Commission for the Relief of Belgium to-night announced that it had made an offer for the cargo of the American steamer Wilhelmina, which sailed from New York for Hamburg on January 22 with food supplies for Germany.

A series of accidents to the vessels engaged by the commission, coupled with stormy weather, has so interfered with the shipping arrangements of the commission that a serious hiatus in the continuous delivery of food to Belgium is threatened.

In this emergency a friend of the commission has placed at its disposal a sum of money sufficient to buy the cargo of the Wilhelmina, with the intention of diverting the supplies from Germany to Rotterdam. The offer made by the commission provides for a fair profit to be made by the Wilhelmina's owners and charterers.

The commission has an arrangement with various governments which enables it to take charge of any ship at any stage of its voyage and to give it safe conduct to Rotterdam. The members of the commission hope that the offer will be accepted, as the Wilhelmina's cargo would tide over what promises to be a serious shortage of the commission's ordinary influx of supplies.

It was stated here to-night on behalf of the shippers of the Wilhelmina cargo that any offer for it by the Commission for Relief of Belgium must be made to W. T. Brooking, now on the ocean on the way to Rotterdam. Mr. Brooking sailed on Tuesday, intending to proceed from Rotterdam to Hamburg to receive the Wilhelmina's cargo when it reached Hamburg, and there dispose of it to non-combatants.

The cargo consists of 2,000 tons of grain, flour and general food products, valued by the owners at $200,000, and is intended for the consumption of civilians in Germany.

GERMANS SINK BRITISH STEAMERS

Continued from page 1

Daily Chronicle" tells of the experience of the passengers of the Graphic, the big steamer plying between Belfast and Liverpool. One passenger said:

"We were chased by a German submarine. When we were about twenty-two miles west-northwest of Ebar Lightship, we came across some wreckage, and shortly afterward witnessed a ship being struck and saw her boilers blown up. The Graphic was next attacked, but we managed to evade her. Naturally the affair created no little panic on board the steamer. Life belts were served out to the passengers and the boats were got ready. The ship, however, arrived safely in the Mersey."

It is stated that the Ben Cruachen was carrying coal for the British fleet. She had delivered 4,000 tons and was proceeding to Liverpool with the remainder when the submarine came up.

The Ben Cruachen was of 1,978 tons register and belonged to the Morrison Shipping Company, of North Shields.

Fleetwood is a few miles north of Blackpool and is one of the principal fishing and shipping ports and watering places on the west coast.

The appearance of a German submarine on the west coast of England not far north of Liverpool has created a profound sensation in shipping circles following the sinking of steamers off the French and Belgian coasts by similar craft. These raids on commerce are regarded here as demonstrating that Germany is attempting to carry out the reported threat made by Admiral von Tirpitz of using submarines to prey on all shipping entering British ports.

The U-21, according to the latest naval lists, is one of the largest German submarines, but it was not thought their cruising radius was sufficient to enable them to reach a point so far from their base. She is understood to be of about 800 tons displacement, with a speed of 17 knots on the surface and 12 knots submerged.

Available shipping records contain no mention of the Linda Blanche. She probably is a small coasting steamer.

PARIS MYSTIFIED BY DESCLAUX CASE

Hardly Believes Caillaux's Ex-Protege Guilty of Stealing Meat.

FORMER PREMIER IN NO WAY IMPLICATED

Dressmakers Involved Had American Ladies and Crown Princess as Patrons.

[By cable to The Tribune.]

Paris, Jan. 30.—The judicial investigation of the mysterious affair of Army Paymaster Desclaux, ex-Premier Joseph Caillaux's former protege and chief of Cabinet, is being conducted by the military authorities with extraordinary silence and discretion. The public cannot believe it possible that Desclaux could have compromised his brilliant career by the vulgar embezzlement of legs of mutton, hams, smoked tongues, rice and macaroni to supply the table of his mistress, Mme. Bechoff, who was living on a footing of $40,000 a year.

So far Desclaux is only charged with embezzlement, but popular indignation is aroused by disclosures concerning the fashionable firm of dressmakers, Bechoff-David, for many years luxuriously installed at 20 Place Vendome, including among its customers many prominent American women, also the Crown Princess of Germany.

These revelations are regarded here as forming one among many instances of the thoroughness with which Germans, and particularly naturalized Frenchmen of German birth, always obeying orders of their German principals, have carried out the Teuton propaganda in France, working under the protection and aid of highly placed French functionaries. Every one connected with the firm was of German nationality or German birth, and this "essentially Parisian house," like that of scores of others throughout France, was under the control and orders of a certain Herr Astmann, general manager of the Victoria Insurance Company of Berlin. Several sleeping partners or commandataires, named Berg and Hirsch, and others, all Germans, are alleged to have been in relations with Desclaux while chief of Cabinet of Caillaux during the Agadir affair.

No evidence has yet been adduced in any way implicating the former Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance, or even his right hand man, Desclaux, in any irregular German financial combinations, but some of the newspapers hostile to Caillaux, "Le Figaro," for instance, seem to expect sensational developments at the trial of Desclaux.

It is worth noting that the premises of Bechoff-David were promptly transformed into an auxiliary military hospital at the outbreak of the war at a considerable expense, but the physicians and surgeons, including Dr. Gay, of the United States, not feeling satisfied at the manner in which scientific matters were conducted at this auxiliary hospital, No. 148, declined to continue their services. A dozen wounded French soldiers under treatment in the hospital were transferred to the Val de Grace Hospital in December and Auxiliary No. 148 was closed by the military authorities.

Mme. Bechoff, whose real name is Bischoff, who for some years entertained lavishly in a sumptuous apartment in the Avenue Henri Martin as a patroness of music, is an exceedingly attractive woman.

LOSSES IN ARGONNE ADMITTED BY PARIS

Continued from page 1

pulsed. More than two hundred German dead were counted in front of the trenches occupied by the British, among whom the casualties were small."

Wireless advices from Berlin bring a report that of seven English aeroplanes which have bombarded Ostend and Zeebrugge, three failed to return. It is stated that these three machines were surrounded by German aircraft and chased into the open sea.

The dispatch may indicate a new British air raid on the Belgian coast towns. The last British air raid reported in that direction occurred at Zeebrugge on January 22. Two British aviators took part in this attack, and it was stated that their bombs damaged a submarine and killed or wounded the crews of the guns mounted on the mole. The German report of this raid said that no damage was done.

German Losses Heavy Around Lombaertzyde and La Bassee

Paris, Jan. 30.—The German losses in the fighting in Belgium around Lombaertzyde and in Northern France about La Bassée are said in to-night's official report from the War Office to have been very heavy. Many dead were left on the battlefields. The fighting in the Argonne yesterday is reported to have been costly to both sides. The French retreated 200 metres to new trenches. The text of to-night's statement follows:

"It is confirmed that the enemy has left a great number of dead on the field of battle, to the north of Lombaertzyde, at the foot of the great dune and also before the British lines near La Bassée.

"There has been a bombardment of some intensity of Arras, Reurie and Roclincourt. On the plateau of Nouvron the Germans exploded a mine without attaining any results.

"In the Argonne a slight withdrawal of our troops is reported, and their organization on the new lines about 200 metres to the rear of those which they occupied has been actively disputed. The losses of the enemy have been very heavy; ours were serious."

The official communication given out earlier in the day says:

"Generally speaking, the day of January 29 passed quietly. In Belgium there were artillery engagements. In front of Cuinchy, near La Bassée, the British army drove back an attack delivered by three German battalions. The Germans in this case suffered heavy losses.

"To the north of Arras, near Neuville-St. Vaast, our heavy artillery brought a German battery under its fire and caused the caissons of the enemy to explode.

"In the sectors of Albert, Roye, Soissons, Craonne, Rheims and Perthes yesterday there were artillery engagements, at times rather severe. Our batteries acquitted themselves efficiently.

"In the Woevre district, near Flirey, the Germans exploded a mine, the object of which was to blow up our trenches. As a matter of fact, all they did was to destroy theirs.

"There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front."

Germans Annihilate French Regiment in Argonne Forest

Berlin (by wireless to London), Jan. 30.—German troops captured 745 French soldiers and twelve machine guns in the western part of the Argonne Forest yesterday, according to official announcement made by the German War Office to-day.

Of these men twelve were officers. The Germans captured also ten smaller guns. The enemy's losses were heavy, from 400 to 500 dead having been left on the field. The French 155th Infantry Regiment is believed to have been annihilated. The German losses are reported to have been comparatively slight. The text of the communication follows:

"The French losses in the fighting to the north of Nieuport, January 28, were heavy. More than 300 Moroccans and Algerians were found dead in the sand dunes. German artillery yesterday hampered the enemy in his efforts to make his way by sapping operations in the direction of the sand hill which is to the east of the lighthouse. To the south of La Basée Canal last night the Germans captured from the French at this point two more trenches which are connected with the positions occupied by us on January 25. In this operation we made sixty prisoners.

"In the western part of the Argonne Forest a German attack delivered yesterday resulted in a considerable advance. Twelve officers and 733 soldiers were taken prisoners. We also captured twelve machine guns and ten smaller guns. The losses of the enemy were heavy, from 400 to 500 dead having been left on the field of battle. The French infantry regiment No. 155 seems to have been annihilated. The German losses were comparatively small.

"French night attacks to the southeast of Verdun were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. To the northeast of Badonviller the French forces were driven from the village of Angomont as far back as the village of Dremenil, and Angomont was occupied by our troops."

GERMAN WARSHIP GETS GUNS AT SEA

Auxiliary Cruiser Cap Trafalgar Armed by the Eber.

Berlin, Jan. 30.—Guns from the German gunboat Eber, now interned at Bahia, Brazil, were used to arm the German auxiliary cruiser Cap Trafalgar, and the little gunboat of only 1,000 tons displacement had previously an adventurous few weeks of commerce destroying in the South Atlantic, where she played a role worthy of mention with the exploits of the German cruisers Emden and Karlsruhe.

These details come from interesting stories of the cruise written by members of the interned crew reaching here and from reports printed in a German newspaper published in Brazil.

The Eber at the outbreak of the war was anchored in Luedritz Bay, German Southwest Africa. She immediately put to sea with a squadron of freight steamers loaded with coal and supplies. These vessels soon could be sent elsewhere because the Eber was able to obtain all her requisites from her first three British prizes.

After a period of four weeks a rendezvous was arranged by wireless telegraphy with the German steamship Cap Trafalgar, and all the guns and ammunition of the warship were transferred to the steamship. Then the defenseless Eber, with only thirty of her original crew of 130 officers and men aboard, ran for Bahia, narrowly escaping capture by several British warships.

The German auxiliary cruiser Cap Trafalgar was sunk off Rio de Janeiro in September last in an engagement with the British auxiliary cruiser Carmania.

POPE STILL PRAYS FOR SPEEDY PEACE

Bordeaux, Jan. 30 (via Paris).—In reply to a letter from Cardinal Paul Pierre Andrieu, Archbishop of Bordeaux, Pope Benedict has written the following:

"When we see each day the most flourishing provinces covered with blood and bereavement, we cannot help being filled with anguish and looking forward to the future with the deepest anxiety.

"Consequently, nothing seems to us more desirable than the cessation of the long, cruel war. To the rapid attainment of that end we have directed, as you know, all our plans and efforts.

"May God turn toward thoughts of peace the hearts of those who hold in their hands the destinies of the peoples."

TURKISH POLICE AROUSED

War on White Slavery Due to American Ambassador.

Constantinople, Jan. 30.—Through the co-operation of Henry Morgenthau, the American Ambassador, Bedri Bey, the chief of police, has begun a vigorous attack on white slavery in Constantinople and its suburbs. One hundred and thirty persons interested in the traffic have been arrested and the chief headquarters of the illicit trade has been raided and closed.

The white slave traffic has hitherto flourished in the Turkish capital through the inability of the consuls and the local authorities to co-operate in checking it.

FIGHTING ON SKIS NOW IN THE VOSGES

Germans Try in Vain to Train Hessians to Cope with French.

ALSACE CENTRAL FIELD OF BATTLE

Contest Advancing in Kaiser's Territory—Neutrals Ordered to Get Out.

By C. INMAN BARNARD.
Paris correspondent of The Tribune.

Delle, Jan. 30.—The military operations in Upper Alsace are the only ones in the war in which the opposing commanders have any tactical and strategical freedom of movement, as the Germans have not dug themselves in as on the rest of the fighting line. For two weeks a battle has been raging fiercely, the Germans fighting with the greater desperation now that the war is being waged on German soil.

Despite German official reports to the contrary, the success of the French operations has been considerable. Proof of this was given by the order issued on Wednesday by the military authorities in Alsace ordering all citizens of neutral states to leave the territory between February 1 and 10. They were forbidden previously to leave Upper Alsace for fear they might take with them information useful to the enemy.

Their expulsion is proof that the Germans fear a general French advance in Alsace, and as they could not force the citizens of neutral states to run war risks they have ordered them to leave.

In order, however, that they may not carry away information on leaving Alsace they will be interned for fourteen days on the right bank of the Rhine before leaving Germany, so that anything they know will have ceased to have any military value. At the same time the frontier between Switzerland and Alsace was completely closed against neutrals.

Hampered by Snowfall.

Another ominous sign was the order issued the same day for the wives of all officers of the garrison of Strasburg to leave that city within forty-eight hours. Military operations are greatly hampered by the heavy fall of snow, which is lying a metre deep in the mountains. This, however, is a greater disadvantage to the Germans than the French, as the latter have brought up their famous Chasseurs Alpins to the Vosges. As they all are expert ski runners and at home in the mountains, they can make rings around the German infantry.

The Germans are hastily trying to train Hessian regiments on skis, but the mountain soldier cannot be made at short notice. Better results perhaps may be obtained from the volunteer ski corps now being enrolled at Munich. But if the members are expert ski runners, on the other hand, they are youths from eighteen to nineteen years old entirely without military training.

The snow has caused a lull in the German attack on the line of villages near the Swiss frontier having Pfetterhausen as its centre but in the north the inclemency of the weather has done little to diminish the fierceness of the fighting.

The central point of the struggle is the eminence known as Hartmannsweiler Kopf, which a few days ago fell into the hands of the French. It is the centre of a chain of hills running from Thann to Guebweiler. This eight-mile front the Germans for days have been attacking with desperate fierceness. Time after time they have hurled their best troops up the snowclad slopes to attack with the bayonet, but only to meet with an equally desperate resistance. Machine guns and rifles of the French infantry and mounted batteries of the Chasseurs Alpins mowed them down by companies, while with the bayonet the French were more than a match for the Germans.

Fighting for Heights.

The object of the German attack is to obtain possession of the heights beyond Hartmannsweiler Kopf, known as the Molkenrain. These heights, of 1,125 metres altitude, lie to the west of Hartmannsweiler Kopf. Once in possession the Germans would practically command the valleys running up to Thann and could bring strong pressure to bear in the direction of Steinbach. They were captured at heavy cost by the French a fortnight ago, but if the Germans hope to have an attack on the heights to the north of Thann crowned with success they must attack all along the line so as to divert the fire of the French batteries which line the crests of the Vosges.

This action seems to have begun, as French official communiques as far back as last Saturday said that the heights facing Cernay, particularly the famous 425-metre hill, had been continually attacked by the Germans. The German plan is clear. If they should capture Molkenrain, and by that threaten the lower valley of St. Amarin, they will certainly attempt a forward movement to the south to cut the French communications with Belfort by the road via Rodern and Roppe. This operation will in all probability be accompanied by a movement against Dammerkirch. This probably has already begun, as three days ago I could from the hills above Bale distinctly hear the sounds of heavy firing from that direction.

It is, however, reported that this attack has failed so far. Success has been all on the side of the French, who are pushing steadily forward into German territory. The destruction wrought by the struggle is terrible. At first the French tried to spare the towns and villages, as, of course, they intend to keep Alsace-Lorraine if victorious, but the obstinacy of the German resistance forced them to shell them. The Germans, on the other hand, are determined that all that the French shall capture will be a heap of smoking ruins.

The only salvation would be that the French should be able to bring up such a superior number of troops that they could execute a huge turning movement, such as would compel the Germans to retreat. If Alsace must be conquered foot by foot, as at present, it will become a second Belgium.

SKETCHES OF KING ALBERT TO BE SOLD

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Jan. 30.—L. S. Stevens, an American artist, who for the last three years had a studio in Brussels and is now giving his services to the Belgian Relief Commission, has reached London from Brussels on his way to the headquarters of King Albert to make sketches of the Belgian monarch. These sketches are to be photographed and reproduced, and it is hoped to sell many to raise funds for Belgian relief. The King will be asked to autograph the sketches.

Mr. Stevens is a native of Detroit, and during the early days of the German occupation of Belgium was arrested as a British spy, and was being led out to be executed when sentence was set aside, as his passport was found to be genuine.

When asked to-day if it was true that the Germans had stolen works of art, Mr. Stevens said: "So far as I know, they haven't. Many of the finest pictures in Belgium have been brought to Brussels, where they now are. Of course, there may have been some works of art stolen, but not to my knowledge."

FOOD PRICES SOAR IN GREAT BRITAIN

Federation of Trades Unions Becomes Anxious and Suggests Remedies.

London, Jan. 30.—A committee of the Federation of Trades Unions, in a manifesto given out to-day concerning the high prices of food, charges the government with failure to anticipate and organize against certain consequences of the war, and urges quick and drastic remedial action to avert a situation "which is becoming desperate."

The committee suggests a better distribution of incoming ships at ports other than London and Liverpool. Continuing it said:

"Now that trouble has developed the government must move not tentatively, as if the next century would do, but immediately. The procedure of prize courts must be expedited and all captured ships must be valued, manned and utilized by the state for the purpose of transporting supplies purchased directly from the producer, and such supplies must be placed on the market at prices to cover only the costs and distributive charges."

The federation in a document issued to-day recommends chiefly that the British government take over all wheat supplies, as has been done by Germany.

"The British farmer," the document reads, "would suffer no real hardship or loss if the government commandeered the whole home grown and unmarketed wheat at 42 shillings ($10.50) a quarter, and immediate action on these lines would tend to moderate prices."

UNION OF SO. AFRICA WILL HOLD GRAIN

Pretoria, South Africa, Jan. 30.—The government has announced that the export of maize and oats is prohibited owing to the needs of the defence force of the South African Union.

J. M. Gidding & Co.

564-566 AND 568 Fifth Avenue. 46TH AND 47TH STS.

February—ushers in Final Clearance of Winter Apparel

—Closing Prices on Furs—

Sets—Of Black Fox, White Fox, Pointed Fox, Red Fox, Dyed Blue Fox, Skunk, Mole, Leopard-and-Seal—originally priced at $150 to $195—to close at $75

$65 Barrel Shaped Skunk Muffs at $35

$175 Hudson Seal Coat—$95
New flare models, trimmed or untrimmed.

$150 Caracul Coats—$75
In straight and flare effects.

$475 Chinchilla-Squirrel Coat—$195
Short novelty style.

$325 Hudson Seal Coat—$195
Novelty cape coat.

$500 Baby Caracul Coat—$275
Reproduction of Cherult Model.

$750 Baby Caracul Coat—$300
Trimmed with dyed blue fox.

$900 Chinchilla-Squirrel Coat—$350
Handsome Limousine Model, in drape effect.

$1200 Broadtail Coat—$500
Long drape effect.

Beautiful Gowns—for Thes Dansant, Calling and informal evening wear—originally selling at $95 to $145—Will be closed out at $48

Street and Afternoon Dresses—of silk and cloth—originally selling at $50 to $95—$28

Very Handsome Evening Gowns—Of rich silks, velvets and metallic brocades, originally $150, $195, $225 to $350—to be closed out at ..... $75, $95, $125 & $145
(Handsome Black Gowns included.)

Final Clearance Prices on Luxurious Afternoon and Evening Wraps—of rich velvets and brocades, handsomely fur-trimmed and originally selling at $95, $125, $175, $225 to $250—to close at $55, $85, $125

Beautiful Velvet Hats—large and medium effects, in flower, wing, and ostrich-trimmed styles.
Usual prices $25 to $35—to close $10

Final Close-Out of Handsome Suits.
High-character Gidding styles—originally selling at $55, $65, $95, $125, $175 to $195—to be closed out at ..... $25 and $45

Smart Motor and Utility Coats—of very high-grade materials—originally selling at $65 to $145, to close at $35 and $55

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Preliminary Displays beginning February First