

RUSSIANS TAKE TURK DIVISION

Pursue and Capture Fleeing Troops Northwest of Erzerum.

CZAR'S FORCES NOW MENACE TREBIZOND

Turkish Reinforcements Five Days Behind When Erzerum Fortress Fell.

London, Feb. 19.—The Russians have captured the rest of the 24th Turkish Division northwest of Erzerum, says an official statement issued in Petrograd today.

One Russian corps in the assault on Erzerum captured 240 cannon, it is announced.

Pursued by the Turks who fled from Erzerum with the fall of the fortress a being continued. The possibility of a stand by the Ottoman forces a short distance west of the city is taken account of in Petrograd, but no reports of such resistance by the defeated army have been received.

The Russians, meanwhile are active along the Black Sea coast, and have recently reported a landing on the Armenian littoral fifteen miles east of Trebizond, which city is considered one of the most important of Russian land bases by a force of about 100 miles west of the point on the Black Sea littoral where Russian and Turkish territory meet.

The latest Petrograd official statement reported the Turks fleeing in disorder. Details from the Russian side indicate there were no large captives taken when the fortress fell.

The bulk of the Turkish troops apparently were well on the retreat westward at the time the inner forts were taken, and the rear guard taking part in the last day's fighting. Reinforcements the Turks were sending to Erzerum are reported to have been five or six days' march distant when the city was surrendered.

Meanwhile, the Russians are active along the Black Sea coast to the north. A Sebastopol dispatch reporting the bombardment of Vitepsk, fifteen miles west of Trebizond.

Turks Evacuated Erzerum Before Assault

Petrograd (via London), Feb. 19.—The first detailed report of the capture of Erzerum is now to hand. The capture of the city was the result of a wide area made all resistance on the part of the Turks. Apparently the Turks realized that the fall of Erzerum was inevitable and withdrew most of their forces before the final onslaught, leaving the garrisons of the widely separated forts to their fate.

The campaign began to reach its climax in the last days of January. The Russian General K... from the north and the Russian army over the city of Erzerum. A luncheon followed the ceremony, at which speeches on the cordial relations between Russia, Serbia and Montenegro were made by the Russian Ambassador, George Bakmeteff; Captain A. V. Seferovich, Consul for Montenegro, and Ciccio Mijatovich, former Serbian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

ITALY TO OPEN WAR ON GERMANY SOON

Continued from page 1

Great Britain has determined that she can complete now the efficiency of her fleet. The grand duke in capturing Erzerum, is looking forward to unlimited achievements by the Grand Duke and does not want these successes to bear weight on her borders alone.

France, with her troops forming a firmer front than ever on the western front, wants nothing to complete her confidence of victory except the assurance that the steel wall—a thin campaign invented by French genius—is as strong on all other fronts.

So, with these prospects all brighter than ever before, the anomalous relations between Italy and Germany have been the only hindrance to a full united effort against the foe. Premier Briand when sent as envoy by the War Council had a plausible argument to use at the Italian Foreign Office. He said in substance:

"Stop all trading with the enemy and add the other 3,000,000 men you have mobilized but are not throwing into the actual front and we shall give you our own."

The acceptance of this proposition and the decision to take arms against Germany are a signal triumph for Premier Salandra of Italy, who has been working to that end ever since the declaration of war on Austria last May.

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favorable point, which is in the hills on the western edge of the Erzerum Valley, eleven miles distant, but it is not regarded as probable that they have been able to erect any extensive fortifications there.

No news has been received of the fate of Ekved Pevzi Pacha, commander of the 9th Corps, who was in charge of the defense of Erzerum. It is reported that reinforcements from Thrace were on the way to Erzerum, but that they were five or six days distant when the city was surrendered. Artillery had been shipped by sea to Trebizond.

A telegram from Sebastopol reports the bombardment of Vitepsk, on the Black Sea, fifteen miles east of Trebizond. The Turks are evacuating.

The reference in the foregoing to Ekved Pevzi Pacha as the commander in charge of Erzerum before its surrender apparently disposes of unofficial reports of several weeks ago that the Turkish army there was in charge of the German field marshal von der Goltz or his compatriot, Field Marshal Liman von Sanders.

British Trench Line on the Tigris Lost

Constantinople (via London), Feb. 19.—An attempt by British forces in Mesopotamia to cross the Tigris below Kut-el-Amara was repulsed after a battle of three hours, the War Office announced today. The British in their retreat were pursued to their second-line entrenchments.

Announcement also is made that the Russian forces in Persia have been defeated in an encounter near Hamadan, sustaining large losses. The statement follows:

"Near Kut-el-Amara there has been artillery and infantry fighting. In the Felahie sector hostile forces attempted to reach the right bank of the Tigris. After a battle of three hours they were compelled to retire, being pursued into the second line of their entrenchments. The enemy withdrew, abandoning more than thirty dead."

Russians at Embassy Chant in Victory; Make Addresses

Washington, Feb. 19.—A "Te Deum" was chanted at the Russian Embassy at noon today in celebration of the victory of the Russian army over the Turks at Erzerum. A luncheon followed the ceremony, at which speeches on the cordial relations between Russia, Serbia and Montenegro were made by the Russian Ambassador, George Bakmeteff; Captain A. V. Seferovich, Consul for Montenegro, and Ciccio Mijatovich, former Serbian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Appreciation of what Russia had done for the smaller countries was expressed by their representatives. M. Mijatovich added that he hoped Russia would move in the future, especially in aiding his countrymen to drive out the invaders.

GREEK KING FELICITATED

Depaties Happy That Country Has Been Kept Out of War.

Athens, Feb. 19 (via Paris).—The officials of the Greek Chamber in an audience with King Constantine this morning felicitated the King on the fact that, acting under the powers conferred on him by the constitution, he had saved the country at a most critical juncture from the war horrors which had overtaken other small states. They expressed the hope that he would continue to work for the preservation of the resources of the nation, and thus fulfil the wishes of all those who in the Greek Parliament represent.

The King returned his thanks for the laudatory expressions addressed to him.

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Strange Sea Fighting Yet to Surprise America

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word. We regard German promises as no more binding than a rotten string.

In diplomacy, said Talleyrand, the Prussian is un faux bonhomme. So Frederick the Great, the founder of the whole system, wrote "Anti-Machiavel" and then seized Silesia. So Bismarck doctored the Ems dispatch to make France appear the aggressor. So the German Emperor paid hospital visits to King Albert and Queen Elizabeth and caressed their children even when the murder of Belgian liberty, and in case of resistance, the rape of the country, had already been determined.

Just in the same way the limited apology as to the Lusitania is made the plausible pretext for carrying on business as usual in the shape of sea murder. The excuse is to be changed, not the practice. German submarines will ply their methods with impunity.

One object will be to sink shipping and cargoes. Crews and passengers might be cast adrift in open boats. A whole ship, with its living freight, might be sent to the bottom on the plea that there was a suspicious delay in clearance. The submarine cannot tarry. What impartial witness is to hold a stopwatch on the high seas to certify the time really allowed for clearance? Any German submarine commander can sink any vessel for any one of a hundred ingenious reasons. There will be hard swearing that the victim looked as though she were unduly armed or attempting to escape.

MANY MISTAKES WILL BE MADE.

There will be many well laid mistakes at first for which explanations can always be found afterward. Had matters gone through as Berlin hoped "Wilson's charter" would have been pleaded as justification for all. Now it is pretty certain that the Allies' merchant ships will soon have to depend more than ever on their speed and their guns for defence.

As you are already aware, German shipyards have recently been anything but idle. The submarine is reaching another stage of growth. Fairly sure information through neutral countries leads us to expect the appearance next month of a novel, powerful type of vessel in the form of submersible monitors. The hulls will differ from the fish-shaped type hitherto met. They will be big, round, massive vessels, more or less on the original model of the monitors in the American Civil War, but with a long, heavily armored battery built above, mounting formidable guns.

These monster machines shoot with the hulls awash, only the battery being exposed. Even this in an emergency will become watertight and disappear. We also hear of submarines with heavy beams for ramming such nets and booms as now close the entrances to harbors.

We have also to reckon with the possibility that Germany may have been working night and day building new battle cruisers with 17-inch guns. Upon this there is, of course, no information, but it is an obvious item on a programme of contingencies.

As to the submersible monitors, the news from the Baltic leaves little doubt in our minds, and a submersible battleship or cruiser of moderate dimensions may be expected to appear in due time. All developments, of course, are as familiar in theory to American naval thought as to our own. Germany's navy still being intact, in so far as battle strength is concerned, she has the second largest fleet in the world. The Germans have the second largest facilities for construction, making and mounting guns.

Drama Has Not Reached Climax. They must have been doing something, and we assume they are doing their utmost. It would be no surprise to this side if the German fleet came out this year. Before that, however, we expect to see large developments in the mechanism to commit sea piracy and sea murder. The British Admiral believes himself well prepared, but let no one assume that the sea drama has by any means reached a denouement or climax or that the Allies are wielding a brutal naval supremacy merely as a matter of course.

In view of this prospect, where the fundamental interest of the United States lies any American can judge. For tolerable maritime conditions throughout the world the British fleet is the sole guarantee. Otherwise the Lusitania case would be a fleabite compared to the frightfulness that would confront America nearer home. It may well be said that light guns on merchant vessels used against armored batteries such as those of the submersible monitors I described would be as useless as peashooters against tortoises. Just so to a certain extent the enemy reckons that under the new conditions carrying light guns, while a vain defence, would furnish a capital excuse for attack. The answer is that, first, the ship in a case run the same risk from scoping submersible monitors, and second, risks from the more vulnerable but numerous German submarines, with which we already are familiar, would be immediately increased if the general principle of disarming merchantmen would be accepted.

For Germany it would mean: "Heads I win, tails you lose." For the Allies and other nations, more and bigger guns and not fewer and smaller, may have to be the final solution.

Situation Good for Allies. During the next few months the beginning of incalculable developments must first be seen in action. At present the honest skipper looks to guns as an honest traveller in the days of footpads and highwaymen looked to horse pistols.

On land matters are better for the Allies in every direction. On the western front they will not be provoked into action before their own time. Friends' visit to Rome insured more unity in direction from the recurrent high councils and standing committees in Paris.

The Russian main front seems very powerful. The grand duke in capturing Erzerum, sattered down the chief eastern part of the Turkish Empire. In Mesopotamia, Townshend seems safe at last. We have every reason to think Egypt is impregnable, and that much of the large forces assembled there may be available for other employment.

In Salonica we are in a position which gives us great influence, and we may open a new enterprise in the Balkans. But do not forget that the sea in our main affair and that we have neither illusion nor guile.

GERMANS PLAN NEW WEST DRIVE

Big Troop Movement Reported in Central and South Belgium.

London, Feb. 19.—Important troop movements behind the German lines are reported from the Franco-Belgian front. Advice received from Amsterdam are to the effect that these movements have been noted particularly in Southern and Central Belgium, long trains carrying artillery and infantry being dispatched along the railroads westward and southerly, and some small detachments being transported by way of Louvain, Wavren and Gembloux to the southeast.

In the sector north and northeast of Arras, says a day's statement issued in Berlin, "there have been mingling operations and hand grenade attacks. The crater caused by the explosion of one of our mines was occupied by us."

The front between the Aisne and the Meuse has alternately been under strong artillery and mine fire.

"We destroyed a portion of the French position on Combres heights by the explosion of a large mine."

"Northeast of Jarzitzon, near the French frontier, southwest of Altkirch, German detachments penetrated an enemy position, destroyed the defensive work and the enemy cuttings and returned with a few prisoners and two mine throwers."

An English attack, preceded by strong artillery preparation, southeast of Ypres, was rendered fruitless by us."

The following official communication was issued by the French War Office to-night:

"In Artois, to the northwest of Hill 140, we exploded a mine under a German salient, which was shattered."

"Between the Oise and the Aisne our artillery took under its fire a column of hostile infantry to the north of Vic-sur-Aisne."

"In Lorraine we bombarded the enemy establishments at Domevre. A fire was observed."

"In Upper Alsace our artillery has been active against the German trenches to the east of Seppois and Laretzton."

"The Russian army of the Caucasus, which captured Erzerum after a five days' attack, found in that place considerable spoils. Two hundred pieces of fortress and field artillery, great quantities of munitions and rifles remained in the hands of our allies, who are not yet able to estimate the amount of material and number of prisoners taken."

The British official statement on the campaign in the west, issued to-night, says: "Early Friday morning the Germans made a raid into our trenches near Gommescourt, capturing a few prisoners. Our casualties in killed and wounded were seven."

Washington, Feb. 19.—Information regarding the removal of Germans from American liner China has been received by the State Department. It is probable a protest will be made to Great Britain similar to that made to France when the cruiser Descartes removed Germans and Austrians from American ships in the Caribbean Sea.

BRITISH HOLD UP AMERICAN SHIP

Cruiser Takes 38 Germans Off the China on Way to San Francisco.

Shanghai, Feb. 19.—The American steamship China, which left Shanghai yesterday morning for San Francisco, was held up on the high seas by a British auxiliary cruiser and thirty-eight Germans were taken off. The China is owned by the China Mail Steamship Company. It is thought she may have been held up by the Laeuretic, which recently stopped the Teigo Maru while on a voyage to Manila and removed nine Indians.

San Francisco, Feb. 19.—The China dies the house flag of the newly organized China Mail Steamship Company and carries the first Chinese crew to qualify for service under the provisions of the seamen's act. She formerly was owned by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and is due to finish her second voyage under her new ownership, March 7.

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AMERICAN VESSELS IN THE PACIFIC

held up previously during the war by British warships. In August, 1914, the China, then owned by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the Manchuria, of the same company, were halted by British warships off Hong Kong and forced to surrender forty German reservists. The Germans had taken passage from Hong Kong to San Francisco, and it was said they had received assurances from Washington that they would not be molested while on an American vessel.

Officers of the China said Great Britain, in their opinion, had acted within her rights. The Manchuria was boarded within the three-mile limit. Fritz Kilst, wireless operator of the Manchuria, was arrested by the British at Hong Kong in September, 1914, on the charge of having sent surreptitious messages to German vessels. He claimed American citizenship, but the British authorities said he was a German reservist.

A similar situation arose last December, when a French cruiser held up four American steamships on their way from Porto Rico to New York and removed Germans and Austrians. The United States protested and the French government released the men.

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A cavalier cape collar developed in flame-color charmeuse would lend enough picturesque vividness to a sombre frock of serge.

To a cape collar of taffeta that flares from a shirred neck out tiny old-fashioned nosegays add the final touch of Old World charm.

And even a taffeta stock of the tailleur type with high points and severe little bows partakes of this new old-fashionedness by means of moire ribbon streamers.

Of sophisticated simplicity—and exquisite daintiness—there's a hand-embroidered hand-made cape collar of Georgette crepe.

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