

**BULGARS GAIN HOLD ON LOWER DANUBE**  
In New Development They Give Mackensen Firmer Hold on River.

**MAY TURN CZAR'S FLANK**  
German Attacks on Riga Front Are Repulsed, Russia Says.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—By advancing northward in Dobruja across the southern estuary of the Danube the Bulgarians have started a new development in the Rumanian campaign. Crossing near Tulcha, forty miles east of Braila, the invaders gained one of the large islands which stud the course of the river near its mouth and the Teutonic advance is thus carried nearer the Bessarabian boundary.

The move is suspected to be a prelude to an effort to turn the Russian left flank. In any event it gives Von Mackensen a firmer hold on the Danube near its mouth, the only stretch where he had not already almost complete control of the river.

Further north, on the Russian front, German attacks have been renewed in the region of Riga, but these, according to the Russian official statement, met with repulse, in which the assaulting forces suffered heavy losses.

The German statement is as follows: "Front of Arziskus. Joseph-Arztom places in the wooded Carpathians and along the frontier mountains of Moldavia there were livelier artillery duels, the weather being frosty and bright.

In engagements between advance German and Austro-Hungarian troops the latter met with repulse in the Sianic and Putna valleys 100 prisoners, and south of the Kasino Valley drove back stronger hostile forces which were livelier artillery duels.

Army group of Field Marshal von Mackensen—On the lower Putna outposts engagements resulted favorably to us.

In Dobruja, Bulgarian troops crossed the southern arm of the mouth of the Danube near Tulcha and maintained a firm hold on the north bank against a Russian attack.

Front of Prince Leopold.—Along the northern and northwest of Lutsk the artillery duels were livelier. Increased West of Dvinsk our troops drove off a Russian raiding detachment which at dawn had entered our line.

The Austro-Hungarian report says: In Volhynia detachments of Russian Infantry Regiment No. 8 in a surprise attack entered Russian trenches and brought back one captured officer, 109 men, one machine gun and one mortar. Well directed artillery fire inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

The Russian statement follows: In the Riga region north of Lake Kuzgeron, German troops who wore white overalls, attacked our field posts, were beaten back. After strong artillery preparation our artillery successfully bombed the enemy's works in the forest near the village of Nitchchen and in the region of the south of Stari Messor with about two companies. This offensive was arrested by our artillery fire.

On the River Suda, in the region of Svindini and Stari Messor, our scouts negotiated the enemy's first line entanglements of barbed wire and planted the second line of entanglements. The enemy discovered this movement and opened a strong rifle and artillery fire on our scouts. Under cover of the fire the enemy assumed the offensive. A heavy detachment succeeded in entering one of our trenches. It was immediately driven out.

The Carso there were desultory artillery duels and activity by our patrollers.

**AUSTRIANS IN A SHARP ATTACK**  
Pierce Italian Trenches Near Gorizia, but Are Driven Out.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—A sharp attack by Austrians on the Italian front yesterday resulted in the penetration of one of the Italian trenches, the Italian War Office announced today, but was followed immediately by the driving out of the hostile contingents. The official statement says:

"There was limited enemy artillery activity on the Trentino front. Our batteries dispersed the enemy's batteries in the Pasubio area and on the slopes of Monte Selogio, in the Antico Valley.

"Southeast of Gorizia, after a brief but very intense artillery duel, our heavy artillery detachment succeeded in entering one of our trenches. It was immediately driven out.

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**NEW ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S**  
Final Plans Filed for the \$800,000 Building.

Construction of the new St. Bartholomew's Church, on Park avenue between Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth streets, will be started soon. This was indicated yesterday through the filing of final plans and specifications for the proposed edifice, which it is claimed will be one of the finest examples of ecclesiastical architecture ever planned for this city.

The cost of the church is estimated at \$800,000. With the other buildings which are to make up the new St. Bartholomew group the cost will be well over a million dollars. The congregation has donated \$1,200,000 toward the new church and the church buildings which have been planned for \$1,500,000 site bought three years ago.

The church is to be of the Gothic type, of stone irregular in shape, reaching from street to street, a distance of 200 feet, and extending 150 feet from each street toward Lexington avenue. Though the building is described in the plans as being one story over a basement, the plan will have a height equivalent to several stories.

The feature of the church will be a massive dome which will rise high into the massive stone pile, which Sirrington G. Goodhue has designed. The base of the dome will be sixteen allegorical life size figures. The front of the church will be ornamented with a large rose window.

It is expected that construction work will be started on the church before the end of February, since it is the plan to have the church ready for use by the fall of 1918.

The \$1,500,000 site which the congregation secured three years ago for the new church and church buildings, not only fronts 200 feet on Park avenue, the entire length of the block between Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth streets, but extends 225 feet along Lexington avenue, a fact on Fifty-first street. In 1859, when the brewing company bought it for its plant, \$75,000 was paid for the property.

Negotiations for the purchase of the site for the sale of the present St. Bartholomew's property at Madison avenue and Twenty-first street.

**MOVIE MEN AGREE TO STATE TAX PLAN**  
Will Withdraw Opposition if Given Right to Keep Theatres Open Sundays.

ALBANY, Jan. 23.—Moving picture men in convention here, agreed today to withdraw opposition to paying a reasonable State tax if the Legislature grants the movies the right to keep open Sundays.

Samuel H. Trigger, president of the New York City Motion Picture League, said to-night that the movies receive 30 per cent of their revenue from theatres now permitted to conduct appropriate picture shows on Sundays. Reports that indecent pictures have been displayed in localities where the local authorities permit Sunday amusements, were denounced as malicious and untrue by Mr. Trigger.

The associated movie industries of the country would unite, he said, in keeping the State picture show to a standard where the dignity of the day would not be infringed upon in any way. The movie men will call upon members of the Legislature to support a bill which would levy a State tax and tighten the Sunday closing law, and they say they will conduct a legitimate campaign against the legislators responsible in every section of the State. They believe they will support appropriate Sunday movies.

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**BRITISH REPULSED ON TIGRIS**  
Suffered Heavy Losses East of Kut-el-Amara, Say Turks.

BELIN, by wireless, Jan. 23.—Heavy losses were suffered by the British in an attack on an evacuated Turkish position east of Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris, during the morning of January 20, Turkish Army Headquarters announced. The text of the statement reads:

"East of Kut-el-Amara the hostile fleet and heavy artillery shelled during the entire night of the 19th the position previously evacuated by us. The following morning a hostile infantry brigade attacked this position and was fired at by us from the flanks, suffering heavy losses."

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**69 DIED IN BRITISH BATTLE**  
Severely Hurt, 721 Slightly Injured, 328 Official Report.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The casualties to date in last Friday night's explosion were announced officially today. It is stated that 69 were killed, 721 severely injured, 328 slightly injured. This, it is stated, is believed to comprise the complete list.

The official announcement says: "At the time of the explosion of the munitions working in the explosives factory was: Men, 39; women, 13. Believed safe of these: Men, 18; women, 2.

"Total known casualties at 10 o'clock this morning were: Killed—Men, 44; women, 11; children, 14. Total, 69. Severely injured—Men, 19; women, 24; children, 19. Total, 52. Slightly injured—Men, 155; women, 102; children, 71. Total, 328.

**BRITISH SHIP OFFER REJECTED**  
U. S. Court Opposes \$175,000 Settlement With Maracaibo Owners.

A settlement offer made by the prize courts of Great Britain to the New York Transatlantic Steamship Company, owner of the Maracaibo, a merchantman seized March 9, 1915, as a carrier of contraband, while flying the American flag, and later sold, was rejected yesterday by the United States court in New York, unfavorable to the interests of the creditors of the concern which is in bankruptcy. The creditors' claims against the shipping company aggregate \$100,000.

The company has claims outstanding against several packing concerns, who it is represented to it that, the goods shipped by them to the barge were destined to Danish and Norwegian ports and were not contraband of war.

"These claims," Judge Mayer says, "are not payable until the barge is sold, and the company is not authorized to pay all creditors 100 cents on the dollar, whereas the offer of the prize court calls for a complete settlement in return for an award of \$175,000 from the British Government and \$70,000 from the packers."

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**EYEWITNESS TELLS OF BELGIAN EXILES**  
Mitchell Elected Sheriff of Queens Wins in Special Contest Over Republican by 18,146 Votes to 6,125.

Samuel J. Mitchell, Under Sheriff of Queens county, was chosen Sheriff in yesterday's special election by a vote of more than three to one over Theodore P. Wilsnack. The election was to fill the vacancy caused by the death last October of Sheriff Paul Stier, who was killed by Frank Taff, a crazed inventor.

The special election cost \$22,700, and as there were only 25,258 votes cast, the cost per vote was \$1.30. The contest stood: Mitchell, Democrat, 18,146; Wilsnack, Republican, 6,125; John A. Wall, Socialist, 987. Queens county has 139 sections of electors, and Mitchell carried all but nine, and of these he tied with his Republican opponent.

Filling the position of Sheriff Stier has caused much litigation already and there is some talk of a new election. The Republicans made a successful effort to keep Mitchell's name off the ballots in November, but only after carrying the Supreme Court and the Appellate Division to the Court of Appeals. The Democrats, having elected their man, now maintain that it is not for an unexpired term, but that Mitchell will continue as acting Sheriff until next January and then will succeed Mr. Stier for the full term. Mitchell said yesterday that he would resign the oath of office and leave it to the courts when his term should begin.

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"The anxiety of their families cannot be described. Everything was done by the women. They try to comfort the deportees in their homes. I have seen them work all night to prepare clothes and spent their last reserve money to buy linen, shoes and a few provisions."

"During the long procession of men, which lasted from 7 o'clock in the morning till late in the afternoon, they gathered in front of the buildings. The sentence which would take from them husbands or sons. They cried and moaned their protests in vain. In order to see their families they were taken where the examinations took place the deportees were led to the station."

"Uhlans especially are being called back from their homes. They are being sent to the front. The examinations cannot be carried out. The latter lack decision. Some have been demoralized by their absence from home and have grown soft-hearted and untrusting of their people, among whom they have lived. They seem to understand that whatever happens, their Germany—the Germany of their fathers—is lost. They are some of them encouraging deportees to resistance and advising them not to sign engagements to work for Germany."

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**MILITIA CRITICISED BY DR. DARLINGTON**  
Mobilization Camps on the Border Given Fairly Clean Bill of Health.

The report of Dr. Thomas Darlington on health conditions at the border, which was made public yesterday by the National Civic Federation, gives the mobilization camps on the border a fairly clean bill of health. Despite many defects in the sanitary arrangements, in guarding food from disease carriers, he found that the sick rate was relatively low when compared with other troop concentrations in this country.

"The care given by the regular army to its troops was better than the care given by the National Guard officers to State troops," says Dr. Darlington, "which in fact ought to be the case. Nevertheless the sickness rate was higher among the regulars. The rate averaged about 2.5 a hundred for the National Guard and about 4 a hundred for the regulars, never exceeding the sick rate of troops at a home station, and the greater part of the time being better than the home rate."

"I saw very little spoiled and unwholesome food, though I carefully examined the food everywhere and also many kitchens. The only really bad food was some corned beef, into a few cans of which milk had been driven in careless packing. None of the spoiled food was eaten. Otherwise the meats I saw were universally of a wholesome character, and the same is true of the quality of the other food. The diet was not always well balanced nor was there sufficient variety. Much might be accomplished in this line. The cooks I saw were not all clean."

"The greatest danger of all affecting the food was that from flies. I saw flies in such numbers that it is almost disappeared from view. Standing at the end of a kitchen and counting the flies in a space twelve by twelve inches, I counted 163. This was not unusual. Where screened kitchens and screened messes were built this was largely obviated. It took twenty-four to eight weeks to obtain buildings of this character. In the meantime the lives of all