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TURKS' FLIGHT FROM KUT NOW SERIOUS ROUT

British Push Relentless Pursuit of Foes—Capture 4300 Prisoners

GERMANS HALT RETREAT

LONDON, March 2. The Turkish retreat from Kut has become a great rout, according to official dispatches from the Mesopotamian front today. Pursuit is being continued by the victorious British forces out of Kut. The statement said the Turkish confusion had passed through Aziziyah on Tuesday and that since February 23 4300 Turks had been taken prisoners by the British.

STRUGGLE FOR BAPAUME

The Germans have halted their retreat before Bapaume, at least temporarily. In a series of sharp combats before the Teuton stronghold yesterday the Germans held up the advance of the British force approaching Bapaume from Thillois. German artillery was turned loose from the crests behind Bapaume and records only a comparatively slight gain north of Miraumont. Some military critics took the view today that the Teuton commanders are forming their lines for the defense of Bapaume and will retreat no further, but the general impression here is that Bapaume will be in British hands before the middle of next week.

COUNTER-BLOW LIKELY

Belief that the German retreat is only a strategic move that will precede a smashing blow by Hindenburg against the British front found support in many circles today. The Times asked editorially if the German tactics of shortening their lines may not disarrange British plans for a spring drive. In the House of Commons, Henry W. Forster, financial secretary of the War Office, declared he believed Hindenburg was shortening his lines so he might gather men for a great blow.

BRITISH ATTACKS FAIL, BERLIN REPORT SAYS

BERLIN, March 2. Hand-to-hand fighting was the feature of a German repulse of British attacks on trenches east and southeast of Souchez, today's official statement asserted. Between Ypres and Arras, the War Office said, several reconnoitering advances of the enemy were without result. The text follows: Between Ypres and Arras several reconnoitering advances of the enemy remained without result. Lively fire. Strong English detachments launched against our trenches east and southeast of Souchez were repulsed in hand-to-hand fighting. Twenty prisoners, with one machine gun, remained in our hands. In the Arras sector there were repeated clashes in the forward of our positions. There, and during the cleaning out of English nests near Sailly, thirty prisoners and three machine guns were brought in. On the French front, in several local enterprises south of Nouvron our thrusting detachments brought some prisoners from the second hostile trench.

GERMANS BEAT BACK FIVE RUSSIAN ATTACKS

BERLIN, March 2. Charging five times, the Russians attempted to recapture heights ten miles north of Val Puisse road, on the northern Russian front, but were repulsed with considerable losses, the War Office announced today. The official report also announced a Teutonic success on the east bank

TWO AMERICANS LOST, SAYS CABLE

Consul Frost's Report Tends to Confirm Earlier Report

DIE IN BARK SINKING

Donaldson Liner Tritonia Also Torpedoed Without Warning

WASHINGTON, March 2. An official dispatch from Consul Frost at Queenstown, tending to confirm the report that two Americans were lost in the torpedoing of the British barge Calgoun Castle, Buenos Aires for Queenstown, reached the State Department today. Another message from Frost told of the unwarned torpedoing of the Donaldson liner Tritonia, Halifax for Liverpool, in a night attack, but reported that one American aboard was saved.

Consul Frost's messages follow:

British bark Calgoun Castle, Queenstown, from Buenos Aires, cargo m/z, attacked by submarine 4:30 p. m., February 22, seventy-four miles west-southwest of this port. Four Americans of whom two missing believed lost, William Jackson, 19 Beach street, New York, aged nineteen; David Walker, New York, Green County, Virginia, aged about thirty; Americans saved, Henry Merritt, Beaver Falls, Pa., and Harry Richardson, 62 Hanover street, Boston, both white. All Americans able seamen.

The Donaldson freight liner Tritonia, 2846 tons, Halifax for Liverpool general cargo and horses, torpedoed without warning 11:35 p. m., fifty miles west of Dingle February 24; two men missing from crew of sixty.

Sole American, John Murphy, engineer, saved.

Weather heavy, westerly squalls, dense darkness, light south breeze, no light showing. Master saw torpedo approaching ship, striking starboard bow. Boat abandoned thirty minutes, but did not sink. Boat stood by until Admiralty patrol arrived, 5 a. m. Towed her until 7:30 a. m., when sank. Submarine never sighted. Mate's boat not heard from, believed lost. Captain's boat rescued by sea boat Charing Cross. Weather heavy, sea breaking, strong southwest wind, misty rain beginning at dusk. Boats were in imminent danger, submarine offered no aid. Ship carried neither gun nor wireless. No attempt to escape.

Mayor Orders Delay of Report on Transit

Continued from Page One

An increased tax rate. He declared that had private capital been permitted to develop transit facilities, the \$65,000,000 voted for the improvement of wharves and general development.

"After I was elected," said the Mayor in his address, "I was invited by Mr. Blankenburg to visit him at his office. He warned me of many pitfalls in my path and said the most serious problem which would confront me would be that of transit. He called that problem a hot poker, which I would have to handle carefully. Now, I have never felt it was a dangerous matter. The people voted upon it and I am going to carry out the will of the people. The line up Broad street to Olney avenue will be built or I will burst in the attempt to build it."

CALLS FOR GRAFT PROOF

Reading Mayor Demands Newspaper's Evidence Against Police

READING, Pa., March 2.—Following the publication of an unsigned communication alleging that keepers of dives are paying the police \$25 to \$50 monthly for protection, Mayor Filbert took steps to compel the production of proof. In an open letter issued to the publisher of the newspaper, William McCormick, Mayor Filbert calls on the latter to furnish the name of the writer and to put the Mayor in possession of information regarding police graft. When Mayor Filbert took office strict warnings to every patrolman and higher officials were issued. The Mayor threatens instant dismissal of any official on proof of graft, and prosecution as well.

AMERICAN LOSSES ON THE SEA DUE TO SUBMARINES AND MINES

WASHINGTON, March 2.

TWENTY-THREE American ships have been attacked, twelve have been destroyed by mines or submarines, four Americans have been killed and six have been wounded in Germany's naval operations against American shipping since the start of the war, according to official statistics available today. The casualties are exclusive of those resulting from sinking or attacks on British ships, such as the Lusitania and Laconia. The list follows:

Table with columns: Date, Name, Casualties, Particulars. Lists ship losses from February 19, 1915 to February 13, 1917.

WILL REDUCE DEMANDS OF STATE'S BUREAUS

State Economy and Efficiency Committee Asked to Aid Appropriations Committee

HARRISBURG, Pa., March 2.—The State Economy and Efficiency Commission has been requested to co-operate with the appropriations committee of the Senate and House to decide how the exorbitant demands of several State departments can be pared down.

'PIRATE' AUTO 'ASHORE'; 3 OF 'CREW' CAPTURED

'Cruise' Ends When 'Craft' Strikes 'Reef' of Mud and Cop Appears

A "pirate" automobile that ran about a "reef" of mud on Island road after a victim had "walked the mudguard," was captured early today with three of the "crew." But the booty disappeared with a fourth alleged "buccaneer."

The "cruise" began at Twelfth and Market streets at midnight when Joseph Sands, of Bloomsburg, and four chance acquaintances hired a touring car. Two hours later, at Seventy-ninth street and Island road, Sands's companions robbed him of several hundred dollars in money and jewelry and dumped him "overboard."

At Seventy-seventh street the automobile, marooned in the mud, tied up a trolley car, attracting Mounted Policeman McKenna. Sands, who had dug himself out of the mud where he fell, appeared on the scene and demanded the arrest of the quartet. McKenna grabbed two, who said they were Joseph Contardo, 507 Queen street, and Edward Hoffman, 1922 Wallace street. The others ran. An hour later Joseph Ellinger, of Troy, N. Y., was arrested in a trolley car near the spot. The police are looking for the man with the booty.

AMERICANS' FLIGHT HALTED Orders to Naval Vessels Received in Time to Keep 1000 From Beirut. WASHINGTON, March 2.—Ambassador Elihu, at Constantinople, notified the State Department that he was informed of the orders to the Des Moines and Caesar not to proceed from Alexandria, Egypt, last night just in time to prevent the departure of nearly 1000 Americans from Jerusalem to Beirut, where they were to board the naval vessels. A large number of these Americans had sold their household goods and other effects and made every preparation for leaving for the coast upon a previous notification from Ambassador Elihu to proceed to Beirut.

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