

GERMANY MUST PROPOSE PEACE, AND SHE MUST DO SO AT ONCE

Outspoken Article by Maximilian Harden in which He Presents the Internal Difficulties of the Empire.

A despatch from London says: Maximilian Harden is most outspoken in an article in Die Zukunft, which has been received here. He makes a strong demand for peace, and urges that the German Government start negotiations immediately.

"Germany," he says, "has heaped victory upon victory. Upon her therefore devolves the duty of making an offer of peace. Such an offer could only add to, and not diminish her prestige. It would be proof of her strength, not weakness. Besides, Germany must propose peace, because she is in need of peace. Germany is victorious in the field, but internally she is beset with difficulties. We cannot deny that the preparations for the third harvest are more difficult than for the second.

We do not yet lack men, but we can no longer procure certain raw materials.

"Meanwhile, our war expenditure is increasing to an alarming extent. At the end of three years of war we should have lost every one of the commercial markets where we had established positions which were seemingly unassailable.

"If Germany waits longer she will find herself reduced to obey the will of her enemies. It thus becomes necessary that she invite the world to conclude peace. This invitation may be interpreted as a sign of weakness, but that matters little. If our offers are declined we shall have fulfilled the final duty which our conscience dictates toward Europe and toward humanity."

GEN. AYLMER ATTACKS TURKS 7 MILES FROM KUT-EL-AMARA

Inflicted Heavy Loss on Enemy, But Was Unable to Dislodge Him.

A despatch from London says: The War Office issued on Thursday night the following official statement on the campaign in Mesopotamia:

"Gen. Lake (commander of the British forces) reports that Gen. Aylmer (in command of the relieving forces) advanced on March 6, and, moving by the right bank of the Tigris, reach-

ed Essin, a position about 7 miles east of Kut-el-Amara. This position was attacked March 8, but Gen. Aylmer was unable to dislodge the enemy.

Gen. Aylmer states that the enemy suffered very severely, and, beyond strengthening his position, has shown no activity. Our casualties were not heavy, and in the majority of cases were very slight."

FOE TROOPS DRIVEN FURTHER BACK

French Forces Make More Progress in Corbeaux Woods.

A despatch from Paris says: Reassuring news is coming in from the battle front near Verdun. The struggle for the west bank of the Meuse continues, with the Germans repeatedly hurling massed formations against the French defences. The manner in which the assaults have been repulsed has strengthened the popular belief that the huge German offensive is doomed to fail. The hottest fighting has been taking place on the line between Douaumont and Vaux. At the latter point several fierce attempts have been made to carry the village, but all have been repulsed. The losses suffered by the Germans in the most recent fighting are stated as enormous, exceeding the toll taken by the mitrailleuses and the 75's of the French in the beginning of the battle. On the west side of the Meuse the Woods of Corbeaux have been the scene of repeated attacks. Thursday night the French are said to be in possession of the much-disputed bit of territory.

RUSSIAN PACT WITH ROUMANIA

Latter's Early Entry Into the War on Side of Allies Certain.

A despatch from London says: An agreement has been reached between Roumania and Russia, which it believed to indicate the definite decision of Roumania to adhere to the cause of the Entente allies, according to a Bucharest despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. The agreement permits Roumania to purchase war materials in Russia and to transport through Russia materials purchased elsewhere. It is reported that Russia has agreed, further, to give to Roumania part of Bessarabia.

CITIZENSHIP TAKEN FROM GERMAN-BORN

Cabinet of New South Wales Disfranchises Teutons During War.

A despatch from Sydney, N.S.W., says: The Cabinet has decided to disenfranchise all German-born electors for the duration of the war, following the arrest and internment of several hundred aliens who are considered of hostile disposition.

ANCHORED MINES LAID ALONG THE TRADE ROUTE TO HOLLAND

Threatened Blockade Already in Existence Between Thames and Galloper Lightship.

A despatch from London says: The blockade of England by mines, reported as threatened by Germany, is already in existence along the trade route to Holland, according to naval circles here. German submarines are reported to have been busy recently laying anchored mines between the mouth of the Thames and the Galloper

Lightship. It is in this neighborhood that many disasters have occurred during the last month.

Passenger ships, until recently, have been quite successful in dodging floating mines by making their voyages in daylight, but no method is known of guarding against submerged anchored mines.

ONLY 16 ARMENIANS LEFT ALIVE WHEN RUSSIANS TOOK ERZERUM

40,000 Driven Out a Few Days Before Czar's Troops Arrived and All Massacred by Kurds.

A despatch from London says: The Russians found only sixteen Armenians alive in Erzerum out of the usual Armenian population of 40,000 according to information received in Petrograd and forwarded by Reuter's correspondent in the Russian Capital. "The Turkish inhabitants of Erzer-

um," the correspondent adds, "stated that a few days before the capture of the fortress by the Russians all the Armenians in the town were driven out by the police in a westerly direction, where the Kurds, who had been forewarned, massacred all of them."



THE WEEK'S DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WAR.

The German attacks on the French lines around Verdun continue, but the great offensive against that fortress is referred to in Paris War Office statements as having failed. It is becoming more and more apparent that the enemy's plan has been entirely disconcerted by the Allies' defence. Perhaps no greater evidence of the German Staff's discomfiture and disappointment could be wanted than the fact that the German official communiques have contained many mis-statements of the true situation around Verdun.

Artillery actions and bombing attacks have been the only activities along the rest of the Western front except in the Champagne where the French, by a surprise attack, regained certain ground which had been conquered by the enemy a short time ago.

The Russian army, assisted by the Russian Black Sea fleet, has gained considerable ground. The fleet bombarded Trebizond and other points on the coast and is said to have landed men and taken possession of certain towns. The fleet is serving as an advanced right wing for the Russian army operating in Asia Minor.

The situation at Constantinople is reported to be extremely serious but any information comes in a roundabout way and must perhaps be taken with some reservation. It is very apparent, however, that the Russian advance is not only cutting Turkey in two but must prove a real menace to Turkish power in Europe as well as in Asia.

The British Relief Expedition in Mesopotamia has advanced to within a few miles of Kut-el-Amara, where a British force exists beleaguered. A junction may be expected, to be followed by an advance on Bagdad and co-operation with the Russian forces.

A German fleet during the past week left the Kiel Canal for a short cruise in the North Sea. A hasty retreat was made, however, before any engagement with British warships took place. It appears that during the recent Zeppelin raid on England several German cruisers left the canal intending to make a raid on the British coast. They discovered, however, that the preparations and watch of the British Fleet were greater than they had counted upon, with the result that the enemy warships were turned home.

A sensation in Great Britain was the attack on the policy of Mr. Balfour by Colonel Churchill, his predecessor as British Lord of the Admiralty. Mr. Balfour replied in as vigorous a speech as that of his critic.

PROVINCE BUYS TRENT POWERS

Government Announces Purchase of Seymour Interests in Central Ontario.

A despatch from Toronto says: On Friday night just after the House rose Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, announced that the Government had signed an agreement with the Electric Power Company, which controls what are generally known as the Seymour enterprises, purchasing outright on behalf of the people all the vast interests of that corporation—water-powers, development plants, transmission lines, local water and light companies, and an electric railway. The purchase is the result of negotiations carried on for some time, and the purchase price—\$8,350,000, payable in Ontario Government 4 per cent. bonds—represents the amount actually invested in the various enterprises as agreed upon after thorough investigation by the engineers of the Hydro-Electric Commission.

Twenty-two companies have been taken over, all of them, with the exception of the Nipissing Power Company and its companion enterprise, the North Bay Light, Heat and Power Company, being in what is known as the Trent Valley district. By taking over the Seymour interests the Government, through the Hydro-Electric Commission, will be able to serve municipalities as far east as Kingston, and the Hydro Commission will make provision at once for carrying lines to all the municipalities that have been clamoring for Hydro power, but hitherto unable to get it owing to the Seymour monopoly water powers.

Companies Purchased.

Auburn Power Company, Central Ontario Power Co., City Gas Co., Oshawa, Cobourg Utilities Corporation, Cobourg Electric Co., Cobourg Gas, Heat and Water Co., Eastern Power Co., Lindsay Light, Heat and Power Co., Napanee Gas Co., Napanee Water and Electric Co., Northumberland Pulp Co., Oshawa Electric Light Co., Otonabee Power Co., Peterboro' Light and Power Co., Peterboro' Radial Ry. Co., Port Hope Electric Light and Power Co., Seymour Electric Power Co., Sydney Electric Power Co., Trenton Electric Power Co., Tweed Electric Light and Power Co., Nipissing Power Co., North Bay Light, Heat and Power Co.

Women Advised to Buy Only Necessaries

A despatch from London says: The Official Press Bureau issued the following statement on Friday: "The National War Savings Committee con-

demns extravagance in woman's dress, the purchase of new clothes, unless imperative, and luxurious hats, boots, stockings, gloves and veils."

GERMAN CASUALTIES FOR FEBRUARY 35,198.

A despatch from London says: According to official German casualty lists which have reached London, the total German casualties for February was 35,198. This brings up the total for the war, as shown in these lists, to 2,667,372.

BRITISH DRIVE OFF A GERMAN SEAPLANE.

A despatch from London says: A German seaplane was sighted approaching North Foreland about noon on Saturday. It was pursued by British aeroplanes from Dover, and flew seaward.

BRITISH MERCHANT TONNAGE INCREASED

A despatch from London says: The total British mercantile tonnage on register at the end of 1915 was 12,416,408 tons, as compared with 12,119,891 at the end of 1913. This statement was made in the House of Commons on Thursday by Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in answer to a question on the subject.

GERMANY AT WAR WITH PORTUGAL

Formal Declaration Made and Ambassador's Passports Received.

A despatch from Berlin says: Germany declared war on Portugal at 3.30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon and handed his passports to the Portuguese Minister. Germany took this action because of the recent seizures of German ships in Portuguese ports, which the German Government declares "the gravest breach of neutrality and of special treaties. Germany is therefore obliged to give up its former forbearing attitude, which had been maintained on account of Portugal's awkward situation," says the official notification.

A woman and her daughter were at sea during rough weather. After a silence of some time the mother asked—"Are you seasick, dear?" "No, I think not," replied the daughter, "but I'd hate to yawn."

NEW SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN HAS ENJOYED NO SUCCESS

Lord Robert Cecil Declares Navy is Able to Deal With Any Manifestation of Frightfulness.

A despatch from London says: Lord Robert Cecil, Minister of War Trade, in discussing the new German submarine memorandum and its possible consequences, said:

As yet there is no indication of any success being enjoyed by the new submarine campaign, but it is dangerous to prophesy. However, the navy probably will be able to deal with any new manifestation of frightfulness. There is really nothing new in the German submarine memorandum,"

said Lord Robert, "as it employs the same old evasions. They still use the reprisal argument, but they began submarine ships before the so-called blockade was adopted. With regard to the charge of mine-laying, they began to sow them indiscriminately before we put out any. We never laid a mine in the trade routes of the high seas, while the Germans even planted them in neutral waters, as is witnessed in the present case of Sweden. These things we have never done."