

# THE FALL OF ERZERUM IS OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED

PETROGRAD, via London, Feb. 16.—Official announcement is made that the Russians have captured Erzerum. Grand Duke Nicholas has telegraphed the Emperor as follows:

"God has granted the brave troops of the army of the Caucasus such great help that Erzerum has been taken, after five days' unprecedented assault. I am inexpressibly happy to announce this victory to Your Imperial Majesty."

Petrograd, Feb. 16, via London, Feb. 17.—The fall of Erzerum, which had been confidently awaited since the news of the taking by the Russians of nine of the eighteen forts guarding the gateway to Asia Minor, is the cause of great elation in Petrograd.

Controlling the roads through Armenia, with access to Trebizond, Tabriz, and Mesopotamia, the capture of Erzerum is calculated to have immense strategic importance in the Russian campaign in the Caucasus, and it will indirectly affect the Balkan campaign by relieving the pressure on the Allies at Saloniki.

The conviction entertained by all Russian military observers that Erzerum would ultimately be forced to capitulate was based on the fact that the remaining nine forts were of considerably less importance than those already in Russian hands and could be readily flanked or even ignored, in forcing the evacuation of the Turkish stronghold.

The taking of the first fort is believed to have destroyed the plan of defence, since the impregnability of Erzerum rested on the assumption of the German engineers who constructed the fortifications that the position was safe against assault from the south.

## Through Storm and Cold.

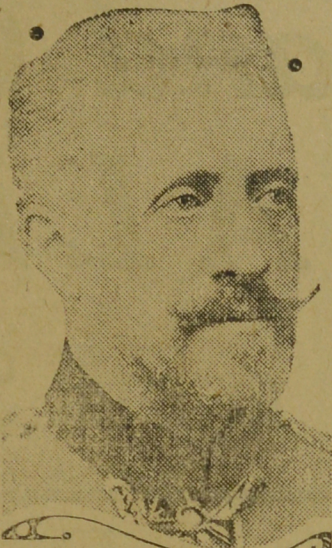
In spite of the intense cold and the deep snow, the Russian troops took Kop mountain by storm, and dealt the Turks the first staggering blow. Having driven them from this position, the Russian artillery broke through and flanked the other positions, which went like a house of cards, the result of the Russian onslaught exceeding all expectations.

The Caucasus campaign derived considerable benefit from Russian domination of the Black Sea, which enabled the army to receive a plentiful supply of provisions and munitions. The number of men garrisoning the Turkish position before the recent retreat of the Turkish army was estimated at 30,000. These numbers are believed to have been considerably augmented by the retreat of the Turks upon this position.

The victory has been received here with the same spirit of enthusiasm as marked the fall of Przemyśl nearly a year ago. Contrasted with the taking of that fortress, which entailed a long and painful investment, Erzerum is the first instance of a strong fortress being taken by whirlwind assault.

## The Liberation of Armenia.

London, Feb. 17.—The capture of Erzerum by the Russians is regarded here as a feat of first importance, the fortress being in any campaign by Russia against Turkey a dominating factor in military calculations, as it is the key to Armenia, both politically and from a military standpoint. Its retention by Russia is considered as meaning the liberation of the long-suffering Armenian race.



Grand Duke  
Nikolai Nikolayevich

## SUCCESSFUL BIRTHDAY SERVICE BY UNION BAND

The Junior Mission Band of the Brunswick Street Baptist church held a birthday service last evening in the vestry. The guests filled the room and their birthday offerings, supplemented by the proceeds from the sale of candy and fancy articles, amounted to more than \$70. Mrs. J. S. Donovan, leader of the Band, and those associated with her in the work, deserve much credit for the successful work the Band is doing. A fine foundation is being laid in missionary interest and information and no small amount of money is being raised for the missionary cause.

A splendid program was rendered as follows:

Piano solo—Miss Helen Klitcher.  
Recitation—Margaret Smith, Jean Tennant.

Vocal solo—Audrey Lister.  
Exercise—Daisy Perley, Vera Wright, Fred Bailey, Hubert Davidson, Vincent Minue and Donald Currie.

Piano solo—Donald Porter.  
Recitation—Mary Jones.  
Duet—Florence Davidson, Margaret Smith.

Recitation—Eileen Phillips.  
Chorus, entitled "O India."

Recitation—Muriel Smith.  
Vocal solo—Hilde Gatombe.

Recitation—Dorothy Phillips.  
Piano solo—Ralph Kitchen.

Dialogue, "The Missionary Appeal"—The Misses Cora Niles, Ethel Harris, Nellie Harris, Mabel Leaman and Kate Harris.

Chorus, God Save the King, and God Save Our Splendid Men.

The pastor, Rev. A. F. Newcomb, presided and voiced the appreciation of the audience at the excellent work the young people were doing.

## WELLESLEY POET SINGS OF GERMS AND GERM GIVING

Wellesley, Feb. 15.—Wellesley is keeping up with its poetical standards set in the past. Although the college boasts of no Elizabeth Barrett Browning, several young ladies are appearing in print who want to disprove the often-made statement that women cannot write humorous verse. This week's college news contains this germ girl poem:

I come from the haunts of the deadly germ.  
I make a sudden sally  
And sparkle out 'mongst those who learn—  
I go to the Russian Ballet.

I scatter, scatter as I go  
To my examination,  
My germs and microbes, high and low—  
I'm an abomination.

With many a cough my friends I fret,  
With many a sneeze and shiver,  
Just let them wait! They'll get it yet,  
For I'm a generous giver.

I scatter germs as fast as they grow,  
But vain is my endeavor,  
For exams may come and exams may go,  
But my cold goes on forever.

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## THE BORDEN GOVERNMENT TOOK A GAMBLER'S CHANCE

(Continued from page two.)  
Parliament views his own chances of re-election. Meanwhile, as a statement, it would vastly please Bolton the Joiner because it roars, look you, like a sucking dove.

### Rabbit-Like Defiance.

As a matter of fact, Premier Borden knew just what Sir Wilfrid Laurier was going to do and say about the resolution a day before it came up in the House. He knew that Sir Wilfrid was going to support the extension for the reasons he has maintained from the beginning of the war—first, that Canada's whole attention should be devoted to winning the war, second that he would not use the "bloody key" of an election for a return to office.

Premier Borden knew that. He also knew that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had gone in the face of a considerable body of Liberal opinion in the caucus which viewed with alarm the abatement of our home rule involved in asking the British Government for an extension. And knowing all that, Premier Borden, probably because his address was prepared, and he didn't want to change it, went ahead with his rabbit-like defiance of the wicked Opposi-

tion. He would withdraw the resolution forsooth! The Government would then "consider its course." It remained for Sir Wilfrid to call the bluff, which he did when he pointed out that, lacking the unanimous support of the Canadian Parliament, the British Government would never grant the extension anyway.

Consequently Sir Robert Borden, who had been assured of unanimous support before the resolution was submitted to the House, was bravely engaged in knocking down a straw man. Sir Wilfrid did not say that in so many words, but such was the impression he conveyed.

As for the Government "considering its course," it will surprise them, on reflection, to see how far that course is mapped out for them by the good nature, hearty support and patriotic enthusiasm of a loyal Opposition in enjoining them to avoid an election which they are more anxious to dodge than to meet face to face with the sins of the Shell Committee on their backs.

### Cook's Lotion Root Compound.

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## Opposition Platform

The following platform was adopted at the Opposition Convention held in St. John recently:  
In the event of the Opposition being returned to power, we pledge ourselves:—

### NO PARTIZAN CONTROL OF CROWN LANDS.

1. We pledge ourselves to completely reorganize the Crown Lands Department, so that its administration shall be entirely severed from politics and administered on sound business principles under systematic plans by a non-partizan commission specially appointed for that purpose, responsible to the Legislature and working in co-operation with the Dominion Commission of Conservation.

### TAKE THE HIGHWAYS OUT OF POLITICS.

2. We pledge ourselves to take the highways out of politics, giving the expenditure of the money collected from the people and the control of the labor, together with the Government appropriations, into the hands of supervisors, chosen by the people of each parish, to whom a detailed and audited account must be rendered every year at the annual meeting, and a duplicate thereof forwarded to the Department of Public Works, the work of the supervisors to be under the inspection of a competent provincial engineer.

We also pledge ourselves to set aside the money collected from the licenses upon automobiles and other motor vehicles, together with an equal appropriation from the revenues of the Province each year, to pay the interest upon the bonds to provide for permanent roads, which shall be constructed as rapidly as possible.

### PROHIBITION PROVINCE WIDE.

3. We pledge ourselves at the first session of the Legislature to pass a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the Province to the fullest extent allowed by the Constitution, and within three months after the passage of said Act to submit the same by referendum to the electors of the Province, and should the majority of votes cast be in favor of the said law, then to bring the same into force by proclamation within one year thereafter.

### ELECTION LAW.

4. (a) To amend the electoral law so as to make it impossible for members of the Legislature to traffic with the Government and still retain their seats.

(b) To make it possible for young men, when they reach the age of 21 years, to register their names and be placed forthwith upon the voters' lists, instead of waiting for the tedious machinery of revision as it now exists.

(c) To divide the counties into electoral districts which shall each be represented by one member.

(d) We will also consider amendments to the election law to make bribery in municipal as well as provincial elections impossible.

### PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

5. To obtain at once a correct statement of the financial condition of the Province in order that the people may have definite knowledge of the vastly increased public debt and the enormous obligations of guaranteed bonds they will be called upon to pay; and to so reduce the cost of the administration of affairs and the number of useless officials as to avoid the necessity for direct taxation now confronting us.

### AGRICULTURE.

6. To give the farmers all the practical assistance that the resources of the Province will permit, to improve agricultural methods and the quality and quantity of the stock upon the farm; to reduce the enormous salary list in the department, and to spend the educational grant received from the Federal Government without regard for political patronage.

### VALLEY RAILWAY.

7. To complete the Valley Railway from a point on the Trans-continental Railway at or near Grand Falls, to St. John, and insist upon the Dominion Government carrying out the terms of the original legislation and allow the Province forty per cent. of the gross earnings thereof.

### EDUCATION.

8. To always maintain and improve the educational service of the Province and to co-operate with the Federal Government in carrying out the recommendations of the commission upon technical education.

### IMMIGRATION.

9. The inauguration of a vigorous immigration policy to properly place before intending immigrants, whose number will be large after termination of the war, the advantages of the agricultural possibilities of New Brunswick.

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## CAN'T FIND DANDRUFF

Every bit of dandruff disappears after one or two applications of Danderine rubbed well into the scalp with the finger tips. Get a 25-cent bottle of Danderine at any drug store and save your hair. After a few applications you can't find a particle of dandruff or any falling hair, and the scalp will never itch.

## ARTIFICIAL HAND FOR SOLDIERS

Basle, Feb. 16.—At the convention session here recently, many inventions of the German Orthopedic Society, in the way of methods for repairing the wastes of war have been exhibited or discussed.

Dr. Ferdinand Sauerbrück, professor of surgery at Zurich University, showed an "artificial hand" which is able to grasp objects of all forms and to lift weights up to twenty-two pounds. An entirely novel feature of the hand is that it and the fingers are controlled by muscular action in the upper arm, which is prepared for such work by two operations. The muscular power is transmitted to the hand through a system of wires and pulleys, to which all the fingers respond.

### EVERY GOOD REASON.

During the lesson one afternoon a violent thunderstorm arose, and, to lessen the fright of the children, the teacher began telling of the wonders of the elements.

"And now, Jimmy," she asked, "why is it that lightning never strikes twice in the same place?"

"Because," said Jimmy confidently, "after it hits once, the same place ain't there any more."—Ladies' Home Journal.