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ONE CENT PER COPY

Detailed Report of the Great Russian Victory at Erzerum

Complete Co-operation of the Czar's Troops Over a Wide Area---Turkish Forts Made Feeble Resistance---The U. S. Sends a Protest to Turkey Over Armenian Atrocities

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—A despatch to the Tribune from Washington says Arthur Sears Henning, correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, sends this despatch:

The United States Government today dispatched a formal protest to Turkey against a continuance of atrocities against the Armenians.

Acting on information that approximately 1,000,000 Armenians have been massacred or starved to death, Secretary Lansing, at the direction of President Wilson, cabled instructions to the American Embassy in Constantinople, to present a protest, which is, in effect, a warning to the Ottoman government.

RUSSIANS STORMED THE TURKISH FORTS AND CAPTURED THEM IN QUICK SUCCESSION

(Canadian Press.)

On January 29 both fortresses capitulated. The taking of Datan Gez made a breach in the outer line defences along the Deve Boinu range, in front of the city. The capture of Kara Gudek opened a direct passage through the Karabagas pass to the city proper from the northeast.

Fort Tafta lies midway between these two fortresses. In a night attack on January 30, this fort was captured, leaving only Chaban Debe between the two armies operating from this quarter. On February 2 the Russians began to storm the front line on the Bebe Doin heights. By evening all these positions were in Russian hands, permitting complete junction with the troops on the northeast. The fall of this first line quickly decided the fate of the inner forts.

Meanwhile the Palan Teken group of forts, seven miles to the south, had been surrounded on three sides. The general assaults on the second line began without giving the men time for a rest.

The five inner forts made only a feeble resistance. Their garrisons beat a hasty retreat into the city, and followed the bulk of the troops which already were on the roads leading westward.

Only the rear guard took part in the fighting of the last day. Signs that the evacuation was underway were observed immediately after the fall of the first.

It is thought possible the Turks will attempt to make a stand at the first favorable point, which is in the hills on the western edge of Erzerum valley, eleven miles distant, but it is not regarded as possible that they have been able to erect any extensive fortifications there.

The Russians are hastily repairing the small damages done to the fortresses, against a possible attempt of the Turks to retake them.

No news has been received of the fate of Ekved Pevzi Pasha, commander of the Ninth Corps, who was in charge of the defence 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 Vitzesti, on the Black Sea, 15 miles east of Trebizond. The Turks are evacuating the town.

The reference above to Ekved Pevzi Pasha, 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.

THE FIRST DETAILED REPORT OF THE CAPTURE OF ERZERUM REACHES LONDON

PETROGRAD, via London, Feb. 19.—The first story in detail of the capture of Erzerum by the Russians reached Petrograd semi-officially today. It shows complete co-operation of Russian troops over a wide area, which made useless any resistance on the part of the Turks. Apparently the Turks realized 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 troops of General P——, from the north, and those of General K——, moved against the first line forts under most severe weather conditions. The Russians dragged their artillery to the heights surrounding the fortresses and when all was ready began to bombard Forts Kara and Gudek, 20 miles, and Fort Datan Gez, 15 miles northeast of Erzerum, preparatory to the bayonet assault.

GERMANS ARE MOVING TROOPS IN BELGIUM

Amsterdam, Feb. 19 (via London).—In the course of the last six days great German movements of troops have occurred in south and central Belgium, says a despatch from the frontier to the Telegraaf. Long trains with artillery and infantry were running along the railroads to west and south, and some small detachments were transported by way of Louvain, Waverna and Gembloux, to the southeast.

Louvain, the despatch adds, still is a strong point of support of German strategy and many conferences of high military officers are held there.

St. John Loses a Well Known Citizen

St. John, Feb. 19.—John March, for many years engaged in educational and newspaper work in this city, died today aged about 80 years. Two sons are officers in the Canadian army in France.

BRITISH WAR BUDGET WILL BE A RECORD BREAKER

(Canadian Press.)

London, Feb. 19.—According to the Daily Telegraph's parliamentary correspondent, the ninth vote of credit for the prosecution of the war, which Mr. Asquith intends to ask for on Monday, will be the biggest grant ever made by the House.

It will be for \$2,100,000,000, or \$100,000,000 in excess of the preceding vote which at the time constituted a record. The financial editor of the Daily Telegraph says:

The new vote of credit will bring the total amount of these votes during the current financial year up to \$8,600,000,000. It is understood that only \$600,000,000 will be required to the end of March and that the balance of \$8,000,000,000 will finance up until the end of May.

It means, therefore, that during the twelve months ending in March next we shall have supplied \$7,100,000,000 by votes of credit in addition to the revenue of \$1,502,507,000 provided by the budget.

"These are stupendous figures, and including the amount voted in 1914, the votes of credit since the war commenced will reach \$10,410,000,000. "If we are going to spend at the rate of \$750,000,000 a month, as would appear from the provision about to be made for April and May, two full years of war will have required votes for \$11,920,000,000 over and above the large sums furnished from revenue."

BIG STORM SAID TO BE BREWING IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CIRCLES

Last week it was announced that, "owing to the illness of Premier Clarke," the meeting of the Legislature had been postponed until March 9th. The Mail accepted the reason given for the postponement with a large-sized grain of salt, and intimated that there was something back of Premier Clarke's illness that made a postponement advisable under the circumstances. Since the announcement was made Premier Clarke's colleagues have been trying hard to induce him to hike off to the land of the free for a rest. The Premier was to have left for St. Stephen last evening en route to Clifton Springs, but he did not go, and it is doubtful now if he will make a getaway of it. Some matters in which he is deeply interested have recently developed, and demand some consideration.

To put it in a little plainer language, there is another big scandal in the air and it has reached such a stage that action must be taken forthwith.

Premier Clarke will probably go to his home in St. Stephen tonight, but the chances are that he will be in St. John on Monday to attend a hastily summoned meeting of the Government. The meeting has been called to deal with a matter which will not stand for much procrastination.

If all the reports are to be believed, there is going to be wigs on the green in government circles next week. The House is called to meet on March 9th. It may or may not meet on that date. In these days of scandals and rumors of scandals anything is liable to happen, especially when crooked and incompetent politicians are in control of affairs.

TEXT OF REPORT OF RIVER COMMISSION

Bangor, Me., Feb. 19.—The building of storage reservoirs at the headwaters of the St. John River to increase the log driving capacity of that stream and the creation of an international commission to regulate the flow of water and supervise the river channels, were recommended by the St. John River International Commission in a report made public here today.

Much time was devoted to the examination of the questions at issue, which involved consideration of all boundary treaties between the United States and Canada as far back as 1842. The report of the commission was signed at Fredericton on Thursday.

The commission agreed over the legality of an Act passed by the Legislature of Maine which permitted an American lumber company to build piers and booms on the river between Van Buren, Maine, and St. Ann's, N.B. Among other things the commission held that the diversion of Chamberlain

Lake waters interfered with the navigable capacity of the St. John and was in violation of existing treaties covering natural water rights.

S. S. Comrie Castle Reported Ashore

London, Feb. 19.—The British S. S. Comrie Castle is ashore on a reef off Mombasa, British East Africa. Her passengers have been landed.

The Comrie Castle was last reported at Marseilles on Jan. 19. She is a vessel of 5,473 tons, owned by the Union Castle Mail S. S. Co., of London. She was built in 1903 at Glasgow.

Rev. H. E. Diblee, rector of Christchurch, Amherst, is in the city, having been called here by the serious illness of his sister, Mrs. W. J. Weaver.

DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE YOUNG TURK PARTY IN CONSTANTINOPLE

Crowds Gather in Streets and Shout Against the War---Troops are Guarding the Sultan's Palace---Bulgaria May Seek Separate Peace.

(Canadian Press.)

LONDON, Feb. 19.—The London Telegraph's Rome correspondent says: "According to despatches received here, serious trouble has broken out in Constantinople. On Thursday large crowds gathered in the streets and made a demonstration, shouting against the war and the Young Turks. German police attacked the manifestants. The German garrison is guarding the palace of the Sultan and the ministerial offices.

It is also declared that Turkish troops ordered to proceed to Armenia, have refused to comply. Disorders are reported to have also broken out in Smyrna, in Beirut.

Alarming rumors are current in Turkey regarding the situation at Trebizond, where conditions are said to be worse than they were at Erzerum. It is impossible to send assistance to Trebizond.

DEFEAT AT ERZERUM WILL COMPEL THE TURKS TO WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM THE DANUBE

The London Daily News has the following despatch from its Rome correspondent: "The sudden departure of King Ferdinand of Bulgaria from Vienna for Sofia is due to the news of the fall of Erzerum. This defeat will likely compel the Turks to withdraw all their troops which were destined to co-operate with the Bulgarians in defence of the Danube and the coasts of the Black Sea and Aegean Sea.

"Austro-German troops are not available to replace the Turks withdrawn from Bulgaria, and it is considered likely that it will be deemed unsafe to weaken the forces concentrated opposite Saloniki. Furthermore, owing to Roumania's probable intervention in the war during the next month, the Austrians have already massed strong forces along the Carpathians and in the Transylvanian Alps, as well as on the Danube.

"Bulgaria therefore is unable to rely on Austro-German aid against the threatened Russo-Roumanian attack from the north and the Anglo-French offensive from the west.

"King Ferdinand, fully realizing the imminent peril, has determined to save his country at any cost—even at that of seeking a separate peace."

United States Government Considers Merchantmen Have a Right to Carry Guns

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Indications in official quarters today were that Germany's reply to the request of the United States that the Teuton powers modify their announced intention to sink without warning all armed merchant ships of the enemy after February 29, will be a statement that assurances given in the Lusitania and Arabic cases had to do only with unarmed vessels, that Germany must feel certain that its submarines which warn a merchant ship will not be attacked, and that this country will be asked for its definition of defensive armament.

It was considered certain that the problem of defining defensive armament will be the basis of lengthy negotiations.

The first information that the United States does not accept as in accordance with the established principles of international law the latest intention of Germany and Austria, is a notification on its way today to all diplomatic and consular representatives abroad, to the effect that this government considers that merchant ships have a right to carry defensive armament.

Claims the British Government Discriminates in Favor of American Exporters

LONDON, Feb. 19.—The Daily Mail complains today of unfair discrimination on the part of the British in favor of American exports to neutral countries.

"By a recent decision," says the Daily Mail, "the British government holds the British exporter responsible for seeing that his goods do not benefit the enemy, thus virtually admitting that the elaborate machinery of licenses, black lists, guarantees, etc., cannot be relied upon. But while throwing over this preventive machinery, as far as the British are concerned, the Government still relies upon it in dealing with American exporters."

GERMAN ATTACK REPULSED.

PARIS, Feb. 19.—Repulse of a weak German attack north of Blangy was reported by the War Office this afternoon. No other important operations occurred on the French front last night.