

London, March 28 .- There are vari

modified so as to avoid war, or whe

The above is the first intimation

that there is to be a meeting between the Emperor William and Emperor Charles. A despatch from Amsterday

visited Emperor Charles, Foreign Min

ister Czernin and Premier Clam-Mar

In New Liskeard, Ont.

New Liskeard, Ont., March 28 .- For

proceed further north than Earlton

celled this morning and the National

is held up this evening.

#### Great Victory Reported From Mesopotamia---Au Entire ous suggestions concerning the reason for the rpesent visit of the Austrian Divisional Staff Captured by the British---A Munition Emperor to Emperor William. The Daily Mail says it learns from Vienna by way of Switzerland, that the con-Oppot Taken by the French on Western Front. ference between the emperors is to decide whether the Austro-German pol icy toward the United States shall be

LONDON, March 29.-The British army in Mesopotamia has defeated ther the present submarine methoda Turkish army of 20,000 men, capturing 900 men, including a general, the which are certain to provoke war with War Office announces. The entire divisional staff of the fifty-third Turkish division in Mesopotamia has been captured the official report says.

PARIS, March 29.—An important munitions and supply depot has been March 16th said a Vienna telegram captured by the French, the War Office announced today. Artillery fight- reported the arrival in the Austrian ing continued during the night between the Aisne and the Somme, and the Hollweg, the German chancellor, who French kept in contact everywhere with the German lines. Soissons was bombarded by heavy guns. The statement follows: "From the Somme tinic. to the Aisne there is no change in the situation, intermittent artillery firing occurring during the night. Our troops everywhere maintained contact with the enemy lines. In the course of the operations of recent days Big Snow Storm south of the Oise, we took possession of important depots of materials and munitions. Yesterday German long-range guns fired seven shells at Soissons. In the region of Rheims we made a successful surprise attack north of La Pomhelle. In the Champagne, near Tahure, and in the Argonne at thirty hours no train has been able to Courtes Chausses, attacks of the enemy were repulsed by our fire." Junction, due to the huge blanket of

snow that covers the rails in places LONDON, March 29.—The most interesting piece of news from the to a depth of four to six feet. The war theatre today is the announcement of the visit to the Italian front of Cobalt special from Toronto was can Sir William Robertson and General Weygand, representing General Nivelle. It can be assumed that the presence of the British chief of staff and the representative of the French headquarters staff at the post of the Italian supreme command means that heavy fighting is expected there.

## Shortage of Foodstuffs in Bavaria

Has Created a Very Serious Situation LONDON, March 29 .- A gloomy picture of the food situation in Bavaria was drawn by Minister of the Interior Grettreich in an address before the Landlag on Tuesday, according to a Berne despatch to Reuter's. Minister Grettreich is quoted as saying that the recent stock-taking had shown that condi tions were very serious and that there was a deficiency of 90,-000 tons in Bavarian breadstuffs.



THE WESTERN FRONT From Advanced Positions But Has Made no Serious Dent in Their Lines ---British Moving Forward Steadily.

The Germans are striking back in Champagne in a determined effort to divert General Nivelle from his ceaseless pounding at the base of the shaken Hindenburg line. The scene of the counter offensive launched by Field Marshal Von Hindenburg is along a fifteen mile front starting about 25 miles east of Rheims. Attacking in force in this sector, the Germans have driven the French from some of their advanced trenches, but have failed so far to make a serious impression on their lines.

In the meantime the iron semi-circle, which General Nivelle has thrown around the southern half of the great St. Gobain plateau is steadily contracting. If the French maintain their present rate of advance it can only be a matter of a very few days before the entire plateau is in their grasp, removing the last great natural barrier to Laon.

## Military Critics Think It May be Part of Plan For German Retirement to Belgian Border

The British are moving forward steadily to the north, but the fact that they are capturing villages with cavalry indicates that they are not yet in contact with the main German forces. The most advanced British outposts are still ten miles from the Cambrai line, where Allied observers have assumed that the Germans propose to make their real stand.

Military critics in Paris and London are reverting to the belief that the present German retreat is only part of the plan for a retirement on a tremendous scale to the Belgian border. In suport of this theory it is pointed out that the withdrawal from the Noyon and Bapaume salients is rapidly forcing the whole German line into the form of an immense right angle.

The upright of this angle runs north and south for 120 miles rom Nieuport on the Belgian coast, to Laon. The horizontal runs for about an equal distance east to the Lorraine border It is into the apex of this angle that General Nivelle is boring his way, treatening to cut the forces of the invaders squarely into two sections.

Conditions outside Bavaria, he said, were even more unfav orable. The Minister said that it could not be denied that during the war a certain friction had arisen between north and south Germany, chiefly due to the administration of the war.

After predicting that the coming weeks would be very hard on the people, he concluded: "But we must hold out. If we Mauretius for Havre, with sugar, was torpedoed without warnlie down, England will squeeze the blod out of our finger nails. ing at 8.45 a.m. Tuesday, 28 miles southeast of Fastnet, ac Even if the war ended tomorrow, the bitter weeks are ont over. cording to a State Department report today from Consul Frost Only one thing is left-to hold out."

### Social Reforms in Germany May Receive

#### **Strong Impetus From Russian Revolution**

COPENHAGEN, via London, March 29 .- The demand for particularly in Prussia, which the socialist and radical parties on the 27th. All saved. Two Americans were aboard.' have been advocating for months, has received a strong impetus from the Russian revolution. The press organs of these parties, notably the Berlin Vorwaerts, declare that Russia's' revolt to democracy leaves Germany and Austria-Hungary alone among Queenstown. No explantion for this apparent discrepancy was the belligerents as representatives of non-parliamentary regimes, and necessitates German reforms without waiting for the end of teh war, as Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg advocates. The Vorwaerts declares that otherwise the conviction the despatch. It was thought probable that after the captain of the Entente nations that they are now fighting for the freedom of the world against antiquated modes of government, will Neath's captain landed at Queenstown. grow stronger and stronger.

#### ON THE ROUMANIAN FRONT.

PETROGRAD, via London, March 29.-Teutonic attacks announced today. The advance was attempted in the region from the Caucasus front.

Discrepancy in Despatches Received at Washington Lead to the Belief That the Submarine was Captured-Two Amer-

icans were on Board the eNath.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The British bark Neath, from at Queenstown. "The British bark Neath," Consul Frost said, Havre with a cargo of sugar, was torpedoed without warning at 8.45 a.m. on the 27th, while 28 miles southeast of Fastnet

She sank in seven minutes. No losses or injuries. She carried no guns or wireless, nor made any attempt to escape or resist. the immediate introduction of internal reforms in Germany, Boats picked up by Admiralty vessels three miles off Baltimore

> The message in part was cofficting. It said that the captain of the Neath was taken as a hostage by the submarine, but afterwards stated that the captain was landed yesterday ai given. Capture by the British of the submarine which destroyed the Neath and the consequent release of the captain was suggested by naval officers as a solution of the discrepancy in was made prisoner the undersea craft was captured and the

#### GERMA NRAIDER IN THE PACIFIC.

VANCOUVER, B. C., March 29 .- A despatch to the Canaseveral times latesly.

# BELIEVES THAT WAR WITH UNITED STATES IS INEVITA

"with auxiliary steam power, 4,690 tons, from Mauretius to German Papers Make Little Comment on the Situ. ation But the Tone of Their Headlines Indicate That They are Expecting War.

> COPENHAGEN, via London, March 29.—There has been a noticeable absence of comment in the German papers in the last few days on the news of American war preparations. The newspapers have printed various despatches, some from New York and others from the Anglo-French press, but generally without comment. The tone of the headlines alone indicate the increasing certitude that war is inevitable.

> The news of the recall of the American representatives on the Belgian relief commission has, however, stirred the editorial writers into breaking their silence.

The Tages Zeitung attacks the American commissioners harply, declaring that they were steadily working in English interests and furnishing a regular channel for the transmision of military news from Belgium. This paper's retorts to American criticism of the interruption of Brand Whitlock's on the southern portion of the Roumanian front were delivered dian News from Tokio says that a German raider has sunk a communications by referring to the alleged restrictions placed yesterday but were stopped by the Russian fire, the War Office Japanese warship in the Southern Pacific. The names of the on Count Von Bernstorff's use of the wireless by the American vessels were not disclosed. The presence of a German raider government. An inspired explanation which appears in the northeast of Fokshani. Only raiding operations are reported in the Southern seas and in the Indian ocean has been rumored German papers in regard to the sinking of relief ships, is that they entered the prohibited zone, where safe conduct is invalid.