IEIS DOOMED TOFALL IS BRITSHH STATEWENT

Hindenburg ©"I Have To Stage Another "Strategic Retreat to Explaii. $\%$ ofeat-City Is Center of France's Greatest Coal Distn 5 und Its Capture Will Greatly Relieve Fuel Situation--A $A^{2}$ s' Shells and German Scheme of Destruction Have Let.: 'ty a Mass of Ruins

London, June 24.--How much of a "strategic retreat the Germans will announce after the fall of Lens was oc cupying military strategists today--the fall of the city
being accepted as a foregone conclusion. It was conceded beng aceepted as a ioregone conclusion. int was conceded
there will probably be some desperate fighting, prolonged cumbs to the British attacks but reports today of further "bites" into the Teutons' positions west and south in the suburbs of the city indicated steady progress.
The belief here is that with Lens gone, Field Marshal Hindenburg will stage another "retreat to prepared posimiles north of Lille) down to in front of Lille; thence to Garvin and connecting with the famous Drocourt "switch line" in front of Douai, Cambrai and St. Quentin. From
the Drocourt line south the Germans would continue over practically their present front. The suggested German withdrawal to the north, howsquare miles of Belgian and French territory to the althe German people on the excuse that it would "straightthe lines above Lens have been broken by the British as saults of Vimy ridge and of Messines into an exceedingly jagged series of
Lens was reported today practically in ruins from both the fighting scheme of destruction and of the shells 5000 population. It is in the center of one of the richest coal square miles of mines, which prior to the war yielded $15,000,000$ tons of fuel a year.
France, as well as Italy, is direly in need of coal so that vietory at Lens would not only be a potent moral one, but
likewise most valuable in relieving the shortage in fuel.


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Peace Must Be Guaranteed by Yard With Capacity for Ten | Destruction of Prussian | Ships At a Time Being |
| :---: | :---: |
| Militarism | Prepared |

Turks Will Never Again Rule Army of 2,000 Workmen To Over Mesopotamia or Armenia



