



3 BATTLESHIPS SUNK BY TURKS

Britain Loses 2, France 1 in Dardanelles.

TWO MORE ARE DISABLED

Nearly All of Crew Go Down With Destroyed Frenchman. Floating Mines Blamed.

FOUR FORTS ARE SILENCED

Very Warship in Attacking Fleet of Ten Is Struck. English Dead Are Few.

SUMMARY OF RESULT OF ATTACK THURSDAY ON DARDANELLES. Battleships sunk—Bouvet, French (crew lost), Irresistible and Ocean. British (crews saved). Cause given by British—Floating mines.

LONDON, March 9.—The British battleships Irresistible and Ocean and the French battleship Bouvet were blown up by floating mines while engaged with the remainder of the allied fleet in attacking the forts in the Narrows of the Dardanelles Thursday.

The crews of the two British ships were virtually all saved, having been transferred to other ships under a hot fire, but an internal explosion took place on board the Bouvet after she had fouled the mine and most of her crew was lost.

Bouvet Sinks Quickly. The Bouvet sank within three minutes of the time that she hit the mine. The waters in which the ships were lost had been swept of mines, but the British Admiralty asserts that the Turks and the Germans set floating containers of explosives adrift and these were carried down by the current onto the allied ships gathered inside the entrance of the straits.

All the ships that were sunk were old ones, the Bouvet having been completed nearly 29 years ago and the Ocean and Irresistible in 1898. They were useful, however, for the work in which they were engaged in the Dardanelles.

Lost Ships Replaced. The destroyed British ships are being replaced by the battleships Queen and Implacable, vessels of a similar type. They are said to have started some time ago for near Western waters in anticipation of just such losses as have now occurred. Two other ships engaged in the fighting, the British battle cruiser Inflexible and the French battleship Gaulois, were hit by shells and damaged.

The British casualties, according to the British official report, "were not heavy, considering the scale of the operations." Forts in Narrows Shelled. The damage done to the Turkish forts by the heavy bombardment has not yet been ascertained. It is said that the operations against them are continuing. The forts attacked were those on either side of Kephez Bay and on Kephez Point outside the Narrows and those on Kilit Bahr and Chanak in the Narrows.

The Kephez forts replied strongly when the battleships advanced, firing up the Dardanelles and all the ships were hit. It is asserted that these forts finally were silenced and a bombardment of those in the Narrows was under way when the three battleships struck mines. The blowing up of the ships did not cause a cessation of the fighting, which continued until

OREGON DEBATERS BEAT WASHINGTON

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP IS SEEN ARGUED AT EUGENE.

Unanimous Decision of Judges Is Taken After Telling Speeches for Railroad Reform.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Or., March 19.—(Special.)—University of Oregon debaters won a great victory over the Washington duo when they obtained a unanimous decision of the judges at the conclusion of their arguments here tonight. Oregon upheld the affirmative. The question, "Resolved, That the Federal Government Own and Operate All Interstate Roads, Acting as Common Carriers, Including Intrastate Lines Competing With Them," was argued from every standpoint. The Oregonians, Hardesty and Jauregui, presented strong "convincers" when they demonstrated that the Government and the country at large were in need of just this reform in the railroad system. Hardesty's address was exceptionally convincing. Hardesty, for the losers, was an excellent speaker and his colleague was not far behind in his arguments. The Washington men attempted to show that there was no need in this country for railroad reform and mentioned many reasons why they considered it unnecessary. Washington constantly referred to Europe and some of the state-owned railroads of those countries. The judges were Professor H. G. Merriam, Professor M. P. Ewer, both from Reed College, and Professor Ralph Hetzel, from the Oregon Agricultural College.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Cal. March 19.—(Special.)—Stanford tonight won from Oregon by a vote of two of the judges, the third holding that the Oregonians had presented the best arguments. The judges were Professor H. G. Merriam, Professor M. P. Ewer, both from Reed College, and Professor Ralph Hetzel, from the Oregon Agricultural College.

KARLSRUHE RUMOR GROWS

British Admiralty Believes German Cruiser Sank Near West Indies.

LONDON, March 20.—The secretary of the British Admiralty announces that there is every reason to believe that the German cruiser Karlsruhe was sunk in the neighborhood of the West Indies at the beginning of November.

AMERICA IS CHIEF GIVER

Country Far in Lead in Work of Relief of Belgium. HAVRE, March 19.—Statistics concerning the relief afforded the inhabitants of Belgium up to the end of January give the total of contributions of money and provisions as follows: From the United States, \$6,200,000; from Great Britain, \$2,000,000; from New Zealand, \$500,000; from Australia, \$500,000; from Canada, \$300,000, and from Spain and Italy \$20,000 each.

ALLIES' BLOCKADE VIEWED AS LEGAL

Washington's Official Opinion Shifts.

DIPLOMATS CONSULT NAVY MEN

United States Keeps Possible Future Wars in Mind.

OLD SYSTEM IS AT END

That Submarines Have Changed Radius of Activity Is Now Admitted—"European Waters" May Be Accepted as Definition.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—While the United States Government does not know officially as yet whether Great Britain and her allies intend to maintain a legal blockade or propose to apply general rules of contraband and non-contraband in enforcing their embargo on commercial intercourse between Germany and neutral countries, American naval officers and officials expressed the opinion today that the definite limit prescribed—"European waters, including the Mediterranean"—might be construed as a legal area of operations for a blockading fleet. In the formulation of the policy of the United States relative to the treatment of neutral shipping by the allied fleets, naval officers of high rank have constantly been consulted, so that in none of the diplomatic communications sent abroad might there be anything said which could compromise the activities of the American fleet itself in possible future wars. Naval Officers Consulted. Rear-Admiral Fiske, aide for operations in the Navy Department, conferred with Counsellor Lansing at the State Department daily and on the neutrality board of three, which acts in an advisory capacity to the counsellor, there are two naval officers—Captains Oliver and Knapp, authorities in maritime law. Much consideration has been given at the conferences to the newly-developed activity of submarines. It is frankly admitted by the naval officers that the old form of blockade by warships close to an enemy coast passed with the investment of Santiago in the Spanish-American war. Accordingly, in the message of inquiry to Great Britain and France asking for an explanation of their recent declaration of an embargo, the United States conceded that the activity of submarines might make physically impossible a close blockade of an enemy coast, and suggested that if the declaration of the allies were to be construed as a legal blockade, some "activity" be announced. This principle of a "radius of action," or area of operations for a blockading

BUMPAS HELLHOLE ERUPTS

Lassen Volcano Again Active and Three Craters Emit Smoke.

REDDING, Cal., March 19.—Lassen peak and two smaller craters emitted clouds of sulphurous smoke and steam today that were visible within a radius of 10 miles.

POKER LEGAL IN NEVADA

"Kitty." However, Outlawed; Pari-Mutuel Racing Betting Permitted. CARSON CITY, Nev., March 19.—After rushing through a gambling law the Nevada Legislature adjourned early today. The gambling law makes all gambling a felony except poker, whist, solo and five hundred. When no percentage is taken these are lawful games. Otherwise they are felonies. Pari-mutuel betting on tracks of licensed associations is permitted.

Russian General Wounded.

PETROGRAD, March 19.—Lieutenant-General Lisovski was wounded yesterday, while directing the operations of his division in Poland.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 61.4 degrees; minimum temperature, 40.5 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair; northeasterly winds. War. Will Irwin describes how British turned seeming defeat into victory at crucial battle of Ypres. Page 1. Vienna demands that Italy fulfill neutrality agreement before cessation of Trent regarded with suspicion. Page 2. Russian occupation of German seaport changes situation in east. Page 2. Frederick Palmer says Canadians are at home in trenches in France. Page 2. Two British and one French battleships are sunk in Dardanelles. Page 1. National. Washington more inclined to accept "European waters" as legal definition of blockade area. Page 1. Domestic. Physician testifies women on tenant farms of Southwest are overworked. Page 5. Sports. Portland baseball team begins secret signal drill. Page 6. Fans to meet today to plan opening game against Seattle. Page 6. Pacific Northwest. Mitchell Point road assured, say members of Highway Board. Page 5. Needs of some University under discussion by Regents. Page 5. Oregon debaters beat Washington at Eugene. Page 1. Commercial and Marine. Scarcity of tonnage stops wheat selling in local market. Page 15. Chicago wheat breaks on rumors of Austro-Italian crisis. Page 15. Stocks recover most of ground lost early in week. Page 15. Trade improvement reported from every part of country. Page 15. Deal with Puget Sound Towing Company likely to be closed or dropped at once. Page 15. Portland and Vicinity. Enthusiasm grips business men at two great rallies. Page 1. Arson trial halted to investigate charge against Glenn Hoover, Seattle attorney. Page 11. Ruin of civil service begun formally at Brooklyn. Page 11. Gains of civil service in postoffice predicted. Page 11.

ENTHUSIASM GRIPS ALL AT BANQUETS

Spirit of Co-operation Pervades Big Rallies.

FUSION OF CLUBS PRAISED

Speakers Dwell on Greater Opportunities Now Open.

CONGRATULATIONS COME IN

Commercial Bodies Send Greetings to Diners, Commending Plans That May Be Done.

Such a manifestation of enthusiasm as few cities have seen in recent years was shown in the get-together meeting held by the business men of Portland last night at the Commercial Club and the Multnomah Hotel, to prepare for the launching of the membership campaign which is to begin next week and crown the completion of the consolidation of the old Commercial Club of Portland and the Chamber of Commerce into the New Chamber of Commerce. "Never before in my experience in this line of work," declared H. V. Chase, at the Multnomah Hotel, "have I worked in a community where the interest was so great that one room was not sufficient to accommodate all of the business men who turned out to participate in such meetings as these that we have been holding tonight."

Three Purposes Outlined.

"Co-operation, economy and efficiency are the main objects to be accomplished through the formation of this new organization," said A. H. Mills, president of the First National Bank, who was the principal speaker at the Commercial Club meeting, and who spoke also at the Multnomah Hotel. Mr. Mills compared the past and present efforts of Portland's numerous commercial organizations to the disjointed "struggles of the American colonies previous to the Revolution. He insisted that there is just as much need for joint effort here in Portland as there was for union among the colonies. "We have been aggressive, civic competition," he asserted, "that calls for the best brain and talent that we have if we are to forge ahead."

All Called From Bleachers.

"No one," he continued, "can fight Portland's battle alone while the rest of the citizens sit on the bleachers and criticize. After tonight let it not be said that there is anyone on the bleachers." (Concluded on Page 12.)

Friday's War Moves

THE most striking development of the war news yesterday was the announcement of the destruction in the Dardanelles of two British battleships, the Irresistible and the Ocean, and the French battleship Bouvet, while engaged in operations against the Turkish forts. In addition, two other vessels, the Inflexible and the Gaulois, British and French battleships, were put out of action. All the crew of the Bouvet probably were lost. The British report attributes the loss of the vessels to drifting mines.

Beyond the operations in the Dardanelles, the most important news of the day concerns the reported occupation by the Russians of Memel, a German port on the Baltic, as announced in the German official communication. Memel is a town of considerable importance in Northeast Prussia and the presence there of Russian forces is taken by military observers here to indicate that the Russian generals have decided to attempt a big sweep down through East Prussia in an endeavor to compel the Germans to retreat back from Northern Poland. Again North Poland has been transformed into an immense bog by the thaw which has set in just as Field Marshal von Hindenburg has started his offensive against Przasnysz. It is declared that it is impossible, except at widely separated high places, to move, let alone fight.

The Germans, however, have started an offensive in Central Poland, where they have commenced an attack on the Russians in the region of the Pilica River. There is also heavy fighting in Galicia, the Carpathians and Bukovina, despite the heavy snow. On the western front no operations of great importance have taken place, although the French continue their efforts to work their way forward in the Champagne and Argonne regions and the Belgians still are active in the little bit of their territory remaining in their hands.

The political situation as regards Austria and Italy remains obscure, but there are persistent reports in circulation in London that the negotiations for the cession of Austrian territory to Italy have broken down, Italy's demands having been considered excessive.

BREAD RULE IS RELAXED

Berlin Withdraws Restrictions as to Use of Wheat Flour. LONDON, March 20.—German newspapers reaching here contain the announcement by the Berlin City Council withdrawing its restrictions regarding the use of wheat flour in bread, which formerly could not contain more than 70 per cent of wheat flour. According to the announcement, all wheat bread may now be baked without penalty.

RUSSIANS NEAR BOSPHORUS

Constantinople Thrown Into Panic by Approach of Fleet. LONDON, March 20.—"It is officially confirmed that a Russian squadron has approached the northern part of the Bosphorus," says Heuter's Petrograd correspondent. "The appearance of the squadron caused a great panic in Constantinople."

VICTORY SNATCHED FROM SEEMING ROUT

Everything Risked at Battle of Ypres.

LAST RESERVES IN ACTION

Tide Turned by Violation of Accepted Strategy.

OCTOBER 31 CRUCIAL DAY

Will Irwin Describes How Disaster Followed Disaster Just Before British General Brought Enemy to Standstill.

BY WILL IRWIN. (Following is the conclusion of Mr. Irwin's account of the British actions in Northern France, which culminated in the battle of Ypres, regarded as perhaps the turning point of the campaign.)

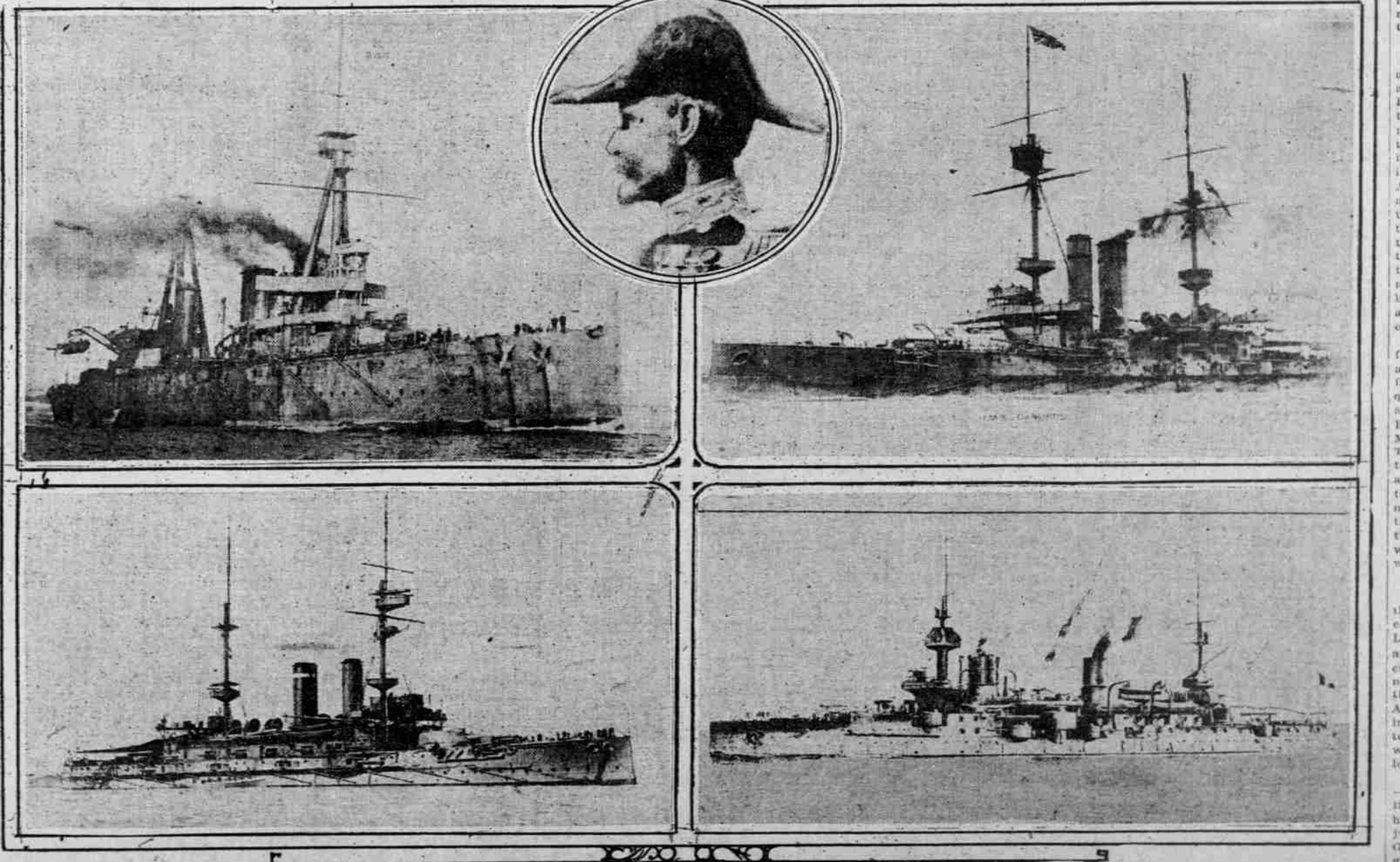
LONDON, March 4.—Rawlinson, stretching his lines beyond all security, was fighting a desperate battle to hold Ypres and to maintain touch with the Belgians and their French reinforcements to his left. By the 20th that line had grown seriously thin; by the 20th, too, the German masses were coming on faster and faster, and they were beginning to strike at his weakest spot—his touch with the French and Belgians to his left. Meantime, General French, even before the whole army was detrained, had swung his main force through a series of maneuvers which, I suspect, the soldier of the future will study for their brilliance and for their defiance of military tradition. Visitors returning to London in October described general headquarters and the town which surrounded it as "the quietest spot in Europe."

"Thinking Machine" at Work. Though the guns sounded everywhere in the distance, peasants were plowing, boys going fishing, housewives scrubbing the doorsteps, just as usual. Heart of the town and hope of the empire was that house, where this small, compact, blue-eyed man with his mixture of French and Irish blood, which means genius; his overlay of English blood, which means stability; this old beau sabreur transformed by the change of warfare to a thinking machine, was solving a situation which was like 20 chess problems at once. Of mornings he worked at his desk; of afternoons he held council or visited the lines; at luncheon, at tea and at dinner he thrashed it out with his officers.

"He violated," says a friendly critic, "every rule of warfare—and succeeded." They were judicious violations. "This is a new warfare," he said, "the old rules do not hold. He was making the traditions of a new warfare. Many Separate Battles Fought. So complex is this new warfare that a layman cannot follow the separate actions which made the great result. Indeed, French's own dispatches, written at a time when he must conceal much from the enemy, fail to describe these actions in any detail. Every day he let loose a separate hell against the increasing German hordes at his front. A spectator, swooping the terrain from an aeroplane, could have made little of those lines crawling through the mud, those streaks of smoke and flame along the hills, those masses of troops in the towns. But French was bending all these complex things to one end—to make untenable any German position below the line drawn across the Ploeghe and Northern France by the strategists of the allies. In all this torn, bleeding province of fire and death, the action rose to separate battles, which would have been famous in old wars. The sixteenth-century guns of the French artillery support, the rifles and bayonets of the English third corps, took the hill of Mont des Cats; did it, too, against odds. That same third corps—always the attacking force and almost always against odds—went forward in a week to Armentieres, a gain of 20 miles or more. The second corps, fighting on the right of the third, made a narrower turn. It pivoted on La Bassée; its left went forward ten miles, to a point where it was in touch with the third. German Resistance Stiffens. So, as the critical 20th approached, the main force under General French extended for some 25 miles from before La Bassée to a point beyond Ypres; and now the German resistance stiffened and held. Neither the English nor the French could drive much further. But the line was established. And it was a straight line. Half-formed, insecure, it still reached out and touched the Franco-Belgian defenses which ran from the Forest of Houthoulet to the sea. That extreme left of the British line—the point where it joined the line of its allies—was held by Rawlinson's harassed, overextended division. And just then more Germans and still more Germans were rushing down the Belgian railways. "They seemed to rain down on us everywhere," a spectator

(Concluded on Page 15.)

WARSHIPS OF ALLIES DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN DARDANELLES THURSDAY AND FLEET COMMANDER WHO RELINQUISHES COMMAND.



TOP (LEFT)—BRITISH BATTLESHIP INFLEXIBLE, WHICH IS DAMAGED. CENTER—VICE-ADMIRAL SACKVILLE HAMILTON CARDEN. RIGHT—BRITISH BATTLESHIP OCEAN, DESTROYED. BELOW (LEFT)—BRITISH BATTLESHIP IRRESISTIBLE, WHICH IS DESTROYED. RIGHT—FRENCH BATTLESHIP BOUVET, DESTROYED.

(Concluded on Page 15.)