

### GERMANS TAKE OUTER POSITIONS ON FRENCH LINE

Capture of 800 Meters of French Positions Reported—Counter-Attack Dislodges Them From Most of the Trenches Taken—Seven Battalions Participate and Losses Heavy.

BERLIN, Feb. 22, via London.—The capture of 800 meters of French positions east of Souchez by German troops is announced today by the German war office.

PARIS, Feb. 22.—German forces yesterday evening delivered a strong attack against the French positions at the forest of Givenchy (east of Souchez), according to official announcements made by the French war office this afternoon, and were successful in penetrating the first lines of the French trenches. They then occupied some of the French communicating trenches, but a French counter-attack resulted in driving them from all but a few of these positions.

The German forces engaged in this attack amounted to seven battalions, and, according to the French statement, they suffered heavy losses.

The text of the statement follows: **Strong Attack Made.**

"In the Artois district after the violent bombardment previously reported to have taken place yesterday evening, the enemy directed a strong attack against our positions at the forest of Givenchy. They were successful in penetrating into our first line trenches along a front of about 800 meters and at several places they gained lodgment in our communicating trenches."

"There followed a counter-attack on our part and as a result the enemy now hold only a few positions in these latter trenches. The German attacking force at this point consisted of seven battalions. They suffered considerable loss as a result of our curtain of fire and from the activities of our infantry and our machine guns.

"Southeast of Roefinecourt the enemy caused the explosion of a mine, but our troops occupied the crater.

**Artillery Duels.**

"In the region of Verdun the artillery activity has continued. Yesterday evening the Germans attacked our positions to the east of Brabant-sur-Meuse, between the forest of Hautet and Herbe forest, gaining a footing in some of our advanced trenches. At certain points they pushed on to our communicating trenches, but our counter-attacks drove them out from these latter positions. We took about fifty prisoners.

"East of Zeppois two German attacks were repulsed by us.

"There has been considerable artillery activity along the front between Chapelotte and Bar de Sept."

### CHINESE REBELLION REACHES HU-NAN

PEKING, Feb. 22.—Rebels made an attempt yesterday on the governor's mansion at Chang Sha, capital of the province of Hu-Nan. They were repulsed and captured. The leaders were put to death.

The province of Hu-Nan is in southern China. This is the first indication that the revolutionary movement began several weeks ago, ostensibly to prevent restoration of the monarchy in China, has spread to this province.

### GILL AND GRIFFITHS NOMINATED, SEATTLE

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 22.—Mayor Hiram C. Gill, seeking re-nomination in yesterday's primary election, received 10,845 of the 58,411 votes cast, his nearest competitor, who will be Gill's opponent in the election of March 7, being August E. Griffiths, with 15,932. Councilman Oliver T. Erickson got 9724 votes. Charles D. Raxmer, socialist candidate for mayor, received 5249 votes.

### SLAV ADVANCE SWEEPS ALONG ENTIRE FRONT

Advantage at Erzerum Followed Up by Solid and Unbroken Ranks Sweeping South to Lake Van and West to Trebizond—Turk Casualties at Erzerum Total 40,000.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 22, via London.—According to the latest dispatches reaching Petrograd from the Caucasian front, the Turkish losses at Erzerum are estimated at 40,000 killed, wounded and prisoners.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 22.—Both on the center in the Erzerum district and on the widely extended northern and southern flanks the Russians are everywhere continuing with energy pursuit of the routed Turkish armies. The Russian advance is having the effect not only of severing all connections between the now isolated Turkish army groups, but of constantly strengthening communications of their own forces, from the Black sea district to the recently occupied town of Mash, on the southern Russian wing.

**Solid Unbroken Advance.**

Thus the operations of the Russians are assuming the character of a solid and unbroken advance along the entire front. On the Black sea coast the Russians have now driven the Turks twenty miles west of Vitsen and the occupation of Trebizond is thought to be imminent.

The Turks, evidently impressed with the headway the Russian forces are making, appear to be inspired with the sole aim of extricating themselves from their difficult position before they are surrounded and are making no effort to hold endangered points now in their possession.

With a minimum of resistance, consisting chiefly of perfunctory rear guard actions, the Turkish retreat is one of the most precipitate of the war.

**Drive on Lake Van.**

With Mash and Aehlat in their possession, the Russian forces on the southern wing are now proceeding toward Bitlis. Once their objective is obtained, Lake Van, which has been the scene of important fighting since the beginning of the Caucasian campaign, will rest securely in Russian hands.

The successful Russian operations near Koushikala officially recorded, are of importance in respect of the strengthening of communications between the center and the right flank.

### NATION'S CAPITAL PAYS HOMAGE TO WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Every agency of the American government paused today to pay homage to the memory of George Washington in the capital which bears his name. President Wilson, Secretary Daniels, Ambassador Jusserand and other national figures gathered at a celebration at Continental Memorial hall under the auspices of the Associated Patriotic societies.

Both houses of congress suspended business while Senator Johnson, of Maine and Representative Raker, of California, read General Washington's farewell address, with its pregnant phrases warning against "insidious wiles of foreign influence," and "the impostures of pretended patriotism."

The farewell address has been read in congress every year for generations but probably never before was Washington's words so closely applied to present day conditions.

At Mount Vernon, on the Potomac, wreaths and flowers were laid on the first president's tomb, many made pilgrimages to the mansion, and reverently passed through the rooms where he lived and died.

At Continental Memorial hall the president and a large audience applauded the reading of Washington's views on national preparedness in excerpts from his message to congress.

President Wilson made no address.

### RHEIMS CHILDREN WEAR GAS MASKS TO SCHOOL, FEARING ASPHYXIATING BOMBS



### 6 KILLED, 20 HURT MILFORD WRECK

Special Passenger Train on New Haven Runs into Rear of Regular Passenger Just as Freight Was Passing on Other Track—Parts of Three Trains Piled in Wreckage.

MILFORD, Conn., Feb. 22.—Six persons were killed and more than a score injured, including many Yale students, today in a wreck on the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad near here. A special passenger train from New Haven ran into the rear of No. 79 from Springfield just as a freight train was passing on the other track. Parts of the three trains were piled in a mass of wreckage and several coaches rolled over and over down an embankment. A statement issued at 2:30 this afternoon by the New Haven said four trainmen and two passengers were killed.

Among the dead are the flagman of No. 79, who had gone back to protect his train, which had been stopped by a broken air pipe; Engineer Curtis and Fireman McGinnis of the special, and a man and a woman passenger on that train whose bodies were seen under the wreckage.

The Connecticut River Special No. 79 had stopped about a mile and a half east of Indian river bridge because of a broken air pipe. The flagman went back with his red flag. No. 79 was drawn by a motor, while the special, which had been made up at New Haven shortly after the other train left, was drawn by a locomotive. It approached the stalled train at a good headway.

At the time of the collision a freight train was running west on the next track. When the smash came a passenger coach was forced over against the freight train, adding to the mixup. The boiler of the engine, drawing the special exploded, throwing wreckage in every direction. The engine of the special was thrown down the embankment and was followed by the first two coaches rolling over and over. The tracks within a moment were piled high with wreckage. Most of the passengers in the special were from Hartford and New Haven and way points.

The injured passengers were being taken by special trains both to New Haven and Bridgeport.

### BATTLE CRUISERS PLANNED FOR NAVY FINEST IN WORLD

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The 35-knot battle cruisers planned for the new naval program will be the finest and most powerful ships of their class in the world, Rear Admiral Badger of the general board today told the house naval committee. With the highest speed ever proposed for heavy fighting craft, and main batteries of ten 14-inch guns, he said, they would be overwhelmingly superior to any other battle cruisers afloat.

On the new dreadnoughts, he said, ten 16-inch guns distributed in five turrets were advocated strongly by the board because all great navies were increasing their size and power of batteries.

Many of the latest European ships, he said, carried 15-inch weapons; it was reported the French were preparing to install 16-inch, and Rear Admiral Badger said both German and British designers were planning for 17-inch guns in ships to come. With ten 16-inch guns, he said, new American dreadnoughts would be the most powerful afloat.

### AMBASSADOR GERARD BREAKS COLLAR BONE

LONDON, Feb. 22.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company says that James W. Gerard, American ambassador to Germany, broke his collar bone while skiing yesterday near Munich and also injured his left side. It is said his injuries are not serious.

### ENTIRE CREW OF ZEPPELIN PERISH WITH AIRSHIP

PARIS, Feb. 22.—The entire crew of the Zeppelin airship brought down by French guns near Brabant le Roi yesterday, twenty-two in number, perished, according to a Havas dispatch from Bar le Duc.

The Zeppelin was brought to earth by the first shot from an automobile mounted cannon at Rovigny, the dispatch adds, at a height of 6000 feet.

The Zeppelin was one of the latest model, according to the dispatch, being of the marine type, and numbered L-277. Another Zeppelin was following it 15 kilometers behind when the French gunners began to fire.

The crew of the second Zeppelin, witnessing the destruction of the L-277, turned their airship sharply and proceeded in another direction.

The presence of the Zeppelin was announced between 8:30 and 8:45. It fought against the wind and advanced slowly. As soon as it was within range the cannonade began. Two shells burst in the rear of the dirigible, while an incendiary projectile seemed to tear across the Zeppelin, igniting the right side of the craft.

The fire was soon sweeping along the entire length of the airship. It burned steadily, no report from an explosion being heard. Little by little it came down, lighted up by flaming streaks of the envelope which became detached.

In touching the earth the bombs which the Zeppelin carried exploded, and those who arrived found on the ground nothing but the debris of the airship, among which lay twenty-three bodies.

### GERMANY NOT TO SINK LINERS

Confidential Advices From Berlin Indicate That Previous Assurances on Unresisting Liners Holds Good for Future Submarine Operations—Wishes Early Settlement.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Confidential advices from Berlin today indicate that Germany soon will inform the United States that her previous assurances that unresisting liners will not be attacked without warning holds good for future submarine operations, provided, however, that such liners do not carry armament.

The German government will contend, the advices state, that that which is characterized as defensive armament really is offensive armament when submarines are concerned and proposes a discussion with the United States of what defensive armament may properly consist.

As none of the British and French liners now relating from American ports carry any guns whatever, such assurances from Germany will be in the nature of reassurances for the safety for the neutrals they carry, even under the terms of the new submarine campaign.

How far such assurances will go toward meeting the state department's objection that the Lusitania agreement as at present drawn applies only to the past and not to the future, probably only can be determined when they are formally laid before Secretary Lansing.

There were intimations from official quarters today that the United States would not permit the negotiations over the general subject of armed ships to be drawn out indefinitely. The administration, it is said, wishes the question clarified without delay.

### FLOOD SWEEPS OUT PLATT RIVER BRIDGE

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 22.—Nearly 250 feet of the new wagon bridge across the Platt river at Louisville, Neb., was swept out early today by the ice and high water. The river is rising rapidly a short distance above Louisville, where an ice gorge has formed and is threatening damage to surrounding farm lands and property.

A small gorge has formed at the Missouri Pacific bridge at Louisville, but dynamite is being used successfully to clear the channel.

At South Bend, five miles west of Louisville, the water and ice have swept out a few feet of the Burlington tracks and the Rock Island road is weakened.

### PREPAREDNESS PLEAS AT DEFENSE SOCIETY

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—Plea for "preparedness" couched with a warning by Charles J. Bonaparte, former United States attorney-general, that the United States was facing grave perils were voiced today by speakers at a meeting of the national committee of the American Defense society held here.

Rear Admiral Fliege had been asked to deliver an address, but had been forbidden to speak by Secretary Daniels.

### MILD WINTER PREVENTS CZAR REGAINING LINE

Openest Season in Decades an Important Factor in Rendering Futile Russian Attempts to Drive Invaders From Pinsk Sector—Marshes Not Frozen Over.

PINSK, Russia, by courier to Berlin, Feb. 21, via London, Feb. 22.—The mildest winter of decades along the present German lines in the east has been an important factor in rendering futile, in this section at least, all Russian efforts to regain their lost territory. An Associated Press correspondent, the first to have the opportunity to view the "machine gun front," in and about the Pripet swamps since the Teutons took up their positions in September and October, has just returned from a trip along several miles of the swampy fighting line.

Every mile of this front fairly bristles with deadly machine guns, which cover every inch of terrain. Though the correspondent had no means of ascertaining how many men defend the Pinsk sector the multitude of rapid firing guns gives the impression that even a small number of men should be able to hold the line indefinitely. In addition to the guns, millions of running feet of barbed wire entanglements transforming each village and house into a veritable fortress, render the German positions from a layman's standpoint, impregnable—which the military authorities claim they are.

**Swamps Not Frozen.**

This impression is heightened by the fact that the swamps, from two to ten miles wide in the region of Pinsk, have not once been frozen over entirely during the winter. In fact, the mild weather with the resultant open swamp land between the German and Russian lines, has made extraordinary fortifications unnecessary thus far. Probably nowhere on any front is the term "stationary warfare" more applicable than in the Pinsk district, where lonely outposts in blockhouses erected on islands in the swamp lands and roving patrols give the only real touch of fighting.

The German lines at Pinsk protrude farthest east of any along the whole front from the Baltic to Galicia. They project in a semi-oval form. The greatest danger to the forces at Pinsk, therefore, is a flanking movement from the north—the swamps afford protection from the south. In consequence the northern lines have been made extremely strong.

**Fenced by Barbed Wire.**

Not only is every yard of this front fenced with entanglements 100 to 120 feet wide, but there are supporting points at short intervals which are veritable fortresses in themselves. They are surrounded by star-shaped barricades of wire. Each of these supporting points is subdivided into barricaded sections, with bomb-proof shelters and with machine guns to fire along both sides of each point of the stars. As a final precaution each supporting point is surrounded by a single wire, stretched knee high, on which hang ten pairs of empty bottles, which clink the alarm the moment the wire is touched.

A novel feature of the German defense in this section is that the troops are composed almost entirely of crack cavalry regiments, numbering high nobles among their officers.

The lot of the troops on this northern flank of the front, however, is happier than that of those east and south of Pinsk, for they have been able to entrench themselves.

### 'DAY IN CONGRESS

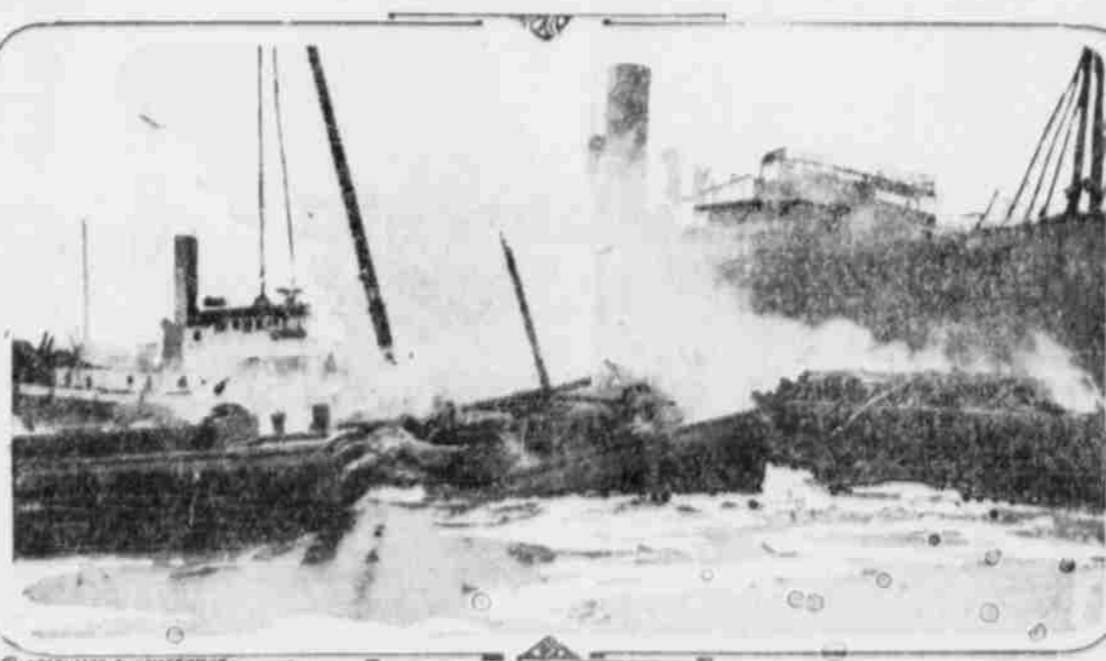
WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Senator Senator Johnson of Maine read General Washington's farewell address.

Recessed at 10:10 a. m. to noon Wednesday in respect to memory of Washington.

**House:** Representative Raker of California read General Washington's farewell address.

Rear Admiral Fliege testified before naval affairs committee.

### FIREBUG SOUGHT BY POLICE AFTER \$5,000,000 SHIP BLAZE



Freighters in flames at Brooklyn pier when \$5,000,000 fire destroyed three ships, thirty-seven lighters and barges and a tugboat pier. Ships were laden with war munitions for the allies. Police are searching for an incendiary.