



# BAGDAD CAPTURED BY BRITISH FORCES

## TURKS LOSE ARTILLERY BY DEFEAT

Fall of Bagdad Comes As Sequel to Series of Brilliant Operations Carried Out By British and Indian Troops—Large Numbers of Prisoners and Quantities of Munitions Captured—Two-Thirds of Guns Taken or Thrown in Tigris.

LONDON, March 12.—After announcing the fall of Bagdad in the house of commons today, Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, said there was every reason to believe that two-thirds of the Turks' artillery had fallen into the hands of the British or had been thrown into the Tigris.

**Energetic Pursuit.**  
Mr. Bonar Law said the fall of Bagdad came as a sequel to a series of brilliant operations carried out by British and Indian troops with dash and determination for which no praise could be too high. When General Maude, commander of the Mesopotamia army crossed the Tigris above Kut-el-Amara last month, he imperiled the safety of the Turkish army. The Turks immediately retired on Bagdad and were pursued with the utmost energy. A large number of prisoners and quantities of materials of all kinds were captured. Mr. Bonar Law said, there being good reason to believe that two thirds of their artillery was captured or thrown into the river. On March 5 British cavalry came up with the Turkish rear guards 27 miles from Bagdad. After an action the Turks retreated in the night, abandoning a position they had prepared.

On March 7 British cavalry found the Turks in position on the Diala river, eight miles from the outskirts of Bagdad. The river, he said, was unfordable and constituted a formidable obstacle. General Maude therefore withdrew his cavalry and brought the infantry into action.

**Stubborn Resistance.**  
Meanwhile, the Turks had received reinforcements and offered stubborn resistance along the Diala. General Maude threw a bridge across the Tigris at its confluence with the Diala. Notwithstanding the heat and dust, Mr. Bonar Law said, the British made a brilliant march of 18 miles toward Bagdad and found the Turks strongly posted six miles southwest of the town. The Turks were attacked at once and driven back to their second position two miles in the rear.

On the night of March 8, the British established a footing on the north bank of the Diala. On the 9th and 10th the troops on the right bank of the Tigris, in spite of dust storms, pressed their advantage and drove back the Turks to within three

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## CONTRACTS LET FOR ARMED AIRSHIPS

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Purchase of non-rigid airships for coast and harbor patrol work at a total cost of \$640,250 was announced today by the navy department.

The Curtiss Aeroplane company of Buffalo, N. Y., was awarded three for \$122,250; the Connecticut Aircraft company, New Haven, two for \$84,000; the Goodyear Tire and Rubber company, Akron, Ohio, nine for \$369,000, and the B. F. Goodrich company of Akron, Ohio, two for \$83,000. Deliveries will begin in 120 days.

The airships are the first of such type to be bought by the government under the \$5,000,000 appropriation for aeronautics.

## FORMAL NOTICE OF ARMED SHIPS SENT TO EUROPE

Foreign Nations Notified That American Ships Are to Carry Armed Guards—Navy to Equip With Arms All Ships Whose Owners Apply to It—President Recovers From Cold.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Formal notice that American ships traversing the German submarine zone are to carry "armed guards for the protection of the vessel and the lives of the persons on board," was sent by the state department today to embassies and legations of all foreign governments in Washington.

Following is the text of the communication as made public by the state department:

"In view of the announcement by the imperial German government on January 31, 1917, that all ships, those of neutrals included, met within certain zones of the high seas, would be sunk without any pretense being taken for the safety of the persons on board and without the exercise of visit and search, the government of the United States has determined to place upon all American merchant vessels sailing through the barred areas an armed guard for the protection of the vessels and the lives of the persons on board."

The navy department's position is that it will equip with arms all ships whose owners apply for it. President Wilson had completely recovered today from the cold which kept him in bed most of last week and this morning held two conferences, the first with Senator Martin, the new democratic leader of the senate and the second with Secretary Lansing.

## FRENCH CONTINUE CHAMPAGNE GAINS

PARIS, March 12.—The French continued their offensive operations in the Champagne last night. Further gains in the region of Maisons de Champagne are reported in today's official announcement. Prisoners were taken in patrol encounters at different points on the front.

BERLIN, March 12.—The following statement on submarine operations was issued today by the Overseas News Agency (the official German news bureau):

"The official report for March 11 states that 42,000 tons of shipping were sunk. Together with the reports of March 7 and 8 this gives a total of more than 114,000."

## JURY PASSING ON THAW'S SANITY

PHILADELPHIA, March 12.—The jury of six had its first sitting today in the lunacy proceedings started two weeks ago by Mrs. Mary Copley Thaw against her son, Harry K. Thaw. The proceedings are being conducted behind closed doors. Thaw was not present nor was District Attorney Swan of New York represented.

Under the laws of Pennsylvania the jury must first "inspect" the person whose sanity it must determine, therefore no testimony will be taken until the jurymen visit St. Mary's hospital, where Thaw is recovering from self-inflicted razor wounds.

Thaw cut his throat on January 11, while police were searching for him on a criminal charge. While the New York authorities were pressing for his extradition, Mrs. Thaw instituted the lunacy proceedings.

Dr. Kirby, who has been attending Thaw, said today that his patient is still "hazy."

## EDISON, FORGETTING TO EAT OR SLEEP, WORKS ALL NIGHT ON U. S. WAR PLANS



Thomas A. Edison at work in his laboratory which is in a shack at East Orange, N. J., on new war terrors for the United States government.

## HIRAM JOHNSON QUILTS AS GOVERNOR TO BE SENATOR

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 12.—Governor Hiram W. Johnson announced in a formal statement this morning that he would resign as the state's chief executive next Thursday, March 15. The governor said in making known his decision to retire and assume his seat in the United States senate: "That he had in mind but one thought—my obligation and my duty to the people of California."

Lieutenant Governor Stephens will assume the governorship probably at noon Thursday.

The announcement followed an unsubstantiated report that he would resign the governorship and keep the governorship.

Governor Johnson's second term of four years was slightly more than half completed. He was elected United States senator running on the republican and progressive tickets by nearly 300,000 plurality, although the state went democratic for the presidency by a plurality of 3,700. The governor is registered as a progressive.

An effort was made by many of his supporters in the state to persuade him to remain in office until December, as some other governors, including La Follette of Wisconsin, have done under similar circumstances.

Governor Johnson will be succeeded automatically by William D. Stephens of Los Angeles, a former congressman. Stephens was appointed lieutenant governor by Governor Johnson after a considerable interval following the death of Lieutenant Governor John Eshelman on February 26, 1915.

## FAENCH LINER GIVEN PERMIT TO ARM

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Permission for clearance of the French liner Rochambeau from New York, the first belligerent merchantman to arrive in an American harbor with guns mounted fore, as well as aft, was today granted by the state department, which ruled that the Rochambeau as a passenger carrying vessel plying usual routes, was a peaceable merchantman, entitled to take adequate precautions against illegal attack.

## PLAN TO AVERT STRIKES IN CASE WAR DECLARED

NEW YORK, March 12.—Plans for averting labor strikes in case of war were announced here today by the National Civic Federation and will be placed before the national council of defense.

Conciliation committees composed jointly of employers, labor leaders and the public would be formed in every industrial center. In this connection a statement by the civic organization's mediation committee today said:

"There is need of early precaution on this subject, not only on account of the publicly announced intentions of certain radical organizations to promote strikes and riots in every manufacturing locality where they can possibly get a hearing but also on account of the experience in England where it was found, after the South Wales miners' strike involving 200,000 workmen that the only means of settling and preventing strikes was through such voluntary efforts, the munitions compulsory act having proved futile."

## GRIEF DRIVES CONSUL TO COMMIT SUICIDE

LONDON, March 12.—Carlos Jaeger, Brazilian consul general in Vienna, has committed suicide, following an abortive attempt at self-destruction by his wife, according to an Amsterdam dispatch to the Central News. Senator Jaeger's act was prompted by grief over the death of her children and Senator Jaeger took his life in the belief that his wife was dead.

## NAVY RECRUITING SHOWS GREAT GAIN

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Navy recruiting continues to show a great increase. For the first eight days in March the net gain was 716 men. On March 1 there were 59,637 enlisted men in the navy and on March 8, 59,753. There are still needed for mobilization, including regulars and reserves, 102,265.

## CHINA VOTES TO SEVER RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

Chinese Parliament by Vote of 431 to 87 Decide to Break With Teutons—Premier and Cabinet Appear Before Lower House to Support Measure—War Declaration Up to Parliament

LONDON, March 12.—A Peking dispatch to Reuter's says that the house of representatives at a secret session approved the government's diplomatic policy, including a rupture with Germany.

Vote is 431 to 87.

PEKING, March 10.—(Delayed)—Premier Tuan Chi Jui, accompanied by the entire cabinet, appeared before the house and the senate today and stated that the cabinet and the president had decided that China should sever diplomatic relations with Germany. The house approved severance of relations by a vote of 431 to 87. The senate will vote tomorrow. It is expected to support the cabinet.

The premier said the cabinet would not make a declaration of war without submitting its decision to parliament.

The Chinese foreign office announced on February 5 that it would sever diplomatic relations with Germany if the unrestricted submarine warfare decree was put into effect. On March 4 the Chinese cabinet agreed that relations should be broken but President Li Yuan Hung refused to accept the decision of the ministers and Premier Tuan Chi Jui resigned. Three days later, however, the premier resumed office after President Li Yuan Hung agreed to give the cabinet power to frame the country's foreign policy and also on condition that parliament should vote on the question of a breach with Germany.

## Sun Yat Sen Protests

PEKING, March 12.—A message sent by Dr. Sun Yat Sen to Premier Lloyd George urging English officials to cease striving to induce China to join the entente, has been widely published in China. The Chinese newspapers attack the message as ridiculous and ridicule Dr. Sun Yat Sen's suggestion that if China threw in her lot with the allies it might provoke another Boxer uprising with a massacre of foreigners and create dissension among the members of the entente.

The newspapers deny that China is being coerced by England and declare that Dr. Sun Yat Sen is unwarranted in an assertion he makes that a Mohammedan uprising is possible. They condemn the radical leader as a trouble maker.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen was the leader of the revolution which created the Chinese republic. Nothing has been previously received here in regard to his communication to Premier Lloyd George.

## STORSTAD TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING

LONDON, Mar. 12.—The sinking of the Norwegian steamship Storstad in the service of the American commission for relief work in Belgium, occurred in latitude 51:26, longitude 11:50 (in the Atlantic off the southern end of Ireland.) The submarine fired about fifteen shots at a range of three to four miles. The Storstad stopped and hoisted the Belgian relief signal. The submarine submerged, but half an hour later the Storstad, which had not resumed her voyage, was torpedoed without warning as she lay stationary in the water with all the crew on board. She sank at 12:10 p. m.

The crew, including one American has been accounted for in its entirety but the fourth engineer died of exposure before the men were rescued.

## TORNADO KILLS 21, INJURES 200 AT NEW CASTLE

Wayne County, Indiana Swept by Cyclonic Sstorm—500 Families Homeless—Property Damage Runs Into Millions—Path 500 Feet Wide Cut Through Center of Town.

NEW CASTLE, Ind., March 12.—With the coming of daylight, search of the ruins left in the wake of yesterday's tornado which caused the death of at least 21 persons here, the serious injury of 200 others and about \$1,000,000 property damage, was redoubled and it was believed several more bodies would be found. More than 500 families were made homeless, about half of whom will require immediate financial assistance, it was estimated.

The tornado struck the city from the west after leveling the rolling mills of Blue River valley. It swept through the entire width of the city from Sixth to 25th street. The first homes in the path of the twister were practically leveled to the ground after which the wind apparently raised slightly, taking the roofs from the houses from Tenth to Twentieth streets, where it again dipped, sweeping practically every house before it to 25th street. The greatest damage was done in the south part of the city, where a great many of the factory employes reside and several thousand were homeless throughout the night. Two hundred special officers were sworn in by Mayor Watkins and a strict patrol of the affected districts was maintained.

## Cuts Wide Path.

The tornado cut a path from 300 to 500 feet in width through the city for a distance of eighteen blocks. It entered the city limits near the southwest boundary and worked its way in a zigzag manner north for two blocks and then east. It turned south near the eastern limits and left the city in a southeasterly direction. Because of darkness and a heavy fog for last night it was impossible to tell the extent of the damage. A shift wind was blowing and added to the suffering of those not rescued promptly. Three or four ruins caught fire and at least one body was found badly burned after the fire was extinguished. The storm lasted only a few minutes.

The entire city turned its attention to rescue work with Major P. A. Davis of the Indiana National Guard and Mayor Watkins in charge. Three companies of Indiana National Guard were here before one o'clock.

A citizen's relief committee was being organized.

## Damage Wide Spread.

Communication with nearby villages (Continued on Page Five.)

## SHERIDAN MUST SERVE FIVE YEARS IN PENITENTIARY

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Penitentiary sentence of five years given to former President Thomas R. Sheridan of the First National Bank of Roseburg, Ore., for misappropriation of bank funds, was today made effective by the supreme court which refused to review his conviction.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Decision on constitutionality of the Adamson railroad law was again postponed today by the supreme court.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Paramount federal authority over navigable rivers and government exemption from damage liability in their improvement, the supreme court decided today in Kentucky test cases, does not extend to their non-navigable tributaries.

## ONE KILLED WRECK AT VOORHIES

Breaking of Axle of a Forward Truck of a Steam Dredge Tears Up 500 Feet of Track, Piles Up 13 Cars, and Blocks All Traffic—18 Hoboes Riding Train, One Dead, 5 Seriously and Balance Slightly Injured—More Bodies May Be Found

Breaking of the axle on the forward truck of a steam dredge, consigned to the Puget Sound Dredging company of Seattle, tore up 500 feet of track and piled up thirteen freight cars of north bound freight No. 222 along and across the right of way at Voorhies crossing, three miles south of Medford at 2 o'clock this morning.

Eighteen hoboes were riding in the cars. One was killed, five are seriously injured and none escaped without minor injuries and cuts. The dead man was J. M. Davidson of Modesto, Cal. He was taken from the wreck to Sacred Heart hospital where he died at 8:15 this morning. He suffered a fracture of the hip and compound fracture of the pelvis. Davidson was 36 years old.

## List of Injured.

The injured are: McElligot, 53 years old, head cut and internal injuries; expected to die. J. E. Murray, 32 years old, of New York, left foot crushed and head cut. Murray was taken from the same car as Davidson who was killed.

J. White, Los Angeles, arm crushed and face cut.

H. O. White, brother of J. White, Gardina, Cal., left arm severely bruised.

Tom Williamson, age 38, Illinois, severe bruise of the left shoulder and hip.

Davidson, McElligot and Murray were taken to Sacred Heart hospital, the two Whites and Williams to the county hospital.

## May Be More Victims.

More bodies may be found as the wreckage is cleared away, one of those escaping with minor injuries stating that following the wreck he had been unable to locate his partner, who was in another car. Another who escaped stated that five men were sleeping in his car. He has found only one of the number beside himself, he said.

Thirteen cars were derailed in addition to the dredge, two being put back on the track with little difficulty. Three oil tank cars, loaded with crude oil are slowly spreading a black lake around the wreckage.

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## SALAZAR REBELS SHOOT-UP TRAIN

JUAREZ, Mexico, March 12.—Salazar's band of Villa rebels fired into a Mexico Central passenger train at Laguna station Saturday, killing 45 of the de facto escort and wounding three of the passengers, according to employees of the Mexican Central who arrived here on a train today. They also said twenty of Salazar's men were killed and 22 wounded by the Carranza escort during the engagement following the holding up of the passenger train.

The Villa rebels were reported to have surrounded the train, overpowered the escort after a brief fight and to have robbed the train of everything which could be carried away. The train was southbound, and after robbing it the wounded passengers were sent to Chihuahua City by the rebels. A train left here early today for the south with a large escort of Yaqui Indians on board.