

# War News.

## Messages Received Previous to 9 A. M.

### FRENCH STEAMER TORPEDOED WITH HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE.

LONDON, Oct. 15. Two hundred and fifty lives were lost when the steamer Media was torpedoed on Sept. 23 in the Western Mediterranean, says a Reuter despatch from Paris. The explosion of the torpedo detonated the munitions in the ship's cargo. There were more than 500 passengers aboard the steamer, including soldiers and prisoners of war. The Media was a French vessel of 4,470 tons. She was built in 1912 and her home port was Marseilles.

### BRITISH NAVAL LOSSES.

LONDON, Oct. 15. The British armed merchant cruiser Champagne has been sunk and the mine-sweeping sloop Begonia is overdue and regarded as lost, says an official statement to-night. The text reads: His Majesty's mine-sweeping sloop Begonia, Lt-Commander Basil S. Noake, R.N., is now considerably overdue and must be considered lost with all hands. H. M. armed merchant cruiser Champagne, Acting-Captain Percy C. Brown, R.N., in command, was torpedoed and sunk. Five officers and 11 men were lost.

### RUSSIAN OFFICIAL.

PETROGRAD, Oct. 15. The text of to-day's statement reads: On the northern, southwestern and Rumanian fronts there were fusillades. On the Caucasus front the situation is unchanged.

Baltic Sea.—Fighting yesterday for the possession of the Island of Oesel continued. After the repulse of Saturday, Arensburg was occupied by the enemy at 7 p.m. Advanced detachments were observed the day before from four to six miles from the town. Enemy naval air forces are supporting the land operations and are attacking north and south of the island. The south squadron of enemy cruisers, torpedo boats and trawlers attempted to force an entrance to the Irb Channels. Its further movements into the Gulf of Riga are covered by our long range artillery from the Island of Oesel. The northern group of enemy warships dispatched a squadron of torpedo boats between the islands of Oesel and Dagoo, which pressed back our patrol boats in the direction of Moonssund. Our naval forces reinforced the pa-

trol boats and accepted battle and the enemy retired. A third group of enemy warships consisting of cruisers and torpedo boats approached in the afternoon the southwestern coast of the Island of Oesel and bombarded an unimportant part of the coast. Enemy submarines were seen several times at different places in the Baltic. In this evening an airplane was brought down on the northern front.

### GERMAN REPORT.

BERLIN, Oct. 15. British troops yesterday attacked on a front of nearly two and a half miles on the Arras front between the Scarpe and the Cambrai-Arras Road, says to-day's army headquarters statement which reports the assault to have broken down except in the centre. Counter attacks at night drove out such British as had penetrated the central sector. Heavy artillery firing and active reconnoitering operations on the Flanders front are reported in the statement.

### HEAVY FIGHTING ON ITALIAN FRONT.

ROME, Oct. 15. Heavy fighting took place yesterday along nearly the whole Julian front, the Italians withstanding violent local attacks by the Austrians which were launched after extensive artillery preparation. The war office announced to-day that sharp reconnoitering encounters occurred at various points in some of which prisoners were taken by the Italians.

### SHIPPING COMMANDEERED.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15. Approximately 500 American coastwise and ocean ships of 2,500 tons or over were commandeered to-day by the Government. The ships on the Great Lakes were not affected. While Government control became effective today the ships continue in the same traffic under the same plan as heretofore until they receive orders to the contrary.

### A PEACE DEMONSTRATION.

LONDON, Oct. 15. A monster demonstration in favor of peace by understanding, marked the opening of the German Social Conference at Wurzburg, Bavaria, according to an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen to-day. Philip Scheidemann, the majority Socialist leader in the Reichstag, speaking to a large audience declared that all conditions of life warranted the attitude the Socialists were taking towards the war.

### BRITISH OFFICIAL.

LONDON, Oct. 15. The British official issued to-night says: Later reports show that the number of prisoners we captured in yesterday's raid southeast of Monchy-le-Preux was 64, including two officers. A hostile raiding party was repulsed last night east of Shrewsbury forest. On the battlefield, the activity of our own and enemy artillery continues. Hostile artillery has also shown more activity during the day in the neighborhood of Lens and in the Neuport sector.

Aviation.—Yesterday there was a slight improvement in the weather and artillery work and photography were carried out by our airplanes. One and a half tons of bombs were dropped on Ledingham railway station and hostile billets east of Lens. In air fighting three German airplanes were brought down and one driven down out of control. Two of ours are missing.

### IN MACEDONIA.

LONDON, Oct. 15. The official statement relating to operations around Salonika issued to-day says: On the Struma front yesterday Scotch troops very successfully raided Homondos Village, near Seres. After a sharp fight 142 prisoners and three machine guns were captured. Our casualties were light.

### STRIKES THREATENED.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 15. A resolution calling for a strike affecting all the mines of the South Western Coal Operators' Association

The Tags are valuable.

The "Utmost" in plug smoking. 16 cents a cut.

Imperial Tobacco Co.

in Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas, beginning Friday morning, was passed to-day at a meeting here of the Presidents and Secretaries of the State Organization of the United Mine Workers of America.

LONDON, Oct. 15.—The taxicab drivers at a meeting to-night decided upon a strike next Monday, owing to the refusal of the Home Secretary to sanction a 50 per cent. increase in their fares.

### FEARS INVASION.

PETROGRAD, Oct. 15. The newspapers exhibit alarm at the landing of Germans on Oesel Island. The Ruskaya Villa says, we are being led toward our resurrection. The Rech attributes the disaster to bad visibility and the unexampled political frivolities of leaders of the Rhiastan Democracy. It is not believed a landing in Finland will be attempted owing to scarcity of supplies there and to the fact that provisioning will be difficult with the approaching season by the freezing of the sea.

### UNDER CONSIDERATION.

OTTAWA, Oct. 15. The Evening Journal says to-day: The creation of a Canadian High Commissionership at Washington to represent Canada in the States is under consideration. It is understood that the Government is in communication with British and United States authorities on this step. The British Government will undoubtedly consent to the move and it is believed the American Government will welcome and gladly recognize a Canadian representative.

### EXECUTED FOR TREASON.

PARIS, Oct. 15. At dawn this morning Mata-Hari, otherwise known as Marguerite Gertrude Zelle, was taken in an automobile from St. Lazare prison to the parade grounds at Vincennes, where her execution took place. Two Sisters of Charity and a Priest accompanied her.

### TO EXPEDITE BUILDING.

NEW YORK, Oct. 15. The consolidation of control of all the various shipbuilding yards controlled by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation under a new corporation to be known as the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company, in order to co-ordinate and expedite the work on and in-

crease the volume of the government shipbuilding demands, was announced here to-day.

### CHICAGO WINS CHAMPIONSHIP.

NEW YORK, Oct. 15. Coming out of the west like Lochinvar of old, the Chicago Americans won the world series for the baseball championship here this afternoon, defeating the New York Nationals 4 to 2 in the sixth and deciding game of the 1917 diamond classic. For the first time in almost a decade the titular banner will flutter over the fans of the middle-west metropolis next spring when the series pennant is raised.

### A Faithful Servant.

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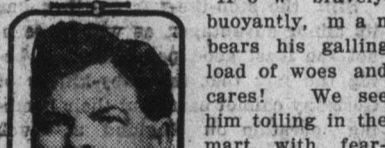
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If you have any little difficulties with it, bring them to the Gas Office. Our advice and help will be most readily given.

### St. John's Gas Light Co. Sept. 17

### LITTLE GRIEFS.

How bravely, buoyantly, in a gallant load of woes and cares! We see him, tolling in the mart with fearless eyes and a dauntless heart. Dispatches bring him tidings dire; his buildings are destroyed by fire; his vessel filled with many beans; was sunk by German submarines; the bank in which he had his vault closed—the cashier's ship had ahead, confronting unexampled ills; perhaps he sheds a pint or two of sweat as cold as morning dew; but he's the modern fighting cock, and so he raises no lament. With stoic calm, with Spartan front, he buckles on his daily



WALT MASON

stunt. Then he goes home to have a dose; a silly fly with tickling toes is climbing over his drowsy brow—oh, watch the Spartan hero now! Oh, see the dauntless stoic rise, and rave around and cuss the flies. He knocks the pictures from the wall, and roasts his loved folks, one and all, and says it is a beastly shame that one who's weary, sore and lame, can't harvest some refreshing sleep; and if his wife was worth her keep, she'd see that every doggone fly should curl its little limbs and die.

### Pithy Pars.

Ramming was the first principle of naval warfare.

Eight cubic feet of snow makes one cubic foot of water.

A cord of firewood contains 125 cubic feet, and weighs about 3 1/2 tons.

In twelve marriages out of every hundred, one of the parties has been married before.

Umbrellas were not known in America until a year or so before the Revolutionary War.

The badge worn by the Lord Mayor of London is studded with diamonds to the value of £120,000.

It is supposed that the average depth of sand in the deserts of Africa is from 40 feet to 80 feet.

China's Grand Canal is the most wonderful artificial waterway in the world. It is over 200 miles long.

Tea was cultivated in China 2,700 years before the Christian era, and there it was first used as a beverage.

The Sutlej, in India, is the fastest flowing river in the world. Its descent in one section is 12,000 feet in 180 miles.

Denmark, which produces an immense quantity of butter, has an average of one cow for every two inhabitants.

Long rivers drain a large territory of country. The Ganges is nearly 1,800 miles in length, and drains an area of 750,000 square miles.

In Hebrew marriages the bride stands to the right of her mate. In all other marriages the bride's place is to the left of the groom.

Three miles east of Keswick, Cumberland, is the biggest rocking stone in Britain. It weighs 1,870 tons, and is called the Bowder Stone.

## T. J. EDENS.

Wrecked Bacon (SMOKED) 25c. lb. Slices 5 lbs. to 6 lbs. each.

100 cases EARLY JUNE PEAS. FIDELITY HAMS. FIDELITY BAYON. BRAN FLAKED FLOUR. ROMAN MEAL. MALT BREAKFAST FOOD. FLAKED RICE. BEECHNUT BACON.

BEST FAMILY FLOUR, 14 lb. sacks, \$1.10. BIRD'S JELLY POWDER, 10c. package. LEMON'S, 35c. doz. GRAVENSSTEIN APPLES. CAL. ORANGES. CUCUMBERS. SIBERIAN CRAB APPLES.

5c. bottle. Vinegar Essence. 45c. bottle. The contents of this bottle is sufficient to make one gallon of pure Brown Vinegar.

500 bags. SELECTED WHITE OATS. NO HAY. BADGER FEED, \$2.50 bag. 200 bags BRAN. 100 bags GLUTEN MEAL.

KELI'S POTATOES. SMOKED SALMON. FRESH EGGS. FRESH RABBITS.

## T. J. EDENS.

Dockworth Street and Rawlin's Cross.

### From Cape Race.

CAPE RACE, To-day. Wind south, light, with dense fog and raining; nothing heard passing in. Bar. 29.35; ther. 60.

Nothing finer than ELLIS' Pork Sausages, Beef Sausages, Tomato Sausages. Try them.

## A Telegraphic Mystery.

What is known as the "secret mail" of India has for more than a generation perplexed the British mind, and is still a profound mystery. Although numberless attempts have been made to explain it, everyone who has lived long in Asiatic countries is aware that accurate knowledge of important happenings at a distance is often possessed by the natives a considerable time before it is obtained by the Government, even though special facilities had been provided for the transmission of the news.

This was frequently and conspicuously illustrated throughout the Sepoy rebellion. Happenings occurring hundreds of miles away were usually known in the bazaars hours, and sometimes days, before the news reached the authorities, and the information obtained was regarded as so trustworthy that the natives speculated upon it, even to the fall, extent of their fortunes. Indeed, upon one occasion the "secret mail" beat the Government courier by fully twelve hours, although every endeavor had been made to secure the swiftest despatch.

The Hindoos themselves say, when they consent to talk about it at all, that they depend neither upon horses nor men, and have no secret code of signals; but that they possess a system of thought transmission which is as familiar to them as is the telegraph to the Western world. Anyone may accept this explanation that will.

But though most people, with less fondness for the mysteries, and a better knowledge of the weakness of the Hindoos for making riddles of the simplest facts, will look for a more prosaic explanation, it remains to be said that none has been forthcoming. The "secret mail" is an indubitable reality, and no European has ever succeeded in solving its mystery.

If news is transmitted by signals, no one has ever seen the signalers; nor if there is a vast system of stages in operation, covering hundreds and thousands of miles, has anyone ever come across any of its machinery! And, indeed, it would seem that some means of communication must be at the command of the natives more rapid than horses or runners.

## They Knew the Teuton

London Daily Express.—Shortly before the war a German naval squadron was visiting a Japanese port. The admiral and members of his staff were officially invited to go over the arsenal. Among other things they were allowed to see some of the famous shimoso, the Japanese high explosive. The admiral, like a good German, made an opportunity to steal a handful of the powder. He put it in his trousers pocket, and found on returning to his ship that his best gala trousers were ruined, as grains of the powder had stained it an ugly yellow. The precious pinch of powder was sent by special courier from the German Embassy to Berlin, where it was analyzed and found to be a most innocent composition colored with ground mustard! The wily Japanese, knowing their guests had judged it prudent to substitute this harmless compound for the real shimoso.

## EUROPEAN AGENCY

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THE LITTLE IMP IS NEVER AROUND WHEN I WANT HIM!

DON'T TELL SO—I SENT HIM ON AN ERRAND!

HERE HE COMES!

STUPID—DID YOU TAKE THAT MESSAGE TO MRS. TURNER?

AND WHAT DID YOU FIND OUT?

MRS. M.

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