

"The British Control the North Sea."

Details of the Great Naval Battle Slowly Coming in—What First Seemed Defeat Now Considered a Victory for the British—Admirals Beatty and Hood Went Down With Their Ships, as Also Did Other Notable Officers—German Losses Said to Be Colossal.

OFFICIAL.

LONDON, June 2.
The Governor, St. John's:
On the 31st May Naval engagement took place off Jutland. The front of the fighting fell on the battle cruiser fleet, with some cruisers and light cruisers, supported by four battleships. The losses were heavy. The enemy, aided by low visibility, avoided action and returned to port after the main fleet had reached the scene.
The battle cruisers Queen Mary, Indefatigable, Invincible, and cruisers Defence and Black Prince were sunk. The Warrior was disabled and abandoned. Destroyers Tipperary, Turbulent, Fortune, Sparrowhawk, and others are lost. Six others are not accounted for.
No British battleships or light cruisers were sunk. The enemy's losses are serious. At least one battle cruiser is destroyed, and one severely damaged. One battleship is reported sunk by our destroyers. During a night attack two light cruisers were disabled and probably destroyed. The number of enemy destroyers disposed of cannot be ascertained, but it must be large.

LATER.—Further report of Naval battle follows: British total losses in destroyers number 18.
One of the enemy's Dreadnoughts was blown up by British destroyers; another is believed to have been sunk by gunfire; one German battle cruiser was blown up; another was heavily engaged and seen disabled and stopping; a third is seriously damaged. One German light cruiser and two destroyers sunk. At least two light cruisers were seen disabled. Repeated hits were observed on three others, which were German battleships. A German submarine was sunk.

BONAR LAW.

GERMAN OFFICIAL.
BERLIN, June 2.
The Admiralty reports a big naval battle between the British and the German North Sea fleet in which some eight British vessels were destroyed. German losses not definitely known but believed to be three large warships and a number of torpedo boat destroyers lost.

A DAY AND NIGHT BATTLE.

BERLIN, June 2.
A battle took place between Skagerrak and Horn Riff, May 31st, lasting a day and night. Several German ships formed part of the crews of British ships. The high sea fleet returned to port Thursday into port.

GERMAN FLEET AIDED BY LOW VISIBILITY.

LONDON, June 2.
The German fleet was greatly aided by low visibility. It avoided a prolonged action, and accomplished its results by a quick thrust and withdrawal. The main British forces have returned to port. It was by low visibility tactics that Admiral von Spee's squadron annihilated the British fleet

under command of Admiral Craddock off the Chilean Coast in November, 1914, the admiralty statement adds, that the Warrior a 13,550 ton cruiser, carrying 704 men was disabled and later abandoned. An attempt was made to tow her back to British waters, but the vessel was too badly damaged. No mention is made of the fate of the crew.

HUSS AIDED BY GERMANS.

LONDON, June 2.
An official bulletin at nine o'clock to-night states that at least one German battle cruiser is known to have been sunk, and one severely damaged. It also states that a Zeppelin fleet cooperated with the German naval forces and wrought heavy execution among the British vessels.

ADMIRALTY REPORT.

LONDON, June 2.
The Admiralty report says: The British ships on which the brunt of the fighting fell were the battle cruiser fleet, some cruisers and light cruisers, supported by four fast battleships. Among those the losses were heavy. The German battle fleet aided by low visibility avoided prolonged action with our main forces. As soon as these appeared on the scene the enemy returned to port though not before receiving severe damage from our battleships. The British Dreadnought Marlborough, said to have been struck by a torpedo was of the Iron Duke class built in 1914, displacement of 25,000 tons. The German battleship Pommern, which was the result of being struck by a British torpedo, displaced 12,997 tons, 398 feet long, 72 feet beam, 25 feet deep. She was built in 1907 and carried 729 officers and men.

A GERMAN REPORT.

BERLIN, June 2.
Admiral Heibhmann, Director of the Admiralty, told the Reichstag this afternoon that British torpedo boat losses were greater than had been at first estimated. At least three destroyers, a flotilla of flagships, said the Admiral, and nine or ten other destroyers were sunk. Of these, the battleship Westfalen alone sank six. The German battleship Pommern was sunk by a torpedo, the Admiral continued, and the Wiesbaden by artillery. The Franzenlob was hit seen by a German destroyer on the night of the encounter, with a heavy list, the Admiral said, and it is assumed she had been sunk.

WITNESS OF THE BATTLE.

COPENHAGEN, June 2.
According to the Politiken, a Danish steamer arrived to-day from Friedrichshaven, which witnessed the battle in the North Sea. The steamer reports that yesterday afternoon, 120 miles off Hantsholm, she was stopped by two British torpedo boats to have her papers examined. At the same moment a large German fleet appeared. The British warships immediately prepared for action. The German fleet approached at full speed and consisted of five large modern Dreadnoughts, eight cruisers and twenty torpedo boat destroyers. Suddenly the Germans began firing, and

several hundred shells splashed around the torpedo boats, without, however, damaging them. The British ships went westward and were pursued by the German fleet. At five o'clock cannonade was renewed and continued until nine o'clock in the evening. Zeppelins were seen going at high speed northward to the scene of the battle.

OFFICIAL.

LONDON, June 2.
The following communique is issued by the Admiralty:
The Grand Fleet came in touch with the German High Seas Fleet at 3.30 on May 31st. The leading ships carried on a vigorous fight. Losses were severe on both sides.
When the main British Fleet came in contact with the Germans, a brief period sufficed to make the latter, severely punished, seek refuge in protected waters. This was possible on account of the low visibility and mist. No continuous action was possible. Pursuit continued till the light failed. British destroyers were able to make a successful night attack. At noon on June 1st, as there was nothing more to be done, Admiral Jellicoe's ships returned to the bases, re-fuelled and were ready for sea on June 2nd.
The British losses have been fully stated. There is nothing to add or subtract from the latest accounts. Enemy losses are less easy to estimate, as their accounts are false, and the exact truth is uncertain. From evidence that has come to the knowledge of the Admiralty there is no doubt that the German losses were heavier, not only relatively, but absolutely. There is the strongest ground for supposing that, included in the German losses are two battleships, two dreadnought battle-cruisers of the most powerful type, two of the latest light cruisers, a light cruiser of the Rostock type, the cruiser Franzenlob, at least nine destroyers and one submarine.

BONAR LAW.

ENEMY LOSSES.
LONDON, June 2.
An additional British official, just issued, says:— Since the foregoing communication was issued, a further report has been received from the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Fleet, stating that it has now been ascertained that our total losses in destroyers amounted to eight boats in all. The Commander-in-Chief also reports that it is now possible to form a closer estimate of the losses sustained by the enemy fleet. One Dreadnought battleship of the Kaiser class was blown up in an attack by British destroyers; another Dreadnought battleship of the Kaiser class is believed to have been sunk by gunfire. Of three German battle cruisers, two of which, it is believed, were the Derfflinger and Lutzw, one was blown up, another heavily engaged by our battle fleet, was seen to be disabled and stopping, and a third was observed to be seriously damaged. One German light cruiser and six German destroyers were sunk. At least two more German light cruisers were seen to be disabled. Repeated hits were observed on three other German battleships. Finally, a German submarine was rammed and sunk.

A HEROIC FIGHT.

EDINBURGH, June 4.
The German ships retreated when the British Grand Fleet approached. The Valiant, Barham, Malaya, and Warspite, attacked by five German battleships, fought gloriously, sinking and damaging three of their assailants. The Valiant rammed and sank an enemy submarine.

GERMAN CRUISER SUNK.

YMUUDEN, Holland, June 2.
Three officers, three petty officers and 12 sailors of the crew of the new small German cruiser Ebbing, which was lost in the Jutland battle, have been landed here. One officer said that the Ebbing sank after she was rammed by another German vessel, which rescued the remainder of the crew. Another maintained that the Ebbing was blown up by the heavy gunfire of her own guns. One of the Ebbing's boats, containing some of her crew and some British officers, who were picked up by the trawler Bertha, are being brought here. The loss of the Ebbing is not mentioned in either of the British or German official accounts of the battle, but the British Admiralty statement says that a light German cruiser was sunk.

GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION BY AN EYE-WITNESS.
YHUUDEN, Holland, June 2.
A graphic description of the great naval battle was given to-day by Capt. Thomas Punt, of the British trawler John Brown, which was engaged in taking soundings in the vicinity of the fight. Capt. Punt said the battle be-

gan at 4.15 p.m. Wednesday and lasted until 11 o'clock at night. It extended over an area reaching from longitude 56.8, lat. 6.25 to long. 55.50 lat. 5.50. These measurements place the scene of the battle about fifty miles due west of the Horn, running northward to the Little Fishing Bank. At two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon I saw a fleet of 50 ships of different kinds, apparently German, cruising from S. E. to N. W.; two hours later, another great fleet, evidently British, appeared suddenly from the northward, and obviously attempted to cut off the retreat of the Germans. The weather was misty, making it difficult to distinguish the outlines of the ships. At 4.15 p.m. the first gun shot came from about two miles away. Fifteen minutes later there were more shots, and in a few moments there was constant and heavy firing. Many sailing ships passed through the firing line. The British ships did not seem to be of as heavy tonnage as the Germans. They were reinforced by larger vessels, which were observed to come up as it was getting dark. The German fleet then began to retreat, and as they were withdrawing I saw two big columns of smoke, evidently some vessels which had not been hit. At the next moment I observed two vessels, one of either fleet, burning. The British fleet pursued the Germans to longitude 56.40 and latitude 5.50. When I noticed two torpedo destroyers and three submarines dashing toward it at full speed, apparently heralding further reinforcements for the Germans. The British ships then drew off.

GERMAN LIES NAILED.

LONDON, June 3.
Capt. Wm. Hall, Chief of the Intelligence Division of the Admiralty, authorizes the Associated Press to say that the German report of the loss of the Marlborough and Warspite is absolutely untrue. Both these Dreadnoughts are safe in harbour. The German report that the entire British battle fleet was engaged is equally untrue. A portion of the British fleet much inferior to the total battle fleet of the Germans, engaged that fleet and drove it back into its harbour. The British control the North Sea.

HUN TORPEDO BOATS DESTROYED.

LONDON, June 3.
A despatch from Copenhagen says that the German torpedo boat V-28 was sunk during the naval engagement. Three survivors, who were rescued from a raft by a Swedish steamer, reported that all the rest of the crew of 102 were lost. According to the despatch, the survivors of the V-28 said that they believed only German torpedo boats were destroyed, and that the German losses, as a whole were colossal.

Latest reports from the British fleet, from neutral vessels which witnessed parts of the great naval battle in the North Sea, and from survivors, cause the British public to believe that the engagement was less near the defeat as at first appeared, and was in no wise a disaster. The British losses, with all the craft engaged accounted for, were three battle cruisers, three cruisers and eight destroyers. The German losses are believed to be about the same in number of ships, although much less in aggregate tonnage. British naval experts maintain that Great Britain continues to hold the supremacy of the seas by a safe margin. The enormous navy could more afford the losses suffered, than could the Germans. First reports of heavy loss of life, unhappily, have not been revised. British mourns for more than four thousand and her seamen, while the German loss is variously estimated at between three and five thousand.

MAJORITY OF OFFICERS LOST.

LONDON, June 4.
The British Admiralty says that the battleship Marlborough was hit by a torpedo, but was not sunk. The Dreadnought Warspite was damaged by gun fire, but escaped torpedoes. The official statement shows that with few exceptions all the officers of the Invincible, Queen Mary, Indefatigable, Defence, Black Prince were lost. All the officers of the Warrior, except one were saved. Four British officers were saved from the Queen Mary, the Commander and one officer being rescued from the Invincible.

KING GEORGE AND ADMIRAL JELICOE.

LONDON, June 4.
Before the fleets came in touch with each other, it was made known to-day, Admiral Beatty, with his battle cruiser squadron, got between the German fleet and its base. He was compelled to withdraw following the discovery of the presence of battleships with the German fleet. Admiral Jellicoe reports that on the morning after the engagement he made a thorough search of the waters on which the battle was fought, without encountering any sign of hostile ships. Messages were passed between King George and Admiral Jellicoe on the occasion of the King's birthday. Admiral Jellicoe's message reads: "On the occasion of Your Majesty's birthday, the officers and men of the Grand Fleet, in humble duty, send their respectful, hearty and warm wishes for the loyal hope and determination for Your Majesty's arms and those of our gallant allies, the blessings of peace may be restored to the world. I am deeply touched by the message you have sent in behalf of the Grand Fleet. It reaches me on the morning of the King's birthday. I have displayed the gallantry of officers and men under your command. I mourn the loss of brave men, many of them personal friends of my own, who have fallen in their country's cause, yet even more do I regret that the German High Seas Fleet, in spite of its heavy losses, by misty weather to evade the full consequences of the encounter they always professed to desire, and for which, when opportunity arrived, they showed no intention of surrendering. The ships of the enemy immediately after the opening of a general engagement robbed us of the opportunity of gaining a decisive victory, the events of last Wednesday amply justify my confidence

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RELATION SUCCEEDS GLOOM.

LONDON, June 4.
The British Admiralty to-day made the following statement to the Canadian Press: "We went out within the enemy waters seeking to fight. Our inferior fleet engaged the entire German battle fleet and forced them to return to harbour, and to give up any plan of action they may have contemplated." It was added that latest reports received from Admiral Jellicoe and Vice-Admiral Beatty had caused a feeling of elation among naval officers.

ANOTHER LOSS ADMITTED BY HUNS.

LONDON, June 4.
The German Admiralty admits the loss of the Dreadnought Westfalen, according to a wireless despatch received here to-day from Berlin. The Westfalen displaced 18,602 tons.

THE HONOUR ROLL.

LONDON, June 4.
Admiral Lambert Hood, second in command, Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, and Captains Sowerby, Cay and Frowse were lost with the many others whose names are not yet known, because the Government has not so far issued any casualty list. There were no surrenders. The ships which went down carried with them their whole crews. Only the Warrior, which was towed part of the way from the scene of battle to a British port, was the exception. Of some thousand men of the Queen Mary, only a corporal's guard is accounted for. The same is true of the Invincible, while there are no survivors reported from

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es. Our immediate counter attacks dislodged the enemy completely. A second German attack on this same point was also unsuccessful. Artillery activity on left bank of Meuse. On the remainder of the front medium artillery activity.

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