

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XIV., No. 106.

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1918

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Death List on Transport Tuscania Now Estimated At 210

Predict Break Between Germans and Bolsheviks

Fog of Vague Reports and Contradictions Surrounds Resumption of Peace Conference at Brest-Litovsk—To Spread Beneficent Influence of Bolsheviks in China

BRITISH REPULSE TWO ATTACKS BY THE GERMANS

Airmen Win Thrilling Battle In The Clouds

A SUCCESSFUL RAID

Five Tons of Bombs Dropped On Hostile Targets—Teuton Airplanes Again Visit Italian Cities But No Casualties Reported

Paris, Feb. 6.—The war office announcement tonight says: "The day was calm along the whole front save in the region of Amiens, where both sides displayed a certain amount of activity. Two surprise attacks this morning by the Germans in the region of the Bois des Fossés were repulsed."

"On Feb. 5 one of our bombing squadrons flew over Saarbrück, dropping several German groups of airplanes, crews accepted battle and brought down three German machines, and then returned intact to their own lines."

"It is confirmed that two enemy machines, reported as having been seriously damaged on Feb. 3 and 4, were really brought down, thus bringing up respectively to five and nine for those days the victories of our pilots."

"Eastern theatre, Feb. 3. Patrol encounters occurred along the lower Struna in the region of Dolna and west of the Vardar. There were intermittent artillery actions west of Lake Prespa. An enemy attempt at a raid on one of our trenches north of Lesocava suffered a complete check."

Successful Raid

London, Feb. 7.—"Liverpool troops carried out a successful raid last night east of Arrmentiers, capturing several prisoners and machine guns," says today's war office report. "Our casualties were light."

The hostile artillery has shown some activity southwest of Cambrai and south of Lens."

Aerial Operations

London, Feb. 6.—British aerial operations are reported in an official statement this evening as follows: "Nearly five tons of bombs were dropped Tuesday on hostile targets. Five German aeroplanes were brought down in air fighting and four were driven down out of control. A hostile observation balloon was brought down. Four of our aeroplanes are missing."

Shipping Losses

London, Feb. 7.—The official summary from the admiralty, reporting the loss of fifteen British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine in the past week, follows: Arrivals, 2,389; sailings, 2,373. British merchantmen of more than 1,500 tons sunk by mine or submarine, ten. British merchantmen of less than 1,500 tons sunk by mine or submarine, five. Failing vessels sunk, four. Merchantmen unsuccessfully attacked, thirteen.

Attacks on Venice

Rome, Feb. 6.—Hostile airplanes continue to carry out raids against Venice, Mestre and Treviso. These cities were again bombed last night, according to the official statement from Italian headquarters, but there were no casualties. Patrols are reported as showing remarkable activity in capturing prisoners. Increased artillery activity is reported around the Brenna Narrows and along the Piave.

REACH UNITED STATES

An Atlantic Port, Feb. 7.—Three members of the British commission organized by Sir Arthur Pearson to look after the welfare of soldiers blinded by the war, arrived here today on a British steamship. They are Raymond Blathway, Miss Eva Fenton and Mrs. Ruby Mitchell.

Mrs. G. H. Brabson

Ottawa, Feb. 7.—Mrs. Gerald H. Brabson, wife of G. H. Brabson, former member of parliament for Pontiac, died on Wednesday morning at the residence of her son, C. H. Brabson, of this city.

WHITE GUARDS CONTROL NEARLY ALL OF FINLAND

Except Helsingfors and Tammerfors

BATTLE IN PROGRESS

Red Guards Reported to Have Defeated General Mannerheim—Fifty Killed in Iron Wreck—To Release More Prisoners

Petrograd, Feb. 5.—The White Guards, or government troops, in Finland now control all of Finland except Helsingfors and Tammerfors and a strip along the Gulf of Finland. A battle is reported to be in progress at Tammerfors. The Finnish Red Guards have been reinforced by Bolsheviks from Petrograd and arms and ammunition are going to the Finnish revolutionists from Russia. While some of the Bolshevik regiments in Petrograd voted to send help to the Finnish Red Guards, others refused to assist the Finnish Bolsheviks.

Estimates of expenditures for 1918 by the ministers of the Bolshevik government total 20,000,000,000 rubles. The budget issued is said to show an expected income of only five billion rubles.

Fifty persons were killed and 200 injured in a train wreck near the town of Samara province. The wreck was caused by soldiers who seized the train and forced the crew to run it on the schedule of another train.

It is announced that the Bolshevik army headquarters will be moved from Mottler to Petrograd.

Denmark is providing money, food and transportation for Austro-German war prisoners congested in Petrograd. The Bolshevik government announces that large numbers of these prisoners will be permitted to return home next week.

Mannerheim Defeated?

London, Feb. 7.—The Finnish Red Guard have surrounded Tammerfors and have defeated General Mannerheim, commander of the government forces in Finland, according to a dispatch from Petrograd. The Bolsheviks are reported to be in retreat with the Red Guard in pursuit.

Gen. Mannerheim and his White Guards are retreating toward the Gulf of Bothnia. Tammerfors was defended by the Bolsheviks. The fighting on both sides was heavy. The fighting is said to have started early Monday morning.

Despatches from Stockholm Wednesday said that the Moscow branch of the bank has been closed indefinitely because of lack of funds.

To Reform China

The Bolshevik government, according to Petrograd despatches to the Times, is proposing to revolutionize China by supporting the movements in the southern provinces against the central Chinese government. A Russian delegate will be sent to southern China to work on this plan. The object is to produce a socialistic revolutionary agitation. The view is helping to break down China's refusal to let Russia have Chinese produce.

In Poland

Petrograd, Feb. 7.—Ensign Krylenko, the Bolshevik commander-in-chief, has issued a decree ordering that all supplies be cut off from the Polish legion in the Russian army and declaring its commander, Dvorov Mousnitsky, an outlaw. He also appeals to all Bolsheviks to help the Polish commands.

The decree was prompted by the refusal of the Polish commands to reduce their officers to the ranks and submit to Bolshevik democratization. Ensign Krylenko says that the Polish officers are under the control of the Polish Bourgeoisie who are unwilling to submit to popular rule.

A wireless despatch received at Berlin from Kiev forwarded to Amsterdam Tuesday said that Ensign Krylenko and his staff had been arrested by the insurgent Poles.

Denounce Misrepresentation

Petrograd, Feb. 7.—The Izvestia, and other Bolshevik newspapers denounce bitterly the campaign of misrepresentation in the German press. They charge that the German government is misleading the Socialists there by depicting the Bolsheviks as being in alliance with British and American imperialists. The Russian delegation at Brest-Litovsk has complained repeatedly to the German delegates regarding the duplicity of the German press, but without effect.

The German newspapers, the Izvestia, declares have given the German public the impression that the Bolsheviks in Russia are a band of disorganized hoodlums. In an effort to persuade the German public not to listen to the demands of the working classes.

HON. JOSIAH WOOD ADDED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Ottawa, Feb. 7.—The Hon. Josiah Wood, Sackville, N. B., and Judge A. MacDonald, Charlottetown, P. E. I. have been elected members of the National Executive Committee of the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

WHO IS PLEADING FOR DELAY?

St. John Standard:—"The Standard does not believe the public interest will suffer in the present case, but we are unable to see, from the evidence so far adduced, why the commissioners should not have the right to examine the document (Auditor Macintyre's report) before it is given out."

What has any commissioner or the city solicitor to say about this public document that he would not care to say in public? What public interest would be better served by secret discussion of a public document? Who wants to delay publicity—and why?

They Hasten To Explain, But Still Withhold The Report

Commissioners Now Profess Great Eagerness For Publicity, But The Press Still Waits For The Copy—Commissioner McLellan Would Publish It Under Certain Conditions

It is doubtful if ever before in the history of this city a government of a more heated discussion was heard than that which took place in city hall this morning. Those present were Mayor Hayes, Commissioner McLellan, W. M. Baxter, the city solicitor.

When the meeting was called to order Commissioner McLellan arose and said the audit, and asked him to give him the desired information. The next morning Mr. Macintyre called, but was in a hurry, as he was leaving for Nova Scotia, and was only able to remain for ten minutes. He said he had his part to keep the contents of the report to himself until he was permitted to return home next week.

When the time is opportune, he said, he would make newspapers would be given the report in its entirety. He said that if the majority of the council should wish to keep the contents confidential? He said that a synopsis of the report must have been in the report. He said with respect to the matter being presented to the council or that someone else had a copy of it, because

questions asked in one of the papers could only have been prompted by one who had possession of a report or had seen it.

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Commissioner Russell

Commissioner Russell then said that as far as he was concerned he had no intention of delaying the report from the public. He said that he thought it most unfair for the newspapers to have drawn the solicitor into the matter. "As far as Mr. Baxter is concerned, I think it was unkind for any and unfair."

Commissioner Wigmore

Commissioner Wigmore said that regarding the notorious attack in the Telegraph that he was not ashamed of the stand he took. He maintained that he had not time to go over the copy of the report thoroughly and contended that he did not think that even though on the Telegraph with such great brain capacity could have done so either. He said that the matter had not really been before the council and had never been taken up in committee. He said he was not afraid of submitting it to the public, but thought that it should be held up until he could get more information from the auditor. He said that he thought the matter to be a matter of getting at the report as it was purely a personal political matter.

Commissioner Fisher then arose and said that he was strongly opposed to having matters discussed in private conversations.

Phelix and Pherdand WEATHER REPORT

Synopsis—Light snowfalls have been more or less prevalent over the dominion, while another cold wave from the north-west is spreading over the country from Manitoba eastward.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Moderate winds, a few light local snowfalls or furies, but mostly fair and colder today and on Friday. Ottawa Valley, Upper and Lower St. Lawrence: Light snowfalls today; Friday, fair and colder. Gulf and North Shore: Moderate winds, mostly fair, cold with a few light snowfalls.

Fair and Cold

Maritime—Moderate winds, light local snowfalls, or furies, but partly fair and cold today and on Friday.

Superior—Winds becoming fresh to strong easterly; fair and decidedly colder today; Friday, local snow. Manitoba: More moderate with light snowfalls. Saskatchewan and Alberta: Partly fair, light local snows; Friday, colder.

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LOSS OF TRANSPORT BRINGS UNITED STATES FACE TO FACE WITH STERN REALITY OF WAR

"A Fresh Challenge to The Civilized World"

Effect is to Unite People of America and Make More Determined Their Purpose to Press On—Fear Loss is More Than Two Hundred

Washington, Feb. 7.—Officials today anxiously awaited further details of the first disaster to American soldiers en route to France, due to the torpedoing of the Tuscania. It is believed that most of the 267 missing have been saved. A coded list of survivors was coming into the war office early today, but officials declined to give out the names already received.

The troops aboard the Tuscania were mainly former Michigan and Wisconsin national guardsmen now attached to the thirty-second division training at Camp MacArthur, Texas. Several aero squadrons and several companies of the 20th Engineers, a forest regiment, were aboard.

Additional despatches reached the war department today, saying that some 600 survivors are at Larne, Ireland, and that twenty-seven are at Islay, Scotland. The despatches said that the British were doing everything to make the survivors as comfortable as possible and were sending supplies to the place where they landed.

Indications early today were that 168 American officers and soldiers have not yet been accounted for in the sinking of the Tuscania. British admiralty despatches account for 2011 American officers and men as survivors. War department records show 2,179 American officers and men were aboard.

Secretary of War Baker issued a statement in part as follows: "The sinking of the Tuscania brings us face to face with the losses of war in its most relentless form. It is a fresh challenge to the civilized world by an adversary who has refused to make more deadly the death of the sailor in warfare. We must win this war, and we will win this war. Losses like this unite the country in sympathy with its families of those who have suffered loss and they also unite us to make more determined our purpose to press on."

Place Number at 210.

London, Feb. 7.—The loss of life on the Tuscania so far as known was 210, the admiralty announced.

The approximate figures of those saved are: Officers, 76; men, 1,938; officers of the crew, 16; men of the crew, 126; passengers, three; not specified, 82.

London, Feb. 7.—So far as known at the time the announcement was given out at the admiralty, shortly before noon, there were 2,307 persons on board the Fifth Anchor Line.

New York, Feb. 7.—According to records of the Anchor Line here, the Tuscania carried a crew of 220 under command of Captain Peter McLean, the majority of the crew being subjects of Great Britain.

The loss of the Tuscania completes the destruction by submarines of a fleet of five passenger ships aggregating 37,618 gross tons owned by the Anchor Line at the beginning of the war. The other ships were Calceola, sunk in 1914; Cameronia, April 15, 1917; Transylvania, May 4, 1917; California, February, 1917.

Government Reports Tell Wierd Tale of Conflicts With Police—Emperor's Message to Medical Congress

London, Feb. 6.—A German government wireless message thus describes a number of non-existent strike riots— "Hardly a day has passed in the whole of January without strikes, riots and conflicts with the police in English towns. A conflict occurred in Oxford street, London, on January 17, in which the police were wounded. Troops were summoned, but refused to fire. Eighty troops were arrested. All the windows in a big store were smashed."

Amsterdam, Feb. 7.—Emperor William, in reply to a congratulatory message from the Berlin medical congress, sent this message: "The rebuilding of the people's strength is almost the one greatest task it can only be fulfilled by the co-operation of science and legislation, and with the warm-hearted participation of all discerning people."

Amsterdam, Feb. 7.—The semi-official Wolff Bureau announces that the German imperial government will undertake to care for the interests of German holders of Russian securities. The government possesses full details concerning the securities through a law compelling the declaration of foreign securities held within the empire.

Amsterdam, Feb. 7.—All German Bohemian deputies in the Austrian parliament, a Vienna telegram to Dutch newspapers says, have been called to Berlin for a conference next week. The conference will attempt to get their standpoint regarding the establishment of a German Bohemian province.

Amsterdam, Feb. 7.—The municipality of Fosen has decided to present Field Marshal Von Hindenburg with an estate and to confer the freedom of the city on General Von Ludendorff, the Berlin Kraus Zeitung states. The Polish members of the city council unanimously opposed the proposal to confer these honours.

Commissioner Fisher then arose and said that he was strongly opposed to having matters discussed in private conversations.

LIVES LOST WHEN STEAMERS SANK

Thirty-two on Channel Steamer—Captain Only Survivor of Vessel From Ireland—Twelve in Liverpool Bay

London, Feb. 6.—(via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—In the House of Commons replying to Mr. Houston, Hon. H. J. MacNamara, under secretary of the admiralty, stated that out of a crew of twenty and twenty-five military and naval passengers, 18 and 18 were respectively lost owing to the enemy repulsing a steamer from Liverpool Bay. He also stated that the captain was the only survivor out of twenty-five aboard a steamer from Ireland to Liverpool Bay. The steamer carried 400 cattle and 200 sheep.

Mr. Houston asked whether a steamer had been sunk in Liverpool Bay on Jan. 26, with a loss of twelve lives, 128 cattle, 381 sheep and 138 pigs.

Mr. MacNamara admitted that the details of the cargo were as stated. He added that the percentage of losses of vessels making the voyage from Ireland to Britain was extremely small, compared with the number of voyages.

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GERMANS INVENT ENGLISH RIOTS

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SHORTER RATIONS FOR HOME FORGES

British Troops in Training Will Have Less To Eat—Reduced Ration Compares Favorably With Field Ration Of Other Armies

London, Feb. 6.—The Earl of Derby, secretary for war, today notified Field Marshal Viscount French, commander of the home forces, of his decision to reduce the rations of meat, sugar and tea for all the home forces except youths under nineteen years training for abroad. "When the whole nation is being asked to reduce food consumption in the interests of our armies abroad," says the secretary, "I think you will agree with me that the army at home will expect equally to be asked to make certain sacrifices. The burden cannot be allowed to fall wholly on women and children and civilian workers."

He explains that the reduced ration compares favorably with the field ration of most other armies and says that the reasons for making the reduction imperative are known to all, adding: "The fate of the war may well depend upon the spirit in which such reductions are accepted. The grit of every individual soldier and civilian is now being tested and may be still further tested during the coming months. It is the duty of the army at home to set the whole nation an example of determination and cheerfulness, and I have no doubt of their response."

NO DRAFTS COMING FROM QUARANTINE DISTRICT

That the quarantine has not been lifted on the counties of Northumberland and West Yorkshire as published in a morning paper, was the information received at the office of military headquarters this morning. The two counties are still under quarantine with regard to the bringing of the draftees into the training depot are here, and for some time yet.