

# FUTILE TO ATTEMPT DEFENSE OF TURKISH CAPITAL IF ALLIES CONTINUE ATTACK

## German Commander of Sultan's Forces in Europe Advises Moving Seat of Turkish Government

Paris, April 4.—A despatch to the Balkan Agency from Dedeaghat says: "At a council of war held in Constantinople, and presided over by the Sultan, the German general Liman Von Sanders, commander of the Turkish forces in Europe, declared that the German officers and engineers would do all that was possible to defend the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, but if, in spite of all their efforts, the allied forces started, it would be useless to try to defend Constantinople. He advised the transfer of the capital to the interior of Asia Minor.

"The Grand Vizier and Enver Pasha insisted on a defence of the environs of the city, in view of the great preparations that had been made during the last few months. This question was left open pending more definite results from the attacks of the Allies."

## Trade Commissioner For Canada Was Held a Prisoner in Germany

Detained by Germans for several months until exchanged for German Consul held by British—Canada to make bid for Russian markets, Sir George Foster announces.

Ottawa, April 4.—Chief Justice, Canada's trade commissioner in Germany, when the war broke out, was held there for several months by a German before he was exchanged for a German consul in the hands of the British. It was not until February that he was enabled to leave Hamburg for Rotterdam, and it was not until then that he heard that Canada had sent her troops across the Atlantic to aid the motherland. Sir George Foster told this to the Commons on Saturday, as an illustration of the close censorship on war news in Germany. Sir George's estimates for the department of Trade and Commerce kept the house busy all morning and afternoon.

Another interesting bit of information he gave the house was that Mr. Just will shortly go to Russia to drum up trade for Canada with Great Britain's new ally. Mr. Just will go to Petrograd and visit all parts of the Russian empire, including a tour of Siberia. He will come home via Vladivostok and the Pacific, and will, on his return to Canada, confer with boards of trade and business men as to trade openings for Canada in Russia.

Sir George predicted that when the war was over there would be a splendid opportunity for the development of Canadian trade with the Russian empire.

Dr. Thompson of the Yukon said that he had learned from a Parisian financier that a company was being organized to establish a steamship service between Vladivostok and the Canadian coast cities.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier expected at an early date to see a steamship service established between Prince Rupert and Vladivostok which might develop a steadily increasing trade with the opening up of agriculture of the present great unexploited areas in Siberia.

Speaking of the work of the Dominion Trade Commission, Sir George said it was probable the work of the commission would be resumed this year and a meeting might be held in the late summer in Vancouver, with meetings later on elsewhere in Canada. It will be remembered that the work of the commission was temporarily stopped last August, just after the commissioners had arrived in Canada, prior to the outbreak of the war.

On a vote of \$625,000 for the administration of the Canada Grain Act, the Minister of Trade and Commerce said that three large international elevators under government operation would be in use for next year's crop. Two of these at Saskatoon and Moose Jaw are already in operation, and the

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## DEFENDS BRITAIN'S MOVE AGAINST GERMAN TRADE

American authority on International Law declares Blockade by England permissible, and he maintains rights of Allies to interfere with neutral commerce.

New York, Mar. 28.—Declaring that British interference with neutral commerce is not an illegitimate extension of interference and is permissible under the rules of international law as practised by the United States itself, Mr. Frederic R. Coudert, international law authority, at No. 2 Rector street, makes an interesting statement regarding the British blockade.

"The recent orders in council," says Mr. Coudert, "have excited considerable controversy and have elicited some criticism. The main criticism appears to be that while isolating Germany from commerce with the rest of the world this result is not brought about by the usual method recognized by international law, to wit, a blockade, and that consequently the rights of neutrals are affected in an illegal and unprecedented fashion."

"It is quite true that the doctrine of contraband and blockade are the usual normal methods employed by belligerents for destroying their enemies' commerce, and that neutrals may properly insist upon both of these doctrines being applied within certain limitations and within the spirit at least of the precedents evolved by history and usage and acquiesced in by the nations."

"The question therefore arises, in dispassionate consideration of the effect of the British orders, in council, whether they are in violation of the principles of international law and their legitimate consequences as deduced from past practice as to justify the government of the United States in protesting against them as extra legal."

"I believe that a tentative study of these orders in council will indicate two things:—

**Finds Course Permissible.**

"First—That their interference with neutral commerce is not an illegitimate extension of the necessary interference with neutral commerce permissible under the rules of international law as practised by the United States itself, and,

"Second—That in their effects they have been made to bear as lightly as possible on neutrals and the more serious consequences of blockade have been avoided."

"The prohibitions enumerated in the British orders are of four kinds:

"First—No merchant vessels from any port shall be allowed to proceed to any German port."

"Second—No merchant vessel from any German port shall be allowed to proceed to any neutral port."

"Third—Any merchant vessel bound from any port to any port carrying goods with an enemy destination or enemy property may be arrested, and

"Fourth—Every merchant vessel from a port other than a German port, i.e., a neutral port, and having on board goods of enemy origin or enemy property may likewise be arrested."

"There is no virtue or sacrosanctity in mere words. The term 'blockade' is not used, but obviously a blockade might well be created without using that peculiar term, and, as I shall explain, there may be good reason for not using it."

"It is obvious by glancing at No. 1 and No. 2 that they merely provide for the capture of goods going in or coming out from German ports. This is nothing in the world but the simple old-fashioned blockade, the object of which was to shut the ports of the enemy to all commerce, of all kinds, going in or coming out."

"Nos. 3 and 4 involve a more complex situation."

**Cites Civil War Precedent.**

"No. 3 evidently deals with the situation where goods from a neutral port, going to a neutral port, have Germany as an ultimate destination. This at first blush would seem to be an interference with commerce between neutral ports, and, therefore, illegitimate. The answer, however, to the suggestion is that our government during the civil war found it necessary in order to accomplish the objects of its

## THREE MASTER SUNK BY GERMAN SUBMARINE

Nine miles from Fecamp—Crew were saved in ship's boats.

Fecamp, France, April 4.—The three-masted fishing vessel Paquerette, of Fecamp, was sunk yesterday by a German submarine off Etretat, nine miles southwest of Fecamp. The crew of the fisherman was rescued in the ship's boat, or by the boats of a nearby ship.

The Paquerette had just sailed for the Newfoundland fishing bank with a crew of thirty-two men. Nine other vessels belonging to the same company which owned the Paquerette had proceeded her, but apparently safely passed the danger zone.

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**"Our Jim" Today.**

The advance sale of tickets indicates that the Opera House will have two big houses today for the production of the rural comedy drama, "Our Jim," under the auspices of the Loyal Order of Moose. In addition to the play there will be a number of good vaudeville specialties between acts, including Miss Florence Halpin, in a solo solo; Charlie McFadden in buck and wing dancing; Robert Butler, in an Irish song and dance; Louis Dougherty the favorite by singer, and the big patriotic musical number, "The Allies," which scored such a success at the recent St. Patrick's Day entertainment under the direction of Miss Alice Dillon. The entire performance will be repeated tomorrow night and the proceeds will be given to Royal Standard Chapter, I. O. D. E. for patriotic work in caring for wounded Canadian soldiers and sailors at the battle front.

Royal Standard Chapter is to attend tomorrow night's performance in a body under the leadership of Mrs. E. Atherton Smith, Regent.

**Is Progressing Favorably**

W. E. Craft, who was badly hurt on Saturday morning by falling from a ladder in the workmanship of W. A. Stelzer & Co., Mill street, where he was removing some galvanized iron pipe from a rack, and afterwards taken to his home in Harrison street in an unconscious condition, was severely cut and bruised on the head, ear and thigh. Dr. W. F. Roberts found it necessary to put several stitches in the cuts. Considering the nature of the accident Mr. Craft is progressing as favorably as could be expected.

**DANISH KING UNDERGOES SURGICAL OPERATION.**

London, April 4.—Reuter's Copenhagen correspondent says King Christian underwent a slight operation Friday, but that he has recovered and that no further bulletins will be issued concerning him.

**Favor Prohibition.**

By a standing vote a resolution was unanimously passed in Tabernacle church, Haymarket Square, last night, favoring prohibition during the war, and it was agreed that the substance of the resolution should be telegraphed to Premier Clarke. In the afternoon the Brotherhood also expressed approval of prohibition. Seven persons were baptized during the day and admitted to membership in the church. The special services which have been held for some days past will be continued.

ships to neutral ports were seized during our own civil war.

"Again it must be remembered that since the time of the French Revolution and Napoleon the doctrines of ultimate destination and continuous voyage had to be developed by reason of changed means of transportation. One hundred years ago goods going to a neutral port might well be assumed to remain in the country to which they were shipped, but with improved railroad facilities no such probability exists and these doctrines have merely made effective the general principle of blockade acquiesced in for the last two hundred years.

"As the Supreme Court said in another well known case (The Springbok, 5 Wall, 1):—

"Upon the whole case we cannot doubt that the cargo was originally shipped with intent to violate the blockade; that the owners of the cargo intended that it should be transhipped at Nassau into some vessel more likely to succeed in reaching safely a blockaded port than the Springbok; that the voyage from London to the blockaded port was, as to cargo, both in law and in the intent of the parties, one voyage; and that the liability to condemnation, if captured during any part of the voyage attached to the cargo from the time of sailing" (pp. 27-28).

"It would thus seem that the orders in council are fairly within the spirit of blockade as they existed both in our history and in that of foreign nations. The Continental view as to blockade is that it should be maintained by a succession of ships at the entrance of a port and as Russia and France have joined with Great Britain in this blockade they may well have considered that the orders in council did not in this technical respect constitute a blockade and may for that reason have desired to avoid the term.

"However that may be as to Con-

## FIND GERMAN SPY ON RUSSIAN ARMY STAFF

Attached to Tenth Army as interpreter—Court-martialed and hanged.

Petrograd, April 4, via London, 6 p. m.—It is officially announced that Col. Miasoyedoff, who was attached as an interpreter to the staff of the Tenth Army, proved to be a German spy and was tried by court martial and hanged.

It is also announced that several persons not connected with the army were arrested at the same time as accomplices and are awaiting trial.

Essential views of international law, no such limitation can be invoked by the United States, for in the cases arising out of the recent Spanish war it has been held that a ship destined for an enemy port under blockade may be seized anywhere upon the high seas and that one vessel in these modern days of swift cruisers may be sufficient to blockade a port. (Olinde Rodriguez, 174 U. S.).

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