

The St. John's Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

VOL. VI. NO. 228.

TEN PAGES

THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17, 1914

PROBS—FAIR AND COLD

PRICE TWO CENTS

FOG WHICH FAVORED GERMANS IN ATTACK ON ENGLAND'S COAST AIDS THEM IN ESCAPE

Official Statement Announces Raiders, on being Sighted by British, Retired at Full Speed and Made Good Their Escape Under Cover of Heavy Mist — Report Says Two of German Cruisers Were Sunk, but No Confirmation — No Further Official Information to Clear Up Rumors of General Engagement — All England Mystified as to How Enemy Evaded Mines and Patrols — Six or Eight Ships Took Part in Raid, Naval Experts Say — Must Not be Allowed to Modify General Naval Policy Which is Being Followed, Admiralty Says.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF THE RAID

Bulletin—London, Dec. 16.—The following is the official press bureau's statement on the German attack on the English coast:

"This morning a German cruiser force made a demonstration upon the Yorkshire coast in the course of which they shelled Hartlepool, Whitby and Scarborough.

"A number of their fastest ships were employed for this purpose, and they remained about an hour on the coast.

"They were engaged by patrol vessels on the spot. As soon as the presence of the enemy was reported a British patrolling squadron endeavored to cut them off. On being sighted by the British vessels the Germans retired at full speed, and, favored by the mist, succeeded in making good their escape.

"The losses on both sides are small, but full reports have not yet been received.

"The Admiralty takes the opportunity of pointing out that demonstrations of this character against unfortified towns or commercial ports, though not difficult to accomplish provided that a certain amount of risk is accepted, are devoid of military significance.

"They may cause some loss of life among the civil population, and some damage to private property, which is much to be regretted; but they must not, in any circumstances, be allowed to modify the general naval policy which is being pursued."

London, Dec. 16.—For the first time in centuries England has been struck by a foreign foe. A squadron of swift German cruisers crept through the fog last night to the eastern coast, and turned their guns against the Britons.

When day broke they began the bombardment of three important towns—Hartlepool, at the mouth of the Tees; Whitby, thirty-five miles southward, and Scarborough, noted as a pleasure resort, fifteen miles beyond.

CASUALTY LIST 110.

Hartlepool suffered most. There two battle cruisers and an armored cruiser were engaged and at this place the greatest loss of life occurred. The British War Office fixes the number of dead at Hartlepool as seven soldiers and twenty-two civilians, and the wounded at fourteen soldiers and fifty civilians.

At Scarborough, where a battle cruiser and an armored cruiser shelled the town, thirteen casualties are reported, while at Whitby two were killed and two wounded.

Men, women and children, of the civilian population, were left dead or wounded—struck without warning while at breakfast or at work. In all, the casualty list totals 110, according to the official estimates, of whom 31 are known to be dead.

Three churches were damaged; the gas works and lumber yards at Hartlepool were set afire, and the Abbey at Whitby was struck. The Balmoral Hotel at Scarborough received the full effects of a shell and a number of houses and shops were shattered and partly burned in each of the towns.

WAR OFFICE STATEMENT.

The hostile squadron escaped in the fog, after an encounter with coast guard vessels patrolling the neighborhood, which were reinforced as soon as the presence of the Germans was signalled.

The official account of the attack, as issued by the press bureau, with more complete details from the War Office follows:

"At 8 a. m. today three enemy ships were sighted off Hartlepool, and at 8.15 they commenced a bombardment. These ships appeared to be two battle cruisers and one armored cruiser.

"The land batteries replied and are reported to have hit and damaged the enemy.

"At 8.05 the firing ceased and the enemy steamed away. None of our guns were touched. One shell fell in the Royal Engineers lines and several in the lines of the 18th Service Battalion of the Durham Light Infantry.

"The casualties among the troops amounted to seven killed and fourteen wounded.

"Some damage was done to the town, and the gas works were set on fire.

"During the bombardment, especially in West Hartlepool, the people crowded in the streets and approximately twenty-two killed and fifty were wounded.

"At the same time a battle cruiser and an armored cruiser appeared off Scarborough and fired about fifty shots, which caused considerable damage, and thirteen casualties are reported.

"At Whitby two battle cruisers fired some shots doing damage to buildings, and the following casualties are reported, two killed, two wounded.

"At all three places there was an entire absence of panic, and the demeanor of the people was everything that could be desired."

(Continued on page 2)

MOUNT GUNS ON COLLIER TO RAID COMMERCE

Part of Emden's Crew in Make-shift War Craft are Said to be Attacking Ships in Pacific.

Manila, Dec. 16.—Forty men of the crew of the German cruiser Emden who were left on Cocos Island when the Australian cruiser Sydney discovered the Emden and chased and forced her to run ashore some time ago, have captured a collier and mounted two Maxims on her and are now raiding commerce in the Pacific, according to a report received here.

The report came through officers of the British steamer Malacca, which has arrived at Jolo. The report has not been confirmed officially.

The men of the Emden had gone ashore on Cocos Island to dismantle the wireless and fled, but were unable to rejoin their ship when the Sydney put in an appearance. The German party, which is commanded by Lieut. Von Muecke, left Cocos Island with a commandeered schooner and plenty of provisions and also their own armed launch and two boats, according to the report. Where they captured the collier is not stated.

DEAN LENNOX NEW BISHOP OF QUEBEC

Quebec, Dec. 16.—The Very Rev. the Dean of Quebec, Dr. Lennox Williams, was today elected Bishop of Quebec, in succession to the late Bishop Dunn, who died while on his way to England. The majority was large, the only other name to poll more than a few votes being that of Bishop Richardson, of Fredericton.

LANDING BRITISH TROOPS AT HAVRE

Thousand Arriving Daily and Are Being Rushed North.

Havre, Dec. 15.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—Thousands of British troops are arriving here daily on transports, and are being moved to the north as rapidly as possible. The British are making the port of Havre their main base of supplies. On the average fifteen British transports arrive here daily from Southampton.

Large camps have been leased on the heights along the Seine, for periods varying from two to three years, and barracks are being built. Extensive supply depots have been established here.

ALLIED NATIONS WILL DICTATE TERMS OF PEACE TO GERMANS IN BERLIN, SAYS MAJOR GENERAL HUGHES, IN HIS ADDRESS

CRISIS NEAR IN THE DUAL MONARCHY

Internal Disorders in Towns of Austria-Hungary Follow the News of Defeat of Austrians by Servians.

Rome, Dec. 16.—According to reports which have reached the Austrian frontier, whence they have been transmitted to Rome by telegraph, the situation in the Dual Monarchy is approaching what might be called a critical stage.

These reports are worthy of credence, and set forth that following the news of the defeat inflicted on the Austrians by the Servians, the situation became grave, and was rendered more acute by internal disorders, especially at Vienna, Budapest and Prague. At Vienna, a large crowd gathered in the Ringstrasse and marched to the foreign office and the war office, the people calling loudly in protest against the way the war is being conducted.

At Prague there were demonstrations which assumed a separatist character, in the sense that the Bohemians do not desire to see their sons killed for German or anti-Slav interests, and have not hesitated to express their views along this line.

At Budapest the demonstrations were more violent and almost assumed the nature of a riot. The principal streets of the city had to be cleared by the police, and while attempting to make its way to the Ministry of Defence, the crowd cried "down with Potiorek."

General Potiorek is one of the Austrian commanders.

Minister of Militia and Defense Heard in Stirring Speech at Luncheon in His Honor—Our Soldiers Will March Through Streets of Enemy's Capital Before War Ends—Men's Canadian Club Function Great Success.

"It's a long way to Berlin but the road must be travelled by British and French freemen. Our Canadian boys will travel that road. Some of them will never come back, but some will walk the streets of Berlin where peace will be dictated and that spirit of autocracy and tyranny which has been a curse in the world for the last thirty years will be vanquished and freedom not only assured for the British Empire and the world at large, but restored to the people of Germany."

This is what Major General Hughes said in the course of his address to the Canadian Club last evening.

"Those who talk of a settlement now are the enemies of the Empire and of civilization. Cost what it will, and the cost will be great, this war must be fought to a successful issue."

The Minister said that personally he was strongly opposed to the idea of conscription, but he did not know but what he would be in favor of making those who would not train themselves to defend their country pay a special tax of \$5 or \$10 a year towards the maintenance of the militia and those who did train themselves.

In the old days the sports of the people gave them training for the art of war, but the sports of the people at present were not adapted to training young men for war in these days of smokeless powder and machine guns.

Canada's War Minister was given a splendid reception at the Canadian Club luncheon in his honor. The large hall of the Masonic Temple was filled with tables, and every seat was occupied, some members having to be content to take their dinner in the antechambers.

Dr. H. S. Bridges presided in introducing the Minister he extended to him a hearty welcome to the city, first as a soldier of the Empire, and secondly as a patriotic Canadian. He congratulated Major General Hughes on his studies of the rise and fall of empires I was struck by the perpetual rise of the germ of autocracy, which is embodied in the idea of the divine right of kings, that idea, that spirit which embodied in the Kaiser has started this terrible conflict which is destroying countless homes, killing off men by the tens of thousands, and wasting millions of dollars worth of property of all kinds. Most of us had felt that this idea had disappeared, so far as civilized countries were concerned.

A splendid reception. When the Minister rose he was given a splendid reception, the gathering after round on round of applause, rising to their feet and giving him three cheers and a tiger.

The Major General graciously expressed his appreciation of the compliment paid him in being asked to address the club, and his thanks for the flattering reception given him.

"You have done me the honor of speaking of me as a soldier of the Empire. For years I lectured on history, in my studies of the rise and fall of empires I was struck by the perpetual rise of the germ of autocracy, which is embodied in the idea of the divine right of kings, that idea, that spirit which embodied in the Kaiser has started this terrible conflict which is destroying countless homes, killing off men by the tens of thousands, and wasting millions of dollars worth of property of all kinds. Most of us had felt that this idea had disappeared, so far as civilized countries were concerned."

Allies Advance Foot by Foot in West, Beating Down Stubborn Resistance of Enemy — Offensive Movement being Pushed Forward Successfully Along Coast of Flanders, Assisted by British Fleet — Severe Fighting in the Woevre and Alsace — Series of New Battles Developing in East — Russian Change in Plans May Affect Whole Battle Front — Will Relieve Cracow and Draw Germans Away From Railways by Which They Moved Their Troops.

MAKES HIS ESCAPE FROM GERMANY

British Officer Wounded in Battle Escapes from German Territory Disguised as Belgian Refugee.

London, Dec. 16.—The Earl of Leven and Melville has, according to the Central News, arrived in London, after having escaped from German territory.

The Earl went to the front in the early stages of the war with his regiment, the Royal Scots Greys, in which he is a lieutenant, and being wounded on August 22, was left behind when his regiment retreated. He was taken by the Germans to a hospital, suffering from a bullet wound in the thigh.

On Wednesday last, disguised as a Belgian refugee, he travelled across Belgium in a northerly direction, broke through the German lines and crossed the Dutch frontier without a passport.

London, Dec. 16.—The raid of German warships on the northeast coast of England and their escape in the fog, after having bombarded Scarborough, Hartlepool and Whitby, where a number of persons were killed and wounded, and considerable damage was done to property, completely overshadows the operations on land.

The land operations, however, as on preceding days, have been of the utmost importance. The British, French and Belgian troops have continued their offensive in the west, and, according to the French official reports, have made further slight progress. This was not accomplished without serious opposition on the part of the Germans, who, at every point, where an advance was attempted, fought against it foot by foot.

Along the coast of Flanders, where the allies are trying to push their lines forward from Nieuport they had the assistance of the British fleet, which violently bombarded Westende, one of the many little coast towns that have suffered greatly since the commencement of the war. This attack Berlin says, was without effect, and the allies were repulsed.

Further inland the French also claim to have gained ground, although in a less marked degree than on previous days. In the Argonne there apparently has been a lull in the fighting, but both in the Woevre and Alsace,

the two other regions where severe fighting has been in order for some time, the Germans appear to have delivered counterattacks.

RUSSIANS ALSO CHANGE PLANS.

In Poland preparations are being made for a new battle or series of battles. The Russians, according to a former member of the cabinet at Petrograd, have decided, despite the disappointment that it must cause, to withdraw their left wing at least and form a new line back in their own territory. This will relieve Cracow, but will compel the Austro-German forces to fight further away from their strategic railways, by which they so quickly moved troops to desired points.

This plan will doubtless also affect the rest of the battle front except that in the extreme north of Poland, where the German column has been driven back by a superior force of Russians.

A Rome despatch credits the Austrians with having admitted the loss of 100,000 men in their expedition against Serbia and their subsequent defeat by the army of that little nation.

GERMANY WILL LEARN HOW LONG IS BRITISH ARM

London Times Says German Ships Will Come Again, Until They Come Once Too Often.

London, Dec. 17.—The Times, discussing what it terms indiscriminate shelling of unfortified towns, refers to the statement of Count Ernst Von Reventlow, the German naval expert, that "we must see clearly that in order to fight with success we must fight ruthlessly, and in the proper meaning of the word," and adds:

"The deeds wrought at Whitby and Scarborough represent 'the proper meaning,' as interpreted in Germany. We shall not discuss the prescriptions of international law, because the Germans jettisoned alike all principles of international law and all dictates of society. The German navy and the German nation will learn the full significance of the Indian saying: 'The Patience of the British is as long as the summer day, but their arm is as long as the winter night.'"

The raid had no genuine military or naval significance, and its objects could only be to relieve the prevalent depression in Germany and create panic in these islands. The second object has entirely failed. The raid was received with complete calmness. "We fully expect the German ships to come again until they come once too often."

The Times adds that the purpose of the Royal Navy is to engage and destroy the enemy's ships, and that this purpose will be inflexibly pursued.

HOW NEWS WAS RECEIVED BY WASHINGTON

German Raid Chief Topic in Official Circles Yesterday — Made for Moral Effect, Was Consensus of Opinion.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Official and diplomatic Washington was thrilled today, as it seldom has been since the war began, with the news of the bombardment by German cruisers off the east coast of England.

The actual attacks on British coast towns, accomplishing even in a small way, the long-talked-of raid of the German navy on the English coast, developed much discussion among the naval experts.

While government officials made no formal comment, the bombardment was discussed in congressional, as well as executive quarters, as all the naval events abroad have been, with particular application to hypothetical situations in which American defenses might be involved.

The consensus of opinion among naval men was that the raid by the German cruisers was for moral effect, and did not screen a general invasion of England by Zeppelins and German submarines, although the vulnerability of Great Britain to such attacks was to some extent emphasized by it. On the other hand, experts thought any sustained attack on the English coast would require many more ships than were engaged today, and by the time any effort was made to land an expeditionary force the English fleet could be brought into action.