

## Sinking of the Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy

Continued from Page 9

mortal blow, the next ship in line, the Hogue, was attacked at a distance of 600 yards; the periscopes of her antagonists could be seen, and the next ship astern, the Cressy, opened violently upon them with her guns. Two torpedoes got home on the lengthy starboard side of the Hogue, one striking amidships and the other a little further aft, and it damaged her so extensively that listing to starboard she rapidly began to sink by the stern. At such a rate did the water pour into her hull that her men had to leap for their lives before she rolled right over, under seven minutes after receiving the torpedoes against her side, being actually the first to go thru torpedoed some time after the Aboukir. But by this time the Aboukir was in a bad way, being right over on her starboard side, so that the smoke still coming from her funnels seemed to be issuing from the sea. In a few minutes after the Hogue had gone she rolled up and plunged under, having floated for twenty-five minutes after being struck.

"The Cressy, the remaining ship, a great stationary mountain of steel, busy picking up the survivors and firing whenever possible at any suspicious object, was wirelessing the bad news when she was attacked on the port beam. In this case there is a good deal of evidence to prove that this particular submarine was hit; she certainly disappeared suddenly, and a great oily bubble exploded over the spot and gave out smoke.

"It is impossible to accurately judge the number of hostile submarines engaged, but lately the Germans have been going seaward in batches of six boats and most of the survivors put the number at either five or six, so that the German story that only one boat was engaged is undoubtedly false."

### The Promptings of Humanity

The Admiralty in the course of their statement concerning the sinking of the cruisers write: "The sinking of the Aboukir was, of course, an ordinary hazard of patrolling duty. The Hogue and Cressy were sunk, however, because they proceeded to the assistance of their consort, and remained with engines stopped, endeavoring to save life, thus presenting an easy and certain target to further submarine attacks. The natural promptings of humanity have in this case led to heavy losses, which would have been avoided by a strict adherence to military considerations. The loss of nearly sixty officers and 1,400 men would not have been grudged if it had been brought about by gunfire in an open action, but it is peculiarly distressing under the conditions which prevailed. The absence of any of the ardor and excitement of an engagement did not, however, prevent the display of discipline, cheerful courage, and ready self-sacrifice among all ranks and ratings exposed to the ordeal."

### FINE FLYING FEAT

Lieutenant Rainey, of the Flying Corps, performed the daring feat of crossing the Channel on Saturday in a damaged machine for the purpose of getting a new one at Eastchurch. He gave a thrilling account of his experiences whilst at the front to some friends at Deal. For three weeks he had neither changed his clothes, had a bath, washed, or shaved.

He had two machines completely disabled by rifle and shell fire, whilst a third had caught alight when in mid-air. He had been in the air 24 hours at a stretch. On one occasion he had to come down at a certain place in France owing to slight machine trouble.

As soon as he touched land he was so exhausted that he laid his head on the machine and immediately went to sleep. He slept so soundly that on waking he discovered that his putties, socks, and boots had been removed, evidently by somebody for a joke or a souvenir.

He brought to Deal with him a helmet belonging to a German whom he says he shot.

Paris special quotes M. Marcel Sembat, Minister of Public Works, after a visit to Rheims, as saying it was possible to conserve the cathedral by repairs.

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### EXTRA SPECIAL

Men's Sheep Lined Duck Coats—36 in. long, of the finest brown duck lined with heavy sheep skin oak tanned. Has a full sheep lined wind guard, making them storm proof. Three pockets, leather bound and stayed leather arm shields. Harness clasp fasteners and chains. Sleeves lined with stout grey tweed, wool wristlets. Sizes 38 to 48. Special **\$8.50**

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