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GERMAN SUBMARINE FLEETS SINK LINERS SHOOTING PASSENGERS AS THEY ATTEMPT TO LEAVE IN BOATS

PROHIBITION IN GREAT BRITAIN

Lloyd George to Ask the Cabinet to Act at Once

"We Are Fighting Germany, Austria and Drink," He Says, "and the Greatest of These Three Deadly Foes is Drink"

King, Kitchener and French All in Favor of Prohibitory Law—How Drink Evil Has Hindered Progress of Operations.

London, March 29, 9.35 p. m.—"We are fighting Germany, Austria and Drink, and so far as I can see the greatest of these three deadly foes is drink," said David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, replying today to a deputation of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation, the members of which were unanimous in urging that, in order to meet the national requirements at the present time, there should be a total prohibition during the period of the war of the sale of intoxicating liquors. This should apply not only to public houses but also to private clubs, so as to operate equally with all classes of the community.

It was stated that despite the fact that work was being carried on night and day, seven days in the week, the total working time on the average in nearly all the British shipyards was actually less than before the war, and the average productivity had decreased.

There were many men doing splendid and strenuous work, probably as good as the men in the trenches, but many did not even approximate full time, thus disastrously reducing the average.

The evil. Notwithstanding the entreaties of the hours they are allowed to keep open the receipts of the public houses in the neighborhood of the shipyards had greatly increased, in some cases forty per cent. As an instance of one of many similar cases, that of a battleship coming in for immediate repairs was cited. She was delayed a whole day through the absence of riveters, who were drinking and carousing.

In one yard the riveters had been working on the average only forty hours a week, and in another yard only thirty-six hours.

In conclusion, the deputation, which included representatives of the leading shipbuilders of the country, drew attention to the example set by France and Russia, and urged upon the chancellor the need of drastic and immediate action.

The chancellor in the course of his reply, said the reason why the government had not heretofore taken more drastic action on the liquor question was because it needed to be assured that it was not going to do anything to public sentiment, otherwise more harm would be done than good. The government must feel that it had every class in the community behind it when taking action which interfered severely with individual liberties. But now he was sure that the country was beginning to realize the gravity of the situation.

To Stop It Completely. "I have a growing conviction, based on accumulating evidence," continued the chancellor, "that nothing but root and branch methods would be of the slightest avail in dealing with the evil. I believe it is the general feeling that if we are to settle German militarism we must first of all settle with the drink."

Mr. Lloyd George intimated that Lord Kitchener, the secretary for war, and Field Marshal French, in command of the British expeditionary forces on the continent, were of the same opinion, and he promised to lay the statements of the deputation before the cabinet.

"I had the privilege of an audience with his majesty this morning and I am permitted by him to say that he is very deeply concerned, and the concern which is felt by him I am certain is shared by all his subjects in this country."

In other ways, Mr. Russell declared that when all the bills were in it would probably be found that the saving would not come to half that amount.

In the case of the first contingent it was a case of running orders. Fighting continues between the Skwa and Orge rivers. In an extremely desperate battle for the village of Vaka we captured 200 rifles, 100 machine-guns, and in the Carpathians, between Moritz and Bartfeld, the Austrians on Saturday made persistent but fruitless attacks.

RUSSIAN FLEETS ACTIVE AND ARMY GAINING ON LAND

New Dreadnoughts in Baltic While Czar's Battleships are Bombarding Bosphorus Forts—German Counter-Offensive Checked in East Prussia While Austrians Fall Back in Carpathians.

London, March 29, 11.05 p. m.—Outside the sinking of the steamers the only event of importance, news of which was received during the day, were the renewal of activity by the Russian Black Sea fleet, which bombarded the forts on the Bosphorus, and the announcement from Petrograd that the Baltic fleet had been reinforced by modern fighting units, presumably dreadnoughts which were built in Russian yards.

The battles for the Carpathians are proceeding with ever-increasing violence. The Russians are in complete possession of the western passes, and are advancing into Hungary, but the eastern passes remain in the hands of the German allies, who, however, are being strongly pressed by their reinforced adversaries.

The situation is unchanged in east Galicia and Bukovina. In north Poland the Germans claim to have driven the Russians from Taurigen, which they stormed. In the west the mine warfare continues without any important change in the positions of the two armies.

At the request of the ship owners, the British chancellor of the exchequer has promised to submit to the cabinet a proposal to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors in Great Britain during the war.

German Artillery Active. Paris, via London, March 29, 11.30 p. m.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight: "The enemy has bombarded Nieport town and Nieport Bains (two miles to the northwest) but the damage done to the bridge thrown across the Yser was not of great importance."

"In Champagne there has been artillery action in the neighborhood of Beaurieux."

"In the Argonne there has been cannonading, and bombs have been thrown, principally in the region of Bagatelles, where both sides remain very active."

"Everywhere else the day has been calm, and no infantry action has taken place."

Russian Statement Cheerful. Petrograd, March 29, via London, March 29, 12.30 p. m.—The following official statement from general headquarters was issued tonight: "On the front west of the Neman, we have everywhere stopped the German counter-offensive. A battalion of the 21st German Corps, which was advancing Sunday over the ice on Lake Dvina, with the object of getting in our rear, was attacked with the bayonet near the village of Zebrowski and annihilated."

"The enemy's siege batteries at Osowets have also stopped the fighting, and continue between the Skwa and Orge rivers. In an extremely desperate battle for the village of Vaka we captured 200 rifles, 100 machine-guns, and in the Carpathians, between Moritz and Bartfeld, the Austrians on Saturday made persistent but fruitless attacks."

"On the southeast Galician front there was an attack by the public demands that facilities be given them to send Easter gifts to the troops at the front, declaring that the weather and traffic conditions render such a parcel post service impossible."

Austrians Satisfied. Vienna, via London, March 29, 10.30 p. m.—The war office tonight made public the following communication: "Fighting in the Carpathians continues. A Russian attack, yesterday on the heights west of Bonyovayev was repulsed, the enemy losing heavily. Regiments of the Fourth Cavalry Division and the 1st and 2nd Austrian Infantry Brigade fought magnificently, and repeatedly repulsed numerically stronger hostile attacks."

"The Austrians, who advanced across the Dniester river, east of Zaleszayki, were driven back after a vigorous fight. A Russian attack, yesterday on the heights west of Bonyovayev was repulsed, the enemy losing heavily. Regiments of the Fourth Cavalry Division and the 1st and 2nd Austrian Infantry Brigade fought magnificently, and repeatedly repulsed numerically stronger hostile attacks."

SOLE MEANS OF GAINING GROUND

Sapping and Mining Operations in the Argonne

NIGHT AND DAY

The Man Who Allows Himself to Be Surprised is Lost—French and German Troops Often Meet Under Ground—Many Mines Exploded.

Paris, March 29.—Sapping and mining operations are the sole means of gaining ground in the Argonne, according to an official note given out in Paris today. Night and day, the sappers work hard, and perilous is their task.

The man who allows himself to be surprised is lost. Indefinitely they use the pick and the shovel.

Between Four De Paris and Aire engineer corps in the Argonne already has constructed 3,000 yards of sapping lines and exploded fifty mines, the latter now containing about 15,000 pounds of explosives. Incidents such as the sudden meeting of French and German troops under ground, and a mine to explode, are not infrequent.

How Buffalo Man Was Shot. Washington, March 29.—American Consul Green at Hamilton, Bermuda, called the state department today that the British authorities had informed him it was a "wild shot" that hit George B. Montgomery, of Buffalo (N. Y.), who recently was shot in the foot and seriously wounded while sailing near a camp of German prisoners of war in the Bermudas. The consul said a full report was being forwarded by mail.

Montgomery was sailing with a party of friends. Earlier unofficial reports had said he was shot after a warning from a sentry that the boat was in forbidden waters and had been ignored.

The British ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, already has expressed regret to the state department over the incident, and it is expected here that the British government will pay an indemnity.

Belief That Big Canadian Loan is Over-Subscribed. London, March 29.—The time for receiving applications for the Canadian £20,000,000 loan closed at 11 o'clock this morning, instead of the 10 o'clock it might have been due. The applications received had all previous records for Canadian loans, and kept the Bank of Montreal extremely busy.

The tariff resolution was reported from committee without amendment and the \$100,000,000 war appropriation bill was given second reading.

Resolution Passes That It Shall Not Go Into Effect Till After Next Election. Ottawa, March 29.—In the senate today, on the government's proposal to increase the senate membership to 104 by bringing up the western group to 24 members, Senator Postock, opposition leader, offered the same amendment as last year, that the increase in membership do not take place until after the next general election, or at the same time as the common redistribution comes into effect. The amendment was carried by 27 to 18.

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MORE THAN 150 PEOPLE MURDERED BY PIRATES WHO SHELL LIFE-BOATS

Submarine Commander Angered By Attempts of Ships to Escape

Women Among the Victims and Captain of the Falaba Goes to His Death—No Attempt Made by Germans to Rescue Drowning, But on the Other Hand They Look On and Laugh—A Terrible Story of Uncivilized Warfare—Dutch Steamer Also Sank But Her Crew Escapes.

London, March 29, 10.15 p. m.—Upwards of 150 lives were lost in the sinking by German submarines of the African liner Falaba and the British steamer Agulla, bound from Liverpool for Lisbon.

The Falaba, which was torpedoed in St. George's Channel Sunday afternoon, carried a crew of 90 and about 160 passengers, and of this total only 140 were rescued. Of those rescued eight died later from exposure.

The Agulla had a crew of 42, and three passengers, and of these 23 of the crew and all the passengers were lost.

In both cases, on sighting the submarine, the captains tried to escape by putting on all speed possible, but the underwater craft overtook the steamers, showing that Germany now has some of her most modern submarines engaged in the blockade operations against England.

The captain of the Falaba, who was one of those lost, was given five minutes to get his passengers and crew into the boats, but, according to survivors, before this was possible, a torpedo was fired striking the engine room and causing a terrible explosion. Many persons were killed, and the steamer sank in ten minutes.

Boats which happened to be in the vicinity rescued most of those who were saved; others got away in the boats, which were ready for launching, and which were quickly lowered when the order was given to abandon the ship.

Those who were still on the steamer when the explosion occurred were thrown into the sea, and it took the fishermen an hour or more to pick up the people in the water who managed to keep themselves afloat.

The Agulla was attacked off the Pembroke coast. The submarine, which in this case was the U-28, opened fire with her gun, shells from which killed a woman passenger, the chief engineer and two of the crew. Even after the crew had commenced to lower the boats, according to the story of the survivors, the Germans kept on their fire, and some of the boats were riddled with bullets.

FOURTH BOAT FOUNDERED. The captain of the trawler Ottilie, whom the commander of the submarine told of the sinking of the Agulla, went to the rescue and picked up three boats, containing nineteen of the crew. The fourth boat, which contained the other members of the crew, could not be found, and it is presumed that she foundered. On their arrival at Fishguard several of the crew were bandaged, having been wounded by the fire from the submarine.

Another Dutch steamer, the Amstel, of 853 tons, has been blown up by a mine off Flamborough Head, but her crew were rescued.

The survivors of the Falaba relate that the liner was seventy miles to the southwest of Milfordhaven when the submarine appeared. She called to the captain of the Falaba to leave to, but he ignored the order and promptly started at full speed ahead. The liner was a fast craft, and in half an hour the chase was kept up before the submarine overhauled her and commenced her stop.

SCORES KILLED. The passengers and crew were given five minutes to leave, and although this time was very brief, most of the boats were launched before the submarine fired her torpedo. The projectile struck the Falaba in the engine room, and a terrific explosion followed. The ship settled down and sank very quickly. Some of the lifeboats were smashed, and scores of people were struggling in the water when a trawler reached the scene and rescued 105 of them, transferring them later to a destroyer.

Thirty-three persons were picked up by a fishing boat. Three of the persons rescued had sustained injuries by German shrapnel and some of the engine room staff of the Falaba were killed.

The skipper of the fishing boat Eileen Emma, which participated in the rescue work, reported that no efforts were made by the crew of the submarine, to assist the persons who were struggling in the water. The Eileen Emma sighted the submarine shortly after noon, her skipper said, and followed the craft for more than an hour.

The Elder Dempster Company, owner of the Elder Line of steamers of which the Falaba was one, announced tonight that apparently about 125 persons had lost their lives by the sinking of the vessel.

KILLED BY SHELL FIRE. Fishguard, Wales, March 29, 6.30 p. m.—Thirteen members of the crew of the British steamer Agulla, which was sunk by the German submarine U-28 on Saturday night, lost their lives. The survivors who arrived here today say the Agulla was sunk at a point fifty miles southwest of The Smalls, a group of rocks on the southeast coast of Ireland.

The crew was given four minutes in which to leave the ship but, survivors say, the steamer was fired upon while the men were getting into the boats. The chief engineer and two others were killed by shell fire and the lives of ten other men were lost.

The captain of the submarine halted another steamer, the Ottilie, and told her captain of the sinking of the Agulla. The Ottilie went to the rescue. Captain Bennerman, of the Agulla, said the submarine fired across the bows of the steamer, but he speeded up to fourteen knots to clear the under-sea vessel. The submarine was making eighteen knots, however, and quickly overtook them.

The attempt of the Agulla to escape seemed to arouse the anger of the Germans, for they gave the crew and passengers only four minutes in which to leave the ship. But before this the submarine opened fire, which was kept up rapidly while the crew was launching the boats, killing the chief engineer and two of the crew, and wounding several others.

(Continued on page 6.)

sent to the front, but to Bermuda to end the winter. General Hughes said that his own idea had been to distribute the officers and men of the regular army other companies to the front, in order that the new men might have the benefit of their training and experience. However, the British government has decided that the Lincolnshire Regiment. It was now under the control of the war office, and the war office wanted it at the front, would be sent.

THEATRE MANAGER SAYS "NEVER AGAIN." Halifax, March 24.—There was no performance at the Academy of Music last night, Manager J. F. O'Connell cancelled it because of the disgraceful conduct of a section of the Dalhousie students at the audience. It may be taken as a sign that we have seen the last of "Dalhousie theatre night" at the Academy of Music. The intention of the management was to have another Monday night performance by a portion of the collegians. This decision of Manager O'Connell commends itself generally to the public.

Those who hold tickets for Tuesday night's performance can have their money refunded by applying at the Academy box office.

The injunction case brought by R. F. Roman and W. P. Potter, in connection with their pictures said to have been exposed to be shown on a screen came before the chief justice and was dismissed. The question of costs has yet to be decided.

The two students accused of assaulting the police were arraigned in the police court before Stipendiary Fielding, and the case remanded till Monday forenoon.

The cancelling of Tuesday night's performance means a serious loss to the Alcoholic Dramatic Club. It is a pity that this should be caused by a collection of disorderly students who thus not only caused the loss of the money but brought disgrace to the college.

St. George News. St. George, March 28.—Mr. and Mrs. George Mealey, of New Glasgow, are hosts of Mrs. John Doyle.

Mrs. J. Sochy is quite ill at her home. Rev. Father Holland was in St. John this week attending the funeral of Father P. Keefe's mother.

The election of mayor and aldermen will take place the third Tuesday in April. There is quite an agitation in favor of having the aldermen elected at large, the aldermen now being in the opinion of many, wrong, the qualification making it difficult to find candidates in some of the wards able to qualify.

Miss Helen McMullen, assistant in the post office, is confined to her home through illness.

Miss Carrie Gillmore returned from an enjoyable visit with friends at the shore on Thursday.

Joseph L. Clark, son of J. Sutton Clark, expects to be in Halifax Friday with a Montreal regiment of the second contingent on their way to the front.

In a letter received from Arthur Hatt on March 7, and dated Feb. 29, somewhere in France, the writer says: "It is like weather here and we are quite comfortable, except that tobacco is very scarce, and hard to get. He goes on to say he is a driver now. "We drive from the saddle here, the same as in artillery, very man has two horses. It is very new to me, buying anything, but we are sticking up French fast. There is not much to write now as we are not allowed to give any information." The address is given as "The 1st Battalion, 1st Division, 1st Army, near the front."

Miss Nellie Mooney is ill at her home under the doctor's care.

Horace Stewart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gillmore Stewart, was taken ill on Wednesday, and this morning he was taken to the Chipman Hospital to be operated on for appendicitis.

The ladies of the Red Cross met on Tuesday evening and voted to grant \$30 to furnish a bed in the Canadian hospital at Clapham, England. The ladies have a large assortment of goods ready to ship and are doing good work for the cause.

EGGS MUCH CHEAPER. Yesterday eggs were selling all the way from 21 to 23 cents per dozen. Good case eggs could be purchased at 21 and 22 cents, while the better qualities were to be had for prices ranging from 23 to 25 cents per dozen. Merchants in the market say that the outlook for the Easter supply is good. They are coming in now in abundance and the price, which has been very high during the winter months, is gradually diminishing as the "egg season" approaches.

The Mother Tripped. It was raining hard one Sunday, and the little boy asked his mother if they weren't going to Sunday school. "No, not today, baby," she answered, "it's too muddy and it's raining too hard."

"Well, mamma," said the little Puritan, "it was raining yesterday, and we went to the circus." The mother immediately made preparations to go.

What Kind of a Boat? "Pa," said Tommy, asking his fifty-first question that evening, "is a vessel a boat?" "Well, yes," said Pa, trying to read his paper, "you can call a vessel a boat, certainly, but it's a kind of a boat is a blood vessel." "A lifeboat, of course. Now run off to bed."

Government Purchasing Agent Tells of Motor Transport Deals

MADE \$5,000 REFUND

Auditor General Forced Restitution—Ottawa Jeweler Tells of Refusing to Pay \$2 Rake-off on Each Binocular Sold Government to Department Official.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Ottawa, March 29.—The good and the bad in connection with the purchase of motor trucks and binoculars by the first contingent were brought out before the public accounts committee today.

In the case of the binoculars it was wholly bad in the purchase of over half a million dollars worth of motor transports for the first contingent. T. A. Russell, of Toronto, who managed the business for General Hughes, gave some justification. While he admitted that his own company, the Russell Motor Car Company, and its subsidiary company, the Canadian Bicycle & Motor Company, had made upwards of \$48,000 in profits, he declared at the same time that no profit had accrued to himself, and his work had been done promptly and efficiently. Mr. Russell was on the stand all the afternoon. He justified the profits which his own company had made on the ground that it was only the usual percentage of profit which any company might make in selling supplies to the government on upwards of \$400,000 worth of business. As to the state-

ment made to the committee last week by Major Thomas, who succeeded Mr. Russell as chief purchasing agent for motor supplies for the second contingent, that \$180,000 had been saved through dealing direct with the manufacturer and

removing from ships.

London, March 18.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—Three of the nine ships utilized by the British government as "prison ships" for the internment of prisoners of war, at a cost of nearly half a million dollars a month, have now been taken off, and it is expected that all the others will be vacated by the end of April, and all prisoners provided for on shore. The number of prisoners on board those still in the service is as follows: Acaenia, 1,400; Scotia, 1,100; Lake Maniloba, 1,200; Saxonia, 1,200; Irenia, 1,600; and Royal Edward, 2,900.

German Prisoners Removed from Ships.

London, March 29, 2.47 p. m.—A dispatch to the Morning Post from Bern says Germany has agreed to send coal to Italy in return for foodstuffs and certain other products.

Italy to Supply Germany with Foodstuffs.

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