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U. S. NOTE GIVEN MUCH ATTENTION

Britain Must Have Absolute Guarantees From Neutral Countries of Non-Shipment of Goods to Germany

Washington, Jan. 4.—Developments in the negotiations to stop British interruptions of American copper shipmens have reached the point, it was understood here today, where Britain will not interfere with shipments to well-known Italian firms, if they are made in Italian ships.

Shipments to well-known manufacturers in Sweden and Holland, it was also understood, would be uninterrupted, but it has not been made plain if they must be made in ships of those countries.

Few Cargoes Stopped.

It can be authoritatively stated only five cargoes destined for Italy have been stopped at Gibraltar since Nov. 15th. Two of these were released within three days and the others as soon as the alleged contraband in their cargoes could be removed.

Since Dec. 4, no cargoes destined for Italy have been intercepted by the Allies.

Rubber cargoes held in English ports destined for American firms will probably be released shortly or purchased by Britain which needs much rubber for the manufacture of tyres, bed blankets and boots.

Tighten the Regulations.

Constant negotiations are in progress between the Allies and neutral European counries siuated near Germany looking to tightening export regulations which will prevent American shipments from reaching Germany and Austria through neighboring countries other than Italy.

The loosening of regulations applying to American cargoes, it is said by British officials will depend largely on assurances received from neutral countries that they will not assist in supplying Germany, Austria or Turkey with munitions of war.

Given Much Attention.

London, Jan. 4.—Politically, the American note still occupies a prominent position dividing attention with speculation as to what Roumania and Italy intend to do.

The aqswer of the British Government is expected to be sent to Washington late this week.

It is understood that Britain has reached such good understanding with Italy with regard to the transshipment of contraband that no cargoes destined to that country have been stopped since Dec. 4th.

British officials declare that the relief of American shipping from the present regulatons depends largely on the assurances of neutral States bordering on the belligerent countries that they will not assist in supplying Germany, Ausra or Turkey, with food products or munitions of war.

Reply Next Week.

London, Jan. 4.—The British Government's reply to the American note concerning contraband will be sent before the end of this week.

An outline of the reply has been submitted to France, which is greatly interested because of the activity of French ships in searching Mediterranean cargoes.

Probably there will be a statement issued shortly showing that Italy and England and her Allies have arrived at an understanding concerning contraband satisfactory to all the countries affected.

Germans Sunk The Formidable, So Says Berlin

German Submarine Boat Wirelesses Report of This Achievement To Admiralty

Berlin, Jan. 4.—An official announcement made public through the official news bureau today says:

"A German submarine boat reports by wireless to the Admiralty in Berlin, that it has torpedoed and sunk in the English Channel off Plymouth, the battleship Formidable.

The submarine was pursued by British destroyers, but escaped undamaged."

Swedish Steamer Lost In North Sea 20 Men Drowned

Supposed to Have Struck a Mine—Was 1058 Tons and Used in Coasting Trade

London, Jan. 4.—According to advices received here from Stockholm, the Swedish steamer Carma has been lost in the North Sea with a crew of twenty men.

It is presumed the Carma struck a mine.

The steamer Carma was a coasting vessel built at Sunderland in 1882. She was 1058 tons and owned at Helsingburg.

Bad Weather Forces Lull In Fighting

Steinbach, Important Alsatian Position, Now in the Hands of The French

London, Jan. 4.—Latest news from the battlefront indicates but little activity, the lull evidently being enforced by bad weather.

Steinbach Village, Upper Alsace, is now in the hands of the French after house to house fighting. This loss Berlin admits.

The day was marked by artillery duels with occasional infantry dashes with slight gains, but the line from the Oise to the sea is almost completely calm.　　z

The German headquarters declare the situation in the East remains unchanged. Nothing has reached London to contradict this statement.

The Portia arrived at Channel at 4.40 a.m. and left again at 6.10.

Kaiser Throws Off Cloak of Pretence

Authorises His Soldiers to Use the Dum-Dum Bullet

London, Dec. 31.—The Daily Telegraph has received from a correspondent a statement that the following proclamation has been issued in Antwerp:

"The Kaiser, weary of vain protests against the use of dum-dum bullets, by all the Allied armies, finds himself obliged, cruelly against his will, to authorize his valiant soldiers also to employ this murderous weapon."

Tide Of Battle With Russians On East Front

Small German Force Annihilated On the Bzura—German Brigade Repulsed at Bolimoff

London, Jan. 4.—The French Government report artillery duels and slight progress at certain points. The weather is very bad on almost the whole front.

The Russian Government reports that a small German force has been annihilated near the Bzura river. A German brigade was repulsed, with enormous loss, near Bolimoff.

There has been desperate fighting near Rawa in Galicia. The Austrians are in flight, abandoning arms and ammunition.

About two hundred survivors of the Formidable have been rescued.

RUSSIANS INVADE HUNGARY

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PARIS, JAN. 5--A Petrograd despatch reports that the Russians have occupied eight Hungarian townships and that several divisions of the Austrian army are surrounded in the Carpathians.

David Butler, Naval Reservist Dies In Hospital

Death From Pleuro-pneumonia, Occurred at Portsmouth—Shearstown Man

The cable received yesterday announcing the death of the first naval reservist caused much sorrow in the City.

The lad was David Butler, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Butler, Shearstown, Bay Roberts, and he died at the Naval Hospital, of Portsmouth.

Deceased joined the Reserve a year ago and crossed to England on the Franconia. He landed from the steamer in excellent health but since caught a heavy cold and pleuro-pneumonia set in.

To the parents we extend sincere sympathy. He was willing to give his life for justice, and his name will be inscribed on the immortal roll of honor as if he had died on the deck of a battleship.

Make Exchanges Of Prisoners Wounded in War

London, Jan. 5.—A despatch from Berlin says the first exchange of wounded prisoners of war will take place in Geneva, this month.

CHANGES LIKELY IN THE BRITISH GOV'T. CABINET

London, Jan. 5.—Interesting changes are likely to folow the death of Percy Illingworth, Chief Liberal Whip, according to the Daily News which says if is probable that Augustine Burrell will retire as Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and be succeeded by Herbert L. Samuel, Postmaster General.

BRITISH SHELL PORT IN AFRICA

Battleship and Cruiser Bombard Dar-es-Salaam, German Headquarters in East Africa

Nairobi, British East Africa, Jan. 4.—The British battleship Goliath, and the light cruiser Fox, have carried out successful operations against Dar-es-Salaam, the capital of German East Africa.

The warships bombarded the town inflicting considerable damage. All the German vessels in the harbor were disabled.

Fourteen Europeans and twenty natives were taken prisoners. The British loss was one killed and twelve wounded.

Dar-Es-Salaam, the best-built town on the coast of German East Africa, is a military station with an excellent harbor situated forty miles south of Zanzibar. It is the terminus of an important caravan route and the residence of the Governor, and has large commercial interests. The white population in 1909 was estimated at 1,000 and the total population at more than 20,000.

NO DEMAND FOR FISH AT OPORTO NOW

Demand For Good Qualities Much Below the Average Usual to This Time of the Year

The following letter has been received by the Board of Trade from Lind & Couto, Oporto, Dec. 4th:—

There has been no improvement in the consumption lately, due to the forcing into consumption of large quantities of deteriorated and undercured fish at low prices, but the demand for good qualities is much below the average for the time of year.

We hope there will be some improvement during the next fortnight owing to Christmas sale, but the Portuguese cure is now on the market and is competing with the imported article.

We hear of very high prices being paid in Spain and Italy, but our market cannot afford to pay such high prices for codfish as is proved by the very limited demand for high priced fish and the good demand for cheaper qualities.

We suppose, too, that the fish obtaining such prices in Spain and Italy is of better quality than that sent here.

The official rate of exchange, fixed by the Junta Reguladora do Cambio, has been steadily reduced until it is now identical with the open market rate, consequently, the Junta which did more harm than good by preventing free exchange business, may now be considered merely a nominal institution.

The present rate is about 37¾d. but paper is difficult to obtain in any large amount and bankers will not deal in future."

Artillery Duels The Main Feature Of Recent Fights

French Artillery Silences German Batteries—Capture Heights in Upper Alsace

(Official St. Pierre Bulletin.)

Paris, Jan. 4.—From the sea to the Oise the day was nearly calm. Rainy weather prevails. Artillery duels have occurred on certain parts of the front. Opposite Noulettes our heavy artillery has silenced the German batteries.

On the Aisne, and in the Champagne cannonading was particularly violent, our batteries confirming their superiority and bringing under their range some of the enemy's reserves. Several German positions have been captured in Perthes and Mesnel les Hurles district.

Intermittent cannonading between the Argonne and the Meuse.

An attempt made yesterday by us to take Bourcuilles failed.

Our advance still continues in Le Pretre Woods.

In higher Alsace we have taken an important height, west of Cernay and repulsed a German counter attack at Steinbach. We occupy part of the town around the chapel and cemetery.

Our Soldier Lad Buried In Scotland

The remains of the late John F. Chaplin, of the 1st Nfld. Contingent, were interred at Fort George this afternoon at 3.30, 11.30 local time.

Fiona At Basques

The Customs Department had a message from Basques yesterday that the Revenue cruiser Fiona had put in there safely.

More Recruits From Outports

Bring Total of the Second Contingent Up To 739

The number of volunteers for the Second Contingent now number 739.

The following enlisted yesterday:

R. W. Winter, Burin;
Jno Plowman, Port Rexton, Whitefield Bannister, Port Rexton;
Stephen Norris, Three Arms;
S. G. Emery, Greenspond;
E. T. Allen, St. John's, D. Curran, St. John's, D. J. Rogers. St. John's.

Carthaginian Reaches Port Badly Iced Up

Met Very Boisterous Weather On Her Voyage Here From Philadelphia

The Allan steamer Carthaginian arrived at 10 a.m. from Philadelphia. She left there on Tuesday last, but was detained in the Deleware until Wednesday by ice.

She met boisterous weather all the way and on reaching port was badly iced up.

Sunday night a heavy sea struck the ship breaking part of the rail on the port side, but causing no other damage.

The Carthaginian brought 120 tons general cargo, a large mail and one steerage passenger.

She sails again at 11 a.m. to-morrow and the English mail by her closes at 9 tomorrow morning.

Alan Goodridge & Sons beg to acknowledge $10 conscience money.

Herring Fishers Sadly Hindered By Bad Weather

Fishery Almost a Blank at Bonne Bay, But Big Catches at Bay of Islands Says the Star.

The herring fishery in Bay of Islds. has been but partially conducted during the past week, owing to boisterous weather conditions, which prevetned the boats from tending their nets with anyhing like regularity.

In Middle Arm the fishery for several days has been a blank, and the three vessels there are anxious to get into North Arm.

Fairly Plentiful.

Herring are fairly plentiful in North Arm where there is a fleet of about fifteen vessels. Some of them are well fished, while others have but recently arrived. All the herring taken lately have been frozen, and a number of vessels have loaded and are ready to sail first opportunity.

The fishery at Bonne Bay, which was almost a failure, is practically closed for this season, and the six vessels seeking cargoes there have come down to North Arm of Bay of Islds.

Towed Them Over.

The s.s. Wren towed two vessels, the Agnes and Nobility, from Bonne Bay to Bay of Islands on Saturday. They are now in North Arm.

The John R. Bradley, with a full load of frozen herring, put to sea from Woods Island on Friday, bound for Gloucester.

The schr. Aloah Capt. Wallace Parsons, arrived at Woods Island on Saturday night. She has gone into North Arm for herring cargo. This is her second trip for this season.

Had to Leave Bonne Bay.

The schr. Oriole, Elizabeth N., Bohemia, and Regina came from Bonne Bay to Bay of Islands last week, and are now seeking herring cargoes in North Arm.

The Lunenburg schr. Mary D. Young has about three parts of a cargo of frozen herring, and will likely finish this week.

The weather of late has been favorable for freezing herring, and all good fish are being secured by the vessels. Should herring continue plentiful, and weather conditions prove favorable, it is thought that the voyage will be pretty well over by the end of next week.

Flour Advances

Flour advanced again slightly in the English market this morning. This local market is likely to be effected shortly.

31 SHIPS OF THE U.S. HELD UP

All of Them Contain Cargoes of Copper, Totalling 19,-350 Tons and Valued at $5,500,000

Washington, Jan. 3.—Thirty-one ships, bearing 19,350 tons of American copper, worth $5,500,000, destined to neutral nations, have been detained and their cargoes seized as contraband since the European war began, according to a statement made by Senator Walsh, of Montana, told the Senate to-day in a speech reviewing interruptions to American commerce and highly endorsing the American Governments recent note to Great Britain. "Four ships were consigned to Holland, fourteen to Italy and thirteen to Sweden, he said, and at Gibralter 9,350 tons of Americana copper "have been piled up."

Senator Walsh said:

"The British Government might well avoid a course calculated to make it appear as an offensive act. There is no sentiment of hostility or animosity in the United States toward Great Britain, such as is sporadic cases of no consequence, in the sum total of the national disposition.

"God grant that our relations may always remain friendly.

"The feeling engendered by the aggressions complained of is akin to the surprise and regret experienced by one who has been cruelly wronged by a friend, and who remains confident that a personal explanation and candid conference will wipe out all difference, and bring a speedy reparation. It is in this spirit the American people await the result of the well-timed note of the President. What is needed now is the release of every detained shipment against which a prima facie case of guilt cannot be made out, carrying with it an assurance to the trade that so long as it is honest it is safe."

Capt. John Clarke Commands 'Diana'

Brigus Man to Prosecute Sealfishery This Spring

James Baird Ltd., has taken over the Diana from Job Bros & Co., and well send her to the Gulf next spring. Capt. John Clarke, Brigus, who formerly commanded the Bloodhound, will have charge of her.

We wish him a bumper trip.

By Strong Reinforcements

Russians Were Enabled

To Turn Tide In The East

Berlin, Jan. 5.—Heavy reinforcements from Kiev were responsible for the recent change in the situation in Galicia, according to a correspondent of The Tageblatt with the Austrian headquarters.

The Russians, after their defeat at Lodz and their unsuccessful battle at Limanowa, the correspondent says, seemed on the point of being objected from Galicia and retired behind the Vistula but the reinforcements, altho' principally militia, were sufficient to turn the scale in favor of the Russians who launched a new offensive southwards in the direction of Novy Sendec in the hope of jamming in between the Galician and Carpathian armies.

The Austrians' however, by a new disposition of their troops, and with reinforcements, succeeded in arresting the advance.

A renewal of the southward movement, the correspondent continues, is improbable now, as a further advance would bring the Russians between two fires. Instead of this a heavy pressure Westward in the direction of the Fortress of Cracow is now noticeable.

Retained Oil Wells

Simultaneously, the Russians turned on the Carpathian army, but confined themselves to an attack on South western passes forcing their way into Hungary over the Uzack Pass, this move assuring them the continued control of the important Petroleum fields South of Lember and Przemysl.