

NEW ZEALAND REGIMENT RECEIVE BAPTISM OF FIRE IN FIGHT AGAINST TURKS IN EGYPT

Japanese Cruiser Asama Is Reported Wrecked Off Port Barlome

Crew of 500 Aboard but no Word of Their Fate in Message Sent by U. S. Rear Admiral Howard to Navy Department at Washington.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Rear Admiral Howard, commanding the Pacific fleet, reported to the Navy Department from his flagship San Diego that the Japanese cruiser Asama, with 500 crew, was wrecked about 250 miles off Port Barlome, and was breaking up.

No further details were given in Admiral Howard's despatch, and nothing was said of the fate of the crew.

The Asama, a stater ship of the Tokaiwa, is 442 feet over all, with a beam of sixty-seven feet, and capable of making 21½ knots. She had 18,000 horse power, and was armed with Harvey Nickel Steel.

She was built in Elswick, England, in 1898. Her complement is 500 officers and men. At the San Diego was at the city of San Diego, Calif., today, navy officials assumed that the Admiral's message was sent from there on information received from an American vessel off Ensenada.

While the rules of international law permit belligerent vessels to call on neutral craft of all kinds to assist them in distress, any sailors taken aboard the American ships of war, may be interned for the remainder of the war.

Wireless Went Out of Commission When Ship Struck

San Diego, Calif., Feb. 4.—The Japanese cruiser Asama is reported wrecked near Turtle Bay, less than forty miles from where the steamer

Italian and the Danish motor ship Malakka went on the rocks December 18. The Asama struck on or before last Monday, and is now a total wreck, although no lives were lost, according to reports received here today.

When the British collier Boyne arrived here Tuesday it had on board a Japanese naval officer, who, it is rumored, now came from the wrecked Asama. It is said the Asama's wireless went out of commission instantly when the ship struck.

The nearest American naval vessel to the scene of the wreck of the Asama was the gunboat Yorktown, which was lying at Ensenada, on the coast of Lower California, about 250 miles distant. It she started promptly upon notice of the disaster she should arrive at San Bartolome Bay by noon tomorrow. The Navy Department understood from Admiral Howard's message that he was starting for the scene late today on the San Diego, and as the flagship is a swift vessel, she may arrive about the same time.

The Japanese embassy is relying upon the United States Navy Department for information regarding the wreck.

The Asama had been assigned by the Japanese government to the task of patrolling the Eastern Pacific waters, on the lookout for German cruisers. It was this vessel whose appearance off the harbor at Honolulu obliged the commander of the German gunboat Geier to intern his vessel there.

Austrians Driven From Tarnaw, Galician Town By Czar's Siege Guns

Amsterdam, Feb. 4, via London, Feb. 6.—The Austro-Hungarian war press bureau has issued the following: "Artillery and infantry fighting continues along the Nida river.

"We evacuated Tarnaw (Galicia) after the Russians bombarded the place with heavy mortars. "A decisive battle is being fought in the region of Dukla, where strong Russian pressure is felt in the direction of Dukla Pass and neighboring passes.

"The fighting in the Carpathians is being seriously interfered with by the deep snow."

Vigorous operations around Tarnaw, which is reported to have been evacuated, have been going on for some

time. An official despatch from Vienna January 30, said that attempts of the Russian-Galician army to outflank Archduke Joseph Ferdinand's army near Nowy Sandec, and attack Cracow by way of Tarnaw, had led to a counter offensive by the Archduke against Tarnaw which threatened the rearward communications of the Russians in Galicia and in the Carpathians.

Tarnaw, a town of some 40,000 inhabitants, is on the Biala river, a short distance from its junction with the Dunajec. It lies 135 miles west of Lemberg. It is a manufacturing centre of considerable importance, and contains a number of historic buildings, among them the cathedral, built in the 15th century.

Wilhelmina's Cargo To Be Submitted to Prize Court, if Intercepted

No Proceedings Against the Vessel, Owners Will Be Indemnified for Delay and Shippers of Cargo Compensated for Loss—New Decree by Germany Makes Action Necessary.

London, Feb. 4, 10 p. m.—Great Britain has decided that if the American steamer Wilhelmina, now on her way with a cargo of foodstuffs for Germany, is intercepted, her cargo will be submitted to a prize court, so that the new situation arising out of the action of Germany in ordering that all grain and flour shall be placed under control of the government, may be regularized. In a statement issued tonight, the British Foreign Office says:

"The new German decree makes it evident that all grain and flour is to pass under control of the German government, and it must, therefore, when imported, be regarded as a virtual possession of the German government, or to the authorities under their control.

"This creates a novel situation, and it is probable that if the destination and cargo of the Wilhelmina are, as supposed, the cargo will, if the vessel is intercepted, be submitted to a prize court, in order that the new situation created by the German decree may be examined and a decision reached upon it, after full consideration.

"There is no question of taking any proceedings against the vessel, and the owners of the vessel will be indemnified for any delay caused to it, and the shippers of the cargo compensated for any loss caused by them by the action of the British authorities.

"There is no truth whatever in the statement made in the press that it has been decided that other such conveyances will be seized, together with the vessels, without compensation to neutrals, for no decision has yet been taken to depart from previously existing rules or practice.

"The apparent intention, however, of the German government to sink merchant ships by submarines, without bringing them into port or providing accommodation for their crews, and regardless of the loss of civilian lives, and the attempt to effect this, even against a hospital ship has raised, very seriously, the question whether Great Britain should adopt, in retaliation, more stringent measures against German trade.

"It is recognized that in connection with such decisions, due care must be taken not to inflict loss upon neutral ships which have sailed before any warning has been given or decision announced."

FORTY MORE NURSES

Ottawa, Feb. 4.—Forty trained nurses left Ottawa tonight for Montreal, where they will remain a day before proceeding for Halifax, whence they will sail for England to aid in nursing the wounded soldiers.

WAGON SENT TO JAIL FOR THIRTY DAYS

State of Maine Makes Sure of Custody of Dynamiter Pending Washington Decision.

TAKEN TO COUNTY JAIL AT MACHIAS TODAY.

Hearing Before United States Commissioner in Maine Next Step Before Action Taken on Formal Application for Extradition.

Vanceboro, Maine, Feb. 4.—Pending a determination at Washington of his political status, the State today made sure of the custody of Werner Van Horn, the bridge dynamiter, by causing him to be sentenced for thirty days in the county jail. It is expected that before the expiration of this period he will be surrendered to the Federal authorities for a hearing on the application for his extradition to Canada, filed by the British Ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice.

The complaint was made by Deputy Sheriff George V. Ross, who was anxious to get the prisoner off his hands, and had been promised the backing of the State Attorney-General's office in the procedure. He alleged that when Van Horn discharged an explosive under the Canadian end of the Canadian Pacific bridge over the St. Croix river, he maliciously damaged property in this town, where windows in the residences of Horace N. Kellogg and others were broken by the concussion. Van Horn was a willing party to the proceedings, and pleaded guilty. Asked if he anything to say, he replied in the negative, adding only "My turn will come later."

Several witnesses were on hand when the prisoner was brought before Trial Justice George H. Smith, this afternoon, but their testimony was not required, and the case was disposed of quickly.

Van Horn will be taken to the county jail at Machias tomorrow. Machias is almost directly south and, by the shortest route, distant about 75 miles. Half of the trackage of this line, however, is on Canadian soil. Accordingly, Ross will take his man on a round-about trip of 200 miles by way of Bangor and Washington Junction. They will leave at 9.45 o'clock tomorrow morning and should reach Machias at 6.20 o'clock in the evening.

Next Step Must Come from Canadian Authorities.

Washington, Feb. 4.—State Department officials said tonight that the next step in the case of Werner Van Horn, who attempted to destroy a railroad bridge at Vanceboro, Maine, would have to be taken by Canadian authorities before a United States commissioner in Maine. Until the hearing is completed and all the evidence gathered there, no action will be taken on the formal application for extradition made by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Ambassador, on behalf of the Canadian government.

While the German embassy has not announced whether or not it will intercede formally on behalf of Van Horn, Prinz Halffeld, of the embassy staff, inquired at the State Department today for information on the case.

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CAPTAIN'S PRESENCE OF MIND SAVED BRITISH HOSPITAL SHIP

Swung Ship Around in Half Circle and Escaped Projectile Hurling by German Submarine.

Southampton, via London, Feb. 4.—The British hospital ship Asturias, which narrowly escaped being torpedoed by a German submarine off Havre a day or two ago, arrived here this afternoon. It had some wounded aboard.

Members of the crew say that a catastrophe was prevented by the promptitude of the captain, who, observing the white track made by the torpedo, altered the course of his vessel, bringing it sharply around in a half circle. The projectile passed harmlessly astern. The light was good at the time.

CONFIDENCE IN SUCCESS OF EMPRE'S ARMS EVIDENT AT PARLIAMENT OPENING

Great Number of Military Uniforms in Assemblage Give Added Touch to Brilliance of Spectacle—Premier Introduces Resolution for Vote of 100 Millions for Defence at Home, Aid to Trade and Rendering Any Help to Empire Which is Deemed Necessary—Ovation for Sir Robert Borden and Hon. Mr. Hazen—Death Busy in Ranks Since Last Year's Session.

SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 4.—"During the months which have elapsed since the outbreak of war the people of Canada have given most abundant and convincing evidence of their firm loyalty to our Sovereign and of their profound devotion to the institutions of the British Empire." Thus spoke the Duke of Connaught to the parliamentarians assembled in the Senate chamber this afternoon at the opening of the fifth session of the twelfth parliament of Canada. It was a brilliant scene. Never before have so many military and civil uniforms been in evidence at an opening of parliament. There was not, however, the soul-stirring solemnity that marked the opening of the emergency session last August. Solemn indeed it was today, but there was also the atmosphere of confidence in the cause of the Allies, of assurance that British arms were fighting their way to victory, and that no matter at what cost the triumph of the Empire would be complete. Despite the losses that have been and the knowledge that grave losses more will have to be recorded there was a brightness in the bearing of the people that dispelled all doubt as to the issue.

It was sharp three o'clock when the Duke of Connaught, accompanied by the Duchess and Princess Patricia and their suite, arrived on Parliament Hill. There was the usual brilliant escort of dragoons, the footguards to receive them and the Royal salutes from the artillery.

Major Duff, the wounded officer of the Gordon Highlanders, who is now at Government House, commanded most attention. He is big and sturdy of complexion and a typical Scottish Highlander. Another officer whose presence created much interest was Captain Dupont of the French government.

His Royal Highness wore the uniform of a field marshal of the British army, and on his left on the Throne was the Duchess of Connaught, also on his left but standing were Princess Patricia and Hon. J. A. Lougheed, the Conservative leader in the Senate, in his Windsor uniform. On the Duke's right were Sir Robert Borden, also in his Windsor uniform, and the aides de camp from Government House. Seated on the floor of the Senate were the papal delegate, Monsignor Stagni, the judges of the Supreme Court and other dignitaries of State. Most of the Senators were present, including the two oldest, Sir MacKenzie Bowell and Hon. John Costigan.

Premier and Hon. Mr. Hazen Given Ovation

Every available seat was occupied by ladies in full dress, and the whole assemblage was one worthy of this great country of ours. The galleries were thronged to their utmost capacity. In the Commons after the formal proceedings in the Senate were over, a royal welcome awaited the Prime Minister, who bowed his acknowledgements. General Sam Hughes did not appear, but the assembled members gave a splendid ovation to Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of the Naval Service, who has done such magnificent work in administering the Militia Department during the absence of the Minister. Mr. Hazen was naturally well pleased with his reception.

There were missing from the ranks in the Commons some old familiar names, names that awaken memories of half-forgotten struggles in the brave days before '96. On the government side there were the vacant chairs of three of the best known and mostly highly esteemed parliamentarians of their day—Monk, Beattie and Clare. All dated their parliamentary careers from the latter nineties, and were men of ideals and the highest integrity.

One of the features of the opening of Parliament today was the extra large number of police in evidence. Members of the Dominion Police were everywhere and no person was allowed to enter the buildings unless in possession of the needed pass or was known to these custodians of the public safety as a person whom it was safe to admit. In the Senate chamber police in uniform and secret service men were scattered amongst the audience to take care that no fanatics or emissaries of an enemy nation made a disturbance. All suspicious persons were refused admittance and the ceremony of the opening of parliament was concluded without any untoward incident.

NO PUBLIC GALLERY FOR PRESENT

Notices were posted up in the lobbies of Parliament today, stating that no persons will be admitted to the galleries of the chambers unless by ticket which must be obtained through a member of Parliament. In short, there is now no such thing as a public gallery. Col. Percy Sherwood has taken every precaution to render any attack impossible.

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Correction of Pollution of Boundary Waters Discussed—Cost 10 Millions to Carry Out Scheme.

Toronto, Feb. 4.—The International Waterways Commission, consisting of Senator Gardner, Maine; Messrs. J. A. Tawney, Nebraska; Governor Glenn, North Carolina; C. A. Magrath, Ottawa; H. A. Powell, K. C.; St. John, N. B.; and P. B. Mignault, K. C., Montreal, met again today at the Parliament Buildings and discussed the investigation they are undertaking in the matter of correcting the pollution which exists in the boundary waters between Canada and the United States.

It is understood that the estimated expenditure required before the condition of the water would attain the public health standard would be in the region of from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000, the villages, towns and cities from the St. Lawrence to the head of the Great Lakes to treat their own sewage. It was regarded as gratifying that Toronto had taken steps, on its own initiative, and had even gone further in purification than the commissions regulations will call for.

ALLIES TO "POOL" FINANCES TO CONTINUE THE WAR

Paris, Feb. 5.—The following official statement has been issued here: "The Finance Ministers of Great Britain, France and Russia have met in Paris to examine into financial questions growing out of the war. It is stated that the three Powers resolved to unite their financial, as well as their military resources to carry on the war to victory.

"With the idea they decided to propose to their respective governments that they share equally in the advances made, or to be made, to the countries which are now fighting with them, or which might be disposed to make the field shortly for the common cause.

"The amount of these advances will be covered both by special resources of the three Powers and by the issue of a loan in the name of the three Powers at the proper time. The question of the relations to be established between the issuing banks of the three countries has been the object of a special agreement.

"The Ministers decided to make, in concert, all purchases for their countries from neutral nations. They have taken the necessary financial measures to facilitate the Russian export trade, and to restore, as far as is possible, parity of exchange between Russia and the allied nations.

"They also decided to meet again as circumstances require. The next conference will be in London."

Two Casualties in Brush with Sultan's Forces Which Made Attack on Suez Canal—Turks, 12,000 Strong, Driven Off With Heavy Losses—Enemy Hurl Regiment After Regiment Against Russians in Attempt to Stop Advance of Czar's Army in East Prussia.

London, Feb. 4.—The Turks at last have made a definite attack on the Suez Canal, but after a sharp fight they were driven off with heavy losses. After a fruitless attempt made on Tuesday night to bridge the canal near Toussoum, they returned to the attack early yesterday morning with a force estimated at 12,000 strong, and six batteries of artillery, and essayed to cross the waterway on rafts. The British force, however, was waiting, and the invaders were forced back, leaving about 300 prisoners in the hands of the defenders. A considerable number of the Turks were killed and wounded. The British lost fifteen killed and fifty wounded.

The attack was also renewed by the Turks at El Kantara, but this met with no greater success than the other attempt. The Turkish casualties in killed, wounded and prisoners, numbering upwards of a hundred.

The New Zealand contingent, and presumably the Australians, took part in the battles, the New Zealanders having two casualties. Compared with the battles in Poland and the Carpathians this is a mere flash, but as British Territorials, Australians and New Zealanders are receiving their baptism of fire in Egypt, and there is much interest in the attempts of the Turks to move a big army across the desert, the operations in that part of the world have attracted a good deal of attention in England.

Fail to Break Russian Line

The effort of German Field Marshal Von Hindenburg to stop the advance of the Russians in East Prussia and the Carpathians, by compelling them to reinforce their centre west of Warsaw, has culminated in a desperate attack. Regiment after regiment, supported by great masses of artillery, has been flung against the Russian lines and both sides claim to have inflicted heavy losses on their opponents and each reports progress.

It is apparent, however, that while the Germans are making every effort to get near Warsaw, the Russians, for the present, are satisfied to hold their positions, and inflict as heavy losses on their adversaries as possible.

Near Bolimow has been fierce and continuous fighting for weeks, and the Russians claim to have taken one of the villages for which the armies have been contending.

French Socialists For Continuing War

Basel, Switzerland, Feb. 4, via Paris.—The Socialists of France held an important meeting at Besancon yesterday. By unanimous vote they condemned the peace campaign of Sebastian Faure, and put themselves on record as in favor of continuing the struggle until France is victorious, and until German imperialism is crushed.

Anselm Laugel, a Nationalist member of the Alsatian Diet, who is at the present time in Seurich, Switzerland, has been accused of high treason by the military tribunal of Strassburg.

Canadian Aviator Killed

Lt. Sharpe, of Canadian Aviator Corps Victim of Accident—Spent Several Days Reconnoitering Over German Lines.

(Canadian Press)

London, Feb. 4.—Lt. Sharp of the Canadian contingent of the Royal Flying Corps, was killed this afternoon while flying at Shoreham. He was returning from a trip, when his biplane suddenly dived to the earth. The machine was smashed, and Lt. Sharp died within a few minutes.

Special to The Standard

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 4.—Lt. Sharpe of the Canadian Aviators' Corps who is reported to have been killed was for a number of years a resident of Ottawa. He was born in Prescott, Ont., but his parents removed to the Capital when he was still a boy. He attended the Ottawa schools and was a graduate of the City Collegiate Institute. A few years ago Sharpe became interested in aviation and went to the United States. He was taught flying by Curtiss Bros., the celebrated American aviators, and became a demonstrator for the Curtiss firm. When the war broke out Sharpe proceeded to Valcartier where he offered his services and was accepted. The cable despatches of a few weeks ago told of Sharpe's first visit to Northern France where, in company with one of the most celebrated of the French aviators, he spent several days reconnoitering over the German positions. Sharpe was married shortly before the war broke out and his wife is now a resident of this city. He was a particularly fine type of Canadian youth and was a general favorite in the Capital.

WATERWAYS COMMISSION IN SESSION

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FAVOR STOPPING SALE OF ABSINTHE

Paris, Feb. 4.—The Socialists in the Chamber of Deputies have decided to support the bill prohibiting the sale of absinthe, the discussion of which was postponed today, pending a settlement of the question of reimbursing dealers in liquor who will be affected by the law. The retail dealers also have decided to support the measure.