

# War News.

## Messages Received Previous to 9 A. M.

### SUBMARINE SUPPLY SHIPS.

LONDON, March 13. A despatch from Amsterdam yesterday to the Daily Chronicle says news brought from Germany to-day is to the effect that two of the largest submarines of the Deutschland type are now acting as supply ships for smaller craft operating in the Atlantic. Four others of the largest submarines are also about to be commissioned for similar service. Great efforts are being made to sink shipping especially between America and England. Germany is attempting to perfect a plan whereby in case of war with America a decisive submarine campaign could immediately be put into operation.

LONDON, March 13. Correspondents with the British headquarters in France telegraphing Tuesday evening concerning the occupation by the British of Loupart Wood and Grevillers describes the positions abandoned by the Germans as having seemed capable of defence until the garrison was driven out by attack. It would seem, however, the capture of Iries rendered the positions untenable and that the terrible concentration of British gunfire apparently caused the Germans to decide to withdraw before their troops were annihilated. All despatches speak of important activities continuing. The British advanced troops are said to be hard upon the heels of the Germans and more than keeping pace with the retreat. The writers evidently are expecting speedy occupation by the British of the important town of Bapaume, although they stop short of predicting it with certainty. "With luck we shall be there soon," says our correspondent. "Bapaume is now seriously directly threatened," says another. "The mist which obscured the country early to-day cleared during the evening. The weather became altogether finer and there was an increase in activity by the British troops." One correspondent with the forces in operation said, "We are on the eve of important movements. The enemy is not likely to escape the pressure on them without serious damage, even is they escape something like disaster." Another correspondent wires, "There should be important news available Wednesday."

LONDON, March 13. The belief obtained in the Parliamentary lobby to-night is that the Government will be successful in carrying the new Indian cotton duties. This belief is not due to any compromise on the question, either from the side of the Government or the Lancashire members. Lloyd George supported J. Austen Chamberlain, Secretary for India, in making a firm stand on the question. On the other hand the Lancashire members, after a meeting in the Commons to-night, decided to move an amendment to the Government's motion for to-morrow, repudiating the imposition of the duties unless a counter-vailing excise duty was imposed. While the Premier succeeded in impressing the deputation representing the Lancashire cotton interests in urging the Government policy as a war measure, the real factor in bringing about a probable arrangement is the general

reluctance to precipitate a general election. It is said such reluctance decided ex-Premier Asquith and his followers to do nothing that might place the Government in an embarrassing position. Hence they are unlikely to support the Lancashire amendment should it be pressed to a division. The attitude of the Nationalists is still uncertain. They desire to establish a tariff system under Irish Home Rule. It would, therefore, be illogical for them to oppose the Indian duties, much as they wish to vote against the Government. It is believed they will abstain from voting.

WASHINGTON, March 13th. Seven lives were lost and one American placed in jeopardy by the sinking without warning by a submarine of the Cunard freighter Poly, off the Irish coast on Sunday. Consul Frost of Queenstown cabled the State Department to-day this report: "Seven lives lost by the sinking of the Cunard Poly out of a crew of 78." The Poly was bound from New York to Avonmouth and was torpedoed without warning five miles off Ram Head, County Waterford, during a heavy fog on Sunday at 7.20 a.m.

LONDON, March 13th. The experience of the defensively armed British steamer Princess Melita which was forced by the Dutch Government to leave the Hook of Holland because of her armament, has raised an issue which it is believed will assume the nature of a test case. It is stated the British Government will insist upon defensively armed ships being permitted to enter Dutch ports. Negotiations between Britain and Holland regarding the retention of ships in Dutch harbors is still proceeding. The British Government is unbending in its determination not to acquiesce in the policy of the Dutch in keeping their ships in their harbors, because of the German threat. A compromise may be reached under which Holland can procure guarantees from both belligerents for safe-conduct for its vessels.

AMSTERDAM, March 13. The report that a German submarine has been stranded near Hellevot-luis, on the Dutch coast, is confirmed by the Hetvokul. Fifteen members of the crew, says the newspaper, disembarked.

LONDON, March 13. The British Government has received formal notification from the State Department at Washington of the decision to place armed guards on American merchant ships.

AMSTERDAM, March 13th. A Vienna despatch to the Frankfurter Zeitung says it is reported in political circles that an Austrian cabinet crisis is imminent.

LONDON, March 13. Premier Lloyd George to-day received a deputation representing the Lancashire Cotton Industry. The subject of Cotton and Dutch India was discussed. The proceedings were private, but a member of the deputation who was interviewed after the Conference said the Premier held out no hope that the Government would adopt its decision or consent to any compromise. It was said the Premier said he was unable to accede to the deputation's request to postpone the whole matter until after the war. The members of the deputation stated the Premier said he had been consulted by the Indian Government regarding the imposition of duties. He had made a most impressive speech explaining the necessity for the duties which would not be without effect on Lancashire, and it is possible that a result of the interview there will be

## A Big Welcome for War Veterans.



There was a large gathering of citizens at the station yesterday afternoon to meet the seven returned soldiers, most of whom were badly wounded on July 1st, Oct. 11th and 12th and are now on furlough. The names of the veterans are: Lance Corp. Crane, Ptes. Nardini, Wiseman, Jennings, Walsh, Dwyer, Tobin, Volsey, Jackman, Sinclair, Bishop, Wheeler, Daley, Winter, Cornick, Volsey and Boone. On stepping from the train Mr. W. J. Walsh called for cheers, which were heartily given. After the usual greetings had been extended between the relatives and friends of the heroes, they were lined up in front of the station and addressed by the Hon. J. R. Bennett, Acting Premier, who paid a high tribute to the veterans of Gallipoli and France who so nobly upheld the honor and glory of Britain's Oldest Colony. At the close of the Acting Premier's address cheers were given for the returned veterans, Mr. Bennett and the Ladies' Reception Committee. Sleights being provided by the Reception Committee, the soldiers were driven to Government House and entertained by His Excellency and Lady Davidson.

## A Sad Home Coming For War Veteran.

Included in the number of returned heroes to reach the city yesterday afternoon was Private George Jackman, son of the late E. M. Jackman, Esq. Private Jackman enlisted at the very beginning of the war and was with "Ours" at Gallipoli, passing through that strenuous campaign without injury or a day's illness. When the Regiment was again at full strength he was transferred to France and took part in the immortal charge of July 1st. With hundreds of our brave lads, the majority of whom have paid the supreme sacrifice, he dashed toward the German trenches, and reached within a few yards of the objective, aimed at when he was hit in the left shoulder by a rifle bullet which fractured the bone. After lying on the field of battle for a considerable time he succeeded in working his way back to his own trenches and from there was sent to the field dressing station behind the line, and thence to England, where he was confined to Frazesley Hospital, Liverpool, only leaving that institution five weeks ago. During his stay in hospital the shattered limb was broken and reset twice, causing him much pain. The home coming of Pte. Jackman is indeed a sad one, for since leaving St. John's two and a half years ago, his father, grandfather and grandmother, to whom he was very much attached, have passed away. His first cousin, Pte. Michael Jackman, son of D. J. Jackman, Esq., Bell Island, was reported missing and supposed killed on July 1st. His oldest brother, Pte. Patrick Jackman, of the Canadian Irish Rangers, is now in hospital at Halifax, having been taken sick on board a troopship when about to leave for England. Another brother, Pte. Edward Jackman, of the Irish Rangers, is now in England.

## Husband and Three Sons on Overdue Ship.

Grave fears are entertained for the safety of the schr. L. H. B. Captain Isaac Bartlett, which left here October 29th, 1916, for a foreign port and has not been reported since. Another vessel is now close on ninety days out from this port. News of their safe arrival would be welcomed by the relatives and friends of those on board, especially by Mrs. (Capt.) Isaac Bartlett whose husband and one son left in the former schooner and two other sons in the latter.

some modification of the views of the Lancashire members, who immediately proceeded to the House of Commons to take the matter under further consideration.

LONDON, March 13th. The Lords to-day passed the second reading of a bill to deprive enemy princes of British titles and dignities after the Government had promised to refer the bill to a special committee for further consideration. This promise was the outcome of difference between some of the peers who desired to shelve the bill on the ground that it was absurd to regard certain princes as traitors.

LONDON, March 13th. In the course of an interview granted the Copenhagen correspondent of the Berlin Tageblatt, says an Exchange Telegraph despatch, Count Von Bernstorff, interrogated as to whether he thought there would be war between Germany and the States, replied, "that depends on our U boat warfare. If we sink American ships we shall get war; if not I suppose we can avoid it." And if asked the correspondent, Germany sinks British ships with American citizens aboard? To this Count Von Bernstorff replied, "That is not the same."

FREIGHT. — Schooners are wanted to load Lumber at Riverhead, St. Mary's, for conveyance to St. John's. HORWOOD LUMBER CO., LTD.—m10,101

## TO-DAY'S Messages.

10 00 A.M.

### THE INDIAN WAR LOAN.

LONDON, To-day. A despatch from Delhi says the Indian war loan, which opens on the 15th inst., is being widely advertised and supported by the press throughout the country. The Lieut. Governors and heads of provinces are to hold meetings with the object of encouraging participation in the loan. The Bank of Bengal is offering special facilities to intending investors.

### WILL TRAVEL ON ARMED SHIPS.

WASHINGTON, To-day. American diplomats at home waiting for an opportunity to return to their posts in Europe will travel on armed American liners. Among them is Hugh Gibson, First Secretary to the Embassy in London, who expects to sail on the first American liner that starts across the Atlantic.

### DASTARDLY.

LONDON, To-day. The Norwegian steamer Lars Fost Nes, bound from America for Rotterdam with grain for the American Relief Commission, has been sunk without warning outside the blockade zone, according to the Norwegian Mercantile Shipping Gazette.

### COLOSSAL FIGURES.

LONDON, To-day. It is understood the supplementary vote of credit which will be moved on Thursday will be for £50,000,000. The announcement has created a mild sensation in the Commons in view of the granting of the sum of £550,000,000 as recently as February 12th. The explanation unofficially offered is that some new Government Departments have been spending more largely than was anticipated in connection with their war work. The February appropriations of £200,000,000 were for winding up the financial year which ends on March 31; the remainder was to lay the foundation for the new financial year beginning on April 1st. It is stated the former estimate proved short by about £50,000,000, due chiefly to the great shipbuilding programme. Assuming the new vote for £50,000,000 is granted, it will bring the total voted for the financial year ending March 31st to exactly £2,200,000,000.

## NOON.

### PATRIOTIC RESOLUTION.

BOSTON, To-day. The Governors of the New England States, after several hours conference on the present disturbed condition of affairs, to-night adopted resolutions pledging their support and the support of the people of their States to the President in carrying out his announced policy of protecting United States lives and property on the high seas. The Governors urged the necessity of making forthwith the most energetic preparations for national defence on land and sea.

### WAR REVIEW.

LONDON, To-day. Further notable gains have been made by the British forces against the Germans in the operations which have their object the capture of Bapaume and the general bending back of the German line eastward in the Somme and Ancre regions of France, according to the British War Office communication. Under another terrific bombardment the Germans abandoned their main defensive systems west of Bapaume on a front of three and a half miles to a depth of a mile. The advance gave King George's troops the village of Grevillers and Loupart Wood, bringing the advanced British forces at the former place to Seaut, a mile and a half northwest of the outskirts of Bapaume. North of the Ancre on the left wing of the British this particular operation has bent back the German line on a front of about a mile east and northeast of Gomme-court and somewhat straightened out the curve extending from Essarts Les Boucquoy to the region northeast of Puisseux au Mont. To the north of this region in the vicinity of Armentieres, Souchez and Neuville St. Vaast, northwest of Neuve Chapelle the Germans threw forward raiding parties, but all these met with repulse, according to London, except in the last named sector, where the Germans reached the British trenches and made prisoners of some occupants. Elsewhere on the line in France there have been only artillery engagements, which were particularly severe in Champagne on the sector of Maisons de Champagne and Massines and at various points on both sides of the Meuse region at Verdun. The Turks are evidently being given no rest by the British operating against them northward from Bagdad along the Tigris River. After the capture of Bagdad

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on Sunday the British cavalry kept on the heels of the retreating Turks and occupied the town of Kazimain, five miles to the north, taking more than 100 prisoners. Bombards are proceeding up the river in pursuit of the Turks. Although the Turks for more than two weeks before the fall of Bagdad had been destroying or removing everything of value from the city, General Maude reports the capture of a large quantity of equipment, arms and ammunition. Considerable fighting has again broken out in Galicia and Macedonia between Lakes Ochrida and Presba, according to the German War Office. In the former region, north of the Zlochoff-Tarnopol railway the Germans made a raid on the Russian positions and captured 323 Russians, and thirteen of their machine guns. Near Brzezany along the Marayevka River they also made gains and took more than 250 prisoners. In Macedonia the French essayed an attack between Lake Ochrida and Lake Presba, but were repulsed, says Berlin. In the Austro-Italian theatre artillery on both sides continues to carry out bombardments against the opposing positions; raiding parties are also active.

## THE THREATENED STRIKE IN AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, To-day. Complete plans of the four railway Brotherhoods for a nation-wide strike are to be inaugurated next Saturday unless the railroads grant the eight hour day demands ratified here to-day by the local union leaders from the southeastern territory and by a similar conference of representatives of the southwest held at St. Louis. The Brotherhood heads will tell this railroad conference at New York on Thursday that if an agreement is not reached this week for the establishment of an eight hour basic day, with time and a half for overtime, the strike orders already issued to local organizations will become effective. The demands are just what they were last fall when President Wilson averted a strike after a call out by inducing Congress to pass the Adamson Law, which has never been put into effect, pending the decision of its constitutionality by the Supreme Court. There is every indication that the President is prepared to move again if it becomes apparent that the nation in facing the gravest international crisis in its history is about to have its transportation facilities paralyzed. "We will go before the railroad re-

presentatives on Thursday with our entire membership united behind our demands," said W. G. Lee, head of the trainmen. Unofficially the Brotherhood officials, emphasized their determination to allow nothing to prevent the strike, except concessions from the railroads. They declined to discuss hours (?) if the Supreme Court should hand down a decision holding the Adamson Act to be constitutional. It is possible a decision will be announced by the Court on Monday next, decision day.

### SHIPBUILDING BOOM IN CANADA.

OTTAWA, To-day. Sixty million dollars worth of shipbuilding is now under construction in Canadian yards, according to information obtained from official sources. This includes the shipbuilding contracts for twenty-five million dollars placed by the Imperial Munitions Board on behalf of the British Government, more than one hundred sailing ships under construction in various points throughout the country and certain other vessels, of which for obvious reasons details cannot be made public, and there is also reason to expect that before many weeks have passed, contracts for a great deal of extra tonnage will be let. In carrying out this big shipbuilding programme there is the greatest possible co-operation between the British controller of shipping, the Imperial Munitions Board, the Dominion Government, the largest ship building plants and many small builders of ocean-going coastwise craft. With the large number of contracts of tonnage that exist, it is the confident expectation in official circles that the foundation of a great permanent Canadian shipbuilding industry is being created. With that end in view the coming session of Parliament will likely see proposals for some measure of Government assistance in addition to the aid now granted in the form of graving docks subsidies.

1.30 P.M.

### PAPAL STATEMENT EXPECTED.

ROME, To-day. It is still asserted in Vatican circles that the Pope will not include in the allocution which he will deliver on March 22nd any political message, but it is believed that this is done not in order to arouse expectations, but that the Pontiff is really preparing a new and important statement regarding the international situation. Those who hold this view point to the long conversation which the Pope has had with the two English Cardinals, Gasquet and Bourne, the latter having remained in Rome for about four months despite pressing affairs urging his return to his work at Westminster. The Pope has also conferred with Mgr. Billot, a French Cardinal, with Mgr. Fruhwirth, a German Cardinal, living in Rome, and also Father Dominic, Reuter ex-General of the Capuchin Order and Director of the Office, collecting information about prisoners in all belligerent countries.

### BAGDAD A BLOW TO GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, To-day. The Kolnische Volks Zeitung does not hesitate to call the taking of Bagdad by the British a deplorable event. It points out that the surrender of Kut was rightly regarded as a heavy blow to British prestige in the East, and the present successful offensive will logically have the contrary effect. Generally the German papers admit the British success and do not endeavour to depreciate its significance. The Frankfurter Zeitung says the British occupation of Bagdad produces a situation in the East which demands the most serious attention, not only in military but in political quarters. It admits that if peace negotiations are opened within a time not too remote every bit of land belonging to Germany and her allies which falls into the possession of the enemy will possess the value of a pledge. The Cologne Gazette begins its article: "The English operations in Mesopotamia have been accompanied by great success. The British flag floats over Bagdad. In all the bazaars of the East the news will resound that the Peringshi have beaten the warriors of the Padishas and captured the city, which for long centuries was invested with a garment of story like a fairy tale." The newspaper observes that it is a mistake to underestimate the significance of the success, but claims that it is primarily political and not military.

2.00 P.M.

### BRITISH NOW HOLD ALL HIGH GROUND.

IN FRANCE, Mar. 13. The ridge overlooking Bapaume from the northwest, which had come to be looked upon by the British as a sort of promising land ever since the battle of the Somme began last July, passed into the hands of General Haig's troops to-day. For the first time since the great struggle on this front opened the British have the advantages of the highest ground and can now look down upon the famous German stronghold and a wide extent of country beyond. British officers believe that they are now in position to take Bapaume whenever the word is given. Grevillers was captured last night, and the new British lines stretch along the ridge which runs northwest from that point to the outskirts of Achiet le Petit, a point still strongly held by the Germans. In this latest forward movement the British have taken possession of the noted Loupart Wood, consisting of great clumps of trees situated on the

shoulder of the high ridge and overlooking the entire Somme battlefield. This wood has masked a great number of German batteries and from it hostile shells have rained upon the British for eight months past. Its capture has been a source of the highest satisfaction to the British staff, as it was one of the most formidable artillery posts the Germans had established in the western theatre. The country about Loupart Wood and beyond is in quite good shape. As a matter of fact, Grevillers was the first touch of real civilization, the Tommies said, they have had in many moons. "Why," said one stalwart Australian to-day, "do you know there are regular houses in Grevillers with real roofs on them." What this means to men who have fought so long in the slough of mud, of the Somme Valley can only be grasped by those who have lived amid the hideous scenes of destruction. The Germans have always hitherto had the advantage of the high villages, possession of which has been so bitterly contested. There has been nothing but pulverizing ruins which offered a shelter for the soldiers. Where there were regular houses in Grevillers the German line looks green and wonderfully inviting. The German positions on the Loupart line had been completely registered by the British guns on Sunday morning, and that afternoon the heavy artillery commenced its work of destruction. Thirty hours of terrific bombardment was all that the defenders could withstand. One prisoner said that he was the only survivor of a squad of ten who were in a dugout which was blown to bits by a British shell.

## BIG GERMAN RETREAT FORESHADOWED.

LONDON, To-day. A German withdrawal on a great scale on the western front is fore-shadowed by Major Morant in an article in the Berliner Tageblatt, which is quoted in a Rotterdam despatch to the Daily News.

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