

TRANSPORT TUSCANIA CARRYING AMERICAN TROOPS TORPEDOED

267 U.S. Soldiers Lost When Liner Sunk Off Irish Coast—Convoys by British Warships and Manned by British Sailors.

A despatch from Washington, D.C., says:—The Cunard liner Tuscania, carrying 2,179 American soldiers, has been torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast, and at a late hour on Wednesday night 1,912 officers and men had been accounted for in a despatch to the State Department from London. News of the first great disaster in the war to America's armed forces came in a brief despatch to the War Department.

It did not mention the possibility of further survivors, but hope was built here upon the fact that all of those rescued were landed at two widely-separated Irish ports and indications are that relief vessels were at hand quickly.

The troops, composed chiefly of detachments of Michigan and Wisconsin National Guardsmen, were traveling on the Tuscania, a British vessel, under convoy of British warships.

A later despatch from London says: The loss of life on the U.S. transport Tuscania, torpedoed off the Irish coast

by a German submarine, will, it is now known, not exceed 101, the majority of the victims being members of the crew.

The Tuscania carried a total of 2,397. The saved number 2,296, as follows:

Troops 2,106
Crew 190

Total lost 101

Among the American survivors are 76 officers. There are 81 American troops in hospitals.

Two torpedoes were fired at the vessel. The first passed astern, but the second struck in the vicinity of No. 1 boiler. A British destroyer, one of the escorting fleet, pursued the U-boat and is believed to have sunk it with a depth bomb.

The bodies of 44 of the missing 101 victims of the Tuscania disaster were washed up on Thursday on the rocks 15 miles from the scene of the torpedoing. All were Americans, and their bodies were mutilated beyond recognition.



Solving the Mysteries of the Machine Gun. Men in this branch of the service have become so efficient that they can assemble and disassemble their guns, while blindfolded.

HUNS MASSING AT THREE POINTS

South-East of Antwerp, Around Metz District, and in Upper Alsace.

A despatch from Paris says: Latest information to hand here shows that the Germans are continuing troop concentrations at three important points of the line. These appear to be south-east of Antwerp, around the Thionville-Metz district, and in Upper Alsace.

About the middle of January troops assembled in these parts of the line totalled about 55 divisions (about 600,000 men), many of whom came from the Russian front.

It is evident that the troops in upper Alsace could only have one objective—that which faces them between the upper Vosges and the Swiss border. In this way it appears significant that Switzerland should at present be mobilizing many more troops with the intent of protecting her frontiers. The Germans, Swiss and Austro-Swiss frontiers are at present closed to all traffic which may mean further important movements of German troops.

Advices received here from Holland say that the Belgium frontier is, too, closed for about a month. It is also reported that the Germans are building large barracks in Aix la Chapelle region to house 100,000 troops.

Markets of the World

Wheat—Toronto, Feb. 12—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$2.24; No. 2, do., \$2.24; No. 3, do., \$2.17; No. 4, do., \$2.10; No. 5, do., \$2.03; No. 6, do., \$1.96; No. 7, do., \$1.89; No. 8, do., \$1.82; No. 9, do., \$1.75; No. 10, do., \$1.68; No. 11, do., \$1.61; No. 12, do., \$1.54; No. 13, do., \$1.47; No. 14, do., \$1.40; No. 15, do., \$1.33; No. 16, do., \$1.26; No. 17, do., \$1.19; No. 18, do., \$1.12; No. 19, do., \$1.05; No. 20, do., \$0.98; No. 21, do., \$0.91; No. 22, do., \$0.84; No. 23, do., \$0.77; No. 24, do., \$0.70; No. 25, do., \$0.63; No. 26, do., \$0.56; No. 27, do., \$0.49; No. 28, do., \$0.42; No. 29, do., \$0.35; No. 30, do., \$0.28; No. 31, do., \$0.21; No. 32, do., \$0.14; No. 33, do., \$0.07; No. 34, do., \$0.00.

DEFER ELECTIONS IN ONTARIO

Life of Legislature Extended Until After the War.

A despatch from Toronto says: There will be no election in the Province of Ontario until the war is over and the soldiers are settled again in their ordinary pursuits. In the Legislature on Thursday night Sir William Hearst, in the course of an eloquent address, accepted a proposal made by Wm. Proudfoot, K.C., the Opposition leader, that the life of the Legislature should be extended and that a truce should be declared in party politics until the Empire has come safely through the great crisis facing it. The necessary legislation will be passed by the Ontario House, which has power to deal with it without reference to any other Parliament, Federal or Imperial, and within a short time bye-elections will be held in the ridings vacant seats will be filled without opposition, according to the party affiliation of the former member.

IMPORTATION OF CORN TO SATISFY ALL NEEDS

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The Food Controller has announced that arrangements had been made with the authorities at Washington, under which the United States War Trade Board has apportioned to Canada sufficient corn to meet the monthly requirements of this country. This corn will be moved just as quickly as the transportation situation will permit. The Bureau of Licenses of the Food Controller's office, in turn, has apportioned part of this corn among Canadian importers in accordance with their monthly needs, so that in future these importers will not be required to secure a separate import permit for each purchaser.

FOUR MONTHS' BREAD LEFT IN HOLLAND.

A despatch from an Atlantic Port says: F. E. Vlieland Hein, who arrived here on the Nieuw Amsterdam on Thursday, said he was sent here on a semi-official mission to consult with Federal Food Administrator Hoover with regard to grain for Holland, said that the end of bread for his country was in sight. "Our wheat will be exhausted in less than four months unless we can get shipments from the United States," said Mr. Hein. The present daily bread ration to each inhabitant, he added, is about one-half pound.

Soap and tepid water will remove chocolate stains.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE

Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World.

The Margate Education Committee are supplying penny dinners for needy children.

It is proposed to give London freemen an increase of fifteen shillings a week until after the war.

King George's Fund for Sailors has now reached the sum of £250,000.

The Lord Mayor of London's Halifax Fund has now reached the sum of £58,000.

Two million cups of tea are given every week by the Y.M.C.A. in France and Flanders.

There are now 5,983 prisoners of war working in agriculture, and 1,400 more are to be employed.

There are 3,150 British Red Cross ambulances now at the front and twenty tons of spare parts are sent from England every week.

The Army Council have decided to grant military funerals, where possible, to discharged and disabled soldiers.

The Tyneside works suggest that peace terms should provide for an international shorted working day.

The additional war bonus to be given to the police of the city of London will amount to £12,000 a year.

Captain Batten, V.C., M.C., of Road Manor, Bath, who was reported missing, is a prisoner of war at Karlsruhe.

The Rev. J. Pugh Jones, curate of St. Anne's, Brookfield, Highgate, has joined the Royal Flying Corps as a pilot.

Paddington Council has laid in seven hundred tons of coal to be sold in small quantities in case of emergency.

Sergeant Cooper, V.C., was presented with an illuminated address and £150 in war bonds at Stockton-on-Tees.

Private Thomas Thompson, Durham Light Infantry, was presented in the hospital at Ongar with the D.C.M. and Military Medal with bar.

The British Government is considering the formation of an all-British company for developing oilfields outside the Empire.

The Food Production Department has booked orders amounting to 10,000 tons of seed potatoes for planting by small growers in 1918.

The school children of Hurst, Berks, have collected one ton two hundredweight of horse chestnuts for the Government.

From The Middle West

BETWEEN ONTARIO AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Items From Provinces Where Many Ontario Boys and Girls Are Living.

Medicine Hat's bank clearings for 1917 were close to thirty million dollars.

Edmonton must borrow a million and a half dollars for current expenditure.

G. D. Venini has been elected chairman of the Calgary Separate School Board.

Controller Gray, Winnipeg, wants to have a complete building inspection of the whole city.

The province of Saskatchewan collected during December almost \$100,000 for the Red Cross.

W. J. Dymond, Calgary, has been elected president of the Alberta Great War Veterans' Association.

Lieut.-Col. S. W. Prowse, of Winnipeg, is home on furlough, but expects to return to France shortly.

W. H. Pritchard's general store at Mitchellton, Sask., was burned recently, the loss being about \$20,000.

The dates for the annual convention for rural municipalities of Saskatchewan have now been set as March 6, 7 and 8, to be held in Moose Jaw.

Sergt.-Major Adams and Sergt. Knight rounded up 18 defaulters of the Military Service Act in Moose Jaw in one evening. Ten claimed to be American and one claimed to be a German.

Twenty-five thousand teen age boys will be raised by the Y.M.C.A. of Saskatchewan in the campaign organized by the national council of the Y.M.C.A. to aid with the crop this year.

P. A. D. Bourke, a pioneer rancher in the Battleford district, died recently. He was one of the earliest members of the R.N.W.M.P., and held also the post of farm instructor to the Indians.

Efforts are being made by the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture to have grain screenings ground at Saskatoon and Moose Jaw in the Government elevators in order to provide feed for live stock breeders.

It is announced that the Manitoba department of public works will shortly call for tenders for the erection of a deep and dumb institute at Tuxedo Park, Winnipeg, to cost in the neighborhood of half a million dollars.

Nineteen million three hundred and eighty thousand bushels of wheat are stocked in elevators west of Winnipeg, showing a big decrease compared to the same week in 1917, when 33,887,000 bushels were stored.

FROM OLD SCOTLAND

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HER BANKS AND BRAES.

What is Going On in the Highlands and Lowlands of Auld Scotia.

Private G. Brebner, son of Geo. Brebner, Aberdeen, has been mentioned for distinguished conduct in the field.

Rev. A. E. Laurie, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh, has been awarded a bar to his Military Cross.

The late John Morton Drennan, Edinburgh, left £5,800 to various Edinburgh hospitals and the Royal Blind Asylum.

The Military Cross has been awarded to Captain Adam Turner, Portsoy, for gallant conduct in the field east of Yper.

The Bothwell Parish School Board have granted to all the teachers in their employment a flat increase of £18 per annum.

The Military Cross has been awarded Major Wolfe Murray, Gordon Highlanders, son of Commander Wolfe Murray, Tain.

After thirty years' service, Inspector James Butler has retired from the Glasgow police force.

Sir Andrew McDonald has been for fifty years a member of the Edinburgh Merchant Company.

The Manufacturers' Agents Association of Great Britain have established a branch in Glasgow.

It is stated that the Secretary for Scotland is considering the purchase of the Island of Lewis.

William Urquhart, of Auchterarder, has been appointed inspector under the Food Control Orders.

Colonel R. Balfour Graham has been appointed to take charge of the Craiglockhart War Hospital.

Rev. Jacob Sykes, Seaforth, and son of Jack Sykes, Forchaber, has been awarded the Military Medal.

W. D. Eastlemlow, advocate, Aberdeen, has been appointed secretary of the Aberdeen Granite Association.

Sergeant James Main, son of Alex. Main, Lossiemouth, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry.

Robert Brown, secretary of the Scottish Miners, and twenty-one years a councillor, has been re-elected provost of Dalkeith.

The Women's Emergency Corps Hospital Supply has raised over £200 by a sale and entertainment given in Drumshugh Gardens, Edinburgh.

All the school boards of Caithness have adopted a minimum salary for assistant teachers, commencing at £80.

The late Dr. Archibald Campbell, of Perth, has bequeathed £12,000 to Aberdeen University for the advance of medical work.

Miss K. M. Robertson and Miss F. M. Robertson, Nairn, are gazetted assistant administrators in the Women's Auxiliary Corps.

The Church Army flag day held in Glasgow recently realized the sum of £878.

The sum of £687 was realized on a children's flag day held in Edinburgh and Leith.

Over £70 was realized at a military concert given in Brora in aid of war charities.

GERMANS HAVE CONSCRIPED ALL FLEMISH COAST MALES.

A despatch from Amsterdam says: The "Telegraf" has received advices from the frontier that an order has been issued by the Germans, summoning the male population of the Flemish coast for military labor. The age limits of the conscripted persons are from 13 to 60 years.

QUEBEC LEGISLATURE TO BANISH THE BAR.

A despatch from Quebec says: Liquor license legislation, which will make the Province of Quebec bone-free after May 1, 1919, was introduced into the Quebec Legislature on Thursday afternoon by Hon. Walter Mitchell, Provincial Treasurer. All licenses to sell liquor now in existence will expire on that date and will not be renewed.

DROP TON OF BOMBS ON ENEMY TARGETS.

A despatch from London says: An official announcement dealing with aerial operations issued on Thursday night follows:

"More than a ton of bombs was dropped Wednesday on various targets behind the enemy's lines. Three hostile machines were downed in the air-fighting. Two of our machines are missing."

FORESTRY CORPS ARE UNDERMANNED.

A despatch from Ottawa says: A report on the operations of the Canadian Forestry Corps in France for the month of December, issued from the Militia Department on Thursday, states in opening, "that the companies are all considerably under strength, owing to the difficulty in getting reinforcements."

Production, however, greatly increased in spite of the lack of reinforcements. The corps was engaged on the production of sawn lumber to be used in the construction of huts for the British, French and American armies.

WAR AIMS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

SET FORTH IN RECENT SPEECH OF LLOYD GEORGE.

Comments of London Newspapers on Notable Utterance of British Prime Minister.

Mr. Lloyd George has set forth in unequivocal terms the war aims of the British Empire. He addressed, at the Central Hall, Westminster, London, the Trade Union representatives, who have been conferring there with Sir Auckland Geddes, the Minister for National Service, on Man-Power Bill. The following are some of the principal points from his speech:

Only the clearest, greatest, and justest of causes can justify the continuance even for one day of this unspeakable agony of the nations.

The destruction or disruption of Germany, or the German people, have never been a war aim with us from the first day of this war to this day.

Belgian independence must be completely restored, with such reparation as can be made for the devastation of its towns and provinces.

The Terms.

France.—We mean to stand by the French democracy to the death in the demand for a reconsideration of the great wrong of 1871, when two provinces were torn from France.

All-Round Restoration.—Complete restoration of Serbia, Montenegro, and the occupied parts of France, Italy and Rumania.

Poland.—We believe in an independent Poland, comprising all the genuinely Polish elements.

Italy and Rumania.—We press for the satisfaction of the legitimate claims of Italy and Rumania.

Germany.—The adoption of a democratic Constitution by Germany would make it easier for us to conclude a broad democratic peace.

Austria-Hungary.—We desire self-government on democratic lines for nationalities who have long desired it. The break-up of Austria-Hungary is not our aim.

Turkey.—Capital to remain at Constantinople. Passage from Mediterranean to the Black Sea to be internationalized and neutralized. Arabia, Armenia, Mesopotamia, Syria and Palestine entitled to a recognition of their separate national conditions.

The German Colonies.—The governing consideration in all cases must be that the inhabitants should be placed under the control of an Administration acceptable to themselves.

A Great Document.

"The Prime Minister's speech," says the London Times, "is the most important State document issued since the declaration of war. In the form of an address to the representatives of organized Labor, it is, in substance, a carefully-weighed and exactly-phrased State Paper of national character and world-wide appeal."

"The Prime Minister's statement of our war aims is more than a speech; it is a great charter of liberty," says the Star. "It has united all parties and all classes. It has restored the sacred unity of the nation. With a good heart and a good courage the British peoples can nail it to the mast, and go forward in the sure and certain hope that it will, or soon or late, lead the world into the League of Nations which will end the iron age of war. In this solemn declaration democracy challenges autocracy. If and when the German people accept democracy the Great War will bring forth the Great Peace."

"An event of first-rate importance," says the Daily Telegraph, "the world now knows the terms on which the British Government is prepared to consider conditions of peace, and if the Central Powers are as anxious for an honorable peace and lasting peace as they profess to be, let their spokesmen reply with similar candor and plainness. The Prime Minister's speech was at once a challenge and an invitation, which must be answered with equal directness, or else the nations will draw the irretrievable conclusion that Count von Hertling and Count Czernin do not speak out because they dare not disclose their real intentions."

"We must go on to the end; we have no choice. All we can say to-day is that we can never offer better terms; and, indeed, Mr. Lloyd George's allusion to Germany's need of raw materials after the war was a reminder that, while we hold command of the sea, it is possible for us to harden our price."

"It is Germany's choice. On her people will rest all the guilt of the innocent blood which must still flow before freedom is saved and the cause of reason and justice finally vindicated."

Here or Hereafter.

Light-hearted nephew (Royal Flying Corps)—Cherrie! Auntie, I shall get my wings next week.

Pessimistic aunt—Yes, and your harp too, I expect.

February is the month for propagating by means of cuttings all kinds of soft wooded plants in the conservatory and window garden, and nearly all these strike root at this season readily. As fast as suitable growth is afforded make cuttings and propagate.

SUCCESSFUL RAIDS BY CANADIANS

Dominion Troops Enter Enemy Line in Two Places.

A despatch from Canadian Army Headquarters, says:—Raiding the enemy lines north of Lens, the Canadian troops on Tuesday night, supported by our artillery, succeeded in penetrating the hostile front line in two places. One party got within 20 yards of the enemy wire when it was discovered and heavily bombed. The enemy also opened a barrage on our lines, but despite the vigorous opposition and the strong wire one officer and two men succeeded in rushing the position.

The other party got within ten yards of the enemy's line before being discovered. It then bombarded its way into the trench. The Germans withdrew before the raiders, but maintained a stiff opposition.

Two hours later, after receiving support from an artillery bombardment, German raiders came across No. Man's Land in strength in the Mericourt-Avon sectors. They met with such a vigorous reception from our rifle and machine guns that they were forced to retire with heavy casualties. They left five prisoners in our hands.

REDUCE RATIONS OF HOME ARMY

Except British Youths Under 19 Training For Abroad.

A despatch from London says:—The Earl of Derby, Secretary for War, has notified Field Marshal Viscount French, Commander of the Home Forces, of his decision to reduce the rations of meat, sugar and tea for all the home forces, except youths under 19 years, training for abroad.

"When the whole nation is being asked to reduce food consumption in the interests of our armies, abroad," says the War Secretary, "I think you will agree with me that the army at home will expect equally to be asked to make certain sacrifices. The burden cannot be allowed to fall wholly on women and children and civilian workers."

He explains that the reduced ration compared favorably with the field rations of most other armies, and says that the reasons for making the reduction imperative are known to all, adding, "The fate of the war may well depend upon the spirit in which such reductions are accepted. The grit of every individual soldier and civilian is now being tested and may be still further tested during the coming months. It is the duty of the army at home to set the whole nation an example of determination and cheerfulness, and I have no doubt of their response."

FIVE HOSTILE MACHINES SHOT DOWN BY BRITISH

A despatch from London says:—British aerial operations are reported in an official statement as follows: "Nearly five tons of bombs were dropped Tuesday on hostile targets. Five German aeroplanes were brought down in air fighting, and four were driven down out of control. A hostile observation balloon was brought down. Four of our aeroplanes are missing."

"One and a half tons of bombs were dropped at night on an air-drome south-east of Cambrai and on enemy billets."

BRITISH NAVAL FORCES BOMB OSTEND MARINE YARDS

A despatch from Amsterdam says:—British naval forces have bombarded Ostend, according to a despatch from the frontier.

The marine yards were severely damaged.

HUNDREDS OF CANADIANS BEING RETURNED

The comb continues working among Canadians in England, three hundred men last month were sent to reserve units. Some of these had become casualties in France but had become again fit; 129 men were raised from category B to A, nearly two thousand and A men had completed training and were raised to category A1.

Equally important towards general efficiency is that unfit men who cannot usefully be employed in England shall return to Canada. Two thousand and were sent back last month and eleven hundred more were returned for further medical treatment in Canada. Over three thousand former casualties were made available for reserve units, these including men discharged from hospitals here. Two thousand more were placed in lower categories than A. Many of these had been made available for further service through a system of curative physical training now so largely adopted by the Canadian Medical Service. Over thirteen thousand Canadians in England were examined again by the Medical Board last month.

CANADA EXPORTS \$40,000,000 IN PULP AND PAPER

A despatch from Montreal says:—R. A. Pringle, K.C., Canada's paper controller, said in a recent speech that during the year ending March 31, 1917, the exports of pulp and paper from this country totalled \$40,000,000. He called attention to the fact that Canada was supplying one-third of the newspaper used in the United States, partly in the finished product and partly in the raw material, and the requirements of the United States in pulpwood were 600,000 tons a day. Pulpwood has increased in value, he said, and brought from \$2 to \$7 a cord on the stump.

Canada stood third among the countries of the world with regard to forest possessions, he asserted. Russia and the United States having greater forest resources.

DESPERATE BATTLE BETWEEN WHITE AND RED GUARDS

A despatch from Stockholm says:—General Mannerheim, commander of the Government forces in Finland that were organized to enforce the authority of the Finnish Diet, has defeated the Finnish Red Guard and the Russians at Uleaborg, and taken possession of the city. This is the most important victory as yet scored by the White Guard, as Uleaborg was the chief military depot of the Russians in Northern Finland, and contained considerable stores of ammunition and artillery. Military observers now confidently predict that the whole of Northern Finland soon will be in the hands of the Government forces. The battle of Uleaborg lasted two days, and there were several hundred dead on both sides.

15 BRITISH VESSELS SUNK BY U-BOATS

A despatch from London says:—The Admiralty reports 15 British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine in the past week. Of these, 10 were 1,600 tons or over, and five under 1,600 tons. Four fishing vessels also were sunk.

The British losses by mine or submarine during the past week are approximately the same as the previous week, when nine British merchantmen of more than 1,600 tons, and six of lesser tonnage, were destroyed.

12 NORWEGIAN SHIPS SUNK IN JANUARY

A despatch from Washington says:—A cable despatch to the Norwegian Legation from Christiania, says that during the month of January 12 Norwegian vessels, aggregating 18,805 gross tons, were "lost by the war," and eight Norwegian seamen lost their lives.

Soap and tepid water will remove chocolate stains.