POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1919

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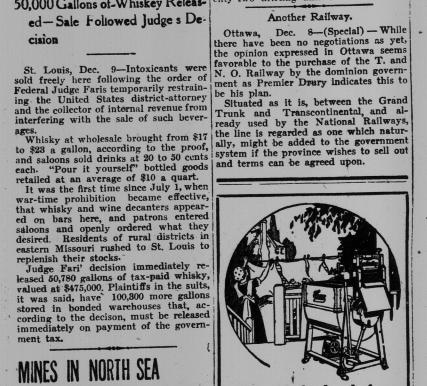
MINES IN NORTH SEA

Large Numbers Are Still Reported Floating About

Stockholm, Dec. 9—The danger from floating mines in the North Sea, is increasing, according to the chief inspector of the Swedish mercantile marine for that district of navigation, who predicts that this winter the mines will constitute a greater menace than at any period since the fields were laid. (During the week ended December 6, the sinking of one American steamer and the damaging of another from striking mines in the North Sea have been reported.)

So extensive were the mine fields and so numerous the mines, says the inspector, that large numbers of them escaped destruction by the English and American

mine sweepers, notwithstanding the energy and diligence with which they worked. More mines than ever before now are said to be loose and drifting towards the Swedish coast. Efforts are made to sink such mines as are seen by shooting them, but it is impossible to cope with them all in this way. Along the Jutland coast in the course of a single day recently the skipper of one craft reported sighting not less than seventy-two drifting mines.



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