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GERMANY BLOCKADES THE BRITISH COAST

Regard All Ships Within Blockade Area Enemy Ships—Will Sink Without Any Examination

London, Feb. 18.—The Copenhagen correspondent London Daily News wires from Hamburg. It is learned that German submarines, which are to engage in the blockade of the British coast have received detailed instructions how to act.

These instructions state that the blockade of Britain gives submarines the right to regard all merchantmen found within blockaded area, for the purpose of conveying anything to Britain, as enemy ships engaged in illegal operations.

Submarines are to approach merchantmen if possible, without being seen, and torpedo them immediately without the slightest examination regarding their nationality, or in any way concerning themselves as to the fate of the crew.

Neutral vessels which break a blockade have no right at all, according to international law, and it is understood that the crews of torpedoed ships shall perish so that there may be no evidence regarding the fate of the ships. The German authorities believe that disappearance with all hands of so many merchantmen will produce most terrorizing effects.

It is reported that the Kaiser will arrive at Wilhelmshaven tomorrow. General believe is that he is going to Heligoland to direct the blockade personally. In a few weeks rumor adds he may even go further than Heligoland.

French Forces Make Progress

German Position Taken After Ten Counter-Attacks Had Been Repulsed—200 Prisoners Taken

London, Feb. 18 (official).—The French Government reports ten hostile counter-attacks repulsed in Champagne, and enemy positions on a front of eight hundred metres captured. Near Beauséjour the French captured two hundred prisoners, making satisfactory progress at other points.

The Russian Government reports extremely desperate fighting at certain parts on the right bank of the Vistula.

In Galicia the enemy were repulsed with severe loss. Further east four thousand prisoners and three machine guns were captured near Wyssekow. A series of impetuous attacks were repulsed with heavy loss, one battalion being almost entirely bayoneted and survivors captured.

A Zeppelin has come down, on fire, at the Danish Island of Faroer. The officers and crew were interned.—HARCOURT.

Prince of Wales In Upper Alsace

It is announced from Belfort that the Prince of Wales arrived there from Nancy accompanied by three officers of his suite.

After visiting the military establishments, hospitals, and principal monuments, his royal Highness, despite the stormy weather, proceeded to the front in Upper Alsace.

The Prince much impressed everybody by the simplicity of his manners. It was in particular remarked that instead of using the suite of rooms reserved for him he preferred a room on the third floor of the hotel at which he stayed.

Kron Prinz Wilhelm Sinks British Ships

Four Steamers and Sailing Vessel Sent to Bottom by Converted Cruiser—Crews Land Safely

Buenos Aires, Feb. 18.—Four British steamers and British schooners, with a total tonnage of 11,874 tons have been sunk off the east coast of South America by the German converted cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm, which before the war was a North German Lloyd liner.

This was learned to-day from Capt. Dreyer, of the German steamer Holger, which arrived last night, bringing 314 persons comprising the crews of the destroyed British ships.

The steamers sunk were, Highland Brea, 4842 tons, Potaro, 2819 tons, Hemisphere, 2230 tons and Semantho, 1811 tons. The three-masted schooner Wilfred M, 199 tons was also sent to the bottom by the cruiser.

WILL CONVOY THREATENED SHIPS

British and French Destroyers Will See Them Safely to Port—Germany's Decree Little Effects

New York, Feb. 18.—British and French destroyers will meet all threatened steamships flying flags of the Allies and escort them into port, according to cable messages received by officials of steamship companies with offices in this city.

On receipt of these messages, officials of British and French lines announced to-day, made them confident that Germany's sea decree, which went into to-day, will have little effect upon shipping to and from port in Britain and France.

No News Expected Submarine Fleet

Some Days Before the Fleet Can Return to Base to Report doings

Berlin, Feb. 19.—No immediate news from the submarine campaign against Britain is expected in naval circles, because several days must elapse before the submarine fleet can return to its base and report results of operations.

No news expected from Britain regarding the destruction of ships.

Another German Zeppelin Destroyed

Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—According to a message received here to-day from Jutland, another German airship was destroyed to-day. The air-vessel was of the Parseval type of dirigible. The despatch said that she went down into the water near the coast.

The crew were saved.

120 Submarines To Lay Mines

London, Feb. 19.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Copenhagen, dated Thursday says, Emperor William with his brother, Admiral Prince Henry of Prussia, and Admiral Von Tirpitz, left Berlin to-day from Wilhelmshaven for Heligoland and other naval stations, to direct the arrangements for the blockading of Britain.

It is reported that the Germans have built 120 big mine laying submarines during the last six months, each with a carrying capacity of one hundred mines.

Norwegian Steamer Sunk

London, Feb. 19.—The Norwegian steamer Nordeap struck a German mine in the Baltic Sea and isoudered. The crew perished.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Convention Conception Bay District Council at Spaniard's Bay

President Coaker Will Again Address Big Meeting

In another column will be found a notice calling all the Councils of the F.P.U. established in Conception Bay to send delegates to the Convention of the Conception Bay District Council to be held at Spaniard's Bay next Wednesday, the 24th. Every Council from Kelligrews to Grate's Cove should be represented.

Each Council can send four delegates. Each District Council can also send delegates. President Coaker will attend, and business of great importance will be considered. The Port-de-Grave District Council Annual Meeting, will meet at Cupids on Tuesday, the 23rd, as per notice to be found in another column. Friend Grimes will preside. The delegates attending will proceed the next day to Spaniard's Bay Convention.

The Annual Meeting of Harbor Grace District Council will be held at Spaniard's Bay on the morning of Wednesday, the 24th inst., and the delegates present will represent their Councils also at the Conception Bay District Meeting to be held on the afternoon and evening of the same day.

President Coaker will be absent two days and will return on Thursday, the 25th. The Bowring insult, the Kean outrage, the price of seals, the Export Company Labrador establishments, the amendments to the Constitution to provide for the establishment of a Conception Bay District Council, the Labrador current price for fish case, the relief of destitution, and other matters of vital importance to the Country in general, and Conception Bay in particular, will be considered.

The Convention will open at 2.30 p.m. on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 24th, and continue in session until the business is gone through. Any Council in any part of the North can be represented at the Convention. Most of the F.P.U. members of the House of Assembly will be present.

NOTICE!

All Councils of the F.P.U. in the Districts of Harbor Main, Port-de-Grave, Carbonear, Harbor Grace and Bay-de-Verde are requested to send delegates to the SPECIAL MEETING of the Conception Bay District Council, which will be convened at Spaniard's Bay, on Wednesday, 24th inst., according to the decision arrived at by the Coley's Point Convention.

President Coaker will preside, and important matters will be considered.

W. F. COAKER,
President F.P.U.

St. John's, Feb. 18th

ENGLAND NOT WORRIED OVER BLOCKADE THREAT

More Interest Taken in German Reply to American Note—Sea Borne Traffic Little Interrupted

London, Feb. 19.—No incidents, so far as is known, have yet marked the opening of Germany's submarine blockade of the British Isles, although it has been in force for nearly 24 hours, nor have the British Government thus far announced its promised retaliatory measures. Precautions, however, are being taken on this side of the North Sea, although the German Government warned the German people not to expect any sensational developments for some days.

Regular cross-Channel passenger services have been somewhat curtailed and altered, otherwise the sea-borne trade of the country is proceeding as usual.

The White Star steamship Adriatic from New York, Feb. 10, crossed the Irish Sea during the night, but did not resort, as did the Lusitania some days ago, to the use of the American or other neutral flag to evade German submarines.—[Steamers would scarcely need a flag at night.—Ed.]

Other ocean liners and freight steamers are maintaining regular schedules. The fleet of freight steamers which left Denmark for Britain with provisions aboard was kept track of, it is believed by German airships, one of which was destroyed by fire yesterday, and another which is reported wrecked to-day on the Danish coast, have been active.

In Britain, Germany's reply to the American Note of protest against interference with neutral ships is creating more interest than the threatened blockade. There is a great deal of curiosity as to what the States will say in response. Even Germany's victory over the Russians in East Prussia and Northern Poland and the claim that Germans have taken 64,000 prisoners take second place to these dip-

lomatic questions between the Germans and neutral nations.

In Germany, however, this second victory of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, is a province in which he had long made a military study, is being celebrated with great enthusiasm, and the expectation there is that the Russians will take a long time to recover from this blow, even should they succeed in making a stand on the Niemen River, as they did last autumn.

It is evident, however, that the Russians are far from being beaten, according to their reports. Battles are in progress not far from East Prussian frontier and troops are being rushed from the interior to check the German advance, which is being made along a front of some 200 miles in extent, across the provinces of Villa and Grodnor.

In the Carpathians, heavy fighting continues. The Russians claim to have repulsed all Austro-German attacks on Bukowina. The Austrians, with their German supports are pushing across the country. They have occupied Kolomea in Galicia, about sixteen miles north of the Bukowina frontier.

It is again reported, this time officially, that they are in possession of Czernowitz, the capital of Bukowina. The Allies, in the hope of relieving the pressure on the Russians, have taken the offensive along the Western line, although French and German accounts differ as to the result of this.

It is evident the French and British have been able to make gains at some points, which they say to-night have been maintained.

The Germans have voluntarily evacuated the village of Norry, to the north of Pont a Mousson, which they captured last week, after a severe fight.

Barron Wimborne Lord Lieutenant

Dublin, Feb. 18.—Baron Wimborne was to-day sworn in as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, at a meeting of the Privy Council held in Dublin Castle.

Duke Connaught Reviews Regiment

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—The Thirtieth British Columbia regiment, comprising part of the second Canadian Expeditionary Force will be in Ottawa tomorrow morning and will be inspected on Parliament Hill by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Major General Hughes.

The Regiment will complete its training at Halifax before leaving for Britain.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Russians Evacuate All Buckowina

London, Feb. 19.—A Petrograd despatch to the Times says: "West of the Niemen operations have not yet gone beyond preliminary skirmishes while in Bukowina the Russians simply have withdrawn comparatively small forces in order to shorten their lines."

MUTINY AT GHENT

Paris, Feb. 19.—A report current here, but not confirmed, that a mutiny occurred at Ghent in the beginning of the month, in which about 5000 men, including thirty officers were involved. According to the report the mutineers were bound and sent in the direction of Brussels, Malines, Antwerp, and Namur.

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