

YOU'LL BE SURE TO FIND IT IN "The MAIL and ADVOCATE"

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. I. No. 275.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1914.

Price:—1 cent.

TURK FORCE SURRENDERS TO BRITISH

Victory Gives Great Britain Control of Valuable Territory on Shore of the Persian Gulf

London, Dec. 9.—It is officially announced that Subhi Bey, late Governor of Basra in Asiatic Turkey, and commander of the Turkish forces in Kurna, yesterday surrendered unconditionally with his troops to the Indian Expeditionary Force which is operating at the head of the Persian Gulf. Kurna was subsequently occupied by the British, who are now in complete control of the country from the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers to the sea and the richest part of the fertile delta.

Big British Force.

An Indian office despatch, describing operations of the British forces in the Persian Gulf, says: "A reconnaissance of the enemy's position at Kurna was made on Dec. 5th by Col. G. S. Fraser with 110,000 Maharaja's light infantry."

The enemy was encountered on the left bank of the Tigris opposite Kurna. They were promptly attacked and driven across the river, losing heavily. Two guns and seventy prisoners, including three Turkish officers, were captured.

Strongly Held.

Kurna was found to be strongly held by guns and infantry. The British finding no means of crossing the Tigris, withdrew to their original position.

On the following day reinforcements were sent from Basra under Brigadier General Chas. Fry, who captured Lasser and cleared the left bank of the Tigris. He took three guns and one hundred prisoners, including three officers.

On Dec. 8th the British crossed the river. The next day Subhi Bey surrendered.

The British casualties during the whole of these operations were one British officer killed, three wounded, forty Indians, rank and file, killed and one hundred and twenty wounded.

British Ships Ordered From Panama Zone

U. S. Determined to Enforce Strict Observance of Neutrality of the Canal Zone.

Panama, Dec. 9.—Col. Goethals this morning issued instructions for the immediate departure from Panama of the British colliers Kirmwood and Roddam.

This step was taken in order to avoid any question as to the good faith of the United States respecting the observance of neutrality in the waters of the canal zone.

The two vessels at once went to sea.

Baron Wimborne Is Mentioned As New Irish Viceroy

Dublin, Dec. 9.—The Freeman's Journal reports that Baron Wimborne will probably succeed Lord Aberdeen as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland early in the New Year.

Naturalised Briton Sentenced to Death For High Treason

London, Dec. 9.—Nicholas Ahlers, former German Consul in Sunderland, was today convicted by the Durham Assizes of high treason and sentenced to death.

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Moderate N.W. to North winds; fair and cold today and Friday.

LESSONS OF NAVAL VICTORY

British Papers Say it Shows Superiority of Big Guns and High Speed

London, Dec. 10.—The Chronicle's naval expert commenting on the British victory in the South Atlantic, says: "The crushing victory justifies our hope that the methods now employed by the Admiralty are on the basis of their experience in the war and under the mastery direction of Lord Fisher, will, before long, lay the remaining raiders by the heels."

Their temporary immunity has depended upon certain resources and especially upon the abuse of the wireless telegraph and the violation of the neutrality of the coast.

Big Moral Effect.

The Daily News says the moral effect of this victory in the South Atlantic will carry even to the least understanding or most sceptical mind that conviction that the British sea power is as sure as ever and maintained by men as skillful and valiant as those who created it.

Whatever mistakes have been made earlier in the distribution of our naval force have been corrected. Superior strategy prepared the victory and that strategy bears everywhere the imprint of Lord Fisher's genius.

Lessons of the Fight.

The big gun, coupled with speed, has once again vindicated itself; it has done so in every engagement of this war. It represents Lord Fisher's contribution, persistently criticised by the many within and without the navy.

The Times says the British Naval victory avenges the loss of Admiral Craddock and his gallant comrades, and at the same time removes from the high seas the most important of the war vessels that Germany has had at large.

Dramatic Retribution.

It is a dramatic act of retribution and indicates that when the correct strategic course is followed the stroke falls hard and sure.

It is impossible to believe that there was anything fortuitous in the arrival of this British squadron on the scene in which the German ships were found, but it has every sign of being the result of a bold and thorough disposition on the part of the Admiralty.

The presence of Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee, who but a month ago held the position of Chief of Staff and the completeness of the destruction of the enemy are most significant circumstances.

THIRTEEN MINERS BLOWN TO DEATH BY AN EXPLOSION

Men and Explosive Were Being Lowered Together Down the Shaft

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 9.—Thirteen mine workers were killed in the Diamond Shaft of the Delaware Lackawanna Western Company, here today, when a box of dynamite being lowered into the mine cage with fourteen men exploded, wrecking the descending cage and dropping the occupants to the bottom of the shaft.

One man, who escaped alive, is Martin Belinski, a driver boss.

KAISER SMITTEN WITH PNEUMONIA

With Which is Combined Nervous Depression—Mustn't Go to Front.

London, Dec. 9.—Emperor William is suffering from pneumonia, which is combined with nervous depression, due to over-exertion, according to a telegram from Berlin.

The message adds that the German Emperor's doctors have advised him not to return to the front.

Fogata left Exploits at 9.30 a.m. yesterday.

Earl of Devon arrived at Exploits at 5.05 p.m. and left at midnight.

BRITISH SQUADRON SINKS THREE GERMAN WARSHIPS OFF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(British Official Bulletin.)

London, December 9.—It is announced officially here to-day that the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig have been sunk in the Pacific.

The following announcement was issued by the Official Information Bureau:—At 7.30 a.m. on December 8th, the Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Nurnberg, Leipzig, and Dresden were sighted near the Falkland Islands by the British Squadron under Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee.

An action followed, in the course of which the Scharnhorst, flying the flag of Admiral Count Von Spee; Gneisenau, and the Leipzig were sunk.

The Dresden and Nurnberg made off during the action and are being pursued.

Two colliers also were captured.

The Vice-Admiral reports that the British casualties were very few in number. Some survivors have been rescued from the Gneisenau and Leipzig.

2 GERMAN SHIPS ESCAPED, BUT ARE BEING PURSUED BY FLEET BRITISH SHIPS

London, Dec. 10 (4 a.m.)—It is believed that some survivors have been rescued from the Gneisenau and Leipzig, but no mention is made of the crew of the Scharnhorst which was the flagship of the German admiral being saved, and it is presumed Count Von Spee and his officers and men went down fighting.

The British casualties were light, but beyond the fact that the British squadron was commanded by Rear-Admiral Sturdee, no information is vouchsafed regarding the ships engaged and newspapers are enjoined not to speculate as to other combinations which may be affected.

London Enthusiastic

The greatest enthusiasm prevailed in London over the victory. The general impression is that it will be complete, as the admiralty would not be likely to send ships but those that should overtake the Dresden and Nurnberg, which are 24 knot and 23 respectively, probably even slower after their long service. They are at a disadvantage also, because of their small coal capacity.

The British squadron which engaged the Germans left England without the knowledge of the general public. Until his

name was mentioned it was believed that Rear-Admiral Sturdee was staying in home waters. The fact that he was taken from his post as Chief of War Staff is indicative of the determination of the British Government to clear the Pacific and South Atlantic of all German warships.

Formidable British Squadron

It is believed therefore that the British commander is at the head of a formidable squadron. In addition to the Dresden and Nurnberg only one more German warship Karlshue is unaccounted for now in these waters, although there may be one or two armed merchant ships, which have not been rounded up.

The Scharnhorst and Gneisenau each carried a compliment of 765 men, Leipzig 286, Nurnberg 322 and Dresden 326; total German loss estimated not far short of 2000 men, although the actual loss of the Dresden and Nurnberg cannot be known.

Two Others Damaged

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 10.—Reports received here of the sinking of the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Leipzig, by British warships off Falkland Islands, say that two other German cruisers engaged in the battle were badly damaged.

GERMAN FLEET

The German squadron which engaged Admiral Craddock on Nov. 1 off Coronel, Chile, sank the cruisers Good Hope and Monmouth and put to flight the cruiser Glasgow and the converted cruiser-transport Otranto, consisted of the five cruisers Gneisenau, Scharnhorst, Nurnberg, Leipzig and Dresden.

It is possible to trace their course from the Pacific to the South Atlantic by the despatches that have since come from the coast announcing their passing or giving intelligence concerning their alleged supply ships. Meanwhile, it was announced that they had been joined by the formidable battle cruiser Von Der Tann. It was also reported that they had been joined by the Strassburg, last reported in South Pacific two months and a half ago, and by the Karlsruhe, which was reported on Nov. 13 as being "cornered" somewhere in the South Atlantic. The maximum strength of Admiral Von Spee's squadron in that case may be denoted as follows:

Gneisenau, 22½ knots; 2-inch, 6.59 inch, 14 24-pounders.

Scharnhorst, 22½ knots; 8 2-inch, 6.59 inch, 14 24-pounders.

Leipzig, 23 knots; 10 4.1-inch, rapid firers.

Dresden, 24½ knots; 12 4.1-inch rapid firers.

Strassburg, 28 knots; 12 4.1-inch rapid firers.

Karlsruhe, 28 knots; 12 4.1-inch rapid firers.

ADMIRAL STURDEE

Halifax, Dec. 10.—Vice-Admiral Sturdee was born in 1859. He was in Halifax as a Lieutenant on the Northampton when Admiral Commerell was in command of the station.

About 1886 he was decorated for service in Samoa and in 1907 was made A.D.C. to the King.

At one time he was in command of the First division of the Channel fleet.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Falkland Islands are a group forming a Crown Colony of Great Britain in the South Atlantic Ocean, 250 miles to the East of the nearest shores of South America.

There are more than a hundred islands but East and West Falkland, separated by Falkland Sound, are the only two of any size, having an area of 3000 and 2200 square miles respectively.

Drizzling rain falls on 250 days of the year, our encyclopaedia does not say what falls on the remaining days.

Schr. Noah sails for Gibraltar to-day with 2950 qts. fish from Monroe & Co.

The Durango sailed from Liverpool yesterday afternoon for this port. She is bringing 500 tons of cargo.

RUSSIAN ARMY ON OFFENSIVE

Inflicts Grave Defeat on German Right Wing Near Cracow

(British Official Bulletin.)

London, Dec. 9.—The French Government report enemy's activity some what increased. A vigorous German attack was repulsed south of Ypres.

The struggle in the Argonne continues very vigorous.

Vermelles, recently captured by the French has been the scene of a determined struggle for nearly two months. Russian headquarters report a grave defeat of the German right wing south of Cracow. Heavy guns and five field batteries were silenced. Several guns and many prisoners were captured. The offensive is being pursued.

The Serbian Press Bureau announces considerable success over the Austrians.

EDISON PLANT REPORTED AFIRE

Westchester, N.Y., Dec. 10.—The electrical plant of the Edison Coy. here caught fire tonight following an explosion in the testing room, and it is threatened with total destruction. The instruments, building and contents are valued at seven million dollars.

SERVIANS OVERWHELM AUSTRIANS

Latter Retire in Disorder Leaving Many Prisoners and Guns With Servians.

Paris, Dec. 9.—A despatch by the Havas Agency from Nish, Servia, says a crushing offensive movement by the Servian army has been successful along the entire front.

The Austrians are retiring in the greatest disorder, losing a large number of prisoners and cannon and war material.

At one point alone the Servians took two thousand prisoners and the band and flag of the 22nd regiment.

Victory Was Complete

Rome, Dec. 10.—The Servian Legation makes public a report from Servian Headquarters to the effect that the Servian army has won a complete victory resulting in the recapture of Vayve and Ushitza in Servia, and the rout of two Austrian corps.

The Austrians, says the report, abandoned everything, even their treasure chests.

The Servians took 20,000 prisoners and fifty cannon and large quantities of rifles, machine guns and munitions of every description.

Have To Find 6,000 Horses For Cavalry

2nd Canadian Contingent Will Need This Number of New Mounts—Easy to Get.

Ottawa, Dec. 7.—Active arrangements are in progress at the Militia Department for the extra recruiting called for by the new divisional scheme in connection with the Second Canadian Overseas Contingent.

There are to be twenty-seven squadrons of cavalry, each with a strength of two hundred, and this will require about six thousand mounts. They will be purchased throughout the country by the same system as was followed when the artillery mounts were bought.

The supply promises to be fully equal to the requirements, and there will be no hold-ups for high prices.

The Stephano which sailed this afternoon took a large quantity of goods which are being sent to the Belgians.

Sheep farming is the staple industry, the shepherds being mostly of Scottish origin. The population is little more than 2000.

LODZ COST GERMANS 10,000 MEN

Russians Contradict Stories of Their Losses Circulated by Enemy—Balance Favors Czar's Troops

Petrograd, Dec. 9.—Semi-Officially: "German official communication says that the Russians must have paid enormous losses when evacuating Lodz."

What confidence should be placed in this communication it evidenced by the fact that the Russian troops withdrew from Lodz about midnight on December 6th, while the Germans remained motionless for fifteen hours in front of our empty trenches.

Cost Them 10,000 Men.

Their attack cost them more than 10,000 soldiers, upon which they dared not advance. Only at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Dec. 6th did the Germans move forward to find there was nobody in the trenches facing them. They entered the town then.

In changing our positions in the region of Lodz we did not lose a soldier. We undertook this manoeuvring only after we had ascertained that the Germans had definitely decided not to continue their attacks in this district.

Our manoeuvre was entirely independent of any aggressive action on the part of the enemy."

Ridiculous German Claims.

Petrograd, via London, Dec. 7.—An official statement issued here, describes as ridiculous the German claims of having captured enormous numbers of prisoners, cannons and machine guns. It says that the armies have been fighting continuously, and that it is impossible to estimate the losses.

"This fact," continues the statement "prevents us from publishing an official denial, as the general staff carefully avoid giving any details that have not been verified."

False Reports.

"On the other hand, the German denial that they have lost a single gun, is disproved by the fact that in the Brzeziny district alone (near Lodz), we took from them twenty-three guns and a large amount of spoils. As to German prisoners, 10,000 have passed one point alone of our front where prisoners are registered.

"Neither do the Germans mention the supply column which they burned, nor the cannon and ammunition which they abandoned in the forests and which we are gradually finding."

Conceal Losses

"The Germans also conceal the losses which they sustained in the November fighting, although witnesses state that never has a field of battle presented such a sight as on the roads of the German retreat towards Strykow, at some points where we attacked the German flanks, the German dead were piled not less than a metre high. All the inhabitants of the district have been engaged in the work of burying the dead and clearing the fields where the recent combats were waged."

"Several German divisions, especially that of the Guards, have been so severely tried during their efforts to escape from our clutches, that they have completely disappeared from the front in order to reorganize their formation."

SAXONIAN COALS AND LEAVES PORT

The oil tanker Saxonian, Captain Leech, which arrived yesterday morning short of coal, sailed again last evening at six.

She was supplied with two hundred tons of coal by W. H. Hynes, who made a record in supplying her.

She started coaling at 9 a.m. and at 5 the job was finished.

Capt. Leech was delighted with the work as he feared he would have to remain here forty-eight hours. He paid a high compliment to our workmen.

s.s. Sjoestad, two days from North Sydney, arrived last evening with a cargo of coal.

Danish schr. Maagen has sailed for Gibraltar from Herring Neck with 3600 qts. Labrador fish.