

RUSS VESSELS NOW BOTTLED IN MOON SOUND

German Cordon of Battleships Barring Way to Finland Gulf.

OUTCLASSED

The Russian Fleet Put Up a Brave Fight Against Odds.

London Cable — Apparently contingents of the Russian fleet—in all about twenty warships of various classes—are bottled up in Moon Sound, with a cordon of German war-craft barring their egress northward back into the Gulf of Finland, or to the south into the Gulf of Riga.

Brave, but out-classed by reason of superior gun-range and heavier tonnage, the Russians gave battle to the Germans and attempted to force back the enemy armada off Oesel Island. Standing far outside the snell zone of the Russian dreadnoughts, the guns of the German dreadnought sank the battleship Slava—a relic of the days before the Russo-Japanese war—and so badly damaged other units that the Russian flotilla was forced to seek refuge in Moon Sound—lying between Moon Island and the Estonian coast. Nearly all of the Slava's crew were saved.

Immediately seeing their advantage, the Germans, according to the latest German official communication, began intense operations against Moon Island, hammering its eastern shore batteries until they were silenced, and also attacking the Russian guns on the mainland, butting them out of action. Moon Island was captured and the Russians took refuge inside Moon Sound.

Thereupon the Germans threw warships to the eastern part of Kassar Bay lying to the north of Moon Island, barring exit from the northern entrance to Moon Sound and also rushed contingents to the south of Moon Island, apparently closing the passage to the south into the Gulf of Riga.

Already the Germans have attempted to attack from the north into Moon Sound, but the Russian guns have held them back successfully. Among the German warships attacking the old line vessels of the Russian fleet were at least two dreadnoughts of the Grosser Kurfurst type—vessels displacing 25,000 tons, as against 12,516 tons for the Slava. A majority of the crew of the Slava was saved by Russian torpedo boats when the vessel took the final plunge.

The Germans claim that 10,000 prisoners and 50 guns were captured on Oesel Island on Monday.

BERLIN OFFICIAL REPORT.

The official German statement reads: "Reclassification of the booty captured on Oesel Island has up to the present given the following results: Ten thousand prisoners from two Russian divisions—only a few hundred escaped to Moon Island; fifty guns, including some undamaged heavy coastal and field batteries, numerous arms and other war material.

"Portions of our naval forces pressed forward through the mine fields in the Gulf of Riga to the southern exit of the great Moon Sound, whither about twenty Russian warships retired after a short engagement. The Russian battleships near Wolf on Moon Island, and on the Estonian coast, near Werder Island, were silenced.

"Other of our naval units are lying in the eastern portion of Kassar Bay and are barring passage to the west."

ESTIMATES OF CANADA'S CROPS

Slight Reduction On Earlier Grain Reports

As Sent Out by Statistics Office.

Ottawa Report — The census and statistics office publishes to-day the second or provisional estimate of the yield of the principal grain crops of Canada in 1917, a statement of the quality of these crops at the time of harvesting, and the condition of root crops on Sept. 30. The report is compiled from the returns of crop correspondents made at the end of September.

The estimates of the yield per acre of wheat, oats, barley and flax are somewhat lower than those reported at the end of August, and the reduction applies to all the provinces. The later returns, being based to a larger extent upon threshing results, appear to indicate that the first estimates based upon the appearance of the crops in the field, were too high.

The total yield of wheat for Canada is now provisionally estimated at 231,730,200 bushels, the average yield per acre being 15 1/2 bushels, as compared with 16 1/2 bushels reported a month ago, and with 17 bushels the yield of 1916.

Of oats the total yield is 393,570,000 bushels, as compared with 410,211,000 bushels in 1916. The average yield per

acre being 29 1/2 bushels in 1917, as compared with 37.30 bushels in 1916. Barley yields 51,684,000 bushels, as compared with 42,770,000 bushels in 1916, the average per acre being 21 1/2 bushels, as compared with 23.72 bushels in 1916.

The yield of rye is 4,239,800 bushels, which is slightly more than the quantity returned a month ago; the yield per acre is 20 bushels, as against 19.3 bushels in 1916.

For the three Prairie Provinces the yields are as follows: Wheat, 209,794,200 bushels; oats, 237,925,000; rye, 2,534,000; barley, 36,727,000; flaxseed, 6,747,000 bushels. The total yields of the remaining grain crops, now reported for the first time this year, are as follows: Peas, 2,786,600 bushels from 151,030 acres, an average of 18 1/2 bushels per acre. Beans, 635,700 bushels from 43,000 acres, average 14 1/2 bushels per acre. Buckwheat, 7,189,000 bushels from 236,400 acres, or 12 1/2 bushels per acre. Mixed grains, 15,741,000 bushels from 469,140 acres, 33 1/2 bushels per acre, and corn for husking, 6,193,000 bushels from 173,600 acres, and average of 35 1/2 bushels per acre.

Correspondents were asked to report on the quality of the grain crops at the time of harvest, as measured against a standard of 100, representing grain well headed, well filled, well saved and unaffected to any appreciable extent by frost, rust, smut, etc. The average results for the whole of Canada are as follows: Fall wheat, 76; spring wheat, 72; all wheat, 73; oats, 74; barley, 75; rye, 79; peas, 69; beans, 71; buckwheat, 63; mixed grains, 79; flax, 67; corn for husking, 67. The figures are generally high for Ontario, wheat being 80, oats 92 and barley 89. In Quebec wheat is 67 and oats are 74. In the Prairie Provinces wheat is 75 in Manitoba, 70 in Saskatchewan and 75 in Alberta. Oats are 62 in Manitoba, 77 in Saskatchewan and 56 in Alberta.

The condition of root and fodder crops, measured against a standard of 100 as representing a full crop, was, on Sept. 30, as follows: Potatoes, 64; turnips, 72; mangolds, carrots, etc., 77; sugar beets, 76; corn for fodder, 72, and alfalfa, 81.

The condition of the potato crop by provinces was on Sept. 30 as follows: Prince Edward Island, 81; Nova Scotia, 77; New Brunswick, 57; Quebec, 47; Ontario, 81; Manitoba, 69; Saskatchewan, 71; Alberta, 59, and British Columbia, 70.

ITALY FACING FOOD SHORTAGE

Serious Rioting at Turin Late in August.

Ministerial Crisis Likely—Socialists Busy.

Turin Cable — The Italian Parliament has reopened its sessions at Rome under peculiar circumstances, two facts being so prominent as even to make a Ministerial crisis possible. Owing to their nature they will probably be discussed only in secret session. One has to do with serious riots which occurred in Turin the latter part of August, due in part to the delay in providing the town with sufficient bread, and, in part, to political discontent.

The other question concerns the general food crisis throughout Italy, which led to the resignation of the food controller, Giuseppe Canepa, whose place has been taken by General Alfieri.

The Turin riots, lasted several days and the authorities were obliged to use machine guns, while some barricades were destroyed by bombs thrown from aeroplanes this being the first time aeroplanes have been used for such a purpose. No official figures have been published as to the number of dead and wounded in the riots; calculations vary from 50 to 69 dead to 500, the latter number being given in the report of a non-Italian authority in Turin.

The question of supplies is especially grave regarding wheat, coal and wool. Italy produces no coal, and must import all she needs. Her wool is insufficient owing to the immense consumption for military clothing. But the most serious of all is the necessity of importing this year about three million tons of wheat; otherwise it will be almost impossible, even with the restrictions imposed by bread cards, to reach the next harvest.

The Government is being called upon by Parliament to justify its action with respect to both of these situations. Whatever the result is, whether with the present Ministry in power or under a new Cabinet, the matter is determined to carry on the war to a victorious end and defeat the efforts of the intransigent Socialists, who are trying to spread dissatisfaction among the troops and induce them to cease fighting after October 31.

WOOL FOR HUNS.

Condemned by the British Prize Courts.

London Cable — The prize court condemned wool valued at \$700,000 shipped in Swedish ships from Buenos Ayres and consigned to the Swedish army administration at Gothenburg. It was shown to the satisfaction of the court that the wool was not intended for the Swedish army administration. The wool was seized at Kirkwall last May and June. Intercepted documents disclosed a clumsy plot to send wool to Germany. There were nearly a million and a quarter dollars' worth of more wool seized under similar conditions pending disposal by the prize court.

You never can tell. Any man can make good resolutions, but it's quite another matter to make good.

NAVAL PLANS FOR AIR RAIDS

British Reprisal Plans Nearly Perfected.

Fliers to Get Improved Clothing.

London Cable — Great Britain reconstructed Air Ministry, which soon will be announced in the House of Commons, probably will act as balm for several Commoners who have been greatly wrought up over the Government's delay in conducting reprisal for raids upon London. Under the reconstruction plan it is believed there will be a better and far more equitable distribution of machines among the various flight units. It is known many land machines controlled by the Admiralty could be used in raids upon German towns.

Coincidental with the reorganization of the air service there will be several changes in the flying men's uniforms. In future pilots probably will be provided with garments far more suitable for high altitudes than those worn to-day. Owing to the great heights airmen must attain under modern conditions they need clothing that is heavier and at the same time is adaptable to quick change or removal.

AUSTRIANS FEAR THE ITALIANS

Huge Forces Reinforcing the Worn Armies.

Forty Divisions From Russian Front.

Washington Report — The Italian General Staff has learned that no less than forty divisions of German and Austrian troops have been detached from the Russian front to reinforce the Austrian army now facing the Italians. The presence of large numbers of German, Turkish and Bulgarian troops on the Italian front also is reported, an indication of the realization by the Governments of the Central Powers of the imminent danger of a general rout if the Italians continue their successes on the Bainsizza Plateau.

Rome, Oct. 18.—The official statement from headquarters Thursday night reads: "Along the whole front there was moderate artillery action, and local fighting was more noticeable. Large enemy parties were dispersed in the Giudicaria and Dogna valleys. "On the Bainsizza plateau the enemy suffered losses in patrol encounters, leaving prisoners in our hands. We promptly reposed storming parties southwest of Selo on the Carso."

TURKEY NEAR TO COLLAPSE

Kaiser's Visit to Prevent a Separate Peace.

Definite Move to Break With the Teutons.

London Cable — Many reports of the growing weakness of Turkey have been received in England and France from various sources during the last week. If there is any truth in them, Turkey is on the point of collapse.

Some of the reports say that there is a definite movement on the part of the Ottoman Empire to break with the Central Powers, and that the Kaiser's visit to Constantinople was brought about by this peril. The continuous food riots are said to be merely a surface indication of internal conditions, which are rapidly approaching the breaking point.

The Turks realize to-day that the cause of Germany is doomed to failure, and gradually the Turkish people are awakening to the knowledge that if they cling to the Central Powers their own country will be divided by the victors. To avoid this they are willing to force their pro-German Government to make a separate peace.

FATHER AND SON.

Fought Together, Wounded Together, Return Together.

London Cable — Returning to Canada from the Canadian discharge depot at Buxton together are a father and son named Robert McMillan. They enlisted in the same battalion at Springhill Mine, Nova Scotia. The father went to France fourteen months ago, and the son reached military overseas age seven months later, and joined his father's battalion. They fought together for seven months. A German sniper shot both at Vimy in successive shots as they were walking along a communication trench. Neither was severely hurt. Both were sent to England, and spent some time in hospital, but in different institutions, each getting his discharge to Canada simultaneously.

WAR OFFICE IS IN THE "MOVIES"

Army Council Controls the Topical Budget.

British Views for Allies and Dominions.

London Cable — To its thousand and one activities the British War Office has now added the ownership and management of a British film business. The entire control of the issue is what is known to the moving picture world as the Topical Budget, has passed into the hands of the Army Council for the duration of the war.

By the unwritten law of Whitehall, the War Office cannot "go into business," so the difficulty of owning and controlling the film business was obviated by the appointment of a committee of practical men, responsible to the War Office.

The idea of putting out official topical pictures twice a week, illustrating the various happenings on the fronts, and incidents in this country connected with the war, came from France, where the Government decided some time ago regularly to issue films from the front as a means of keeping the public interest steady in the progress of the war, and stimulating public support for its prosecution.

Starting as a strictly national survey of war's doings, the War Office Topical Budget has blossomed quickly into an international concern by a system of interchange with the Allies, so that now it presents to the British public scenes from every front on which the Allies are fighting, except the Russian.

British pictures will be distributed through the War Office to France, Italy, Portugal, and all over the British Empire, as well as to the United States. Neutral countries, too, are to be organized for the distribution of these same pictures, and in return certain pictures from neutral countries will be sent here for distribution through the British Isles.

The official film photographers will not confine their work to the front. They are also to take pictures of all national events, naval, military or otherwise, happening anywhere in the British Isles.

WISH FOR PEACE SEPARATES FOES

Split in Central Powers Likely Over Desires.

Kaiser Urges Bulgars to Attack Sarraïl.

London Cable — The Morning Post has the following despatch from Athens, dated Saturday:

In well-informed diplomatic circles here it is considered that peace is imminent.

Despite the extreme secrecy observed in Germany regarding the subject discussed at the Council held in Berlin immediately before the German Emperor's departure for Bulgaria and those now being discussed in Sofia between the three allied monarchs, authentic information has been received here to the effect that new and less irreconcilable peace proposals are to be expected from Germany during the coming week.

In spite of von Kuehlmann's pompous statements concerning Aescarpine and the Kaiser's nervous activity Germany is faced by the most imperative necessity of stopping the war as the result not only of the insufficiency of her output of munitions and the growing ascendancy of the Socialists, but also of the imminent danger of a split with her allies.

The Austrian Emperor is known to be none too fond of the Kaiser and the Bulgarians, and he is faced by the utter exhaustion of his army and the Bulgarians, too, are now renewing the overtures which they initiated last winter for a separate peace. They are working busily through special envoys, and in particular through well-known pro-Bulgarian sympathizers in England with the object of persuading British and French diplomacy that the Bulgarian people are still true to the Entente and can still render valuable assistance to it by deserting their present friends.

Nor are the Turks behindhand in this scramble to abandon the sinking ship of the Central Empire. A violent article recently published against the "Young Turk" Committee, which can have appeared only with the consent of the "Young Turk" censorship, is manifestly a preliminary attempt to placate the Entente.

Of course, the basis of these overtures is that Bulgaria shall be allowed to retain the territories she now occupies at the expense of Serbia, Greece, and Roumania, coupled with the abandonment of any idea of dismembering the Turkish Empire.

KAISER AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

London Cable — The German Emperor arrived at Constantinople to-day, according to a Renter despatch received by way of Amsterdam. He was met at the station by the Sultan, the Imperial Princess, Grand Vizier, Minister, Senators and Deputies and other prominent personages, including the German Admiral von Koenig. The Emperor's reception was imposing. Turkish girls offering flowers. The Emperor drove with the Sultan and Enver Pasha, Minister of War, to the Yıldiz Kiosk, where he reviewed the guard of honor.

An Exchange Telegraph despatch says that after a two days' visit to

Constantinople the Emperor will inspect the defences in the Dardanelles.

ENCOURAGE THE BULGARS?

Amsterdam Cable — The Wezer Zeitung suggests that the visit to Sofia of the German Emperor and Dr. von Kuehlmann had as its object to encourage a Bulgarian attack on General Sarraïl's forces, with Saloniki as a reward in the event of success. The paper adds that a declaration of war by Greece against Bulgaria is to be expected at an early date.

The writer of the article says that Bulgaria will be able to bring 800,000 men against General Sarraïl, while still leaving 200,000 available for Dobruja.

BRUTAL U-BOATS.

Further Details of Firing On Lifeboats.

London, Ont., Cable.—James Tringor, of Roanoke, Virginia, according to a despatch to the "Daily Chronicle" from a British port, was killed by shrapnel fired by a German submarine upon the open boats of a torpedoed British steamer on which the American was employed. Another member of the crew in Tringor's boat, a fireman, was wounded by a shell from the submarine, and died as he was placed aboard a rescuing ship. There were twelve Americans among the 49 survivors landed at a British port. Byron Wood, one of the American survivors, said that eight survivors had been taken to a hospital suffering from serious wounds.

"We were attacked at 6 o'clock Sunday morning by two German submarines," said Wood. "We tried to escape by zig-zagging, but it was no use. We succeeded in launching two boats on the starboard side, those on the port side having been shot away. When the nearest submarine was only a quarter of a mile away, she sent six shrapnel shells at us, only one of which took effect. The approach of the rescuing ship caused the submarines to dive."

Consular despatches received by the State Department Tuesday reported that two men were killed and seven others wounded when small boats from a British steamer were shelled by one of two U-boats which had attacked it.

HUN PUNISHED FOR KINDNESS

Amsterdam Cable — The German has punished Issegem. English prisoners traversed Roulers street, a thickly populated quarter of Issegem, stepping out, says the Telegraaf's correspondent, with head erect. The people rushed out of doors. They had little food left but apples, which they gave to the prisoners, slipping apples into their hands. The Germans threatened the civilians with the bayonet. The people then threw the fruit from a distance. The Germans ordered the dwellers on Roulers street to do all their errands before nine in the morning, after which they must remain the whole day indoors, with windows closed. The German authorities were furious, and posted a notice on the walls forbidding the least demonstration when prisoners pass.

HUN SUB. IN N. Y.

Captured U-Boat Sent Over by Britain.

New York Report — A German submarine captured by the British will soon be on view in New York. It arrived in three sections in the hold of an English steamer yesterday and was unboxed to-day. It is exhibited in Central Park as an exhibit to aid the Liberty Loan drive.

The Liberty Loan Committee announced that the submarine was a UC-5, of the mine-laying type, caught laying mines in the North Sea by a British destroyer in April, 1916. It was obtained by the committee through the courtesy of the British Government and the co-operation of Lord Northcliffe, head of the British War Mission in the United States. The craft is 110 feet long, beam eleven feet, and has a displacement of 200 tons. She has capacity and machinery for laying twelve mines. She carries no guns or torpedo tubes.

The craft when placed in Central Park will be used as a Liberty Loan bond-selling booth, and only those who have bought a bond will be allowed to inspect the craft.

The submarine will carry the message: "Buy bonds and sink submarines."

CATTARO RAID WAS A MARVEL

London Cable — The Daily Mail's correspondent with the Italian armies says that later details received of the great Cattaro raid mark it as an example of rare organization.

The fourteen (aprons which took part in it started together from near Milan, flew to the Apennines in a gale and arrived in a body near Rome. There they rested a while and then flew to their taking off camp on the Adriatic shore, and thence to Delmario and Montenegro and home.

The squadron afterwards flew together something like one thousand miles without failure on the part of any hitch.

FLED FROM SPAIN.

Interned U-Boat Crew Made Its Escape.

Madrid, Spain, Cable.—The commander and sixteen sailors of a German submarine U-B-23, who were interned with German refugees from the Kamerun, near Aloula de Herare, north-east of Madrid, have escaped. The second officer in command of the submarine and six remaining sailors have been placed under close guard.

Submarine U-B-23 put into Corunna, Spain, in a damaged condition on July 28, and later was dismantled. Not long ago another submarine that had been interned made its escape.

ENEMY RETIRED BEFORE ANZAC ON THE RIDGE

Went Back to Next Spur of High Ground at Pass-chendaele.

AIRMEN BUSY

British Drove Down Eleven Hostile Machines in Day.

London Cable — C. E. W. Bean, official correspondent with the Australian troops, telegraphing from France, says that the Germans retired opposite a small part of the Australian front to the next spur of high ground about 1,000 yards back. The German main position now is astride the ridge somewhat south of Passchendaele, with one leg down a spur running to the south-east and ending in a knob known as Keltberg; thence curving south-east over the lower slopes of the southern portion of the main ridge before Beclare and Gheleuvel.

The official communication issued this evening says: "During the day hostile infantry shells vigorously various localities in our forward and battery positions east of Ypres. This afternoon our positions south-east of Poelcapelle were heavily bombarded. Our own artillery continues its successful counter-battery work. Concentrated fire has been directed with good effect upon a number of targets.

"Our patrols on the battle-front have brought in a few prisoners, but there has been no further infantry action.

"On the remainder of the front there is nothing to report. "Aviation.—On Wednesday the fine weather produced great aerial activity. The visibility was excellent, and enabled our machines to do a great deal of successful artillery work and photography. Ninety-eight bombs were dropped by aeroplanes during the day on enemy billets and huts.

"The strong west wind and clear atmosphere were ideal for the enemy's artillery, reconnaissance and fighting machines, which were active and very aggressive in the forenoon. Several flights were made at high altitudes over our lines, with the result that of the enemy machines brought down by our aeroplanes three fell in our territory.

"In all 11 German machines were brought down by us, including one shot down by anti-aircraft gunfire. Four others were driven down out of control. Three of our machines are missing."

FRENCH REPORT.

Paris Cable — The War Office communication Thursday night reads: "On the front north of the Aisne our troops repulsed an attack directed against our positions on the Vauclerc plateau. Artillery actions occurred near Les Maisons de Champagne, north of Somain, in the region south of the Monts and on the right bank of the Meuse, in the neighborhood of the Chaume Wood, and Bezonvaux."

DUTCH AID TO HUN MUST END

Gravel and Sand Exports Must Cease.

Allies Set On End of Crooked Neutrality.

London Cable — The editor of the Amsterdam Telegraph telegraphing to his paper to-night says the British, French and Belgian Governments are determined that the gravel and sand exports to Holland and Belgium must cease. He points out to the Dutch public how patient the British have been in only cutting off commercial communication with Holland as a reprisal, compared with Germany's treatment of Dutch shipping, as exemplified in the ruthless submarine war. The correspondent, who is authoritatively advised, says the British Foreign Office has become tired of Dutch interpretations of international law as opposed to the interpretations existing before the war. Dutch neutrality is persistently interpreted in favor of Germany, and always against allied interests. The correspondent cites several striking instances suggesting that the American Government also had experience of Dutch interpretations of its duty as a neutral which invariably favored Germany.

SHELLED LIFEBOATS.

Two U-Boats Maintain the Hun Crime Record.

Washington Report — Small boats from a British steamer recently attacked by two submarines were mercilessly shelled by one of the U-boats, two men being killed and seven others wounded. The State Department was advised to-day in Consular despatches. One other man was killed before the crew abandoned the steamer, which carried a number of Americans.

One of the men killed by the shelling of the boats was James A. Tringor, a horseman of Roanoke, Va., while another American, Frank Donohue, a horseman of Philadelphia, was among the wounded. The other Americans were saved. The date and place of the attack were not disclosed.