

NEW DEVICES CUT TOLL OF U-BOATS

Admiral Benson Tells of Methods Adopted to Foil Submarines.

EDISON INVENTION IN USE

Smoke Bombs and Smoke Screens Are Proving Effective—Camouflage Employed to Surprising Extent.

Washington.—An encouraging account of the success of the devices being used by American ships as a means of escaping or destroying German submarines is given by Admiral Benson, chief of operations of the navy. Several of the methods under trial at present, one of them the invention of Thomas A. Edison, the admiral described as invaluable to describe, but he discussed without reserve the devices in general use on merchant ships and naval vessels.

It was admitted that the naval convoy furnished the most effective safeguard against the submarine. Admiral Benson thought that the number of convoys ships sunk was even less than the average up to a month ago, when it was estimated that only one-half of 1 per cent fell victim to the submarine. The impossibility of conveying more than a small per cent of the merchant fleet leaving American shores, however, has made necessary the adoption of other protective measures.

Devices Employed.

Among those most in use on merchant ships, the admiral said, were "smoke bombs" and smoke screens. Camouflage also is being employed to a surprising extent, but particularly on naval vessels. The smoke bombs are merely containers filled with chemicals which when cast overboard throw off a dense black smoke, obscuring the ship from an attacking submarine.

A great variety of experiments in camouflage have been tried on naval vessels. They have been painted every hue of the rainbow that might tend to merge the ship in its background and make it indistinguishable to investigating periscopes. Admiral Benson said many of these devices had been demonstrated to be of great merit. Warships, too, are equipped with detectors which indicate the proximity of other ships.

More and more of the merchant ships, of course, are being armed so as to be able to give a good account of themselves in encounters with the U-boats, and experiments constantly are going on in the navy to improve the weapons of offense employed against the submarine. A special endeavor is being made to perfect the operation of depth charges so that it may be possible more frequently to "pot" the U-boats as they submerge or as they run along with only their periscopes showing.

Balloons are employed on the ships for observation purposes, but their use is not at all new.

It was said today, in contradiction of a recent interesting story, that no invention had been perfected in the United States navy which would enable an attacked ship to deflect the course of a torpedo once it was fired. This report, according to Admiral Benson, had no foundation whatever.

Bigger Submarines.

Another report which has been making the rounds is that German submarines recently have been making it a practice of springing all passenger ships they encounter. The only basis for this belief, it was said, is the fact that fewer passenger ships have been sunk. They have been attacked, however, but in most cases have escaped.

There have been no German submarines near the American coast since this nation entered the war, so far as the navy department has learned. A submarine has been sighted nearby in mid-Atlantic, but that is the nearest approach one is known to have made.

The navy department has evidence that Germany is increasing the size of her submarines nearly to the proportion of small cruisers. This evidence was obtained by ocular observation, in part, and also from the fact that the submarines now are mounting guns of nearly six inches in bore. Fragments of shells falling on merchant ships have disclosed the size of the guns.

HAS PERFECT BRAIN: BECOMES AN AVIATOR

Houston.—Thomas James Abernethy of West Pembroke, Me., whom the late Professor Maensterberg found to be usually perfect, is one of 500 New England candidates selected for instruction as aviators. He heads the list—but it is arranged alphabetically.

Anomalies of War Prices.

Kansas City.—It is a rather extraordinary fact that in some parts of the Southwest wheat is fed to hogs, being cheaper than corn—which is now \$2.05 a bushel, and scarce at that. This practice is not general, however, as there is a sentiment against using wheat for such purposes.

RABBIT SAUSAGE IS LATEST

Farmers' Wives in Oklahoma Are Advised to Turn Pest to Good Use.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Jack rabbit sausage will be a new delicacy in Oklahoma as a result of the war. In fact a few farmers in the western part of the state last winter found a substitute as palatable as the real article.

At a meeting of farmers' wives in Kiska county, Mrs. Ida Gregory, county woman agent, discussed the efficacy of canning soy beans. One woman suggested that the beans were hard to raise owing to the raids of rabbits. This objection was quickly discounted by another woman, who exclaimed:

"Keep the rabbits away until your beans are a foot high! Then get a shotgun and let them come. Last year we had jack rabbit sausage the season through. By mixing a bit of pork the sausage really is better than that made entirely from pork."

STEAL MORE CHINESE SEALS

Prominent Official of the Republic Disappears With the Presidential Stamps.

Peking.—Peking is much agitated over the disappearance of official seals. When President Li Yuan-hung was forced to give up the presidency, Gen. Ting-Kwan, the keeper of the presidential seals, took them to Shanghai. Another prominent official has now disappeared with the seals of the house of representatives. When the attempt at non-martial restoration had been defeated and Premier Tian Chi-fu declared the republic had been restored, there was much consternation because of the disappearance of the seals of the republic. Gen. Ting Kwan was arrested in Shanghai, and after a hard legal struggle was brought back to Peking, together with the missing presidential seals, and is to have a hearing before a Chinese court.

SCORNED, MAKES SPY CHARGE

Widow Proves Undoing of Kampman, Formerly in German Consulate in Chicago.

Los Angeles.—A scorned woman and an elderly one at that—proved the undoing of Dr. Maximilian Kampman, aged only twenty-eight, formerly of the German consulate in Chicago, who was arrested here on a presidential warrant as a German spy. At least so declared Dr. A. S. Ash of Los Angeles. "A year and a half ago Doctor Kampman was treating a widow," said Doctor Ash. "He took a great deal of interest in trying to restore her health—so much so that it seemed she became infatuated with him. He tried to wave her aside, but in vain."

WORKS FOR LIBERTY LOAN



A striking example of the value of women in helping America in the great fight is Miss Antoinette Funk, a member of the woman's committee of the council of national defense.

This photograph shows her hard at work in her office in the treasury building where she is doing wonderful work in the interests of the Liberty loan. She is executive vice-chairman of the women's Liberty loan committee, of which Mrs. McAdoo is the chairman. She was asked to take the post by Secretary McAdoo because of her powers of logical appeal, her ability as a speaker and her untiring activity in any work connected with the great cause for which America is fighting.

Health of Dr. Michaelis Bad.

Amsterdam.—A Berlin telegram to the Rheinische Westfälische Zeitung of Essen says that the state of health of the German chancellor, Doctor Michaelis, "leaves very much to be desired."

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Malheur.

James S. Stark and Marietta Stark, Plaintiffs, vs.

Minnie B. Smith, George F. Smith, Dora S. Lockett, F. M. Lockett, F. D. Stark, Belle Stark, J. P. Stark, Inez Stark, Rary Stark, Selby Stark, Annetta McDonald, and Charles McDonald, Defendants.

To Dora S. Lockett, F. M. Lockett, F. D. Stark, Belle Stark, Selby Stark, Annetta McDonald and Charles McDonald, being seven of the above named defendants:

In the Name of the State of Oregon:

You and each of you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit on or before the first day of November, 1917, the same being the last day of the time prescribed by order of the court directing service of summons in said suit to be made upon you by publication, and if you fail so to answer, for want thereof, the plaintiffs will apply to said court for the relief demanded in the said complaint, to-wit:

For a decree of said court quieting plaintiff's title to the North Half of Northwest quarter of Section 14, and North half of Northeast quarter of Section 15, Township 15 South, Range 44 E. W. M., in Malheur County, Oregon, and adjudging that you and each of you have no estate or interest in said lands, and that plaintiff's title therein is good and valid, and for all other relief demanded in said complaint.

You are further notified that this summons is served upon you by publication under and by virtue of an order of the Hon. Dalton Biggs, Judge of this Court, which said order was made and entered in said cause on the 15th day of September, 1917, and directed that this summons be published once each week for six successive weeks in the "Ontario Argus," commencing with the issue of September 20, 1917, of said newspaper. First publication is on Sept. 20, 1917, and last publication is on Nov. 1st, 1917.

MCCULLOCH & WOOD, Residing at Ontario, Oregon, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

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DEAD TOWNS AND HIGH TAXES

Home Disloyalty is the Cause of Decay.

WHAT GREAT NAPOLEON SAID

Should Tax Vices Instead of Property. In a Rich, Prosperous Community Taxes Are No Burden—in a Community Where the Local Town is Dead Taxes Are High.

What a benefit the government would render the state, the city, the village and hamlet if it would but tax vices instead of property! Bonaparte said he found vices very profitable. He got \$5,000,000 annually from the lovers of brandy, and he wanted to know what virtue would pay him that much.

Taxes Increasing Each Year. Taxes are the showy of the state, and they are indeed heavy, but if those laid by the government were the only ones we had to pay we might more easily discharge them, but we have others, and much more grievous to some of us.

We are taxed twice as much by our ignorance, three times as much by our disloyalty and four times as much by our folly, and from these taxes the commissioners cannot ease or deliver us by allowing an abatement.

The state, county and town levy and exact a certain tax from every piece of property located within their boundaries, the amount depending upon the official requirements. In a rich, prosperous community, where marketing and manufacturing lend their stimulating influences, taxes are low. A community where the local town is dead taxes necessarily are high.

The explanation is easy. The town which is prosperous has successful merchants with large and valuable stocks of goods; it has manufacturing plants and industrial enterprises of great worth; it has newspapers, banking houses and hotels, and above all, it is a marketing center. The large amount and the high value placed upon this property materially decrease the tax demands made upon the farmer in that vicinity.

Streets Paved With Jimson Weeds. Then take the other town, the dead town. What are the cause and effect? The cause is lack of patronage, lack of industrial pride, disloyalty and ignorance of one's own condition and best interests. The effect? The town has become a "jay" town. In the streets have grown Jimson weeds, the sidewalks have gone to decay, the stores are vacant, and an air of poverty and disappatation prevails.

In this latter town and the surrounding community taxes are high, property values have decreased, and altogether it is an undesirable place to live in, and the disposition of such property is an impossible feat.

As we stand and survey the ruins of a once prosperous and promising city we turn to the once successful retail merchant, now standing in the door of his empty store, and ask for the answer.

On the Altar of Greed. They sacrificed their own interests and their own towns on the altar of greed and misunderstanding.

The farmer should easily comprehend that when a stock of goods in a store is depleted one-half or more it cannot be taxed for more than its value, and in case the merchant for lack of patronage is forced to retire altogether from business then there remains nothing to be taxed but the building. And what can it be taxed at provided a tenant who is willing to take a chance with his money cannot be found? Eventually the farmer will have to pay the taxes. This merchant formerly paid, and if the farmer continues throwing his patronage to outside concerns he will continue to reduce local values and increase his taxes.

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