

BRITISH FEET EVER ON ALERT FOR FOE

Huge Concentrated Power Vibrates With Energy Awaiting an Emergency.

SHIPS ARE BATTLE-MARKED

Associated Press Correspondent Escorted on Tour of Inspection of Famous War Vessels at Rendezvous of Navy.

LONDON, Jan. 9.—Under escort of officers assigned by the Admiralty, a correspondent of the Associated Press had the first opportunity to visit one of the great naval bases of the coast where battleships, destroyers and submarines are assembled for their watch over the North sea and from which point the main-going convoys of the Dardanelles.

It was an impressive sight of centralized power and alert readiness with hundreds of battle-scarred cruisers stretching seaward and headed by the famous Arcturion, back of them a vast fleet of destroyers, then a countless number of submarines of the latest D and E type, which have recently performed brilliant work from the Dardanelles to the Bosphorus.

The day was typical of the rigors the British fleet is now experiencing in the North Sea, with heavy rains, a north wind cutting, the little fishing villages on the coast had been transformed into a vast naval rendezvous.

All Are in Readiness. Here also were the "mother" ships, ranged in long lines along the coast, ready to receive the fighting children as they came from a raid or battle.

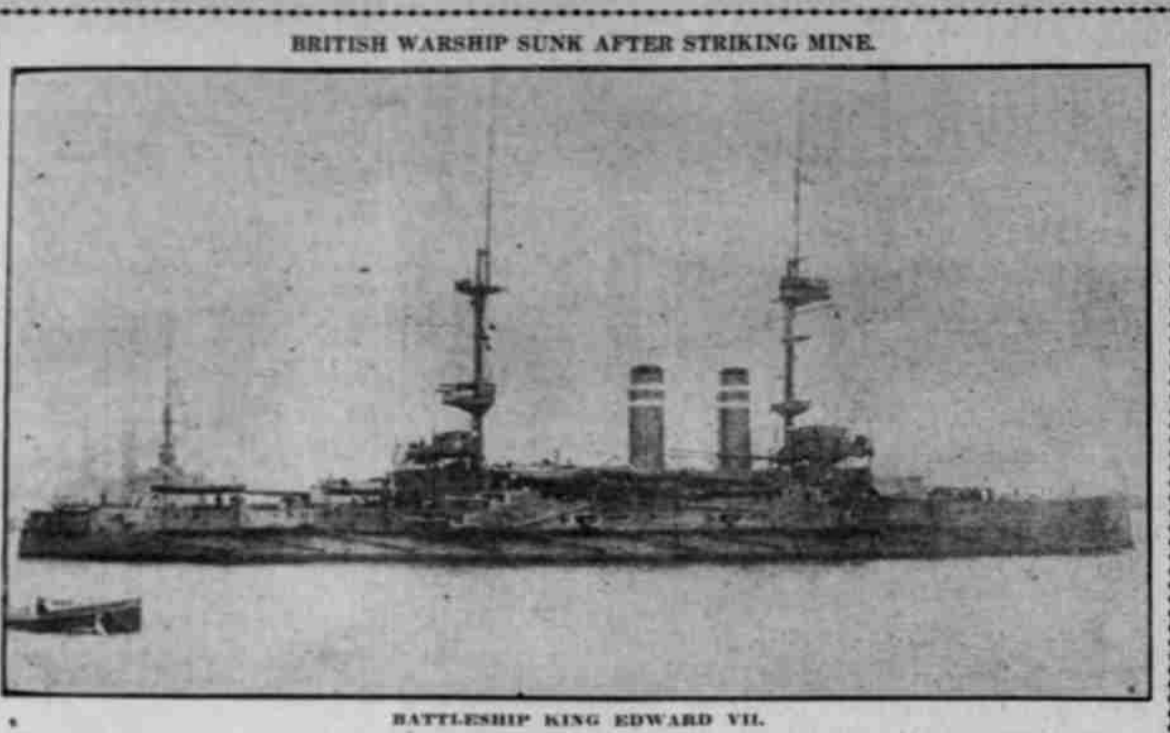
The huge establishment was vibrant with energy, and in the harbor submarines were coming back from their work, hydro-aeroplanes were maneuvering, and black smoke from the funnels of the cruisers and destroyers told of their readiness to dash out to sea.

The Arcturion and the light cruiser squadron here returned from search of a German fleet which was said to have ventured out from the Kiel Canal. Nothing had been seen of the German ships.

One of the officers was in command of the torpedo tubes when they fired the deadly torpedo which sank the German cruiser Blücher and sent her to the bottom in the great fight of last January. He pointed out how the tubes worked.

Blücher's Conqueror Talks. "First we let her sink," he said, "and then this one. It was this one that hit the Blücher amidships. She was lying off about 1800 yards. The thing that impressed me after we hit her was the deadly stillness. It was terribly still until the great ship threw up her bow, turned clean over and sank."

"Yes, this is the one that did it," and he pointed the terrible death-dealing engine affectionately, as if it were his child, as in truth, it had been since he laid the Blücher low.



BRITISH WARSHIP SUNK AFTER STRIKING MINE.

BATTLESHIP KING EDWARD VII.

STARS DELAY PEACE

Astrologer Says War Cannot End Before June 12 or 13.

FORD AUSPICES UNLUCKY

Fact That Mars is in Leo Makes It Highly Improbable That British Lion Will Be Weaned for Some Time Yet.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—The only astrologer, so far as is known, who saw the coming of the European conflict several weeks before war was declared, was E. Edward Johnson, mathematician, electrician and chemist, of Detroit, Mich.

In June, 1914, Mr. Johnson wrote a letter, calling attention to the fact that the planets presented difficulties in Europe, and that the countries affected were Serbia, Austria and Russia. He added that the situation was most threatening for Europe's peace, but hoped it could be adjusted by diplomacy.

When questioned recently regarding his prediction for 1916, Mr. Johnson said that after careful mathematical calculation he sees peace by June 12 or June 13, 1916, not before.

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BATTLESHIP IS SUNK

King Edward VII, of British Navy, Strikes Mine.

ALL OF CREW ARE SAVED

Admiralty Says Vessel Was Abandoned to Fate Because of Heavy Seas—Complement of Men Is Given as 777.

LONDON, Jan. 9.—The British battleship King Edward VII has been sunk after striking a mine. The entire crew was saved. This was announced today by the Admiralty in the following statement:

"H. M. S. King Edward VII has struck a mine. Owing to the heavy sea she had to be abandoned and sank shortly afterward. The ship's company was taken off without any loss of life. Only two men were injured."

The King Edward VII was a battleship of 16,250 tons, laid down in March, 1902. She was 452 feet long, 78 feet beam and 28 feet draught. She had four 12-inch, four 8.2-inch and 19 6-inch guns in her main battery, and was equipped with four torpedo tubes, submerged. Her speed on her trial trip was 19 knots. She had a complement of 777 men.

Another pang to the British public will be caused by the announcement last night of the loss of the battleship King Edward VII, which has been blown up by a mine. The British official statement on this subject does not reveal the scene of the action, and merely says that the disaster occurred in a heavy sea, despite which the entire crew was saved before the ship went down.

The King Edward VII represented an investment of nearly £1,600,000, and was one of the finest of the last class of pre-dreadnoughts, corresponding in general to the American ships of the New Jersey and Nebraska type, and was only slightly older than the Natal, which was sunk by an internal explosion about a week ago.

On the west and east fronts there has been no noteworthy change in the portance. The German communication announces that the Germans have completed the recapture of positions on Hartman's-Wellerkopf, taken by the French a few days before Christmas. Paris admits loss of a summit to the south.

Greek correspondents continue to assert that the Bulgarians and Germans are hastening plans for an attack on Saloniki.

England's internal affairs are quiet, pending the re-establishing of Parliament. There will be a full-dress debate on the completion bill Tuesday, with David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, and Arthur Henderson, Labor member, who has just resigned from the Cabinet, as the probable star speakers.

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"A sort of self-government had to be created under government supervision. The number of new chemical factories built is extraordinary. Innumerable side issues were created, such as the transport of cars which came from the outland."

"German industry is free of debt," proudly continued Dr. Rathenau. "Commerce and industry are in full bloom. We have most valuable experience which can all be used when peace comes to us again. It seems to me that the only aim of the English in this war is to destroy Germany."

"The arrival of a baby in the household completely changes the entire aspect of the future. But in the meantime, during the anxious period of expectancy, there is a splendid remedy known as 'Mother's Friend' that does wonders. It is for external use, relieves the pains of muscle expansion, soothes and quiets the nerves, extends its influence to the internal organs and removes to a great extent the tendency to worry and over-activity for the mother, has no drug effect whatsoever and for this reason must exert a most beneficial influence upon those functions directly connected with motherhood. In a very interesting book the subject is freely discussed and a copy will be mailed free to all expectant mothers by Bradfield Regulator Co., 406 Lamar Bldg., Atlanta, Ga. Get a bottle of 'Mother's Friend' today of any drugist. Use as directed and you will know why mothers for nearly half a century have used and recommended this splendid aid to motherhood. Their letters are messages of cheer, that breathe comfort in every word."

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