

BRITISH LEADERS STILL OPTIMISTIC

Hopes Not Yet Dashed Despite Increase in Diver Sinkings.

LOSSES NEARLY BALANCED

Margin Between Building and Destruction of Ships Now Slight. Germans Forced to Change Submarine Tactics.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—Despite the fairly large number of sinkings reported this week, there is no decrease in optimism among those who know the submarine war situation, who see no reason for modifying or altering Premier Lloyd George's statement of November 20 that there is no longer any fear of the submarine proving a decisive factor in the war.

Events since November 20, in fact, have tended to increase rather than decrease the confidence with which the Premier spoke. The month of November was a red-letter month in the anti-U-boat war for three reasons. First, the loss of tonnage during the month was the lowest since the unrestricted submarine campaign began. Second, the sinkings of German submarines were the greatest ever recorded in a single month. Third, the launchings of new merchantmen from British yards came within measurable distance of equaling the loss of tonnage by submarine attack.

The phrase "within measurable distance" is that used by the government spokesman in the House of Commons, and the slender margin indicated by that phrase is one of the chief reasons for the prevailing optimism. The margin between the sinkings and launchings was so slight that the Germans had sunk one of two less ships than would actually have been more tonnage launched than sunk.

Losses Nearly Balanced. As to the number of submarines destroyed during the same period, it is not permitted to give the actual figures, but this much may be said: The sinkings of submarines during November were "within measurable distance" of the largest number the German U-boat campaign has ever turned out in the same period.

This destruction of submarines was by no means due to any special run of luck, but to the development of a detailed, comprehensive campaign involving many devices and embracing many phases—a campaign which will grow more efficient rather than less so as time goes on, according to expert opinion.

The first days of December have maintained the good records of November as far as the U-boat sinkings are concerned. Moreover, it is inevitable that the British-American success in this direction will find a reflection in the morale of the submarine crews, making them less confident and less efficient at the same time that the British and American naval men are becoming more confident and more efficient.

Submarine Tactics Changed. The convoy system of protection for shipping which the allies have adopted and perfected has forced the submarine campaigners to alter some of their plans. It is no longer possible for the submarines to make the same unrestricted merchantmen and pot them in leisurely fashion. The U-boat shows its perils nowadays at great peril when within torpedoing distance of a considerable number in the neighborhood and if any one of the scores of sinkings in the night that beset the submarine's chances of escape from the convoying destroyers are slim.

The German reply to the convoy system is to send submarines out in groups, which attack the convoy simultaneously, in the hope that in the resulting confusion considerable damage can be done and an easy escape be effected. The system of group attack, while it occasionally has been effective, is very costly when it fails, for it spells the doom not merely of one U-boat, but of perhaps three or four.

When the story of the submarine war can be written fully, some of the most thrilling tales will be told of the wonderful accomplishments of one or two destroyers against a whole squadron of submarines.

DRAFT BOARDS READY

CLERKS WILL BEGIN MAILING THE QUESTIONNAIRES TOMORROW.

Five Per Cent Will Be Sent Each Day. Seven Days Given Registrants to Return Document.

Mailing of the questionnaires which every registrant must promptly fill out will be started on schedule tomorrow by the corps of clerks employed by the U. S. draft boards of Multnomah County. In making ready for the mailing a vast amount of preparation has been necessary, but the workers at the general headquarters in the Courthouse yesterday declared that they will be "prepared."

Under the system arranged by the Government but 5 per cent of the number of questionnaires in each district will be mailed each day.

Upon receiving the questionnaire the registrant must lose no time in getting it properly filled out, acknowledged before a person authorized to administer oaths and returned to the district board in the envelope provided. Excluding Sundays and holidays, but seven days are allowed for return of the answered questionnaire.

Whenever a registrant comes upon a question he does not understand, or when he finds that he needs advice upon some point, he has only to get in touch with the legal advisory board of his district, or some member or associate member of this board, in order to have the troublesome point explained. This legal assistance costs nothing.

FREEDOM LOOMS BRIGHT

Husband Willing to Pay Handsomely for Divorce.

In her suit for divorce from Fred Kroeger filed yesterday, Mary Kroeger charges that he married her to eliminate the expense of hiring a housekeeper, despite the fact that he has \$8000 in Lane County banks, and asks for \$50 a month alimony. They were married March 24, 1917.

Laura Ellis expresses objection to the untidy habits of Seth Ellis in her suit. They were married in 1901 and have

three children, whose custody she seeks. If he can't get a divorce from Edith Smith, Jasper Smith is willing to give her his property valued at \$6000, he said yesterday, in filing a divorce action on grounds of cruelty. He is also willing to give her all their household furniture in exchange for his legal freedom. They were married in 1897. He alleges cruelty, and says she has refused to speak to him for extended periods.

Dolly Crawford wants a divorce from Glen Crawford on grounds of cruelty against Alexander Shaw. They were married in 1899, and the husband is alleged to have deserted her without provocation.

CITY WATCH PARTY PLAN

PORTLAND TO SING OUT OLD, SING IN NEW AT AUDITORIUM.

Committee Appointed to Arrange New Year's Eve Celebration; Doors To Open at 9:45 P. M.

Portland this year will sing out the old and sing in the new. Mayor Baker announced yesterday that plans have been started for a big community sing to be held at the public auditorium, New Year's eve under the auspices of the City of Portland. The public will be invited to participate in bidding farewell to 1917 and welcoming 1918 with patriotic songs and music.

The affair will be called a "Community Watch Party." The Mayor has named the following committee on programme: Mrs. Thomas Carrick Burke, chairman; Harry Corbett, W. D. Wheelwright, Miss Mary F. Ison, Madam Lucie Valair, Miss Mamie H. Flynn, W. F. Woodward, L. H. Alderman, Rabbi Wise and Mrs. Warren E. Thomas.

Doors to the building will be opened at 9:45 P. M. and at 10:30 P. M. the programme will be started. It will be entirely musical, the plan being to have leading singers to render solos and to lead in the singing of patriotic airs until midnight. There will be selections on the pipe organ.

The programme will be worked out by the committee and will be announced within a few days. No admission will be charged.

SALEM MAN IS WINNER

WILLIAM BLAKE, JR., GETS CORN SHOW SWEEPSTAKES.

Displays at State Capital Said to Be as Fine as Any Found in Old Corn-Growing States.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special).—The Marion County Corn Show got into full swing today, the official opening being somewhat delayed owing to lateness in getting the exhibits into place. But it is believed to be the best corn show ever held in Salem and the corn on display is as fine as could be found in the best exhibits of the old corn-growing states.

L. J. Chapin has charge of the show, which will close Saturday. In addition to the corn itself, the products from corn are shown in liberal exhibits. With one exception award of prizes at the corn show were completed today by W. R. Radford, judge of the exhibit, the sweepstakes going to William Blake, Jr., of Salem, who has won many prizes at Portland and St. Paul shows. Among the prize winners are:

First division: Best 100 ears Yellow Dent—First, William Blake, Jr., Salem, 114; second, A. R. Southwick, Salem, 36; third, J. S. McDonald, St. Paul, Or., 54.

Best 100 ears White Dent—First, Harry Hughes, Woodburn, 510; second, Harry Hughes, Woodburn, 36; third, A. E. Hughes, Woodburn, 34.

GRANT PIONEER KILLED

GEORGE GUNDLACH PINNED UNDER OVERTURNED WAGON.

Victim of Accident Conducted Store at Canyon City in Early Days—Sons Live in Portland.

CANYON CITY, Dec. 13.—(Special).—George Gundlach, pioneer resident of Grant County, was found dead Tuesday evening near Prairie City. He was hauling freight to Canyon City and it is presumed he sustained the fatal injuries when his wagon overturned.

Funeral services were conducted on Thursday afternoon by Henry Young, pastor of the John Day Methodist Church. He was buried beside his wife in the Canyon City cemetery.

Mr. Gundlach is survived by a son, George Gundlach, of Portland, and a sister, Mrs. Julius Norman, of John Day. Mr. Gundlach conducted a merchandise store here in the early days, later engaging in farming a few miles west of town. For the past few years he had made his home with his daughter at John Day. He was a native of Germany and was 73 years old.

CAMP SITES NOT SELECTED

Work of Naming New Student-Officers Going Ahead Rapidly.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Sites for most of the officers' training camps of the third series to open January 5 are yet to be selected by the War Department, due to the fact that the schools will be attached to Army divisions which may be moved at any time.

Meanwhile the work of selecting candidates from the non-commissioned officers and enlisted men of the regular Army and National Guard is going ahead rapidly. The only civilians considered are graduates from schools including military training in the curriculum.

ALLEGED EVADER IS SHOT

South Dakota Rancher Said to Have Used Seditious Language.

ABERDEEN, S. D., Dec. 13.—Frank Lehman, 28 years old, said to be a draft evader, was brought here late today by Captain A. Harkins of the local home guard, shot through both legs, as the result of a battle with members of the home guards, who had gone to his ranch to arrest him for alleged seditious utterances.

His brothers, Fred, 30 years old, and Martin, 18, are under arrest and detained in the county jail.

SEEK TO TALKS OKAY

Serious Shortage in Country Viciously Explained.

DISTRIBUTORS ARE BLAMED

By Some Railroads Are Held Responsible for Situation—Governor of Ohio Rebuked by Dr. Garfield.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The coal situation came in for denunciation in the Senate today by Senators Smith of Michigan, Wheeler of Massachusetts and Pittman of Nevada, and Pomerene of Ohio. Senator Smith ascribed it to placing inexperienced men in charge of distribution, while Senator Pittman declared it due to the railroads.

Senator Pomerene declared he believed the railroads, coal operators and sometimes the miners were in part responsible.

Fuel Administrator Garfield informed Governor Cox of Ohio, that he would not be permitted to interfere with distribution of coal in Ohio under the direction of the state fuel administration.

Governor Cox Rebuked. Dr. Garfield sent to Governor Cox the following telegram: I must respectfully but firmly request that you do not interfere with the orderly distribution of coal in Ohio under orders issued by my authority to Homer W. Johnson, Federal fuel administrator for Ohio. He has full authority to act, and F. C. Baird is co-operating with him. I must insist that the state authorities do not attempt to interfere with the action of the United States fuel administrator.

Any pressing need for coal in Ohio that Governor Cox can show will be met immediately, Dr. Garfield said, by the fuel administration. Seizure of coal by the Governor, reported in press dispatches, will only bring confusion and add to the difficulties of the situation, Dr. Garfield declared.

Reduction in the number of communication trains on steam roads running out of the larger cities during non-rush hours was advised by the fuel administration today as a coal conservation measure. Suburban communities were asked to acquiesce in cover no great hardships are involved.

Arkansas Strike Ended. A strike of power plant employees in Fort Smith, Ark., which has stopped production in coal mines producing 4000 tons of coal daily was brought to an end early today at the request of the fuel administration. Seizure of coal by the administration has been agreed to return to work immediately and discuss the differences with the management.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 13.—Investigations by Federal District Attorney Abell have disclosed that there are some 80 cars of coal in railroad yards here awaiting movement and that miners and mine operators are working only three or four days a week because of a car shortage. Mr. Bell would not say what action he contemplated when that report, if any, will make to the Federal fuel administration.

GULFPORT, Miss., Dec. 13.—Shortages in cities along the Mississippi Gulf Coast threaten to interfere with the operation of power plants, according to officials of the Gulf Coast Electric Company here, which operates trolley and lighting systems along the seaboard.

RELIEF MOVEMENT IS STARTED

New York Officials Plan for Coal for Sick and Poor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Health and market officials of New York City took steps today to relieve the sick and the poor from the serious effects of the coal shortage. In a letter to Dr. H. A. Garfield, Federal Fuel Administrator, Dr. Haven Emerson, head of the Department of Health, requested that he be permitted to heat the homes of the sick, who, he said, were dying in increasing numbers as a result of inadequate heat.

An appeal for the poor was made by Dr. Henry Moskowitz, Commissioner of Public Markets, who said in a letter to Acting Mayor Frank L. Bowling, that small families were taking advantage of the shortage to sell coal by indefinite measures and weights at prices which would amount to more than \$30 a ton.

Announcement by a coal firm in Long Island City that coal would be sold to the poor in 100-pound lots for 50 cents drew such a throng that it was necessary to call police reserves to maintain order. More than 150 tons of coal were sold in 100-pound lots.

COURT ERROR SUSPECTED

Man Arrested for Murder for Which Another Serves Sentence.

ALBION, N. Y., Dec. 13.—Erwin King was arrested today charged with murder in the first degree on information by C. E. Waite, an Assistant Attorney-General of the state. King is accused of the murder of the merchant Charles Phelps and Margaret Wolcott, for which Charles F. Stielow, seven times granted a stay of execution by Governor Whitman, is serving a life sentence. He pleaded not guilty.

King was then taken before the grand jury which is investigating the Phelps murder and the circumstances leading to the conviction of Stielow and his nephew, Nelson Green. King was before the jury all afternoon. "I'll tell them everything," the horse trader and peddler said, as he walked into the room. No indictment has been reported.

Camp Lewis Notes.

CAMP LEWIS, Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 13.—Sergeant Robert T. Kane, Company B, 316th military police, who, before coming to Camp Lewis, was a draftsman and a moving-picture magnate, has been promoted to Sergeant-Major, in charge of trains and police. It is announced that promotion was given as reward for the able performance of a difficult and peculiar task to which he was assigned, the nature of which is kept secret.

Sergeant Kane is a draftsman, vice-president and general manager of eight moving-picture corporations, capital of which aggregates \$5,000,000. He comes from California.

C. J. McNaughton, Company D, 363d Infantry, left tonight for San Francisco to be relieved by local officers on account of heart trouble. He is a well-known actor, and has taken the lead in vaudeville entertainments during the two months he has been at camp.

The development of several cases of measles has led to the quarantine of nearly every company of the 361st Infantry, the members of which are mostly Washington men.

In order to accommodate the soldiers with adequate places to amuse themselves during rainy weather, the Y. M.

PASTOR GETS LEAVE

Appreciation of Service Expressed by Church.

DR. DYOTT TO GO SOUTH

First Congregational Grants Minister Vacation Until End of March; Nervous Breakdown Suffered.

Appreciation of his services and anxiety concerning his health were voiced in resolutions adopted last night by the annual meeting of the congregation of the First Congregational Church, which awarded Dr. Luther R. Dyott, the pastor, a leave of absence on full pay until March 31, 1918.

Several weeks ago Dr. Dyott suffered a nervous breakdown, due to the incessant nature of his zeal for the church welfare. His failure to make satisfactory progress toward recovery gravely alarmed leaders of the congregation. The leave of absence granted last night is the direct expression of solicitude for his welfare.

The resolutions, adopted by unanimous vote, were presented by William F. Norman. They were drafted after a conference held last week between members of the congregation and the board of deacons. Mr. Norman informed the assembly that their pastor's illness was of more serious nature than at first believed and that his physician, Dr. William O. Spencer, earnestly had recommended an extended rest from church responsibilities. The main text of the resolutions is as follows:

Whereas, Dr. Luther R. Dyott, the pastor of this church, during the past two years, by his faithful, constant and ardent devotion to the duties of his office, during which time he has rendered the church invaluable service, has become ill in health, and has suffered a nervous collapse; and

Whereas, a complete rest from the duties of his office is absolutely essential for the restoration of his health; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the members of his church, do request the board of deacons to grant our pastor, Dr. Luther R. Dyott, a vacation to cover the period from date and including March 31, 1918, with full pay at the present rate.

It was further decided, in view of the beneficial effects that will result from Dr. Dyott's absence, and the sympathy and concern of his congregation, that a copy of the resolution be taken to him today by his physician, Dr. Spencer.

It is probable that Dr. Dyott will leave Portland within a few days, seeking some congenial haven, presumably in the South, where he will rest and recuperate. For the next few weeks his pulpit will be supplied locally, but the board of deacons intends to take action soon to fill the vacancy with a regular pastor during the period of Dr. Dyott's absence.

The session at which the resolutions were adopted was that of the church proper, presided over by J. D. Ripley, chairman of the board of deacons. It was followed by the annual business session of the congregation, an incorporated body which transacts the business of the church.

The election of officers and the hearing of various reports were postponed to an adjourned meeting to be held early in January.

HUNT FUNERAL ARRANGED

Widow of Former Chief of Police Lived in Portland 28 Years.

Funeral services in honor of Mrs. Julia M. Hunt, widow of Charles H. Hunt, former chief of police, will be held at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon in the chapel of the Edward Holman Company. Mrs. Hunt was 73 years of age and had been a resident of Portland for 28 years. She died Wednesday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles W. King, 786 Multnomah street.

Church, will conduct the services. The body will be interred at the Portland Crematorium.

MR. MILLER'S RECOVERY SLOW

H. B. Miller, dean of the School of Commerce at the University of Oregon, who was found unconscious by Mrs. Miller Monday night in the garage at his home, 509 East Twenty-third street North, is improving steadily, though physicians say that his recovery is likely to be slow. Mr. Miller is believed to have been injured by a fall. He was formerly United States Consul at Shanghai, and has been a resident of Oregon for many years.

COUPLE HELD FOR ASSAULT

Man and Wife Charged With Offense Against Little Girl.

Elmer L. Rowland, 40, and wife, Olga, 25, charged jointly with a statutory offense following an alleged attack upon a 15-year-old girl, waived examination in Municipal Court yesterday afternoon and were held to the grand jury. Rowland is held for \$1500 bail, and Mrs. Rowland for \$500 bail. It is said that the girl, who is the daughter of a neighbor, came to the Rowland house, in Lentz, Monday night, and that Mrs. Rowland aided her husband in committing a felony.

MEN'S RESORT CONCERT TOMORROW

Musical entertainment will be given at the Men's Resort tomorrow night at 8 o'clock by Mary Ellen Mullan, of Milwaukie, Or. The concert will be open to the public.

CENTRALIA MAN CALLED

REV. LLOYD E. DORRIS ASKED TO COME TO PORTLAND.

Hope Presbyterian Church Members Vote Unanimously to Give Pulpit to Young Minister.

Hope Presbyterian Church in a business session officially called the Rev. Lloyd E. Dorris, of Centralia, Wash., to its pastorate to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. S. W. Seemann, who went to Oregon City, First Church.

Dr. J. Montgomery served as moderator and the meeting was carried on with great enthusiasm. The call for Rev. Mr. Dorris was unanimous. About two weeks ago the prospective pastor was a visitor in Portland and was invited to preach at Hope Church. He had been in the city for some time and had given up Mr. Dorris, said Dr. Montgomery last night. "He is decidedly popular here. This is a new field of activity for him, and he is a live young minister. We hope he will come to Portland."

The new election has been in Centralia for six years an old well known among the Presbyterians of the Northwest.

MOOSE ELECTION SPIRITED

R. T. Byrnes New Prelate of Portland Lodge, No. 291.

Portland Lodge, No. 291, Loyal Order of Moose, held an election Wednesday night, the feature of which was the warty contest race between R. T. Byrnes and Paul Y. Eckert for the office of prelate. Mr. Byrnes won by a large margin.

The election became necessary at this time because of the resignation of Bert Youman, formerly dictator, on account of his removal to Montana. According to custom, the filling of this head office of the lodge was accomplished by advancement of the subordinate officers, ranking next in honor.

These promotions, made by unanimous vote, left vacant the prelate's chair, and for the election contest was waged. The voting was done by the Australian ballot system between the hours of 7 and 9 o'clock.

The new elected and promoted officers, who will serve until the regular election in April, are: Allen R. Joy, dictator; Roscoe P. Hurst, vice-dictator; R. T. Byrnes, prelate; George B. Orton, past dictator.

HACKETT FAVORS RISE

Mayor of Oregon City Urges Commission to Consider 6-Cent Fare.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special).—R. C. Hackett, Mayor of Oregon City, has written to the Public Service Commission urging consideration for the application to the Portland Railway, Light and Power Company for a 6-cent fare. "Corporations have to give, and I believe, as servants of the public, you should give the company the consideration it deserves and help it in its hour of need."

Mr. Hackett states that he has known Mr. Griffith, president of the company, for many years, and has spoken for his honesty and trustworthiness stating that "any statements he may have made or makes I believe would be true to the letter."

OFFICIALS VISIT PROJECTS

Eastern Oregon Irrigation Districts Are Investigated on Trip.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special).—Attorney-General Brown and Justice Eugene Lewis have returned from Eastern Oregon, where as members of the Irrigation Securities Commission and the Deschutes Land Board they have been examining into various irrigation projects.

An attorney-general Brown stated that the third series of the Justice Department project showed it to be in thriving condition, with work on a dam and other improvements progressing and in general outlook for the project exceptionally good. The officials also visited the Deschutes project near LaPine. A report will be made to the Deschutes Land Board on this project, with recommendations.

SHEPHERD BOUND OVER

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special).—At the trial of William Culver, a shepherd in Eastern Klamath County, in the Court of Justice of the Peace E. W. Gowen, of this city, defendant was bound over to await the action of the grand jury, and his bonds were fixed in the sum of \$100. It is alleged that Culver took the sheep which were marked with McKendree's brand and placed them with the Killgore band.

GERMAN MAY BE ELIMINATED

ROSEBURG, Ore., Dec. 13.—(Special).—The High School of this city is considering the elimination of German from the courses. Information already has been given out that no new class would be organized the first of next year, but those who have previously taken the subject will be allowed to continue, if they desire.

Come to the Big Store for Your Holiday Slippers at Special Prices! Thousands of Pairs on Sale!

Ladies' \$1.50 Slippers 98c Pair. Ladies' high-cut fur or plush trimmed Felt Jumps by Best. These come in black, brown, wine and grey. All sizes. \$1.50 Slippers now 98c pair.

Ladies' \$2.00 Slippers Now \$1.48 pr. The finest Ladies' Felt Slippers made. Extra high cut. Extra long fur trimmed. Blacks and all the pretty colors. Best \$2.00 Slippers now \$1.48.

Ladies' \$2 Slippers Now \$1.48. The best soft sole made. They come extra high cut, fancy ribbon trimmed, black and colors. Best \$2.00 grade now \$1.48.

Men's \$2.00 Romeos \$1.48. Made of India Kid in brown or black, flexible leather soles—D to EE widths. Sizes 5 to 11.

Men's \$2.50 Slippers \$1.98. Made of extra soft kid, fancy trimmed, turned soles. These come in blacks, tans and browns. Men's \$2.50 Slippers now \$1.98.

Men's High-Cut Felt Slippers 98c. Made in greys and blacks, high-cut felt soles, nice and warm. Price \$1.50.

Knight's SAMPLE SHOE SHOP. Wholesale and Retail. 47th and Alder Sts. Portland, Or.

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Table with 4 columns: NAME, STREET, TOWN, STATE. The table is mostly empty, with only a few entries visible.

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