



TORPEDOBOAT RAID IS DARING EXPLOIT

Two Vessels Make Dash Into Trieste Harbor.

ONE BATTLESHIP SURELY SUNK

Heavy Fog Aids Italians to Surmount Many Obstacles.

RETURN MADE IN SAFETY

Austrians Preparing to Send Battleships With Heavy Guns to Bombard Italian Coastal Positions Reason for Attack.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Two Italian torpedo-boats under Lieutenant-Commander Rizzo composed the force which made the daring raid into the inner harbor at Trieste Sunday night, December 9, and torpedoed two Austrian battleships, one of which was seen to sink. Further details of the exploit were given in dispatches received by the Italian Embassy today.

The raid was planned when it was learned that the Austrians were preparing to send from Trieste two ships of the Monarch type with their 240-millimeter guns, to bombard the Italian coastal positions.

Two Boats Make Daring Dash.

A division of torpedo-boats under Captain Pignatti was assigned to the task and the Captain selected Lieutenant-Commander Rizzo with two boats to make the dash into the harbor, while the remainder of the division kept outside in support.

By slow and silent movements through a heavy fog the little craft reached the extremity of the Muggia pier, where the officer examined the disposition of the numerous obstructions which barred the passage. Mine fields and other obstructions were located and two hours were spent cutting eight large wire cables stretched across the passage. Other obstructions were weighted and sunk sufficiently to permit the boats to pass over them.

Battleships Ride at Anchor.

During all this time Austrian outposts were very near and searchlights were being played on the water, but in spite of this the torpedo boats succeeded in entering the inner port without being sighted.

Two Austrian battleships were discovered at anchor at the further end of the harbor near Point Sabba. Proceeding cautiously, the Italian vessels approached to ascertain whether there were any protecting nets or other obstructions, then took up positions for the attack.

Four Torpedoes Exploded.

Finally, at 2:30 A. M. Monday, the two torpedo boats simultaneously launched four torpedoes aimed at the battleships. All four torpedoes exploded. Rizzo reported that the battleship Wien, nearest the attacking vessels, was observed to sink in five minutes while the other battleship certainly was struck, though, owing to the great distance it was impossible to discover the damage done.

At the sound of the explosions Austrian batteries opened fire and searchlights swept over the waters. The lights located the attacking vessels and the Austrian searchlights were directed to bear on them and torpedoes fired, but the Italians escaped and returned safely to base with the supporting squadron.

CAPTAIN BLUE IS LET DOWN

Commander of Dreadnaught Which Ran Aground Sentenced.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Captain Victor Blue, who commanded an American super dreadnaught which recently ran aground in home waters, was sentenced by court-martial to loss of 20 months, but Admiral Mayo, commander of the Atlantic fleet, recommended that it be reduced to 10.

Captain Blue, one of the best-known younger officers in the Navy, is under review for promotion by the board now in session to recommend some new Admirals.

SUPPLE & BALLIN PLANTS PAYROLL GROWS.

The history of the Supple & Ballin Shipbuilding Corporation and its entrance into the industrial life of this community dates from February 1, 1917, when a force of 150 men began the construction of its shipyards on the East Side. Simultaneously the firm began work on the construction of two ships.

In August following this company also organized the Pacific Marine & Iron Works as an auxiliary corporation. Combined, the two plants now employ 450 men, with a monthly payroll approximating \$70,000. The two properties represent an investment of \$500,000.

At the present time the company has contracts for ships aggregating \$8,500,000.

TROOPS URGED TO REMAIN AT CAMPS

OFFICERS ASKED TO DISCOURAGE HOLIDAY FURLONGS.

Too Many Absences Affect Transportation and Training, Says Secretary Baker.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Commanding officers at camps and cantonments have been instructed to discourage furloughs in large numbers for the Christmas holidays.

Secretary Baker today denied that Christmas furloughs has been forbidden entirely by the War Department, but said they were discouraged both on account of transportation conditions and because training might be seriously affected if many men were absent.

"The people of the Nation will bear this privation, I know," said the Secretary, "in the same fine spirit which has characterized every previous response, when it is understood that the relieving of the railroads from this burden will enable them by so much to concentrate our energies and capacities for the transportation of our resources to the seaboard and to the battle front in France."

LOVE LAUGHS AT STORM

Merry Procession to Vancouver Greta Green Not Abated.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—The wind blew, the rain fell, it was an unusually stormy day, but the merry procession of happy swains and lassies to the County Auditor's office in Vancouver today was not a whit deterred. No less than 11 couples were married here today and a 12th couple was disappointed because a witness refused to appear.

If the present rate is kept up for the remainder of the month a new marriage record will be established for the period of a month.

TAX EXTENSION PROPOSED

Bill Introduced to Revoke Exemption of Members of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Legislation specifically to subject all Federal officials except the President and members of the Supreme Court to the excess profits tax was agreed upon today by the House ways and means committee.

There has been widespread criticism because the "occupational tax" of the war bill lays upon the income of professional and salaried men, when they exceed \$4000, a tax of 3 per cent in addition to the regular income tax, but exempted members of Congress.

SLUG AND ROB DRUGGIST

Unconscious Husband Falls Into Wife's Arms as Door Opens.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Robbers waylaid and slugged O. G. Streuver, well-known druggist, on his own doorstep in Elma last night, knocking him unconscious and getting away with \$60 in cash. Mr. Streuver is in a serious condition today.

He did not see his assailants. His wife, coming to the door, opened it to have her husband fall into her arms, his unconscious body being left against the door by the thieves.

SECOND COURT-MARTIAL ON

Fifteen Negro Soldiers on Trial at Fort Sam Houston.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 17.—The second court-martial of enlisted men of the 24th infantry, negroes, growing out of the riot and mutiny of members of that regiment at Houston, the night of August 13 last, was begun at Fort Sam Houston today.

Fifteen members of companies M and I are defendants and are charged with murder and riotous and mutinous action.

SWISS WILLING TO FIGHT

Neutrality of Country to Be Defended at Any Cost.

GENEVA, Dec. 17.—President Felix Calonder, in the first public speech he has delivered since his recent election, said here today that the Swiss people were ready to pour out their blood against anyone who might attempt to invade their country.

Switzerland, he declared, the President, would defend her neutrality to the end.

FUNERAL IS HELD FOR 200

Many Bodies of Explosion Victims Charred Beyond Recognition.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 17.—Undenied bodies of 200 victims of the explosion disaster here were buried today after public funeral services conducted by Protestant and Catholic clergymen.

Nearly 100 of the bodies were charred beyond recognition.

EX-PRESIDENT IS EXILED

Armed Guard Escorts Former Portugal Executive to Border.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Ex-President Machado of Portugal, who was recently deposed, has been escorted to the frontier by an armed guard and sent on his way to Madrid and Paris in exile, American Minister Burch at Lisbon reported today.

RESOLUTION FOR PROHIBITION WINS

House Measure 282 to 128.

PARTIES ARE EVENLY DIVIDED

Wild Demonstration Follows Speaker's Announcement.

BRYAN AMONG SPECTATORS

Changes to Be Made in Senate Amendment Adopted at Last Session to Conform With House Provision Just Enacted.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Nation-wide prohibition won in the House today, and only the adjustment of a slight difference in resolutions between the House and Senate now stands in the way of submitting to State Legislatures an amendment to the Federal Constitution forbidding the manufacture, sale or importation of intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes in the United States or its territories.

The vote in the House, taken after a day of debate before crowded galleries, was 282 to 128, with the parties dividing almost evenly. The margin for prohibition was just eight votes more than the necessary two-thirds of the membership of the House required for adoption and 26 more than two-thirds of those voting.

Both wets and drys had been predicting victory all day, and it was not until the last few names had been called that the anti-prohibition forces conceded their defeat. When Speaker Clark announced the result the victors were joined by the galleries in such a demonstration as is rarely permitted in the House.

Former Secretary Bryan, an interested spectator nearly all day, appeared on the floor and joined in receiving congratulations with Representative Webb, of North Carolina, who led the fight.

Measures Nearly Identical.

The resolution adopted by the House is identical with that passed by the Senate last August, except that it gives the states seven years instead of six in which to ratify the amendment. Senator Sheppard, author of the resolution, predicted tonight that the Senate would accept the amendment tomorrow. He said he had assurances that the seven-year period would be approved and that he did not believe a rollcall necessary.

The President's approval is not required, and the State Legislatures may act as soon as they please after the signatures of the Vice-President and Speaker Clark have been attached to the resolution.

"It will be submitted tomorrow as a Christmas present to the American people," said Senator Sheppard, "and I

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

GROWTH OF MOVEMENT FOR GERMAN DEMOCRACY TO BE SET FORTH IN THE OREGONIAN BY NOTED WRITER.

The Oregonian will begin tomorrow publication of a series of six articles describing accurately the forces which are at work in Germany to democratize that nation and meet the demand of President Wilson that a government be established whose leaders may be accepted as "men of their word."

The articles are from the pen of George T. Odell, a noted correspondent, who for the past two years has been stationed at Berlin, Copenhagen and Stockholm in close touch with the situation.

Facts which have been little known are divulged by Mr. Odell in this series of articles. Few in the United States realize how far the reform movement in the Kaiser's empire has progressed. These articles will tell Mr. Odell will trace the movement from its beginnings and show with clarity and force how it has waxed and grown and is still doing so. Already, Mr. Odell declares, all Germans but the persons engaged in exploiting the big industries are interested. The war policy of the autocracy has brought disillusionment to the masses of the German people, as will be set forth and explained fully.

During the period in which this series of daily articles are appearing in The Oregonian the Hugh Gibson serial will be suspended, to be resumed as soon as the Odell series is completed.

WILSON REASSURES BRYAN

Resignation of Former Secretary Not Asked For by President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—President Wilson has written former Secretary Bryan a letter to refute the frequently published statement that he asked for the Secretary's resignation because of the celebrated so-called Dumba conversation, in which Mr. Bryan after the sending of the Lusitania note is said to have told the former Austrian Ambassador not to take it too seriously.

BERNSTORFF'S NAME GONE

University of Pittsburgh Revokes Honorary Degree Conferred.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 17.—The name of Count von Bernstorff, former German Ambassador to the United States, was today stricken from the list of those who have received honorary degrees from the University of Pittsburgh by order of the trustees of the institution. The honorary degree, D. D. L., was conferred upon Count von Bernstorff in 1912.

Union County Leads.

Deschutes County, through Chairman H. A. Miller, reported 397; C. R. Higgins, of Astoria, 500; W. B. Dennis, Yamhill campaign manager, 815; Grants Pass, through with 449; Medford with 176, through Alfred S. Carpenter, campaign manager; Lane County had 500 at the close of the day, and Benton County 700, while Gilliam County raised 190 members. Multnomah County raised 130 members. Multnomah County, outside Portland, 99.

On a percentage based on total quota assigned, Union County heads the column with 20 per cent of its work already completed, Deschutes and Gilliam counties tying for second place with 16 per cent. Josephine comes next with

(Concluded on Page 8, Column 3.)

BLAST WIPES OUT FAMILY

North Yakima Woman Receives Word of Sister's Death at Halifax.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Dec. 17.—Mrs. Jean Kellett, of this city, has received a telegram from Halifax, N. S., saying that all the members of the family of her sister, Mrs. J. B. Hillis, were killed in the recent disaster there.

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RED CROSS DRIVE STARTS WITH RUSH

Workers Enthusiastic in Every County.

STORM CAN'T DIM ENERGY

Several Plants Already Report Every Employee Signed.

UNION COUNTY TAKES LEAD

Huge Meter Will Keep Tally Up to Date Every Hour and Will Be on Streets Constantly—Several Meetings Set for Today.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Oregon lays claim to having the first 100 per cent Red Cross Statehouse in the Union. At a meeting this afternoon, presided over by Governor Withycombe, in the House of Representatives, every official and employee in the Statehouse affiliated with the American Red Cross.

The meeting was called by the Governor, who notified the head of all departments that he wished everyone connected with the Statehouse to assemble in the House chamber. No notification was made of the purpose of the meeting, and this resulted in an absolutely unanimous attendance, even the janitors being summoned.

"Oregon has been first in everything," said the Governor, "and now we have an opportunity as a body to be first in the Red Cross. I should like to see that the State House officials and employees made an Oregon record."

The Governor introduced Rev. Mark Gill, manager of the Marion County campaign, who explained the purpose of the Red Cross drive.

Exactly seven minutes was consumed and at the end of that time every one of the more than 200 officials and attaches had either paid for his membership or signed a pledge therefor.

Headquarters of the American Red Cross at Washington were immediately notified.

APPEAL MADE TO EMPLOYERS FOR RED CROSS AID.

Employers who have not been canvassed by representatives of their own business are requested to communicate with Hugh McGuire, chairman, at Red Cross headquarters, so that solicitation of their plants may be conducted, if they desire, by an employee.

Employers who have not returned the record slip, giving the name of their own canvasser, are requested to mail it to Mr. McGuire at Red Cross headquarters today.

With only a few scattering precincts in Portland reporting and only 10 counties heard from at an early hour last night, the total progress towards the 240,000 Christmas membership campaign of the American Red Cross was \$149, with Portland 3087, outside, 5662.

Wherever reports were made they were such as to inspire marked enthusiasm.

Union County, for example, reported 1000 memberships and \$1000 as its first day's work, while Roy T. Bishop, Umatilla County chairman, failed to give Umatilla County's figures, but declared that Stanfield alone has reported 240 members, or 40 more than its total quota of one-third of its population.

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OREGON CAPITOL 100 PERCENT RED CROSS

ALL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AT STATEHOUSE JOIN.

Record-Breaking Showing of Patriotism Effected at Meeting Called by Governor.

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MEDIATION IS ONLY HOPE

Factions in Telephone Controversy Unable to Reach Agreement.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—Federal mediation will be necessary to adjust differences between the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company and its employees, according to an announcement made today near the close of the seven days' conference between representatives of the two factions, which have failed to eradicate some of the principal disputed points.

The mediators will be John E. Williams, of Chicago, Federal fuel administrator for Illinois, who will arbitrate wage scales, and Immigration Commissioner Edward W. White, who will mediate differences over working conditions.

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OREGON SONGS WANTED

Naval Y. M. C. A. at Vallejo Plan to Give Enlisted Men Good Time.

INASMUCH as Oregon men stationed at Mare Island are to be entertained soon by the Naval Y. M. C. A. of Vallejo, Cal., M. H. Petersen, musician stationed at the island, has written Mayor Baker asking that Portland people send letters of cheer and encouragement to the sailors and marines and also send pennants, flags and Oregon songs.

"We especially need Oregon songs such as 'We Love Our Home in Oregon' and 'The Oregon Song.' Anybody in Portland wishes to send should be forwarded to M. H. Petersen, first-class musician, care of the Naval Y. M. C. A., Vallejo, Cal."

TANKER IS TOWING SCHOONER

Steamer Newburg Disabled by Collision in Dense Fog.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—The Standard Oil tanker J. A. Moffett was towing the steam schooner Newburg back to this port today after a collision at sea between the two vessels late last night 30 miles north of Point Reyes which disabled the Newburg, according to a wireless message received by the marine department of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

No details were given, but it was said that the vessels collided in a dense fog.

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CANADA'S VOTE IS FOR CONSCRIPTION

Sir Robert Borden Re-elected Premier.

LAURIER IS BADLY BEATEN

Standing at Midnight 128 to 87, With 20 in Doubt.

ALL MAJORITIES HEAVY

Soldier Returns, Which Will Not Be Ascertained for Some Days, Are Expected to Increase Lead of Government Members.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 17.—The Union government has been returned and conscription confirmed by the Canadian domestic vote.

Early returns received from all over Canada indicate that the government of Sir Robert Borden has been elected to administer Canadian affairs for another five years and that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is as definitely defeated as in the reciprocity election of 1911.

Returns indicate that the French portion of Canada has gone heavily for Sir Wilfrid Laurier and English constituencies have returned men who will support the union government measures and maintain Premier Borden in office.

The vote has been very heavy everywhere and the majorities are very large. The soldier vote, which will not be ascertained for some days, will increase the already heavy majorities of government members and will probably increase the number of government supporters elected.

Officials returns announced shortly before midnight showed that with 16 districts to be heard from the Unionists had won 128 seats and the opposition 87, with four seats deferred.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 17.—Latest returns from the Canadian election indicate a decisive victory for Sir Robert Borden's union government and conscription.

The returns by provinces:

Provinces—	U.	L.	D.	D.
New Brunswick	4	7	0	0
Quebec	6	5	0	0
Ontario	22	10	0	0
Manitoba	13	1	1	1
Saskatchewan	16	0	0	0
Alberta	8	0	0	0
British Columbia	18	0	0	0
Yukon	0	0	1	0
Totals	135	89	4	8

*Union. †Liberal. ‡Deferred. ††In doubt.

WOMEN TO RUN NEW YORK

Car Conductors, Mail Carriers and Snow Shovelers Wear Skirts.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Women car conductors, women mail carriers and women snow shovelers!

Three women have joined the city snow-shoveling force, the Street Cleaning Commission announced today, and are proving efficient.

1000 to Be Trained at San Diego

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 17.—Lieutenant Ernest Swanson, Navy recruiting officer in charge here, announced today that 1000 young men who have enlisted at various stations in the Western district for service in the Navy Flying Corps will be sent to the naval aircraft school here for training before January 5.

VALUE OF OREGON'S CROP PRODUCTION IN 1917 IS \$180,000,000.

Notwithstanding unfavorable growing conditions and the consequent shortage of most of the major crops, the value of farm production in Oregon in 1917 was much greater than that of 1916, the banner year for the Oregon farmer. The total value of soil products for this year is in excess of \$180,000,000—a gain of \$25,000,000 over 1916.

Due to war demands, prices for virtually all products were abnormally high, the shortage being offset by the increase in returns realized. Ideal harvesting weather was of great advantage and all crops were gathered at a minimum loss, despite the general lack of labor.

A gratifying feature was the hearty response of the people to the appeals of the Food Administration. The result was a more intensive production, the increase in garden products being enormous.

Read the story of Oregon's agricultural progress in the annual edition of The Oregonian, which will be issued January 1, 1918.

