HUN ADMIRAL GLOATS OVER FLEET SINKING

Act True to Best German Traditions, Says Scheer.

DISGRACE HELD AVERTED

Strategist Thinks Admiral Jellicoe Could Have Won War Easily by Using British Grand Fleet.

The Oregonian herewith prints a remarkable interview given to its staff correspondent at Weimar by Admiral Reinhard Scheer, who commanded the German high seas fleet. Admiral Scheer was regarded as one of the ablest strategists and tacticians in the German navy. He commanded the German main fleet in the battle of Jutland on May 31, 1916. He was made vice-admiral in December, 1913. From 1909 to 1911 he was chief of staff of the high seas fleet, and for the succeeding two years held the office of director of the marine department. He is now in retirement near Weimar.

In this exclusive interview he makes the extraordinary assertion that Admiral Jellicoe could have won the war in its early stages if he had attacked with the British grand fleet.

BY CYRIL BROWN.

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WEIMAR, June 29.—(Special Cable.)—"I rejoice over the sinking of the German fleet in Scapa Flow," is the statement made to me by Admiral Scheer, formerly commander-in-chief of the German high seas fleet.

"I am very happy for two reasons. The first is that the fleet was prevented from falling permanently into the hands of the British. It would have been painful for our good ships, after sailing the seas for years, to come under enemy flags. This humiliating and painful sight is now spared us by the brave deed in Scapa Flow. The second reason I rejoice is that the strain of surrender has been wiped from the escutcheon of the German fleet."

Act Held True to Tradition.

"The sinking of the ships has proved the spirit of the fleet is not dead. This last act was true to the best traditions of the German navy. This deed was spontaneous, and, I am convinced, it was not ordered or inspired from Berlin. Our seamen were unwilling to bear the final disgrace or to suffer that the ships be turned over to the British. More than this, the spirit of Scapa Flow points to the significant moral that our seamen, once removed from evil propaganda influence and left to come to their senses, again became mindful of their 'military honor.'

"The terms of peace brought the men of our fleet to due realization, unfortunately too late, that they had been misled, hoodwinked and deceived. Subtle revolutionary propaganda had persuaded them that they could end the war quickly by going on strike. They were told, and they believed that if they struck the seamen of the enemy fleets would revolt also and that the war would thus be brought to an end automatically. In this misguided belief they started a revolution. Too credulous, they made the mistake of not waiting to let the other fellows strike first.

Protection Deemed Lacking.

"It was never our intention to send the high seas fleet out to its certain death. At the beginning of the outbreak of the November revolt we were on the eve of undertaking a naval operation from which we promised ourselves the utmost success. This operation, after nearly two years, at last had been made possible by the discontinuing of our submarine warfare during the negotiations leading up to the armistice.

"For nearly two years we had been unable to undertake an operation on a large scale with the high seas fleet. This, first, because the fleet was essential to protect the base of submarine warfare; second, because, while our submarine warfare was carried on, we lacked all strategic flank protection for a long-distance naval operation.

"Our fleet attack could proceed only from the narrow 'wet triangle' behind Heligoland, and to this base alone we were always forced to return. An operation of our high seas fleet against any point on the British coast left both our flanks exposed. The battle of Jutland proved we were not afraid of encountering the British grand fleet on a fair field."

German Flanks Exposed.

"But even if we had succeeded in drawing out the British grand fleet and beating it, we always had to figure on the danger of being cut off on our way home, because, no matter how victorious we were, some of our ships would inevitably bring home holes in their bodies.

"In an operation against the British coast our strategic left flank was always exposed to the attack of British navel forces coming from the channel and our right flank to attack from the north. With the suspension of our submarine warfare this unfavorable strategic situation was suddenly changed. We now had plenty of submarines to use for the flank protection of our high seas fleet in any possible operation.

"With our hands thus freed, we decided at the beginning of November that our fleet should and could strike a hard, perhaps a decisive blow. We decided that while our armies were stubbornly and heroically resisting in the west our fleet should not remain idle.

Attack on Coast Planned.

"Our plan offered every chance of success. It was not one to send the high seas fleet out to its death, but to attack the coast of England in the direction of the mouth of the Thames, employing our submarines as flank protection to guard our left flank and also our rear. By this plan we hoped to draw the British grand fleet out of its Scottish lair and down toward the mouth of the Thames to give us battle, in which case the grand fleet would have run into our flanking submarines.

"Our plan was carefully worked out and offered the certainty of success, if the grand fleet came out. The one chance of failure, we figured, was that the British fleet might not be coaxed out by our channel attack. This plan, naturally, could not be disclosed to the men of our fleet. From the preparations for this operation they got the fatal idea into their propaganda-turned heads that the fleet was about to be sent out to its death. They argued, 'why should we die on the verge of peace and with negotiations for an armistice going on?'

Mutiny Is Explained.

"In this misguided frame of mind they mutined and started the revolution which they have since come to regret bitterly. They thought they were doing right and that their action would secure a just and equable peace for the fatherland. They still thought so when they took the ships over to Scapa Flow to be interned.

"I am convinced that not an officer or man would have been willing to take the ships over to Scapa Flow if they had known how the peace would ultimately be imposed. And there is nothing to the charge of cowardice that officers and men should have gone down fighting rather than surrender the ships. They all thought they were doing a high patriotic duty in taking the ships over to be interned, and that by helping to execute this term of the armistice they were making possible the fair peace that had been promised them. Removed from propaganda influences, they realized what they had done and they atoned for it by sinking the fleet. Not for decades will Germany have a fleet again."

Admiral Scheer has little faith in the league of nations. He said:

"I cannot quite believe in the league of nations. It is unnatural and absolutely contrary to human nature and human instincts."

He advanced the novel argument that if the principles of the league of nations were not abnormal, nature long ago would have organized the animals into some sort of a league. He expressed the belief that the submarine as a weapon has a future and never will be discarded, saying:

"If the league of nations does its work, then it will need naval power to back up its decrees, and will not dispense with submarines."

Admiral Scheer is convinced that sinking of the German fleet will be an important factor effecting the future balance of naval power by preventing the pick of the German dreadnoughts and battle cruisers from being retained by England and France.

Admiral Works on Memoirs.

"If Great Britain increases its naval armaments in the future, such an increase can be directed only against its allies, America or Japan, because Great Britain today has no other naval rivals than the two nations I have mentioned. Germany's navy is gone, France's navy never did amount to anything."

Of the terms of peace Admiral Scheer expressed this novel idea:

"If the kaiser and the German military leaders really are placed before a court of the allies, history will regard it is a greater disgrace to the allies than to Germany, which surrendered her leaders."

The admiral is living in unostentatious retirement in a newly-built villa on the outskirts of Weimar. He is working hard on his memoirs and is going to give battle in book form to Admiral Jellicoe, whose "story of the grand fleet" heavily underscored and annotated, is a fixture on his desk. He says he will take a hard fall out of Admiral Jellicoe for his imputation that the German fleet was afraid to come out and meet the British. He suggests it was Admiral Jellicoe's business to attack him because Jellicoe had the disposition of much stronger forces.

England's Chance Asserted.

He made the remarkable statement to me that Great Britain could have ended the war quickly in its early stage by a bold naval offensive in the spirit of Nelson.

"Right up to the last moment we did not expect England to enter the war," he said. "Accordingly we were not prepared against a naval attack by Great Britain. We were prepared only for a two-front war. Accordingly the third front, our sea front, was denuded of military forces. If the British fleet had attacked in the first week of the war we should have been beaten. Under cover of the British navy, Russian armies, then available in great numbers, could have been landed on the coast of Pomerania and could have easily marched to Berlin.

"I believe the British fleet did not attack in the first weeks of the war because Great Britain did not want to pay the price of a victory. She hoped to keep her fleet intact for pressure of the peace conference, and she thought it wiser to let the French and Russians win the war on land. In itself, Admiral Jellicoe's slow blockade strategy was correct and accomplished its purpose. No fault can be found with it, provided that his confining the fleet to a blockade can be reconciled with conditions in the British navy.

Faith Placed in America.

"I suspect also that there were no plans prepared at the beginning of the war for joint operations by the British, French and Russian fleets. I believe also that the British fleet was not used for attack early in the war because nobody at that time knew what would be the effect of torpedoes and mines in actual practice and Admiral Jellicoe thought best to lay off. Where I find fault with Jellicoe is that he imputes that we, in a far less favorable strategic position, should have done what he hesitated to do with the advantage of position and superior forces."

Germany's retired admiral was dressed in navy blue muftie and wore a double-breasted "reefer." He is modest of bearing, free from vindictive bitterness toward anybody and discusses recent history with calm, old seadog philosophy.

"I have faith in America's justice," was his laconic and only comment about the future.

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COMMANDER OF NOTED FIFTEENTH INFANTRY TAKES RED CROSS WORKER AS BRIDE.

—Photo copyright by Underwood.

Mrs. Morton F. Plant, an active Red Cross worker who has married Colonel William Hayward, commander of the 15th infantry, the famous negro regiment.

TASK UNFINISHED--WILSON

MUCH YET TO BE DONE TO MAKE MANKIND SECURE.

Men Now Must Consecrate Their Lives to Realization of Vision of World Made Safe.

LONDON, June 29.—A peace message from President Wilson to the Daily Mail and the Weekly Dispatch is printed this morning in the latter publication. It follows:

"Many things crowd into the mind to be said about the peace treaty, but the thought that stands out in front of all others is that by the terms of the treaty the greatest possible measure of compensation has been provided for peoples whose homes and lives were wrecked by the storm of war and security has been given them that the storm shall not rise again.

"Insofar as we came together to insure these things, the work of the conference is finished, but in a larger sense its work begins today. In answer to an unmistakable appeal, the league of nations has been constituted and a covenant has been drawn which shows the way to international understanding and peace.

"We stand at the cross-roads, however, and the way is only pointed out. Those who saw through the travail of the war the vision of a world made secure for mankind must now consecrate their lives to its realization."

LEBANON PIONEER PASSES

Mrs. Malinda Millsap Dies at Family Home at Age of 85.

LEBANON, Or., June 29.—(Special.)—Mrs. Malinda Millsap, widow of the late William Millsap of this city, died yesterday at the family home at the age of 85. Mrs. Millsap, whose maiden name was Malinda Blevins, was born in Tennessee, and was married to William Millsap in that state in 1854. In April of that year the young couple started from Knoxville by ox team for the Oregon country.

They arrived in the Willamette valley in the fall of the same year and took up a donation land claim near Fairfield in Marion county. They lived on this farm until 1891 when the family moved to McMinnville, where with his two sons Mr. Millsap engaged in the mercantile business. They moved to Lebanon in 1898, where he again engaged in business, which he followed to the time of his death in 1913.

Mrs. Millsap is survived by four daughters and two sons, all residents of this state: Mrs. Mary Powers of Shaniko, Mrs. Elizabeth Simpson, Mrs. Albiew Pewtherer, Mrs. Myrtle Adams, A. B. Millsap, now mayor of Lebanon, and B. A. Millsap, all of this city.

PYTHIANS ELECT OFFICERS

Washington District Six Holds Annual Convention.

HOQUIAM, Wash., June 29.—(Special.)—Knights of Pythias of state district 6, which includes Olympia, McCleary, Elma, Montesano, Aberdeen and Hoquiam, at their annual convention held here yesterday elected the following officers: M. V. Melvin, Olympia, president; J. W. Porter, McCleary, vice-president; Carl C. Springer, Aberdeen, secretary; O. M. Nelson, Montesano, treasurer.

As an inducement for the supreme chancellor of the United States and Canada, Charles Davis of Denver, to visit the harbor in December, a membership committee was appointed to conduct a campaign for 300 candidates who are to be ready for initiation when the officer arrives.

At the evening session addresses were made by Grand Chancellor George C. Tew of Seattle, and Clark V. Savidge of Olympia. George Bennett of Seattle, grand trustee, attended.

STRIKE AT MINE IS ENDED

Workers Accept Compromise Providing 10 Per Cent Wage Rise.

GRASS VALLEY, Cal., June 29.—The strike of mine workers of the Grass Valley district came to a close soon after midnight last night when the strike body voted unanimously to accept the compromise proposal of the mine operators.

More than 1000 men will return to their jobs Monday and work of freeing the workings of water will begin. The compromise provides for a wage increase of 10 per cent, the sum to be paid as a bonus at the end of the year, the interest of workers of shorter periods than a year to be safeguarded. The men are to receive half pay for the time lost in the strike.

WORLD ISSUES SEEN IN EGYPTIAN CRISIS

Problems Concern America as Well as Britain.

NATIONAL SPIRIT GROWING

Fundamental Question Now Raised Is Whether People Are Capable of Self-Government.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

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CAIRO, June 29.—(Special Cable.)—There is more at stake in the Egyptian crisis than appears on the surface. Settlement of the unrest locally is a relatively unimportant phase of the matter. After all only 13,000,000 Egyptians are directly concerned, and what are they among so many hundreds of millions in the orient?

Egypt is central to the near east. All roads lead to Cairo. Symbolical of conditions is the fact that this city is to be a principal station on the new air routes of earth that are now being chartered. Geography determined the importance of this region.

The main highway up through Palestine and Syria and off into Persia and Mesopotamia runs from here, as it did in the days of Abraham. The Suez canal brings the whole earth's commerce and travel and communications through Egypt.

What is done here is done in the eye of the world. News travels from the vicinity of the pyramids in every direction, afoot, by camel, by horse, by donkey, by boat, by train, into all portions of the world. Today's doings in Egypt are tomorrow's talk in India, Syria, Persia, the Caucasus, Turkey. This is a nerve-center of the entire oriental political organization.

Fundamental Questions Raised.

Should two members of congress take to pommeling each other on the floor of the house, in the presence of a full press gallery, the incident would assume far more serious proportions than if the same two men got into a scrimmage off in the north woods with no onlookers but their own guides. Egypt's insurrection has been more than an obscure disagreement between herself and her British suzerain: it has raised broad and deep and fundamental questions concerning matters in which the greater part of the earth's population has a personal interest; and it has not raised them in a corner.

The controversies now raging here are world issues touching the backward peoples of Asia and eastern Europe on the one hand, and on the other those great powers which Paris has taught us to call mandatories. If Egypt can dispense with European direction, so can her neighbors. Even if she can only discredit the overlord, she sets an example that other ebullient groups will not be slow to follow.

One peculiar condition knits the Egyptian upheaval to the delicate and difficult situations in, say, Turkey, Persia, Arabia and India: Cairo is the intellectual center of the Moslem world. El Azhar, the great university within the pillared walls of which there has been meeting what may be called Egypt's national soviet, is the fountainhead of Islamic propaganda. Its 10,000 students, who are at present fiery nationalists, come from every region that hears a muezzin's call—from Bokhara, Kashgar, Kabul, Delhi, Kashmir, Lahore, Constantinople, Belgrade, Salonica, Muscat, Nejd, Fez, Tripoli, Canton, the little-known jungle towns of central Africa.

School Cosmopolitan One.

This great institution, which looks like a huge sprawling mosque, though it calls itself a university, and holds its classes sitting on the matting of the mosque floor, is beyond question the most cosmopolitan seat of learning in the world.

And every student is a propagandist. He will carry his interpretation of recent events to simple people who accept his word as both law and gospel. There are potentialities for almost a Pan-Asiatic agitation in the relation of El Azhar to the Egyptian nationalist movement. Both religious tolerance—a strange new doctrine to El Azhar!—and political intolerance will speed on the wings of student zeal from Cairo to the uttermost parts of the earth. No man can yet tell what the ultimate religious significance of these dynamic days will be; but I have heard a Christian preach and cheered in El Azhar mosque on Good Friday, which is the Moslem Sunday.

Even these already indicated are less than the greatest issues involved in the Egyptian insurrection. The case as it stands, shorn of all confusing details, is simply this: The Egyptians say that they want to govern themselves without interference from the white man. The British say that the Egyptians cannot and may not govern themselves, and that for the sake of the people and of the world Great Britain must maintain a protectorate over Egypt.

Issue Is Clearly Drawn.

There we have clearly drawn the issue that is above all others in Asia, Africa and some of the islands of the seas.

Can the peoples with color in their skin rule themselves?

Are self-government and all the ideals wherewith President Wilson has set the world on fire possibilities for literally all nations, or are they only for the Anglo-Saxon, Teutonic, Latin, Slavic and Scandinavian races? Are these clamorous little Asiatic countries, like Syria, Egypt, Armenia, pursuing only an iridescent dream? Does the possession of the desires which animate them furnish any proof of ability to transform aspiration into action?

Most men experienced in the British imperial operations frankly and flatly say that, despite all our fine words, and the beautiful principles of Dr. Wilson, the Oriental and the black man never can govern themselves and never will. These empiricists sincerely believe that the Egyptian, the Indian, the Turk, the Armenian, the Syrian, the African, are not fit for self-rule. Out of this conviction grows the attitude of mind that makes the British historically a governing class. They really expect to be obliged always to guide and control the destinities of such weaker peoples as an inscrutable providence and the wisdom of the British government have put under the union jack.

Withdrawal Held Impossible.

When an American mentions our gradual but steady withdrawal from the Philippines they only shrug their shoulders and say: "Whether you like it or not, you are there to stay. And if you come over here to Asia to take mandatories, as you are jolly well bound to do, you may as well make up your mind that you are coming over here to remain. Once having put your hand to the plow, there is no turning back."

That is the outspoken view of people who think they know the east best. They scoff at the possibility of a native's ever being brought up to western standards of character and efficiency.

Americans as a whole entertain the view that there are no peoples so backward that they cannot be made fit for the blessings of democracy. Those who rightly sense the significance of the conflict that has been precipitated here on the banks of the Nile will understand that the subject is one for sane, sympathetic, intelligent, dispassionate discussion by scholar and statesman, teacher and preacher, editor and average man.

Apart from all humanitarian considerations, America as a nation is directly concerned in this vast issue which now arises higher than the Pyramids among the palms and sands of an Egypt which ruled the world ---- thousands of years before we of the west doffed the skins of wild beasts which clothed us.

Youth Surrenders License.

YAKIMA, Wash., June 29.—(Special.)—Lawrence Brantner, who eloped with Mabel Brown, aged 15, a few days ago, obtained a marriage license at Prosser, but was prevented from marrying the girl and assaulted by her irate father. He was later arrested. He agreed to surrender the license, and delay the wedding until the girl is of age.

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