

# Coos Bay Times

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## THINK GERMAN RAID ON ENGLISH TOWNS MADE BY A FEW CRUISERS

Bombardment of Several Cities in Forty-mile Strip North of Hull Causes Considerable Damage and Costs Few Lives —Fast Vessels Turned Naval Trick.

### LONDON DOES NOT BELIEVE MAIN FLOTILLAS WERE ENGAGED DESPITE ADMIRALTY'S STATEMENT OF IT

No Details Given in Official English Bulletin of Engagement Between English and German Flotillas in North Sea —Conflicting Reports of Land Developments

#### HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Dec. 16.—A Scarborough dispatch says 18 people were killed and one hundred wounded. In one house four persons were killed outright and in another three were killed by bursting shells.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Eastern coast of England was raided today by German warships, which dropped shells in several towns along the forty-mile strip of coast. Considerable damage was done in Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool and several persons were killed or wounded.

The German raid was apparently performed by a few fast cruisers and as far as known the main British and German fleets were not engaged.

In London it has been reported that two German warships were sunk. The British Admiralty stated that naval encounters were in progress, but details as to the size of the engagement and outcome are lacking.

The French official statement says some further progress was made by the Allies in Belgium, that the German attacks in Alsace and the Woevre district were repulsed and that British warships again bombarded the German positions on the coast of Belgium.

Berlin denies the French claims to an advance in Belgium, saying the attempt of the Allies to move forward, supported by the British warships, was repulsed. Berlin asserts further progress was made in the East, several strong Russian positions having been taken and 3000 prisoners captured. In south Poland the German-Austrian forces are gaining ground.

## OFFICIAL ENGLISH REPORT OF ATTACKS BY ENGLISH FLEET

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Dec. 15.—The official press bureau announced this afternoon with regard to the German attack on the North Sea coast of England: "The fortress commander at West Hartlepool reports that German war vessels engaged the fortress between 8 and 9 o'clock this morning. The enemy was driven off. A small German war vessel also opened fire on Scarborough and Whitby. "Our flotillas have at various points been engaged. The situation is developing."

### FOUR CRUISERS AT SCARBOROUGH

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
SCARBOROUGH, Eng., Dec. 16.—Shelling of Scarborough by four German cruisers began shortly before 8 o'clock. Several buildings were damaged.

Crowds ran hurriedly to the railroad station and all who could boarded the train that was just leaving for Hull.

Just before daylight a cruiser came in close and for half an hour shell after shell fell into the town. A woman behind a counter in a shop was killed and her husband was wounded. Shells of the shop tumbled down about them. Forty or fifty shells were thrown, the objective apparently being the town hall, which was finally damaged. During the bombardment, the vessel steamed slowly past the town and finally disappeared in the haze. After she disappeared her guns were heard for some time.

## EYE WITNESS TELLS OF GERMAN ATTACK ON ENGLISH TOWNS TODAY

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
HULL, Eng., Dec. 15.—James Harvey Scott, who arrived from Scarborough after the bombardment said: "I could not believe it was a real attack. I thought that the battleships were practicing. Then I saw a shell fall on the roof of a house, which caught fire, and there was a cloud of smoke. I also noticed that the Balmford Hotel, right in the center of town, was struck. As I walked to the station, shells were bursting over head and at the station shells fell into the yard. A man accompanied by his wife and children came running into the station saying shells had damaged his house."  
Another eye witness from Scarborough said a large amount of debris was scattered about the railroad station square. Roofs of houses were torn away and holes bored entirely through some houses. Several shells were fired at the wireless station, but with what result is unknown.

## German Officers Claim Gains Against Allies and Russians

### CZAR VISITS HIS ARMY IN FAR SOUTH

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
KARS, Trans-Caucasia, Russia, Dec. 16.—Emperor Nicholas reached here Dec. 13 from Petrograd. He was welcomed with enthusiasm by the populace. He visited the hospitals and distributed medals to the wounded. The following day he went to Sarakamyche and then proceeded to the front, where he personally distributed crosses of St. George to soldiers who won distinction in the fighting. He left this region on Dec. 15.

### BRITISH FLEET BOMBARDS TOWN

Belgian Town Attacked by Warships and French Report Allies Gain Along Front

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
PARIS, Dec. 16.—The French official communication this afternoon says: "In Belgium, the town of Westend was violently bombarded by the British fleet. The Belgian army repulsed a counter attack on St. Georges and occupied the farms on the left bank of the Yser River. Our troops made progress near St. Elol. We gained distinct advantages in artillery duels in the Arras, Aisne and Champagne districts. In the Woevre district we repulsed several attacks. In Alsace we repulsed an attack to the west of Cernay."

### U. S. FARM CROPS ARE WORTH BILLIONS

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16.—This year's principal farm crops are worth \$4,945,852,000, the Department of Agriculture announced today.

### Official Statement From Berlin Today That Allies Were Repulsed in Coast Attack

#### RECAPTURE POSITION THAT FRENCH CAPTURED

Claim No News in East Prussia Fighting But Gains in Poland Were Made

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
BERLIN, Dec. 16. (By Wireless).—The German official communication today says: "In the west the enemy made an attempt to advance by way of Nieuport, supported by the action of their ships at sea. The fire from these ships was entirely without effect. The attack was repulsed and 450 French taken prisoners. On the remainder of the front, the capture of the height west of Bannhelm, occupied by the enemy since the day before yesterday, is the only matter worth mentioning: "From the east Prussian frontier there is no news.

"In northern Poland our attack-movements are progressing normally. Several strong positions of the enemy were taken and about 3000 prisoners and four machine guns captured.

"In southern Poland our troops are fighting in unison, while our allies are gaining ground."

### GEN SCOTT TO SETTLE STRIFE

#### SCOTT SENT TO FRONT.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16.—Brigadier General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, was ordered today by the War Department to proceed to Naep to use his personal influence with the Mexican leaders to cease hostilities.

Symphony Concert, Thursday, December 17th, Lemanski's Theater.

## ENGLISH RUMOR FLOTILLA DAMAGED IN NORTH SEA NAVAL BATTLE TODAY

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Yorkshire Evening News reports two German cruisers were sunk in today's engagement and the British flotilla damaged.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Reports are current in London that two German cruisers were sunk in the North Sea.

### BATTLE IN NORTH SEA.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
HARTLEPOOL, Dec. 16.—It is reported that a flotilla of British torpedo boat destroyers encountered three German cruisers eight miles off the English coast. The cruisers immediately opened fire.

### SHELLS DUG GREAT CRATERS

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Star prints a dispatch from Hartlepool saying some of the German shells exploded in the streets of Hartlepool and made great craters.

### ATTACK TEES BAY FORTS.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
REDCAR, York, England, Dec. 16.—Heavy firing was heard off the coast between 8 and 8:20. The forms of three cruisers could be discerned looming out of the haze, and flashes of artillery fire easily observed. People sought the waterfront but were driven back by the military authorities. It appeared as if the warships were attacking the forts at Tees Bay.

### TELLS OF WHITBY ATTACK.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
WHITBY, Dec. 16.—The two German cruisers appeared to be about three miles off shore. In the bombardment several persons were injured and a number of buildings, including the historic abbey here, were damaged. One person was reported killed. The cruisers, after the bombardment, disappeared in a northeasterly direction.

## U. S. TO BUY NICARAGUA CANAL ROUTE

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16.—After months of deliberation and repeated failure to get action, the foreign relations committee ordered the Nicaraguan treaty reported to the Senate for ratification. The United States would pay \$3,000,000 for the Nicaraguan canal route and naval bases on Fonseca Bay.

## ENGLISH PURSUE DRESDEN AGAIN

### Fast German Cruiser Sailed From Puntas Arenas Sunday —Warships Behind

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16.—Two British warships are pursuing the German cruiser Dresden, which left Punta Arenas on Sunday, according to an official telegram received today from the American embassy at Santiago, Chile.

## A E GAGNON IS HURT IN MILL

### Superintendent of C. A. Smith Company's Eastside Plant Sustains Injuries

A. E. Gagnon, superintendent of the Eastside mill of the C. A. Smith company and a well known Coos Bay man, sustained two or three fractured ribs in an accident in the Smith shingle mill late yesterday. He is confined to his home in Bunker Hill. Just how the accident occurred is not known. Mr. Gagnon was inspecting the mill and was struck by a hook or timber. The blow was a severe one. Today he was resting much easier and it is hoped that he will rapidly recuperate from his injuries.

### RECESS OF CONGRESS.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16.—A holiday recess of Congress from December 23 to December 29 was proposed today in a concurrent resolution passed by the House. It was then communicated to the Senate to await the action of that body.

## TURKS SAY CREW OF SHIP SAVED

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
AMSTERDAM, Dec. 16.—Telegrams from Constantinople referring for the first time to the torpedoing by a British submarine of the Turkish battleship Messudieh in the Dardanelles on December 13, say the warship sank at her anchorage and parts of the vessel are still visible above the water. The crew was saved.

## MOSLEM TRIBES TO ENTER WAR

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Dec. 16.—A dispatch from Constantinople says that Khedive Abbas Hilmi of Egypt has gone to Vienna for a conference with the Austrian officials. It is believed he is planning an invasion of Egypt. A dispatch from Constantinople says the tribes in northern Albania have declared war on Serbia.

## WASHINGTON NAVAL AUTHORITIES SAY GERMAN ATTACK WAS STRATEGICAL

Believe Maneuver May Have Far Reaching Consequences and Result in Hurried Change of British Fleet, Which May Leave Big Warships in Place for Attacks

### THINK BOMBARDMENT WAS FOR PURPOSE OF THROWING SCARE INTO ENGLISH OFFICIALS

Towns Attacked Have No Military Value for Purpose of Capture or Occupation—German Naval Activity Expected to Follow up Movement Started Today

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16.—The best-posted naval authorities here regard today's bombardment of English towns by the Germans as a strategic maneuver, which may have far-reaching consequences. The first purpose, as explained by one of the foremost naval strategists is to create a "scare" which will lead to a hurried concentration and change of movement of the main British battle fleet and expose those ships to attacks from unexpected quarters. The bombarded cities are of no military value for the purpose of capture or occupation.

### DESCRIPTION OF TOWNS.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
Scarborough is a seaport and fashionable resort of England in the northern part of Yorkshire, 37 miles northeast of York. The population is 40,000. Hartlepool is a port in the southeast portion of the county of Durham. The population is 25,000. Adjoining Hartlepool is West Hartlepool, with a population of 65,000. Whitby is half way between Scarborough and Hartlepool and is a seaside resort of 12,000 inhabitants.

## GERMAN FLEET HAD CONSIDERABLE FREEDOM IN MAKING ATTACKS TODAY

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The bombardment of cities on the east coast of England is the first overt act of war against British territory. The British have felt that their fleet in the North Sea was sufficient to render this possibility remote. The official London announcement that the British flotillas have been engaged is evidence that there has been a naval fight in the North Sea. The bombardment of English cities indicates that the Germans had considerable liberty of action. There doubtless has been more than one naval engagement

### HARTLEPOOL IS ATTACKED

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
HARTLEPOOL, Eng., Dec. 16.—Residents were awakened here by heavy firing. They rushed to the beach. Shells from the German cruisers soon began dropping into the city whereupon the crowd sought shelter.

HULL, Dec. 16.—Nine persons are reported to have been killed at Hartlepool and a number injured in the bombardment of that port by the German cruisers this morning.

The arrival of German raiders off Scarborough took place under the cover of a thick fog. Some people declare they saw a German cruiser lying off Castle Cliff. The roof of St. Martin's Church was struck and one woman killed. Another church was damaged and the roofs of several houses were carried away by the shells.

The people were greatly excited. They rushed from their houses at the first sound of firing, and the men, women and children were seen running through the streets in their night clothes.

Fugitives here from Scarborough say that the German bombardment of that port was heavy and great damage was done.

### WHITBY IS BOMBARDED.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)  
WHITBY, York, England, Dec. 16.—Two German cruisers bombarded this town between 9 and 10 o'clock this morning.

### SERVIANS OUST AUSTRIANS.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Eng., Dec. 16.—King Peter and Crown Prince Alexander entered Belgrade at the head of the victorious Serbian army, says a dispatch from Nish. Not a single Austrian remains on Serbian soil.

### ENGLISH RETURNED ATTACK.

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Newcastle Evening Chronicle places the number of German cruisers which bombarded Hartlepool at three. It says that these cruisers were attacked almost immediately by four British destroyers. Several entire rows of houses at Hartlepool were destroyed and the gas works seriously damaged. Several persons were killed or wounded.