

SECRECY IS NECESSARY BY BRITISH

Naval Activities Not Made Known Because News Would Help the Enemy.

ENGLISH SECRET SERVICE IS BEST

Solidarity of Briton Shown By Upholding Lloyd George.

(By ED L. KEEN.) (European Manager, United Press.) LONDON, Dec. 25.—The close of the year 1917 finds the people of Great Britain trembling as usual, but determined as usual.

Despite the war-weariness which necessarily has affected all the belligerents, there is no more serious talk in England today of stopping short of a decisive finish than there was in 1914. The pacifists may be a bit noisier, but they are no more numerous nor consequential than they ever were.

But other folk are noisier too. The chief symptom of war-weariness in England is the steadily increasing number of vociferous amateur strategists. Most of them are fault-finders.

One very considerable source of popular complaint is the mystery which surrounds the anti-submarine campaign. Britishers generally would have a greater appreciation of their navy's work if they knew about it.

Now, there are two main reasons for the reticence of the British admiralty. One is tradition, and the other is Germany. The working British naval officer is the embodiment of British modesty. It has been so since the days of Nelson. It isn't good form in the navy to talk about your work. It might be construed as boasting, and if there is anything the Englishman abhors it is this.

The British navy is doing a lot of things these days that would be read with utmost interest and profit by both the British and the allied public—but with far greater interest and profit by Germany. This is why successive new first lords have invariably have numbered themselves by the number of their previously conceived notions regarding the desirability of publicity were all wrong.

It is difficult for the public to understand why, for instance, weekly detailed figures of tonnage losses as well as the number of submarines sunk should not be published. You say the Germans must know these things themselves. But they don't! The British secret service is the finest of its kind in the world today—yes, better than the Kaiser's ever was, even in the days of the Kaiser.

It knows the Germans don't know. Therefore it is policy to keep them guessing.

The British admiralty is convinced that it would be folly to give the German admiralty opportunity to check up on the data furnished by the submarine commanders, some of whom are known to be a trifle over-enthusiastic about their own exploits. Likewise it is most useful to conceal from Germany the fate of its submarines. Some are sunk, some are mined, some surrender, and some are captured.

How many they have LOST but they don't know HOW they were lost. This element of uncertainty is a big asset to England. It is one reason why some German sailors recently have preferred to go to prison than embark on submarines.

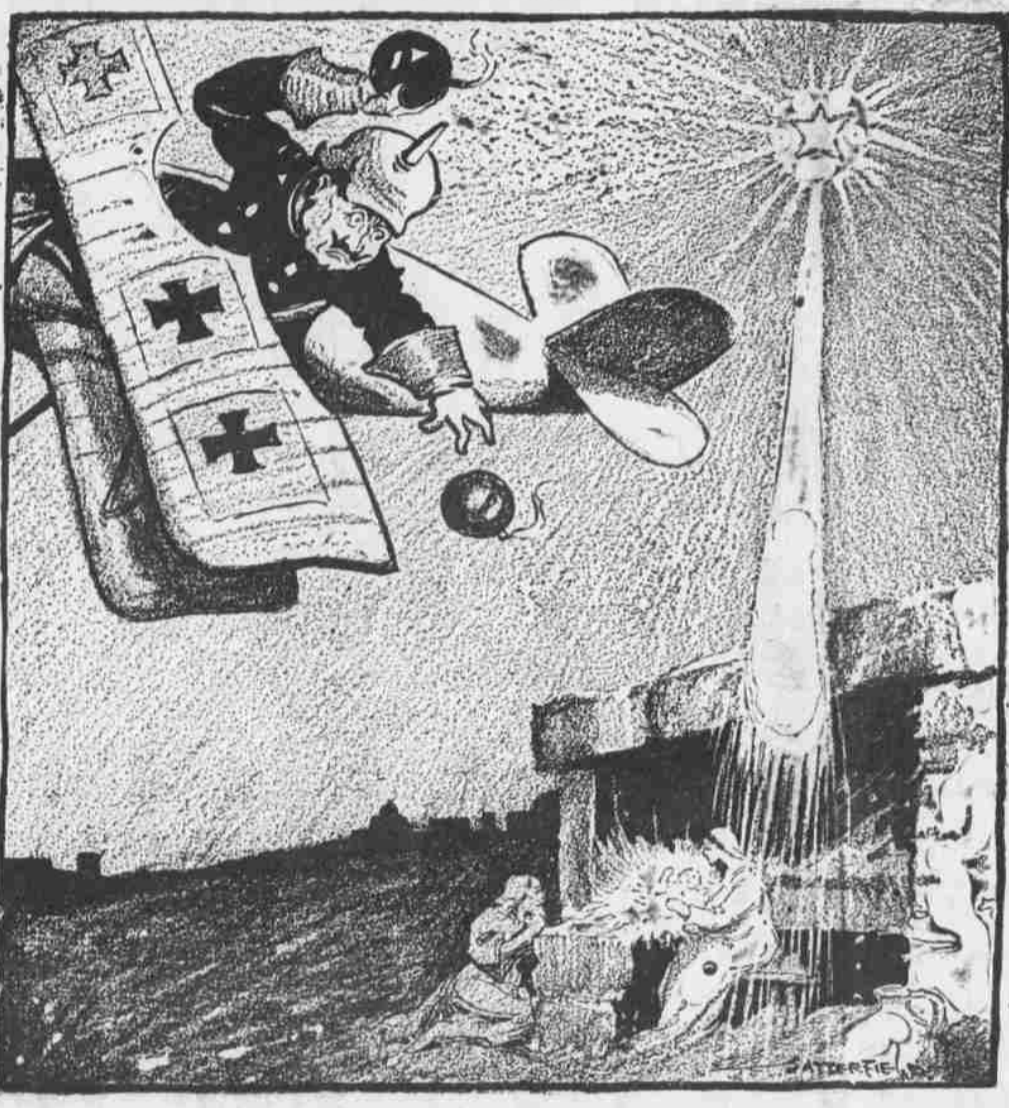
The nearest approach to definite figures vouchsafed by the admiralty was when Sir Eric Geddes told commons that between 40 and 50 per cent of all German submarines commissioned for work in the northern seas since the beginning of the war had been put out of business.

In the past year the art of locating and destroying submarines has developed amazingly, and in both these branches of work the British navy has been greatly assisted by American scientists as well as the American navy. But, as Geddes recently admitted to commons although the weekly toll of submarine victims has been steadily diminishing, the menace—the one great problem of the war—is not yet conquered.

Thanks to the tireless vigilance of the British navy's patrol work in the past year, the German fleet has stayed off the North Sea. There are no more of those sporadic raidings of the English coast which so annoyed the British people in the earlier days of the war. There was just one regrettable slip, when ten high-speed, specially German cruisers under cover of a fog, threaded their way out of their Heligoland minefields, sank a convoy of Scandinavian merchantmen and their escorting British destroyers and got safely back to their base.

It was not practicable for Britain to combat the German naval operations in the Baltic against the Russian fleet. Granted the British fleet could have forced the perilous way

IF THE BABY JESUS CAME TO EARTH TODAY



"HIPPI" BURMEISTER FOUND THAT A CARD FROM ROUND-UP CARRIES WEIGHT IN THE ARMY

It is now Private "Hippy" Burmeister, remount station, Camp Lewis. The well known cowboy, who was fanning the Round-Up buckers in the tryouts last fall, is now swinging horses for the army and he owes his place in the remount station to the fact that he was the official tryout man for the Round-Up last year.

"Hippy" didn't like hiking around on foot all day in the infantry for "a cowboy don't like to walk." He therefore applied for entrance into the remount station. "Nothing doing," the captain said. There was a long line of applicants ahead of him. Hippy pleaded his long experience with horses and his expert ability. In his eagerness he finally mentioned that he had been trying out horses for the Pendleton Round-Up. "Bring me a recommendation from the Round-Up and I'll let you in," the officer said. Hippy wrote at once to Livestock Director Sam Thompson for an endorsement. He got it pronto. For Hippy had proved himself not only a great rider of buckers but an A-1 hand with horses. He was accepted and now he's in a good deal with the captain, for he had a good deal to do with the big frontier show staged at Camp Lewis recently.

Writing to Mr. Thompson he says in part: "Just a few lines to let you know that I am up at the remount station now and am sure thanking you for the recommendation. Had a show here last Saturday and Sunday and I sure put her on wild, everything on the program, even the drunken ride. Captain calls me Sunfish Burmeister now instead of Hippy. We have some of your old horses here. Used Butter Creek and Long John at the show. Butter went good but John wouldn't go. Bull Hornet is in the saddle horse string and is sure a good roper horse, the best here. Never try to buck any more. Bill Baker is down in the infantry now. Charley Johnson and Ora De Mille and the Kane boys are up here. I guess you know them. Dan Clark and Judge Dixon was up to help with the show. Bob Hall was up a week or two ago but went back to Portland. Guess he didn't like the looks of the army. I sure hope I get out for the Round-Up next year.

"Got a nice little bunch of money coming from my grandmother's estate take good last week. Am sure going to get me a little bunch of cattle when I get out of here but will take on the Round-Up just the same."

UMA TILLA COUNTY IS NEARING 10,000 MARK

Uma Tilla county today is less than 100 members short of the 10,000 mark in the Red Cross Christmas membership drive. At 11:30 this morning Campaign Manager Bishop totaled the reports from all over the county, showing 9966 memberships received, a percentage of 122 of the quota of 7500.

Though the campaign is supposed to close tonight, Campaign Manager Bishop announced that it would be continued in those communities which have not yet reached all of the people. The 10,000 mark is a certainty and Uma Tilla county, which has led the state and the nation from the first day of the campaign, will finish strong as in other war campaigns.

Pilot Rock and Echo both sent in new reports today, showing that both had gone well past their quota. The following is the report as tabulated this morning:

Table with columns: Town, Quota, Members. Lists towns like Adams, Weston, Athol, Milton-Freewater, Emahais, Prineville, Helix, Echo, Starfield, Hornum, Pilot Rock, Pendleton, and Umatilla with their respective quotas and current membership counts.

PENDLETON PLAN OF GETTING MONEY IS TO BE EXPLOITED

Helix is on top again. This time it is in the drive for funds for Armenian and Syrian relief. The Helix quota was \$300 and yesterday afternoon the committee there brought in a check for \$140.12.

"The Pendleton Plan" of raising money for war purposes is to be exploited in a circular to be sent out over the country by the committee in charge of the Armenian and Syrian Relief Fund. Word to this effect was received yesterday by Stephen A. Lowell, chairman of the Umatilla county committee, from E. A. Potter of Spokane, executive secretary.

Mr. Potter in his letter marvels at the manner in which Umatilla county has subscribed her quota of this

"MADE IN AMERICA" TOYS NOW IN VOGUE

(By United Press.) NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—When it comes to overcoming all obstacles and "getting there" Santa Claus can always be counted on.

He arrived right on time this morning although nearly one-half of the world is engaged in fighting the other half. Many figured the war would delay Santa Claus—that he would have hard time getting around—but he was here, there and everywhere last night as the youngsters will testify. Transportation problems that would baffle the world's greatest railway experts were easy for him.

His greatest trouble this year was with the toy makers. His great toy factories in Germany where for many years the majority of Xmas toys were made was otherwise engaged this year. Santa's best workmen instead of manufacturing toys for the children of the world were either fighting on the European battlefields or making guns, shells, submarines and other implements of war with which men are killing men.

Practically all the great toy factories in Europe had long ago ceased manufacturing toys and like the factories in Germany were turning out war materials.

For a while this did not worry Santa to any great extent. He was counting on American factories for his supply of toys this year. Then—just when these factories began filling Santa's order for millions of dollars worth of toys—the United States entered the war. The American factories were also transformed into war factories. Work on the toys was stopped—almost entirely. The steel and other materials of which toys are made were needed for war purposes. But Santa hurriedly arranged things with the war kings and in a short time the toy factories were running full blast.

The toys made here in the United States cost more—Santa Claus will tell you that—but the children will tell you the toys are better than the "made in Germany" kind.

In fact the American made toys are so much better that a great part of \$4,000,000 worth of toys made in Germany but held up in Rotterdam by the war until just in time to be brought over to this country on the Xmas boat were not used at all and are still occupying shelf space in toy shops throughout the country.

So you see when it comes to toys the war has had no effect on the American youngsters Xmas.

POOR OLD CITY DADS, MAKE 'EM THE GOATS

Blame it onto the city council as usual. This time it is the scarcity of Christmas trees and the high price of the few that were sold by local dealers yesterday.

At least this is the alibi of some of the merchants who made an effort to fill a big demand yesterday for the Yuletide decoration, but who had little success. Their explanation is that in previous years the council either decorated the streets with Christmas trees or a municipal Christmas tree.

But this year the city fathers did not undertake any decorating scheme. As a result only two or three big loads of trees were sold yesterday. The prices ranged from fifty cents for a small tree to two dollars for a sizable fir. The few trees that were sold came from Meacham or Cayuse.

Other dealers ascribe the shortage in Christmas trees to the scarcity of labor. As for the council being to blame, the city only sent to the hills one year for evergreens. And the Commercial association, which has been staging the municipal exercises, decided to have evergreens on Christmas this year because of the heavy demands made upon residents by war campaigns.

HOLLAND TO GET FOODSTUFFS HERE

THE HAGUE, Dec. 22.—Holland's agreement with America over food supplying contemplates the use of a great part of Dutch shipping. For-warder M. J. L. van der Meer, president of the Chamber of Deputies, is stated the pact would provide Holland the necessary food stuffs for use of all but Holland's passenger ships and Belgian relief vessels.

I. W. W. SECRETARY GIVES HIMSELF UP

PORTLAND, Dec. 23.—C. L. Griffin, former secretary of the I. W. W. at Bellingham, was ordered sent to Chicago when brought before a federal commissioner as one of the men named in the government's recent wholesale indictment. Griffin surrendered when he heard he was wanted.

HOTEL EMPLOYEES HAVE RED CROSS CHRISTMAS

It was strictly a Red Cross Christmas for everyone connected with the Pendleton Hotel. From Head Clerk Clarence Verne to the elevator boys.

BOLSHEVIKI WILL THROW UP SPONGE

Nicholas Lenine, Is Said To Be Preparing to Flee Petrograd.

RADICAL LEADERS SEE THEIR DREAMS VANISH

Peace Negotiations to Fail Unless Allies Join, They Realize.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 25.—Nicholas Lenine, Bolsheviki leader is preparing to flee Petrograd, according to authoritative information. Seeing the Bolsheviki power crumbling and fighting going on hourly in the streets Lenine is said to have despaired of the fulfillment of the dream he had for a radical regime. The Bolsheviki leaders realize their peace negotiations are likely to fail unless the allies join in the parleys. They also realize that the failure of negotiations means the Russian army and people would be against them.

The Petrograd garrison decided that all troops will act as for a radical regime. The Bolsheviki appointees for local administrative work are preparing proclamation surrendering power to a constituent assembly.

Joint Reply Expected. LONDON, Dec. 25.—No official war announcements were issued today. Holland advises say the central powers decided to make a joint reply to the Russian peace proposal.

The Kaiser's speech to the second army is obviously for home consumption. Owing to anxiety for peace before America enters her troops, the Kaiser could not hope his threat will have any effect outside of Germany. The central powers reply to the Russian proposals may constitute a new German peace feeler it is believed here. The west front is still inactive, giving rise to the belief that a calm may be due and that both sides are preparing for the much heralded German offensive by distributing troops. No great concern is felt as a result of the resumption of the Italian offensive by Germany. French and British reinforcements there will easily enable the Italians to hold back the drive.

Germany Was Meant. TOKYO, Dec. 25.—The Japanese foreign office made a statement today regarding the Bolsheviki disclosure of a secret Russian-Japanese pact to fight to prevent any third power gaining supremacy in China. The statement said the "third power" referred to was Germany and said the British and American interests in China are not threatened.

COMMERCIAL ASS'N PROTESTS AGAINST EMBARGO ON FUEL

The Pendleton Commercial Association yesterday afternoon made formal protest against the tentative ruling of the fuel administration placing an embargo on the shipping of Utah and Wyoming coal west of La Grande. The protest was addressed to Fred J. Holmes of La Grande, fuel administrator for Oregon, and reads as follows:

Pendleton, Ore., Dec. 24, 1917. Mr. Fred J. Holmes, Fuel Administrator for Oregon, Portland, Oregon.

My Dear Sir:—The Commercial Association of Pendleton has learned of the tentative ruling of the Federal Fuel Administration, which places an embargo on shipments of Utah and Wyoming coal to points west of La Grande, and views the prospect of an enforcement of such a rule with consternation.

We respectfully protest against such action, and in support of our protest, cite your attention to the following facts: Pendleton people have long used these grades of coal almost exclusively; the grades and other details of fuel consuming apparatus in Pendleton are, consequently, practically all adapted to the use of these fuels, and consumers generally are familiar with their burning qualities.

A necessary substitution of lignite, would, therefore be impracticable, and subject our people to extreme hardship.

We hope that such drastic action may not be necessary, and respectfully urge that the announced ruling may be so modified, that Pendleton may be included among the places to which Utah and Wyoming coal may be shipped and delivered to consumers. Very respectfully,

J. V. TALLMAN, President. C. K. CRANSTON, Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA FEUD BRINGS FATAL RESULTS

BREEDEN, West Virginia, Dec. 24.—As a result of a feud breaking out, Charles Diness entered the home of Wade Marcum and killed Marcum. Two sons injured Mrs. Marcum, who killed Diness.

GIRL HIT BY AUTOMOBILE

Miss Caldwell, about 17 years of age, who lives with her mother near the hospital, was hit by an automobile yesterday evening about 6 o'clock on east Court street. The car was driven by James Hoskins, Sr., of Echo. Miss Caldwell was carried into the home of P. T. Hales, and from there to the St. Anthony's hospital. She was stunned by the blow, but not otherwise seriously hurt.