

PATROL WORK IS FULL OF THRILLS FOR MEN OF NAVY

Blindfold Campaign of Submarine Chasing Is Replete With Surprises.

"TORPEDO FISH" IS FOOLER

Interesting Sidelight on Work of Navy in Fighting U-Boat Peril—Many an Encounter With a Table Leg or a Swab Handle.

New York.—Leaves from the diary of the commander of a destroyer and sidelihts on the thrills that come to the men aboard the vessels of the United States navy in the war zone were made public in a statement issued by the navy publicity bureau of 318 West Thirty-ninth street.

"It is stimulating from the maze of convoy and submarine search work to untangle vivid threads of adventure," the statement said. "For the first half of a certain month a few points stand out for emphasis or visualization."

They are these:

"Enemy operations have been largely in the southern part of our area. Calm weather and the moon have favored them. Merchant ships have assembled thickly at the rendezvous, and the sight has been frequent of one destroyer—often of the older type—with four or five great vessels on her hands before others assigned have joined the escort.

"Many rescues of crews have been successfully made.

"In 'behind the net,' however, it is less easy to borrow the lookout's eyes, set for the pin thrust of the distant periscope through the blue frets of the quiet, treacherous ocean. Or to hear in the dark small hours the throbbing general quarters alarm, the blowers hum in a racing crescendo, and the gun crews—like Tweedledums and Tweedledees in their state-hued life preservers—tear the covers from the ammunition boxes. It is a tension to bear down at 25 knots upon the lean tramp that makes no response to the flap-flap of your searchlight blinker, spelling out the challenge; to distinguish whether the phosphorescent streak that at night flashes across your bow is made by a Hun torpedo or the animal skippers have named the 'torpedo fish' a blackfish or porpoise. Survivors come mutely up the side, often Lascars and Cingalese, muttering of Allah and America indistinguishably. Given cigarette 'makes,' they 'roll a pill,' calmly stick it behind the ear, and as the surgeon uncorks his iodiform in the washroom for gashes made by wreckage, some old gunner of the reserve takes pneumonia from his hours of exposure, and is put ashore at X say, on a stretcher, and with his hours of life numbered.

Two Ships in the Thick of It.

The Y and the Z have been in the thick of such incidents. At 18 minutes past 1 o'clock on the morning of the 11th, the X was steaming singly at 15 knots, with a quiet sea and good visibility for that hour. The captain was smoking a cigar on the bridge, wondering, he told me, whether Mrs. G. would ever have the pleasure of putting roses on her old man's tomb up the Hudson. A heavy explosion, without flash, shook the darkness about three miles over the port bow. A whistle bleated three times, and the radio shack called up the tube that the steamer Kloto was torpedoed 20 miles southwest by west of Fastnet Light.

"The X switched on her general alarm for battle, changed her course to 228 degrees true and plunged thither at full speed. In two minutes she made out the staccato sparks of a

blinker, repeating over and over, 'Torpedoes!—Torpedoes!' In five, she changed her course 19 degrees faster east, and at half-past one the flush decks of a single stacker of about 4,000 tons loomed over the cocoa matting and thrust men about a gun.

"She was now nearing the freighter, bow on, a bit to port. Suddenly out of the darkness to the right a livid beam rushed straight and shimmering at her under the sea. We put over full right rudder. The torpedo passed close aboard across his bows, to the left, just ahead of the Kloto, and as the luminous wake receded like a muffled searchlight it seemed to break spent upon the near horizon. 'Anyhow,' said the captain afterward, 'it was worth crossing the ocean to see and feel that instant. It made those roses seem a lot nearer.

"The destroyer began to circle the Kloto at high speeds, with alternate right and left rudder. Her blinker stammered on, that she had been hit in the port quarter abaft the engine room. Then the lights ceased. Ten minutes after two loaded lifeboats emerged out of the starboard darkness. They held 50 men, including the second officer and a tall engineer, wounded in the leg. Soon after two o'clock all were safe aboard the X. She continued to circle the steamer, which was slowly sinking by the stern. Alarm of the disaster had been flashed to adjacent patrols. The Y nosed into sight and stood by, likewise H. M. S. —, who signaled that she had taken aboard 16 more survivors and the Kloto's impetuous captain—he that returned to the wreck. At 20 minutes past 3 the freighter sank, leaving only floating wreckage and a Coston light, which flickered up from time to time until daybreak like a lantern in a lifeboat.

"Neither submarine nor destroyer had used gun fire. The German was not even sighted. Only two torpedoes were known to have been fired—the one which crossed the X's bow, and the one which settled the Kloto.

"Only two days before the X had had a better brush with a 'sub,' and may have got her; skippers put in the claim on evidence as good. She was steaming in the same area, under like conditions, when at ten minutes past eight in the evening she sighted a pronounced wake. One could even estimate the speed at which the submarine had been submerged—about eight knots.

"The X worked up to full speed, turned with left rudder, and ran down on the right hand side of the slick. In six minutes she had reached its 'head,' ready to drop a depth charge; four minutes to run to the end of the wake, two more to allow for the 'sub's' run beyond—and she tripped the pump. With the charge, which was set for 80 feet, was dropped a calcium torch pot to mark the place. The explosion audibly jarred the blowers, and within three minutes bubbles swirled to the surface. But in the 20 minutes that the X circled the vicinity, hoping the injured enemy would rise to the surface, no further sign of damage was revealed.

Four days later the — turned her convoy over to the — at two hours before daylight, and returned to her regular patrol. About five o'clock in the morning she took under her wing the steamer Pentwy, bound for Manchester. At a quarter to eight Captain Lyons sent a quartermaster aloft to the main track to clear a fouled commission pennant. Scarcely had the quartermaster reached it when he called down to the watch on the after deckhouse, 'Periscope, two points abaft the port beam!' The thing was 1,500 to 3,000 yards from the —, who was 400 yards ahead of the —, one point on her port bow. The whole body of the submarine was distinct to

the quartermaster though, oddly, invisible both to the bridge and the fore top lookout. The periscope seemed headed westward, and she at once started to submerge. Within 20 seconds, as the destroyer came to general quarters, first one torpedo, instantly followed by a second, radiated from the point where she had vanished. Both were making surface runs, for the sub's conning tower hatch still must have been near the surface. They threw spray up fully 20 feet, clearly visible against the choppy sea. All hands on the bridge and decks saw them—as did the —, astern; for she swung sharply to starboard, presenting her tail to them. At the same moment the — sounded six blasts on her whistle, followed by two, to mean that the attack was being made to port.

Miss by Small Margin.

"Both torpedoes missed the —, but by the smallest margin. The —, making high speed, swung with full left rudder toward the submarine. At five minutes past nine o'clock a third torpedo was fired at the convoy, apparently from another submarine, about 200 yards ahead of the first. It approached from the broad on the —'s beam, also making a surface run at about the same range as the first two, and missed.

"But now the — was in sight, some four miles distant, ready to relieve the — of her convoy. She, too, made full headway on signal, 'Make all speed to us; submarine in sight,' and searched in the vicinity of the —, while the — followed the 'sub's' slicks. The first wake tended east, but in ten minutes lost itself among the whitecaps. The second and plain-er one led westward, irregularly, as if the 'sub' had been zigzagging. A depth charge was dropped at its end, but a half hour's search found proof of nothing. The — really had saved herself by quick and efficient handling.

"The —'s adventure with the steamship Tarquah cannot be told until that flivver comes into port. The — and — had a hand in it; and the first account of the sinking of the Obuasi—where she arrived long after the deed—shows the defective functioning and poor marksmanship of German torpedoes. The — reports to the same effect. At half-past ten o'clock on the morning of the 13th she picked up in her sea area two boats and 23 survivors of the Greek steamship Charilaos Tricouplis. Two hours before, two torpedoes had been fired at her, at an interval of 25 minutes. The first struck the starboard quarter, between rudder and propeller, and, falling to detonate, did little damage; but the crew abandoned ship. The second hit the starboard side amidship, blowing up the Greek so that she sank in five minutes. Between the two shots the submarine came to the surface, but instantly submerged. Not a man appeared on deck. This submarine, like all others reported for the fortnight, are declared to have been of the U-50 to 60 types.

"So, as yet, no blood has been spilled on any of our gun mattings. The mean, blindfold campaign continues with small apparent losses either in 'subs' or shipping. We follow oil slicks with the thrill of a woodsman striking a strange cross-trail in the forest; we mass guns over a 'periscope' that turns into a swabhandle or table leg; vide the —'s and —'s famous battle with a ventilator off the French coast. And the — and —, I hear, have celebrated the chagrin and thrills of it all in ballads which I shall try to send you."

Potatoes Without Vines.

Findley, O.—Fred Neeley is growing some vineless potatoes in his garden here. When his potatoes failed to come up he started to plant cabbage plants, and found that the potatoes he had planted were developing, but that the vines were absent. They were larger than walnuts.

It's a long lane that has no cafe.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

The Clatsop county exhibit for the Land Products Show has been shipped to Portland. It made a full carload. The exhibit will be under the supervision of B. S. Worsley.

The side arms for the officers of the Astoria Home Guard have arrived. They include Colt automatic .45-caliber pistols, belts and scabbards. The Springfield rifles, belts, bayonets and ammunition for the men are expected soon.

Two men were convicted in the Marshfield Circuit court for selling liquor. Andy Erickson was fined \$200 and given six months in jail, but both penalties were suspended. Fred Nieme was given like penalties, but was not paroled.

Corporations have no moral character, according to an opinion given by Assistant Attorney General Benjamin to State Labor Commissioner Hoff, and consequently licenses cannot be granted them to conduct employment agencies.

W. H. Jewett, of Gardiner, announced Saturday that he has arranged for the immediate construction of a new 60,000 to 70,000-capacity sawmill at Gardiner, to replace the old mill belonging to the Gardiner Mill company, which burned last spring.

Arthur Caskey, of Springfield, died at the Eugene hospital Thursday night as a result of injuries received at Springfield when he stepped from the running board of a moving automobile and was thrown, his head striking the sidewalk. He is survived by his wife and two small children.

A number of state officials see in the opinion of Attorney General Brown, rendered Saturday, which allows the University of Oregon to take money from its maintenance fund to furnish the new woman's dormitory, a wide opening which may establish an entirely new precedent in the handling of state funds.

Following reports from Camp Lewis, Washington, that a large number of Oregon drafted men are being sent back from the cantonment because of physical defects, or for other reasons, Governor Withycombe said that he would ask the Adjutant General to advise physicians to be more careful in examinations in the future.

"Made in Germany" will no longer be imprinted on all articles of pottery ware sold in America. Clackamas county is to have a manufacturing establishment that will turn out articles of pottery that will compare with the product received from Europe. The plant is to be established at Molalla, and has already been incorporated for \$100,000. The incorporators are P. M. Boyles and Guy Dibble, of Molalla, Clackamas county, and H. H. Dailey, of East Liverpool, O.

Seven cantonment buildings are to be erected at once at the three forts at the mouth of the Columbia river, according to a letter received from Senator Chamberlain by President Gray, of the Astoria Chamber of Commerce. Senator Chamberlain inclosed a letter to him from the Adjutant General, which explains that the cantonments will be built because of the necessity of providing winter quarters. Three buildings are to be erected at Fort Stevens and two each at Forts Canby and Columbia.

Joseph McDonald Stewart, a rancher aged 30, was shot and killed Monday night in a duel with a neighbor, W. E. Butler, aged 53, on the latter's farm, on the Brownsboro road, two and a half miles from Eagle Point.

The apple growers of the Dallas vicinity, who are members of the Polk County Fruitgrowers' association, have been packing their product the past week, and several carloads are ready for the Eastern markets.

Governor Withycombe has appointed Charles Wendt, of Baker, and William Hanley, of Burns, as members of the Advisory Livestock Brand Adjusting board, created by the last legislature. Jerry Snow, brand inspector at the Union Stockyards, of North Portland, acts as ex-officio member of the board.

D. G. Horn and J. L. Sparretorn are attempting to raise funds with which to build the grade of a spur from Bonanza to the new Klamath Falls Municipal Railway being built from Klamath Falls to Dairy by Robert E. Strahorn, and a considerable sum for that purpose is already in sight, according to J. O. Hamaker, United States commissioner, of Bonanza.

Reports of the death of several head of livestock from rabies have been received at the county agricultural agent's office in Redmond during the past week. Coyotes infected several hogs, two of which died. In case when cows are bitten, requests for methods of treatment have been received. There is little that can be done unless the owner is on hand at the time the animal is infected. No cure of a case of rabies is on record.

3 U. S. BOYS KILLED; HUNS CAPTURE 12

Heavy Barrage Fire Cuts Off American Troops.

SAMMIES ARE GAME

Small Force Left at Mercy of Enemy, Which Launched Desperate Attack—5 Return Wounded.

Washington, D. C.—Armed forces under the American flag have had their first clash with German soldiers in an attack which the Germans made on first-line trenches, where the United States troops had been taken for instruction, and three Americans were killed, five wounded and 12 captured or missing.

The War department made this known Sunday night on receipt of a dispatch from General Pershing, showing that the German forces, soon after learning the position of the new enemy from overseas, had launched a desperate effort to overcome them.

The Teuton attack came in the form of a heavy barrage fire which isolated a section of the American trench and apparently left a small force of Americans at the mercy of their enemies.

That the American soldiers fought gamely is shown by Pershing's report of a prisoner being taken by them. How some of his troops escaped, bringing this German back with them, is not told in the brief dispatch of the American commander.

The United States troops were taken, in charge of veteran French soldiers, to a quiet portion of the long line that runs from the North Sea to Switzerland and for a few days conditions were normal.

Many French and British military writers have warned America that Germany would hurl terrific blows at the Americans as soon as news of their location reached the German side, and when the Americans went into the trenches War department officials here predicted this would happen.

It was pointed out that this was a favorite trick of the Germans when British territorials from Canada or Australia went into the trenches for the first time.

The announcement from General Pershing gave no names of the casualties. The announcement also omitted to mention whether the trench had been captured.

The official statement issued by the War department is as follows:

"The War department has received a dispatch from the commanding general of the American expeditionary forces which stated that before daylight, November 3, a salient occupied for instruction by a company of American infantry was raided by Germans. The enemy put down the heavy barrage fire, cutting off the salient from the rest of the men.

Our losses were three killed, five wounded and 12 captured or missing. The enemy losses are not known. One wounded German was taken prisoner."

PREMIERS PROCEED TO ITALY

Lloyd George and Military Leaders Arrive in France.

London.—Premier Lloyd George has left London for Italy, accompanied by a number of high military officials, it was announced officially Monday.

The party accompanying the Premier comprised Lieutenant General J. C. Smuts, the former South African commander; General Sir William R. Robertson, chief of the imperial staff at army headquarters; Major General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the War office; Major General Sir Henry Hughes Wilson, of the General staff, and other officers.

Paris.—David Lloyd George, the British Premier, arrived in Paris Monday evening. He will accompany Professor Paul Painleve, the French premier, to Rome.

Berlin Residents Shiver.

Copenhagen.—The Berlin Vorwaerts says many residents are shivering from unheated homes. Delivery of the quarter-ton per room of coal promised November 1 may not be all given until Christmas. Long coal lines, rewarding all-day waiters with a few scoopsful, are daily features.

The three weeks' allowance, one storage egg, costs 12 cents, and must be eaten quickly. Chicken and game liver sausages cost \$2 per pound.

VETERANS BUSY IN LONDON

Civil War Society Members Attend Many American Functions in Metropolis.

London.—A prominent part in all the American war activities here since the United States entered the list of combatants has been taken by the local Society of Civil War veterans. The society now numbers only thirty members, of whom all are over seventy years old, and several over eighty. They have their headquarters in an old office building near London bridge, where they hold weekly meetings. Despite their age, they always march afoot to the American functions, such as this week's opening of the Red Cross but in the Strand, with the Stars and Stripes at their head, and a bunting banner alongside proclaiming "United States Civil War Veterans; Not for Ourselves but for Our Country."

The man who commits suicide to get out of going to war seems more of a pessimist than a coward.

WOMAN INSTRUCTS STUDENT AVIATORS

Sandusky, O.—Mrs. Alys McKay Bryant is the only woman in Ohio who is training aviators for possible war service. Mrs. Bryant, an exhibition flyer and the widow of Johnny Bryant, an aviator who was killed during a flight four years ago, accepted a position as tutor in the school established here by Tom Benoist for aviators. Benoist died a few months ago and Mrs. Bryant took charge of the school. She has volunteered her services for war, but will not be summoned unless an "emergency" arises.

Everything keeps getting dearer—except our sweethearts and wives, who couldn't possibly be any dearer than they are now.—Boston Transcript.

A witticism proves nothing.

GRAND DUKE IS FUGITIVE

Former Commander in Chief of the Russian Army Said to Have Made Escape.

Copenhagen.—It has been reported here that the Grand Duke Nicholas, uncle of the czar and former commander in chief of the Russian armies, has escaped from his estate in the Caucasus, where he retired after the revolution and where he had been practically held a prisoner of the provisional government. The dispatch comes from the Helsingfors correspondent of the Politken, who says that the rumors persist in Petrograd that the grand duke is a fugitive.

Garden Heated By Stove.

Helena, Mont.—Early frosts will have no terrors for the garden of James Swartz of Holter Dam, near here. The garden is heated by a stove from the inside and is protected on the outside by a curtain which is lowered about on a frame.

When the ladies ask us for suffrage, we say "Knit!"