

KAISER'S SUBMARINE BLOCKADE OF GREAT BRITAIN BEGINS AT MIDNIGHT

NEUTRAL SHIPS ENTER WATERS AT THEIR PERIL

After Midnight Submarine Activity Begins—Neutral Vessels Paint Names and Nationality Upon Bows—England's Retaliatory Policy Expected Momentarily.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—At the stroke of midnight the waters surrounding the coasts of the United Kingdom will become, so far as lies within the power of Germany to make them, a war zone, which all vessels, neutral or otherwise, will penetrate at their peril.

Some of the services across the channel probably will be curtailed, but a majority of the neutral shipping lines will accept the risk and continue their sailings.

Paint Names on Ships

The names and nationality of the vessels and the flags of their nations will be painted on their sides in the hope that German submarines will not sink them by mistake.

England's announcement of the details of her proposed retaliatory policy by which she plans to shut off the German food supply from the outside, is expected momentarily and apparently there is not the slightest prospect that this country will accept the German proposal to call off the blockade if England will relax naval pressure on shipping.

It is not expected there will be any immediate and widespread activity by the German submarines, but the developments regarding neutral ships should bring to a head one of the most interesting and threatening situations of the war.

To Invade Serbia

An Athens dispatch states that a formidable army has been assembled for a new campaign against Serbia. This army is described as amounting to 450,000 men, made up in part of Germans. The army which Serbia now has in the field is estimated at about one-half this size.

Heavier fighting is now under way in France and Belgium. The German war office asserts that attacks undertaken by the British and French at many places were repulsed. It is stated also that an advance was made in the Argonne, but the announcement of the French war office says that the German onslaught in this region was driven back.

SOCIALISTS' ACTION PROTESTED IN FRANCE

PARIS, Feb. 17.—The action of two socialist members of the French cabinet, Jules Guesde, minister without portfolio, and Marcel Sembat, minister of public works, in attending the recent international socialist conference in London, has evoked protest from a large section of the French press, which makes the declaration that this conference was inspired by the German social democratic party.

Senator Gaudin de Villaine has written a letter to Premier Viviani announcing that unless the government publicly disavows these two socialist ministers before next Thursday he will present an interpellation on the subject in the senate.

WHEAT TUMBLES IN PRICE AT CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—Increasing apprehension as to vessels' risks in the war zone was largely responsible for a fall in wheat today. As much as 5 cents was cut from the price of the July delivery, in which trading chiefly centered. That month dropped to \$1.31 1/2, as against \$1.36 3/4 @ 1/2 last night.

FORTUNES OF WAR MAY MAKE GAUITY GIRL'S SON PEER OF ENGLAND



The "proudest title in all England" may be the gift the god of war will bestow upon little Henry Alexander Reginald Paget, son of the gayest of the gaiety girls, the former Olive May. Olive May is now the wife of Lord Victor Paget, younger brother of the Marquis of Anglesey, heir to the title and the vast estates that go with it. The marquis has no sons. He is now fighting at the front. So is Olive May's husband. Before the fighting ends the gaiety girl's son may be the Marquis of Anglesey.

50,000 RUSSIANS TAKEN PRISONER STATE GERMAN

Berlin Reports Nine Days' Battle in Mazurian Lake District of East Prussia Results in Overwhelming Victory for Germans—Russian Army at Southern End in Danger.

BERLIN, Feb. 17, by wireless.—Fifty thousand prisoners besides many cannon and machine guns were captured by the Germans when the Russian tenth army was defeated in the Mazurian Lake district, East Prussia, according to a statement issued at general headquarters here today. The text of the communication follows:

"In a nine days battle in the Mazurian Lake district the Russian tenth army, consisting of at least 11 infantry and several cavalry divisions not only was driven out of strongly entrenched positions east of the Mazurian Lake plateau but was forced back across the frontier.

Still Being Pursued Utterly defeated at almost every point only the remnants of the army managed to reach the woods east of Suwalki and Augustowo, where they are being pursued. The number of prisoners taken has not been ascertained but certainly exceeded 50,000. More than 50 cannon and 60 machine guns, besides an unknown quantity of war material were captured.

Emperor William was present during the decisive fighting in the center of our line. The victory was won by veteran east Prussian troops assisted by other troops who are too young for such work but proved their worth.

"The achievements of these troops under fearful weather conditions, marching by day and night and fighting against such a stubborn enemy are beyond all praise."

On Southeastern Front

The Russian army at the other end of the eastern front also is in danger, according to the correspondent of a Berlin newspaper, who states that the force which penetrated Bukovina has been enveloped by Austro-Hungarian troops.

A general battle is believed to be pending near Czernowitz.

WITHYCOMBE ASKS BOWLBY'S RESIGNATION AS HIGHWAY ENGINEER

SALEM, Or., Feb. 17.—The state highway commission today requested the immediate resignation of Major H. L. Bowlby as state highway engineer. In explaining the reason for the request Governor James Withycombe said that much needed road legislation is being held up by the antipathy which seemed to exist against Major Bowlby on the part of members of the legislature.

SARAH BERNHARDT TO LOSE HER LEG

BORDEAUX, via Paris, Feb. 17.—Sarah Bernhardt, who is in a hospital here awaiting the amputation of her leg, necessitated by an injury to the knee, continues to maintain her strength and spirits. Her cheerful courage has won the admiration of all her friends. In answer to one of hundreds of inquiries regarding her condition she telegraphed that her leg would be amputated next Monday and after that she would be quite happy.

BIG CHIEF CROKER AND INDIAN BRIDE RESTING ON THE TRAIL IN FLORIDA'S SEMINOLE GLADES



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Croker

Latest picture of Richard Croker, ex-boss of Tammy Hall, and his bride, who was Beulah Benton Edmondson, a direct descendant of Chief Blue Jacket of the Cherokee Indian nation, taken on their extensive estate some miles from Palm Beach, Fla. The pair have named their winter home, which is a veritable museum of Indian relics, the "Wagon," and the pleasure they apparently find in long tramps together over the glades is ample proof that disparity in age is no obstacle to happiness in marriage.

FEAR SESSION WILL NOT FINISH WORK FRIDAY

SALEM, Or., Feb. 17.—Although the Oregon house of representatives, by holding night sessions, limiting debate, slaughtering what were pronounced unimportant bills in committee, and in withdrawing others had succeeded at noon today in disposing of 420 of the 478 bills introduced in that body, more than fifty appropriation bills remained to be introduced this afternoon and apprehensions were expressed by leaders today that with these to consider and a number of important senate bills, the legislature will have to work Saturday. Adjournment is due Friday.

NO EMBARGO NEEDED ON FOOD

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—President Wilson declared today he believed an erroneous impression had grown up concerning the food supply in the United States. In a letter to Mayor Mitchel of New York, replying to a suggestion that an embargo be placed by the federal government on exports of wheat, the president wrote that in the near future the administration will give out a statement showing the exact situation. The president thanked Mayor Mitchel for his letter and for the report of the food committee, headed by George W. Perkins, in which it was suggested that the amount of wheat in the United States at present as compared with the amount on hand a year ago, be made public.

PEACE CENTENARY OF GHENT TREATY OBSERVED TODAY

SALEM, Or., Feb. 17.—Governor James Withycombe was reminded today that 100 years ago the treaty of peace, which ended the last war between the United States and Great Britain, was signed at Ghent. Among telegrams received was one from the Canadian peace centenary association and another from the municipality of Victoria, B. C.

"Sir Edward Walker desires, on behalf of the executive committee," said the message from the peace association, "to convey to your excellency and the people of Oregon an expression of warmest esteem, together with the hope that no dispute will hereafter arise between the British and American peoples incapable of adjustment by friendly agreement."

The other message said: "Victoria embraces with pleasure the opportunity afforded of renewing expressions of esteem and good will for the people of the United States, especially of the states of the Pacific coast."

SHIPPING BILL FIGHT LOST BY ADMINISTRATION

Measure as Put Through House Loses Support of Progressive Senators and Democratic Believers—Plans to Concur Wrecked—Bill Finally Gets to Senate Calendar.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Administration Democrats got another setback in their fight for President Wilson's ship bill when they suddenly learned today that the bill as it passed the house last night will not command the support of Senator Kenyon, Norris or La Follette, progressive republicans, on whom they counted, nor the support of any of the seven insurgents of their own party.

The plan to move to concur with the house amendments was wrecked by the discovery that the leaders could not muster enough votes. Administration leaders made no attempt to conceal their embarrassment and planned to send the bill to conference with the hope of putting on some amendments to command support. The bolting Democrats were said to be favorable to an amendment to make the enterprise a temporary one to end with the European war.

After a series of motions to send the bill to a conference motions to table, appeals and other maneuvers in which the seven democratic insurgents voted with the republican opposition, the bill finally got into a parliamentary position, where it went to the senate calendar and can be called up again only on a motion for its consideration. The situation put the administration leaders into a quandary and left the whole situation almost as indefinite as before.

BRITISH TO SEARCH DANISH STEAMER

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Agents of the Scandinavian-American line today announced that the steamship Oscar II, which sailed from this port February 4 for Christiania and Copenhagen, had reached Kirkwall, in the Orkney islands, just north of Scotland, last Sunday. Fear had been felt as to the vessel's safety.

The Oscar II is a Danish steamer. Local agents of the line said today that the vessel had not intended to stop at Kirkwall and that they inferred she had been seized and held there for examination as to her cargo. The message received here came from Captain Hemphel and consisted of four words:

"Arrived at Kirkwall Sunday."

This is the second time the Oscar II has been diverted from her course into a British port. "The message undoubtedly means that the Oscar II has been taken into Kirkwall by a British war vessel," said a representative of the line. On the previous occasion she was detained for a few days and then released.

AUSTRIANS ENVELOPE RUSSIAN FORCES

BERLIN, Feb. 17.—The Russian army in Bukovina has been enveloped by the Austrian and Hungarian forces near Hueno and Seroes, the Tagelblatt says in a dispatch from Bistriz. One Austrian army pushing the Russians from the south now has reached Storozeints, while another Austrian force having advanced eastward from Marmaros against Wisniez, now stands in the vicinity of Czernowitz. The Russian army has halted 12 miles from that point, the Tagelblatt is informed, having met reinforcements.

TURKS NOT FORCED TO DECLARE WAR SAYS TALAAT BEY

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 17.—Turkey declared war without being urged by Germany or impelled by any other influences, save those of the empire, said Talaat Bey, today in a statement to the Associated Press, made in reply to questions concerning the political and military situation in his country. Talaat Bey today fills the posts of minister of the interior, minister of finance and minister of marine in the Turkish cabinet. Two weeks ago, in addition to these offices, he was also minister of war, which gave him the four most important folios in the administration. He is a young Turk and is undoubtedly the most important man in Turkey at the present time. His advice is heeded everywhere and he virtually directs the public affairs of the Ottoman empire.

"Turkey engaged in military operation," he continued, "only when actions on the part of Russia and Great Britain made defensive measures necessary and today Turkey has taken all steps needful to carry the war through the holy war in not menacing Christians, but the holy war is a fact which the enemies of the Mohammedan world should be in mind. Christians in the Ottoman empire who are not participating in the destinies of their country are not suffering from conditions brought by the present state of affairs, and any statements to the contrary are a result of British, French and Russian intrigues, the purpose of which is to direct against Turkey the pressure of neutral countries of lower standing in the Ottoman world."

JAPAN SEEKING GUARDIANSHIP OF CHINA'S DESTINY

PEKING, Feb. 17.—If information from presumably well informed sources, both foreign and Chinese, is correct, the memorandum recently given by the Japanese legation to the diplomatic representative here of the United States, Great Britain, France and Russia respecting the demands of the Tokio government on China, omits certain of the requirements originally presented to Peking. These negotiations, which began late in January, had for their object the determination of the future status of Japan's relations with China and a decision respecting certain questions regarding the future development of the Chinese republic. They virtually make Japan guardian of China's destiny. Their course has been guarded with great secrecy.

The Peking government did not conceal its concern over the situation thus brought about, and on February 6 Sun Pao-chi, the Chinese foreign secretary, in conference with the Japanese minister at Peking, rejected Japan's proposals on the ground that they were incompatible with China's sovereignty and conflicted with existing treaties between China and other foreign powers. The Japanese minister then asked for an acceptance in principle, stating that the detailed negotiations could be conducted later, but the Peking government returned the same answer as to the principles involved.

The original demands, according to information from Peking sources, were twenty-one in number and were far-reaching both in their political and criminal aspects.

GERMAN SHIPS UNFIT FOR USE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Bernard N. Baker, a Baltimore steamship manager, told the senate committee inquiring into charges of influence against the administration ship bill today that 80 per cent of the German-owned liners laid up in American ports were unfit for the service the bill contemplates, and that in all his conversations with Secretary McAdoo he had so far excluded those ships as unavailable to the government that the possibility of their purchase never was discussed. Baker added he was satisfied Mr. McAdoo acquiesced in that view. Mr. Baker was the only witness heard today. Describing his connection with the

shipping bill, Mr. Baker said he met Secretary McAdoo when the latter called a conference of business men soon after the outbreak of the war. He said he conferred with Mr. McAdoo on the shipping bill and ocean freight rates and discussed the availability of ships included in a list submitted by a Boston ship agent which included none of those owned by the large German lines.

When efforts were being made to get Americans out of the war zone, Baker said he asked Mr. Sichel of the Hamburg-American line to advise Mr. McAdoo. Sichel refused, he said, until assured that no proposition to buy steamers of that line was contemplated. Sichel said he had orders to entertain no such proposal.