

AMERICAN SHIP SUNK BY MINE IN WAR ZONE

Steamer Evelyn at Bottom of Sea With Cargo of Copper—Crew Saved, Except One—Vessel Ventured in Mined Waters—Inquiry Ordered by United States Government.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Sinking of the American steamer Evelyn off the German coast presumably by a mine, although with one exception, the crew was saved, brought vividly before official Washington today the dangers to which American vessels are exposed in the waters adjacent to the belligerent coasts to Europe. The American note to Germany warning that country against attacks on American vessels in the sea zones of war applied only to submarines. Since the outbreak of the war, the North Sea has been mined by both Germany and Great Britain and an added warning was given to neutral commerce by the German reply to the American note last week in announcing that mines would be strewn in the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland and in the English channel.

No Diplomatic Action
It was considered unlikely that there would be any diplomatic action resulting from the loss of the Evelyn, beyond claims for damages inasmuch as there is now international convention in force for prohibiting the laying of mines either for offensive or defensive purposes. In the Russo-Japanese war the Japanese strew mines across the harbor entrance to Port Arthur, which was held by the Russians. Similarly the Japanese laid mines in Vladivostok waters across Peter the Great Bay for 40 miles. While the laying of mines in offensive operations, such as the recent note proclaimed, has not been acquiesced in as a belligerent right, it is believed in official quarters that this and other precedents would make it difficult for the United States to make further diplomatic protest.

Stand By Warnings
The prevailing opinion in administration circles today was that the United States government would stand firmly on its warnings to Great Britain respectively, concerning the misuse of neutral flags and possible attacks on American vessels or lives by submarines. This policy was regarded as significant of a possible critical turn of affairs, should any violations of the warning ensue.

Secretary Daniels, explained that his purpose in directing an inquiry after the state department had called upon the ambassadors at London and Berlin for a report, was to get technical information which perhaps might not be included in the ambassador's reply. It was of course, understood that Commander Gherardi, as American attaché at the American embassy at Berlin, would be guided entirely by Ambassador Gerard in making his investigation.

It was said at the navy department that from present indications it would be difficult for the naval officer to secure exact information of what actually destroyed the Evelyn.

In Mine Region
The fact that the Evelyn lies at the bottom of the North Sea would make it difficult to examine her hull. It was pointed out, however, that German officials might disclose to

(Continued on Last Page)

INTERSTATE LAWS FOR COLUMBIA FISHING

SALEM, Or., Feb. 22.—Among several score bills passed by the recent legislature, to which Governor James Withycombe affixed his signature today, was one providing for joint regulation of fishing on the Columbia river, as agreed on with the state of Washington. The measure makes the Oregon and Washington laws uniform after years of conflicting regulations. It increases the cost of fishing licenses 50 per cent over the previous Oregon law. Federal ratification of the compact will be necessary when a similar measure pending in the Washington state legislature is passed, before the law becomes effective.

FIRST NEWS PICTURES SHOWING OPENING WORLD'S FAIR AT SAN FRANCISCO



C.1215 NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

California executives as they entered the Exposition gates on opening day. Left to right: Mayor H. H. Rose of Los Angeles, Governor Hiram W. Johnson of California, Mayor James Rolph Jr., of San Francisco, and Captain Edwin Carpenter, commandant of Exposition guards.

CHAMBERLAIN PLANS FOR 250,000 ARMY AT NEXT SESSION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—War and preparedness for war were the sole topics of discussion today in congress, the senate debating the army bill and the house working on appropriations for coast fortifications.

Chairman Chamberlain of the senate military committee gave notice that legislation for an army of 250,000 men and a reserve system would be taken up at the next session.

"With reorganization along these lines," he said, "the United States will be in a position to meet all dangers within or without the nation."

In the house, Representative Gardner declared that at the present rate it will be eighteen years before coast defense guns had sufficient ammunition for an hour's engagement and that the coast fortifications could be taken from the rear.

Mexico figured much in the senate debate. Senator Norris suggested that if General Villa knew how unprepared the United States was for war he would take the country in two weeks.

Senator Fall declared a situation had developed in Mexico similar to that as a result of which the French established Maximilian on a throne. Should the United States be drawn into the European war, he declared, Mexico would furnish an inviting base from which it could be attacked.

CONFESSION SOLVES EXPRESS ROBBERY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Mystery surrounding the reported robbery of the express car on the Atlantic coast line's Florida Flier near Alexandria last Thursday night, has been cleared up, according to an announcement by the Adams Express company office here, by a confession from the two messengers who were in the car that they themselves smashed the company's strong box and threw it from the moving train. The box contained no valuables. The messengers broke into it, the explanation says to get some stationary they needed for their night's work and later, fearing the job would get them into trouble, agreed to tell the story of "the masked robber."



Citizens parade to Exposition Grounds down Van Ness avenue on morning of opening day when fully 100,000 celebrants marched on foot to the gates. The crowd was augmented by over 200,000 more who took street cars, ferries and automobiles.

BRITAIN PLANNING RETALIATION FOR KAISER'S BLOCKADE

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The allied governments have not yet decided upon the precise attitude which it is proposed to adopt in retaliation against Germany's recently initiated belligerent policy, but a speedy agreement is expected. Replying to a question in the house of commons this morning, Premier Asquith said:

"The allied governments are considering what action it would be proper to take in the way of reprisals against the German policy of attacking and destroying British, allied and neutral merchant vessels, without warning and without an attempt being made to save the lives of civilians and innocent crews."

"Pending a decision, which I hope will soon be announced, I cannot make a statement regarding the nature or scope of the measures to be taken."

"As to the forms in which the decisions will be published," said Premier Asquith, "there certainly will be a note from Great Britain, and I hope there will be a joint one."

VANDERBILT CUP RACE IS POSTPONED ACCOUNT OF RAIN

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 22.—On account of the unsatisfactory condition of the course and the threatening weather, the Vanderbilt cup race was postponed today, until one week from Saturday. The drivers made one exhibition round of the course for the benefit of the spectators.

EAST ST. LOUIS FIRE LOSS \$150,000

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Feb. 22.—Fire starting from an explosion in the upper floor of Ziegenhein Brothers furniture store today spread to the four corners at the intersection of Collinsville and St. Louis avenues and caused a loss exceeding \$150,000. Two buildings were destroyed.



C.1245 NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

President Charles C. Moore of the Exposition (above) dictating the telegraph message to the operator (below) announcing to President Wilson that the fair at San Francisco was ready to be officially declared open by the nations executive.

KAISER'S BLOCKADE ALARMS SHIPPERS NORTHERN NATIONS

LONDON, Feb. 22.—Germany's submarine blockade continues to be the chief topic of interest in the United Kingdom, although British shipping apparently is moving with its usual freedom. The Scandinavian neutrals, however, are showing much alarm over the situation, a great sensation having been caused in those countries by the torpedoing of the Norwegian steamship Beldrige off Folkestone last week.

Representatives of the Scandinavian government are holding another conference today, the outcome of which is awaited with much interest by neutral shippers.

The question of a naval convoy, it is understood, is being considered seriously at the conference, but the guarded comments of the newspapers show that it is clearly recognized that such a step might lead to war.

The question of the right of the crews of five Danish ships to refuse to sail for English ports is now before a court which is considering their expense that Germany is not likely to respect a neutral flag.

Following precedent, which seems to have made Sunday a popular day for such raids, a lone German aeroplane flew over several east coast towns last night, dropping bombs which did only slight material damage and caused little alarm.

Fighting in the Carpathian mountains still is being fiercely prosecuted by the Russian and the Austro-German forces, but apparently without decisive results for either side.

SENATE DEMANDS MORE SUBMARINES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Senate republicans intend to put a larger submarine building plan in the pending naval bill than has been provided by the house.

Senator Smoot introduced today an amendment for fifty submarines of a seagoing type and twenty-five smaller ones. For the first year it would appropriate \$30,000,000.

"The European war has demonstrated beyond any question," said Senator Smoot, introducing his amendment, "that submarines are invaluable for defense of coast cities and coast line. That is the sort of defense we want in this country more than anything else."

VAWTER TELLS OF WORK DONE BY LEGISLATURE

Jackson County's Representative Comments on Legislation Affecting Southern Oregon — Horticultural Bill Killed—Jackson Delegation Opposed Introduction of Politics.

(By Representative W. I. Vawter.)
What measures were before the legislature of particular interest to Jackson county?

One was the horticultural bill, which I introduced. It was prepared by the Horticultural society, which met here last November. This bill proposed an entirely new horticultural code and provided for one commissioner, with his headquarters in Portland, and provided for a limited number of state inspectors. This bill carried no larger appropriation than the existing law. For some reason the bill met with strenuous opposition from certain members of the present commission and some ex-members. It appears that there has been a good deal of ill-feeling between the different factions of the existing commission during the two or three years last past. It was claimed by the opponents to this bill that it was framed in the interest of Mr. Roberts, who for some time has been president of the existing horticultural board, and was not in the interest of the general public, with the result that the bill was made the target of all factions and was defeated some days before the session closed.

Home Rule Law
One feature of the proposed law was of especial value to Jackson county, as it contained a paragraph known as the "home rule" law, providing that Jackson county should have its own entomologist, and cooperating with the county court, the county entomologist would have full control in all matters affecting horticultural interests. I believe at a future time this proposed act will be revived and will become the law of the state.

The Siskiyou road bill is of some importance. I think it will accomplish what it was intended to accomplish, namely, to commit the state highway commission to the completion of the highway over the Siskiyou. Urging the adoption of this measure, I claimed that the Siskiyou was a natural barrier to the south part of the state in the same manner and to the same extent, although in a different way, that the Columbia river is to an entrance into the state from the north. I stated on the floor of the house that Jackson county had never found fault that the state had assumed and undertaken to pay interest on the bonds issued for the building of the interstate bridge between Oregon and Washington; that it was a public improvement, of general benefit to the state, and while Jackson county would have very little direct use of the interstate bridge, at the same time it was an improvement needed for the upbuilding of the state. This view was generally accepted by representatives, with the result that the Siskiyou bill has passed both the senate and the house, and I think doubtless will be signed by the governor.

Assessment and Taxation
What about assessment and taxation? A new assessment and tax law has been passed which I think will be found in the ultimate as a workable law, and one that will prove fairly satisfactory. The collection of taxes will be placed in the hands of the

(Continued on Page 2.)

BROKERS REFUSE TO SUBMIT THEIR BOOKS

CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—Grain brokers engaged in business on the Chicago board of trade have flatly refused to submit their books and records to government officials investigating the high prices of wheat and flour, it was learned today. As a result it was declared the inquiry which centers in the causes for the advanced price of bread is at a standstill.