

WHITE STAR LINER AFRIC IS SUBMARINED

17 OF CREW PERISH WHEN SHIP IS SUNK

Twelve Thousand-Ton Steamer Sunk at Sea, Part of Crew Landed—Vessel Engaged in Liverpool and Capetown Service—Lloyd's Reports of Other Vessels Sunk Total 6908 Tons—Several Small Steamers Are Lost.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—Lloyd's Shipping agency this afternoon announces that the White Star line steamship Afric, of 11,999 tons gross, had been sunk. Part of the crew of the liner was landed.

The Exchange Telegraph company says the Afric was sunk by a submarine and that seventeen of her crew are missing. This was later confirmed.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—The White Star line has a report that the steamship Afric has been sunk. Officials of the company say they have no confirmation.

The Afric has a gross tonnage of 11,999 tons. She was last reported in the Maritime Register as leaving Capetown, Africa, on December 3, with her destination not given.

On African Run.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—The Afric belonged to the Oceanic Steam Navigation company, a subsidiary company of the White Star line. Steamship men here familiar with the vessel said she had accommodations for about 500 passengers, second class only. She was engaged in the Liverpool, Capetown and Australian service. At the office of the White Star line here it was said the ship had been engaged in admiralty service, but whether so engaged when sunk they did not know.

List of U-Boat Victims.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Lloyd's report today of ships sunk by submarines shows a total of 6808 tons. All the vessels named have been reported by news dispatches except the British brigantine Ada, which the Lloyd report said had been sunk by gun fire without warning. Her crew was rescued.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The Norwegian motor vessel West has been sunk, Lloyd's Shipping agency announced today. The crew was landed.

The Norwegian motor vessel West is not listed in available shipping records.

The sinking of the British steamer Foreland is also announced by Lloyd's.

AIRSHIPS WATCH FOR VILLA FORCE

COLUMBUS, N. M., Feb. 13.—United States army airplanes left the ground at daylight today to make an investigation of the reported Villa movements in the vicinity of Palomas, seven miles south of here, and three miles below the border line. Signal corps observers made the flights with the aviators and prepared detailed reports of the Mexican troop movements below the border. No official announcement has yet been made here as to the outcome of these observations. It was believed here today that Jose Ynez Salazar, who was reported to be in command of the Villa troops operating near the border, was planning to make a detour in the direction of Juarez, where scattered Villa bands were scheduled to concentrate for an attack on the town opposite El Paso. The garrison which has occupied Palomas will remain there, it was believed here, in order that the attitude of the United States toward the Villa faction holding a border post might be ascertained before an action on Juarez was undertaken.

BERLIN'S POOR SUFFER HUNGER STATE REFUGEES

Meat Scarce in Germany—Rich Able to Buy at Fancy Prices—Poor Confined to Vegetable Diet—Under-feeding Beneficial as a Rule, as Germans All Overate Before War.

BERNE, Feb. 13.—Americans who arrived here from Germany with Ambassador Gerard are congratulating themselves on having escaped further wrestling with Germany's food problem. Butchers' windows, well stocked with assorted meats, such as are seen here, are an unwelcome sight in Berlin. Meat is now so scarce in the German capital that it is never hung in windows to attract buyers, but is speedily distributed without advertising. Customers keep in close touch with the butcher, so as to know when the next meager supply will be on sale.

All Sold on Card.

Practically all meat is sold on a card entitling each person to half a pound weekly, but dishes made of kidneys, lungs and other scraps can be bought in restaurants without a card. Game and poultry are excepted from the card system and command extraordinary prices. The maximum prices for pork and mutton range from 50 to 70 cents, but a dollar more is paid at hotel doors, for, despite Germany's genius for organization, small surreptitious selling prevails.

The rich, of course, suffer comparatively little. They are still able to buy high-priced poultry or fish. Turkeys, geese and chickens are still displayed in poultrymen's windows and bear labels announcing that they can be purchased at from \$1.50 to \$1.00 per pound. Cases have been reported where a fat goose brought more than \$30. The poorer people, especially in Berlin, are undoubtedly suffering from hunger, as their food is confined mainly to bread, potatoes, turnips and low-grade margarine.

Reduced Weight General.

In spite, however, of the fact that food is very scarce, one seldom sees anyone visibly showing marks of under-feeding. Some elderly persons and some anxious mothers look emaciated and reduced weight is quite general. The general verdict is that the health of the people is better than before the war, when overeating had almost assumed the character of a national besetting sin. Short commons are borne cheerfully and the people are mostly disposed to just over the matter where the pinch is not too keen. Men in authority, however, recognize that Germany is confronted with a problem of growing difficulty. The next four months are regarded as especially critical because the supply of vegetables, except potatoes and turnips, is practically exhausted.

Lost Thirty Pounds.

ROTTERDAM, Feb. 13.—Two Americans who have reached Rotterdam since the break in diplomatic relations between Germany and the United States—although in both cases their passports had been applied for before the rupture—gave similar accounts of present conditions in (Continued on Page Four.)

COLDEST WEATHER FOR NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—This is New York's coldest day in exactly three years. Temperatures dropped officially to the zero mark for the first time since February 13, 1914, when the reading was 1 degree below.

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Reports received from various sections of Orange and adjoining counties show temperatures ranging from 27 to 29 degrees below zero this morning, the coldest of the season in this vicinity. Several persons were overcome by cold.

ASK RELEASE OF AMERICANS HELD IN GERMANY

United States Sends Through Switzerland Demand for Release of American Seamen Taken to Germany on Prize Ship Yarrowdale—Time Expires for Zone Exceptions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Another communication has been sent to Germany through the Swiss minister here, looking to the release of the American seamen taken to Germany on the prize ship Yarrowdale and now detained while Germany seeks assurances of the status of her seamen in American ports. The exact nature of the communication is not disclosed but it is believed to be a demand for the release of the Americans.

Limitation Time Up.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Berlin's formal announcement that the time has expired for all exceptions in the campaign of ruthlessness, turned attention here to the questions which confront the American government in whatever next steps may be taken to meet the situation.

President Wilson abandoned his usual morning game of golf and remained at work in his study. In the afternoon the cabinet met and went over the situation.

Among the questions now being carefully considered are:

The proposed conference of neutrals to outline the rights of the nations not engaged in the war. This has not taken definite form and its exact status has not been divulged; nevertheless it is known the idea has not been abandoned.

Questions Considered.

Loading guns for the arming of American merchants. The preponderance of opinion among officials who have advised the president on this point, favors having the navy furnish the guns.

Action on Austria's situation in the new campaign. The new ambassador, Count Tarnowski, still is waiting to present his credentials.

A reply to Mexico's suggestion for embargoes on food and ammunition to the belligerents. Any or all of these questions are expected to be decided in the near future.

While it was reiterated today that the president would not be rushed into war, it was plain that all officials realized that the much feared overt act might come at any time.

FREDERIK TO SAIL WITH BERNSTORFF

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—The busiest place in the shipping district here today is the office of the Scandinavian American line, where final arrangements are being made for the departure of the Frederik VIII, upon which the German ambassador and his staff will return to Europe. The assurance of safety from German submarines has crowded the liner with passengers. It is estimated that she will carry 1200 persons, in addition to her crew, when she leaves port tomorrow. Ambassador Von Bernstorff will be carried from the railroad terminal upon his arrival from Washington to the Scandinavian-American pier on a navy cutter.

AUSTRIANS TO LEAVE WITH BERNSTORFF

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Some members of the families of officials attached to the Austro-Hungarian embassy have arranged to leave the United States with Count Von Bernstorff and his party. In some quarters these arrangements were regarded as significant in view of the indefinite state of relations with Austria-Hungary.

STRONGEST GUARD IN U. S. HISTORY IS THROWN ABOUT THE PRESIDENT



Dugout wherever he goes by secret service operatives, Wilson is absolutely cut off from the public. Not even civil war furnishes such an example of careful protection for the nation's chief executive.



President and Mrs. Wilson, and two of the detectives in charge of his safety. Above, Joe Murphy, in active charge of the secret service details, and below, Richard Jervis, actual chief of the personal bodyguard.

BRITISH HEM IN TURKISH FORCES ON TIGRIS FRONT

LONDON, Feb. 13.—Official announcement was made today that the British forces on the Tigris front have established a line across the Tigris bend west of Kut-el-Amara, completely hemming in the Turks.

UNCLE SAM TO ARM CUBANS TO QUELL REVOLT

HAVANA, Feb. 13.—Official announcement was made here today that the United States government had offered five thousand rifles and five million cartridges to the Cuban government.

M'CALL SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 13.—Marcus H. McCall, a barber, recently convicted of murdering W. H. Shaner, a fellow workman in a downtown shop here last Christmas, was sentenced to life imprisonment today. McCall shot and killed Shaner as he worked at his chair.

AMERICAN HIT BY U-BOAT SHELL

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 13.—Of the three American fishermen who were aboard the British steamship Saxonia when she was shelled, torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine last Wednesday, one of them, James Weygard, was wounded by a shell splinter.

GERMANY CALLS OUT TRADES UNION OFFICIALS

LONDON, Feb. 13.—A Renter dispatch from Berne says that the German authorities suddenly called to the colors all officials of trade unions and socialist organizations. These officials, who aggregate ten thousand in number, have previously been exempt from military service.

WARFARE UPON SUBMARINES IS WELL IN HAND

Admiral Jellicoe "Not Dissatisfied" With Number of German U-Boats Which Will Never Return to Germany—British Total Losses 4,000,000 Tons, Mostly Replaced.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—Speaking in the house of lords today Earl Curzon, member of the war council, said Admiral Jellicoe, first sea lord of the admiralty, was not "dissatisfied" with the number of German submarines which would never return to Germany.

BELGIAN RELIEF WORK CONTINUED THROUGH SPAIN

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—More than 10,000,000 persons who have been fed through the efforts of the American commission for relief in Belgium will suffer no immediate hardship from the withdrawal of the American commission from participation in this work in Belgium and northern France, caused by the German authorities.

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HOUSE PASSES NAVAL BILL OF \$369,000,000

Amendments Permitting Purchase of Airship Patents and Equipping of Navy Yards for Shipbuilding Is Adopted—Private Plants to Be Commandeered in War Emergency.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The naval appropriation bill, aggregating \$369,000,000, including administration emergency amendments for commandeering of ships and munitions plants if necessary, and requisition of basic patents of aircraft, was passed today by the house. The bill now goes to the senate.

Amendments Offered.

The administration amendment authorizing the appropriation of \$1,000,000 to acquire basic patents for aircraft was adopted.

The appropriation of \$12,000,000 to equip the navy yards to build ships refused by private builders was agreed to after some discussion. Amendments to specify the Boston and other yards were defeated.

Without discussion, Representative Mann got an amendment declaring that the United States favored settlement of international disputes through mediation or arbitration.

"It is hereby reaffirmed," the amendment read, "to be the policy of the United States to adjust and settle its international disputes through mediation or arbitration, to the end that war may be honorably avoided."

Vote on Measure.

Eighteen democrats, including Majority Leader Kitchin; four republicans and one socialist, voted against the bill. Those voting against it were:

Democrats—Bailey of Pennsylvania; Burnett and Huddleston, Alabama; Callaway and Davis, Texas; Doughton, Page and Kitchin, North Carolina; Gordon and Sherwood, Ohio; Johnson and Thomas, Kentucky; Sanders, Virginia; Sears, Florida; Simon, Mississippi; Tamm, Illinois; Thompson, Oklahoma, and Tillman, Arkansas.

Republicans—Crampton, Michigan; Hollingsworth, Ohio; Lindbergh, Minnesota; and Nelson, Wisconsin.

Socialist—London, New York.

The house late yesterday adopted an administration amendment authorizing the taking over of private shipbuilding plants in an emergency and approved a building program for 1918 calling for one battle cruiser, three battleships, eighteen submarines and twenty other auxiliary vessels.

The country, Baron Beresford continued, had been informed in August 1915, that the submarine menace was well in hand.

As far as he could gather, it was better in hand today, owing to the new ideas brought to the admiralty by men fresh from the sea, who had had experience in this novel form of warfare and its mysteries. In conclusion Baron Beresford, while acknowledging the submarine menace was serious, said it would not be a fatal menace and he was confident that in six weeks or so the nation would have the submarines really in hand.

Secretary Is Essential.

The Earl of Lyton, replying for the admiralty, said the government would be glad if it were possible to take the public entirely into its confidence, but that it would involve imparting information to the enemy, and the admiralty was determined the Germans should have that information by experience and not through questions in parliament.

All the expedients suggested by Baron Beresford were being pressed forward with the utmost energy, together with many others, he continued, even in addition to those mentioned by Earl Curzon on February 5. Every device that human ingenuity could frame was being employed.

SAN JOSE, Cal., Feb. 13.—Three masked men found and gagged five employees at the ear barns of the San Jose Railroad company early today, broke open three safes and occupied with one day's receipts, amounting to \$800.

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