



# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



Forty-sixth Year, Daily—Eleventh Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1917.

NO. 1.

## SEVEN AMERICANS KILLED BY SUBMARINE

### NO WARNING TO TANKER BY U-BOAT

American Steamer Healdton Hit Twice by Torpedoes Outside of Barred Zone—Oil Set Afire—Life Boat Capsizes and 20 Perish—No Aid Given by Submarine—Survivors Drift Two Days and Are Picked up by Trawler.

THE HAGUE, March 23.—The second boat from the Healdton has been brought to Terchelling by a Dutch torpedo boat. One Dutchman had jumped overboard, losing his life. The third boat, containing 19 men was overturned when the ship capsized. All were drowned, making a total of 20 lives out of the crew of 41. Of the 13 Americans on board only six were saved. Two Dutchmen also were among the victims, others of whom were Spaniards, Norwegians and a Finn.

Electric Sign Shot Away. Detailed accounts of the sinking show that the Healdton, after considerable delay at Halifax on her way to Rotterdam, proceeded to Bergen, Norway, where she received orders to resume the voyage to Rotterdam. Nothing of special importance happened until Wednesday at about 8:15 p. m. Notwithstanding the electrically illuminated words "Healdton, New York," between the masts, the vessel was bombarded suddenly by an invisible submarine, which first shot away the illuminated name and thereupon without warning twice torpedoed the vessel. Fire broke out at once followed by an explosion in the machine room and the crew immediately sought safety in the boats, not having a minute to dress or collect any of their belongings.

All efforts to save the nineteen men in the overturned boat were fruitless. The boat with thirteen men, including the captain, were sighted on Thursday by the steam trawler Java, which had just put to sea, but immediately returned to assist with the shipwrecked men.

Survivors Suffer Greatly. A number of these survivors were in their underclothes and all were terribly exhausted by the nights fatigue and exposure in the open boat to bitter cold and snow. They had not even enough strength to come alongside the trawler, whose skipper had to apply his best seamanship to approach the boat without running it down. Once on board the trawler some of the survivors fell to the deck in a faint from exhaustion.

According to the captain of the Healdton, one of the torpedoes hit his vessel in the stern and the other amidships. Dutch fishermen say they observed the glow of the burning steamship in the distance, at first believing it to be the northern lights. Nothing could be distinguished of the nationality of the submarine which fired without emerging fully and disappeared immediately.

In addition to the illuminated sign, the Healdton's nationality was indicated by the fact that she was flying the American flag and had her name painted on the sides. The Dutch cook was among the four survivors of a ship recently torpedoed.

AMSTERDAM, March 23.—The (Continued on Page Six.)

### ALLIES RECOGNIZE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT

LONDON, March 23.—The British, French and Italian ambassadors at Petrograd conveyed to the minister of foreign affairs yesterday an official recognition by their governments of the Russian provisional government, says a Reuter telegram from Petrograd under Thursday's date.

### HEALDTON LOSS GRAVE ADDITION TO AGGRESSIONS

Cabinet Reviews Situation and Passes Upon President's Address to Congress—No Change in Situation as State of War Already Exists—Work on Defense Program.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—The American government has decided that steps to meet the situation with Germany shall include preparation for effective and aggressive warfare in addition to measures for the protection of shipping.

So far, it was learned after today's cabinet meeting, there has been no decision as to whether the sending of a military force to Europe shall be proposed, but the army as well as the navy and industrial resources of the nation are to be made ready for any demand that may be made upon them.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Sinking by a German submarine of the American steamer Healdton with the probable loss of a score or more of her crew, many of whom were Americans, while another grave addition to the long list of German aggressions against American commerce, cannot cause any immediate change in the situation between the United States and Germany, it was said here today. A virtual state of war already exists, government officials believe and they are doing everything possible to prepare the nation to meet that condition.

The destruction of the Healdton, however, will be included by President Wilson in his summary of German attacks on American commerce when he goes before congress, which meets in extraordinary session on April 2.

Official Reports Received. The president received his first official reports on the incident early today. The news came in a cabled report last night from American Consul Malin at Amsterdam after the president had retired. The consul reported that the vessel, which was unarmed, was torpedoed without warning off the coast of Holland on Wednesday.

The president is devoting his almost undivided attention to preparations for national defense and it is expected that he will continue to do so in the interval between now and the convening of congress. President Wilson's address to congress was taken up in its tentative form at today's cabinet meeting. While its exact nature will be determined by the developments of the next ten days it is expected to be specific in character and probably will outline just what steps he believes congress should take to meet the warlike operations of German submarines.

Germans Still Busy. Administration officials realize that during the period of waiting a sustained effort is being made in Germany to place the responsibility for war on the United States. The hint of an offer of mediation is regarded as an added evidence of this movement, but the president and all his advisers are determined that if war actually comes it shall be clear to the world that it has not been of America's choosing.

The president, to keep in touch with army and navy preparations, cancelled practically all engagements today except one with Governor McCull of Massachusetts, who wanted to confer on ways in which the state might co-operate with the federal government.

### BREAD RATION IN GERMANY AGAIN CUT

AMSTERDAM, March 23.—The bread ration in Germany will be diminished one-fourth beginning April 15, owing to the scarcity of wheat, according to a dispatch from Berlin in the Weser Zeitung of Bremen.

CZARINA IS FIFTH OF QUEENS TO BE DRIVEN FROM HOME AS RESULT OF WAR.



Center, Queen Marie of Rumania; top, left, Empress Eugenie of France; right, Queen Milena of Montenegro; bottom, left, Czarina Alexandra of Russia; right, Queen Elizabeth of Belgium.

### RUSSIA MOVES FOR EMANCIPATION OF JEWISH RACE

WASHINGTON, March 23.—First steps by the new Russian government toward the emancipation of Jews in Russia were reported today by Ambassador Francis, who said all educational restrictions as to both schools and colleges had been removed.

Officials here look on this step as a forecast of freedom for the Jews in Russia. Incidentally also it forecasts removal of passport restrictions because of which the United States abrogated the commercial treaty with Russia and leads to confidence that the treaty soon may be renewed. Combined with steps toward home rule in Finland and promises of autonomy for Poland, it convinces officials that the new leaders intend to carry out their liberal program at once, as establishing a firmer foundation on which the war can be prosecuted more successfully.

### BARRED ZONE TO INCLUDE ARCTIC

LONDON, March 23.—A Reuter dispatch from Christiania says the German minister has communicated to the Norwegian government a communication that in the future part of the Arctic sea lying east of 24 degrees east longitude and south of 75 degrees north latitude, excepting Norwegian territory, is to be regarded as dangerous for all navigation. Ships will meet with dangers and must enter the territory at their own risk. They will be subject to attack without warning after April 5.

The effect of the German declaration is to extend the barred zone to the waters giving access to northern Russian ports through which in the summer months Russian war supplies are imported from the United States.

### CRANE LIKELY TO BE JAP MINISTER

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Charles R. Crane of Chicago was understood today to be under consideration by President Wilson for appointment as ambassador to Japan to succeed the late Ambassador Guthrie. Mr. Crane was appointed minister to China in the Taft administration, but was recalled before he left San Francisco, because of a published interview dealing with far Eastern questions.

### RAILROADS ASK INCREASE IN RATES FOR WAGE RAISE

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Several of the country's largest railroads filed a petition with the interstate commerce commission late today asking that they be permitted to increase their rates generally, except on coal, coke and ore and that the new tariffs be permitted to become effective in thirty days instead of being suspended for investigation. Only presidents of eastern roads signed today's petition but similar action will be taken tomorrow by more than a score of western lines. "Nothing is more essential to the welfare of the nation," said the statement, "than that the railroads should be in position to respond to the full demands made upon them either by the general commerce of the country or in connection with the subject of national defense."

The increased demand for government insurance on American ships and cargoes to belligerent ports was maintained today. Another large number of applications was received by mail and telegraph.

The formal application will be filed tomorrow on behalf of the eastern roads and for the western later in the week. Passenger rates will not be included.

### HOLLAND CLOSES PORTS TO ARMED AMERICAN SHIPS

THE HAGUE, March 23.—The Handelsblad of Amsterdam says today that the rumor has reached it that Holland has refused the request of the United States for the admission of American armed merchantmen to Dutch ports and that consequently the Dutch harbors will be closed to American and British ships.

"The government," adds the newspaper, "will assume a great responsibility which ever way the decision may fall. The government seems to believe Germany would interpret as an unfriendly act any decision on our part by which we would come into line with international usages, the justice of which Germany recognized before the war."

Fear of reprisals by the United States or Great Britain now or after the war is expressed by the newspaper, but the Dutch government, it declares, must do only what justice and the interests of The Netherlands dictate.

### TANKER HEALDTON INSURED, \$499,000 BY GOVERNMENT

WASHINGTON, March 23.—The American tanker Healdton, torpedoed and sunk off the Dutch coast Wednesday night was insured by the government's war risk bureau for \$499,000.

The loss of the Healdton is the greatest yet sustained by the bureau. The next largest was the loss of the steamer Illinois, insured for \$250,000.

Approximately \$64,000,000 in insurance has been issued by the bureau on American ships and cargoes within the last thirty days. Much of this amount has been issued since the restriction against insuring contraband was removed. Total profits to the bureau, it was said today, have approximated \$4,000,000 since it began business in September, 1914; losses have totalled about \$1,000,000.

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### GERMANY NEAR BREAK WITH NORWAY

AMSTERDAM, March 23.—Indications of renewed tension between Norway and Germany are appearing in the German newspapers. The Cologne Gazette makes a feature of an editorial headed "Norwegian insolence," in which it says:

"The press of Norway in these days has assumed a tone of an insulting character which Germany cannot tolerate. The Norwegians would do well to remember that their unbridled press campaign once before led to diplomatic tension. A sense of responsibility should have kept the papers from again singing the same tune."

### RUSSIANS REPAIR BREAK IN LINES

PETROGRAD, March 23.—By numerous counter attacks the Russians have repaired the breach made in their lines by the Germans near the Bereznia river east of Lida on the Russian front, in a recent attack the war office announced today.

The Russians are feeling out the Teutonic lines south of Galitz, one the Rumanian front and have succeeded in driving out the garrison of two stations near Vadeni, between Galatz and Braila, the war office announced today. German airplanes dropped bombs on Galatz.

### GERMANS HALT RETREAT AT NEW DEFENSIVE LINE

Extensive Military Works Contracted From Cambrai Through St. Quentin, La Fere and Laon—Germans Attack in Region of Ham, but Are Driven Back.

PARIS, March 23.—The last batch of repatriated French from the Somme region who have arrived here agree that the Germans have established a defensive line running thru Cambrai, St. Quentin, La Fere and Laon. One of the refugees said: "For several months past the Germans have been concentrating in the neighborhood of this line, particularly between St. Quentin, Cambrai and Guise. All civilians deported from northern France and Belgium were forced to carry out military works feverishly constructed. They were compelled to labor under terrible threats. The Germans constructed a complete new system of railroads and dug deep shell proof shelters. Localities south of the line were systematically evacuated and the greater number of the inhabitants of the towns and villages were repatriated, only men and women capable of working being held. None of the people in St. Quentin or Laon were repatriated, however. On the contrary, the Germans drew a cordon around these towns and the most severe measures were taken in recent months to prevent anyone from either entering or leaving them."

French Official Report. PARIS, March 23.—A violent attack was made by the Germans last night north of St. Simon in the region of Ham. Today's war office announcement says the Germans gained some ground at the beginning but were counter attacked immediately and driven back as far as Seracourt-le-Grand, three miles northeast of St. Simon.

The French continued to advance north of Soissons. Fresh detachments crossed the Ailette. The statement says details which had been received regarding the attack by the Germans on the Vreguy-Chivres line show that they suffered heavy losses. Two companies of French chasseurs who were isolated for a moment from the remainder of the troop cut their way through and brought back prisoners.

German Official Report. BERLIN, March 23.—Heavy losses were inflicted by the Germans yesterday upon French troops who had crossed the Somme-Croizat canal in the vicinity of St. Simon, army headquarters announced today. The French were repulsed and 230 prisoners and several machine guns were taken. Engagements developed last night between the Oise and the Aisne west and south of Margival, in which attacks by strong forces of French troops were repulsed with heavy losses.

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### EMPEROR WILLIAM SUFFERING A SEVERE NERVOUS BREAKDOWN

LONDON, March 23.—Private messages have reached The Hague that Emperor William is suffering from a severe nervous breakdown, an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from The Hague reports. The emperor's physicians are said to have ordered him to take the cure at Homburg.

### FORMER CZAR NOW PRISONER WITH FAMILY

Nicholas Romanoff Arrives at Tsarskoe-Selo and is Interned—Mrs. Romanoff Also a Prisoner—Five Children Ill With Measels—Spies, Leaders and Generals Together.

TSARSKOE-SELO, Russia, March 23.—On his arrival here today in the custody of four members of the duma Nicholas Romanoff, the deposed czar was turned over immediately to the Tsarskoe-Selo commander and taken to the Alexanderovsky palace, where the former Empress Alexandra already was interned. The special train carrying the former ruler arrived at 1:30 o'clock on the branch line outside Alexanderovsky park. On leaving the train Nicholas entered an automobile accompanied by his adjutant, Prince Dolgoroukoff, the only courier of the first rank who accompanied him and by the four The former ruler held himself erect, driven to the palace.

Looks Indifferent. Nicholas was met at the door in the wing of the palace by Count Benckendorff, who was his marshal of the court and is now under arrest. The former ruler held himself erect, looking calm and indifferent, although he stepped with a nervous haste from his automobile. A battalion of the First rifle guard regiment was at the railroad depot. The commander at Tsarskoe-Selo is Col. Kobullinski, formerly commander of the Petrogradsky regiment, stationed in peace time at Warsaw. To him the duma commissioners announced: "Our mission of handing over the emperor is finished. We now go to Petrograd to announce this fact to the duma."

The correspondent drove to the old Tsarskoe-Selo palace, which is deserted and without guards, and then to the new palace where the former Imperial family is interned. The palace lies in a large park which is surrounded by a plain, spiked fence, five feet high, coated with silver paint. Within the park over the broad expanse of snow, not a single person was visible. Apparently there were no guards within the park but outside the fence, every fifty yards along the roadway were double sentries from the Petrogradsky regiment in long coats, with fixed bayonets.

Family has Measels. Near the east end of the palace is a detached building which formerly served as a kitchen. It is now occupied by the staff officers in command of the troops guarding Nicholas. Further on is the chief part of the palace, a long two-story building of pale yellow stucco with white corinthian columns reaching to the roof and two vast projecting side wings. The palace when seen through a blinding snow storm makes a desolate and unattractive appearance. Concerning Alexandra and other

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### ENTENTE WARSHIP LOSS 850,000 TONS

BERLIN, March 23.—Entente losses in warships have now reached a total of 850,000 tons, says an Overseas News agency announcement today. This computation includes the French battleship of the Danton class recently announced to have been sunk by a German submarine. The statement says:

"By the sinking of a ship of the Danton class the warship losses of our enemies, excluding auxiliary ships, have reached in round numbers 850,000 tons displacement. This is equal to the combined tonnage of Russia and Japan at the beginning of the war and is only 60,000 tons less than the tonnage of the United States navy which was the third largest in the world at the beginning of the war."