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NEW RAIDER SINKS SHIPS IN ATLANTIC

German Cruiser Seeadler Repeating Career of Moewe in South Atlantic—Crews of Sunken Vessels Placed Aboard Captured Ship and Sent to Brazil—Raider Accompanied by Submarine and Equipped With Guns and Bombs.

RIO JANEIRO, March 31.—A new German raider, slipping past the British warships on guard in the North sea, has reached the South Atlantic and sent 11 or more merchantmen to the bottom. According to survivors from the sunken vessels the raider is the Seeadler (Sea Eagle) a formidably armed craft operating with the same success and daring as its predecessor, the Moewe, which recently returned to a German port, after playing havoc with shipping in the same waters.

News of the activities of the raider was brought to Rio Janeiro by the French liner Cambromne, which arrived here yesterday. She had on board 285 men from the crews of vessels sunk by the Seeadler. The Cambromne encountered the raider on March 7 at latitude 21 south, longitude 7 west, a point in the Atlantic almost on a line with Rio Janeiro and about two-thirds of the way to the African coast. After the survivors had been put on the Cambromne she was ordered to proceed to the coast of Brazil, a voyage of 22 days.

Loaded With Mines. According to the Journal de Brazil the raider was loaded with mines, which explains the destruction of vessels off the coast of Brazil. The commerce destroyer is reported to be armed with two guns of 145 millimeters and sixteen machine guns. The vessel has three masts and is equipped with wireless. Its crew consists of 64 men under the command of Count Uknar.

According to the refugees the raider left Germany on December 22, escorted by a submarine. On sighting a merchantman the raider hoisted a Norwegian flag, which was replaced by the German ensign when her prey was within reach of her guns. Among the refugees are two women, the wives of two of the captains of the sunken vessels.

List of Victims. Eleven ships were sunk by the raider before the Cambromne was sent to Rio Janeiro with the crews. The vessels destroyed were:

- Antonin, French sailing vessel, 3071 tons, owned in Dunkirk, 31 men on board.
- British Yeoman, British sailing vessel, 1953 tons, owned in Victoria, B. C., 21 men.
- Buenos Aires, Italian sailing vessel, 1811 tons, owned in Naples, 21 men.
- Charles Goumod, French sailing vessel, 2159 tons, owned in Nantes, 24 men.
- Dupleix, French sailing vessel, 2206 tons, owned in Nantes, 22 men.
- Gladys Royale, British steamship, 3268 tons, owned in Sunderland, 26 men.
- Horngarth, British, 3609 tons gross, owned in Cardiff.
- Lady Island (or Lady Island) 4500 tons, 25 men (not listed).
- La Rochefoucauld, French sailing vessel, 2200 tons, owned in Nantes, 24 men.
- Perce, British schooner, 364 tons, owned in Halifax, 6 men, one woman.
- Pinnore, British sailing vessel, 2431 tons, owned in Greenock, 20 men.

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OCCASIONAL RAINS FOR COMING WEEK

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Sunday issued by the weather bureau follow:

"Pacific states: Generally fair except for occasional rains on north Pacific coast. Temperatures somewhat above seasonal normal."

BRITISH CAPTURE HEUDICOURT IN WESTERN DRIVE

Rapid Progress Made Both by English and French in Forcing Germans Back—St. Quentin Nearer by British—French Troops Capture Stretch Northeast of Soissons.

LONDON, March 31.—British troops advancing on the front in northern France in pursuit of the retreating Germans have captured five additional villages, Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters reports today.

The villages taken are Heudicourt, St. Emilie, Marteville, Vermand and Soyecourt.

"The British advance has made considerable progress, substantially deepening the bulge towards St. Quentin and biting into the German defenses between Croiselles and the Rapaume-Cambrai road," says the dispatch.

"The British have gained full possession of a strip of territory northeast of Peronne, extending for about seven miles from Neuville-Bourpenval towards Villers-taunon. Within this zone we occupied the villages of Fins, Sorel, Heudicourt and St. Emilie. The resistance which the garrisons offered was comparatively slight.

"The advance west-northwest of St. Quentin gained as the villages of Marteville, Vermand and Soyecourt."

French Successful. PARIS, March 31.—French troops last night successfully attacked the German positions south of the Ailette river and made important progress eastward, the war office announced today.

The French advance was scored to the east of the line running from Neuville-Sur-Margival to Vregny, northeast of Soissons. A number of points of support were brilliantly captured by the French forces.

In the Champagne region five violent counter attacks delivered by the Germans on positions recaptured yesterday by the French west of Maisons de Champagne were checked, the Germans sustaining heavy losses. The statement follows:

In the Champagne. "Between the Somme and the Oise in the sector of Benny, there was spirited artillery fighting. South of the Ailette we attacked with success several positions of the enemy on the front between Neuville sur Margival and Vregny. Our troops made important progress east of this line and brilliantly carried several points of support, notwithstanding the energetic defense of the Germans.

"In the Champagne the Germans redoubled their efforts against the positions which we recaptured yesterday west of Maisons de Champagne. In the evening and during the night the Germans made five violent counter attacks. These assaults were broken up and the enemy suffered very heavy losses. The number of prisoners taken was eighty, of whom two are officers.

"In Abscon near Amertzweller we checked a surprise attack of the enemy. We dispersed German patrols in the region of Pieterhausen and took prisoners."

MILITARY CENSUS TAKEN OF WYOMING

CHEYENNE, Wyo., March 31.—Under direction of the Wyoming National Guard, the taking of a military census of all male residents of the state was begun today.

Governor Frank L. Hoar has issued a public appeal for recruits for the state militia.

LONDON, March 31.—Prince Lvoff, the Russian premier and all the other members of the provisional government left Petrograd today to visit general headquarters at the front, a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd announces.

AMERICANS LOST WHEN U-BOATS TORPEDO SHIPS

Two British Steamers, the Snowden Range and Booth Liner Crispin, Both With Americans Aboard, Are Sunk Without Warning—Two Americans Are Lost.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Two British steamers, the Snowden Range and the Booth liner Crispin, both with Americans aboard, of whom a number are unaccounted for, were reported to the state department today to have been sunk without warning by a submarine. On the Crispin the torpedo which struck the engine room killed five men, two of whom are believed to have been Americans.

Consul Frost, reporting the loss of the freight liner Crispin, says: "Crispin 2483 tons, Newport News to Liverpool, 68 horses, torpedoed without warning 14 miles off Hook Head 7:44 a. m., 29th. Sixty-eight out of ship's complement of 112 were Americans. Two boats missing, not improvable lost.

Two Americans Killed. "Torpedo struck engine room starboard side, explosion killed five men, two of whom believed Americans. Submarine not seen but wake of torpedo seen by Americans. Vessel carried gun and wireless. Latter was wrecked by explosion. Weather moderate, wind, overcast, heavy swells. Vessel sank slowly but return on board not feasible owing to heavy sea.

"One boat with 19 survivors landed at Queenstown, including captain, chief steward, veterinarian and ten Americans, R. H. Elser, Newport News; Carl Larkensen, Augusta, Ga.; James Smith, Baltimore; Bland Tinley, Philadelphia; R. L. Hays, Covington; James Franklin, New York City; George Killy, Baltimore; Geo. St. Armand, Worcester; Harry Davis, Baltimore; John Williams, Newport News.

Other boats believed landing Milford Haven and elsewhere."

The dispatch from Liverpool, reporting the sinking of the Snowden Range follows:

Shells and Bombs. "British steamer Snowden Range from Liverpool with general cargo, one gun aft, torpedoed without warning at 8:45 a. m., March 28, thirty-five miles from Holly Head. No vessel in sight, sea calm, weather hazy, no resistance, submarine submerged at time of attack. Four killed by explosion, remainder of crew took to boats, including James Carol, Philadelphia; George Alexander, colored, Wilmington, N. C.; Bert Thebalt, Philadelphia, native born Americans, and Harry McCabe, naturalized, no present address.

"Submarine emerged, showing German flag, shelled Snowden Range, then boarded and removed detachable brass, placed bombs, vessel sunk. Crew picked up at 6 p. m., taken Holly Head."

American Killed. A later dispatch from Consul Frost definitely established the killing of one American and said others probably had been killed. The Crispin was bound for Avonmouth.

"One American negro, probably named Holler," the message said, "was killed by the explosion. Total killed and missing now eight of whom some besides Holler were Americans. Some survivors landed as follows: Nineteen at Queenstown, seventy at Milford Haven, two at Dunmore, Ireland and thirteen are on an admiralty vessel to land at Queenstown tomorrow evening.

"It now transpires that the ships wireless did get off signals using reverse batteries."

FIFTY MORE BIDS FOR U-BOAT CHASERS

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Fifty more bids for construction of small, fast patrol boats and the submarine chasers were received today at the navy department. Each bidder offered one or more boats in the shortest possible time. Contracts for more than 100 chasers can be let immediately, including those tentatively awarded last week, and facilities are available for construction of 400 or 500 more during the present year.

THE SANDS ARE RUNNING LOW!



STONE TO OPPOSE WAR DECLARATION IN THE SENATE

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Senator Stone, chairman of the foreign relations committee, broke his silence today on the international situation and said that war appears probable; that he will vote against a war declaration, but will give President Wilson his unlimited support if war is decided upon. Senator Stone said he did not know the president's program, but would co-operate in enabling congress to promptly express its convictions.

The foreign relations committee will meet at three o'clock in the afternoon today the president addresses congress.

Senator Stone intimated that the handling of a war resolution in the senate would be left to some other senator acceptable to the president and the committee. Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, next in rank to Senator Stone, has told the president that he opposes a war declaration and that it appears probable Senator Williams of Mississippi, the next in line on the democratic side might be chosen.

CLOSE NORTH SEA TO ALL SHIPPING

LONDON, March 31.—The British admiralty announces that in view of the unrestricted use of mines and submarines by the Germans and the sinking of merchantmen without regard for the safety of the crews the "area of the North sea which is rendered dangerous to all shipping by operations against the enemy will be extended on and after April 1."

PLAN TO MOBILIZE FARM RESOURCES

NEW YORK, March 31.—Mobilization of the agricultural resources of the United States in order to safeguard the country's food supply in time of war will be considered at a convention to be held in Washington April 10 under the auspices of the National Agricultural Society, it was announced today.

HIRAM JOHNSON SAYS NATION MUST PROTECT ITS OWN

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—Senator-Elect Hiram W. Johnson of California, speaking at a patriotic demonstration here today, declared that the United States "will suffer much, even to the very tension of honor," before going to war, but that for the nation to refuse to maintain its democratic ideals and protect its citizens would be to sow "within itself the seeds of dissolution."

"Democracy to survive must ever be ready to protect its own," he said. "Every normally constituted man abhors war. A nation such as ours, consecrated to freedom, and equality among men, determined that all of God's people must share in God's blessings, that common folks may have their fair share of common happiness and a comfortable place in the sun, will suffer much, even to the very tension of honor, before engaging in bloody strife. But a nation, such as ours, dependent for its perpetuity upon the character of its citizenship, that dare not maintain its ideals and will not protect the lives of its citizens sows within itself the seeds of dissolution.

"We should have no selfish war of aggrandizement or aggression. We have no lust of conquest. We would, only when imperatively compelled by the transgression of our rights, by the destruction of our lives, enter the combat and then in the spirit of America that took no indemnity from China and returned Cuba into its own people."

POTATOES SECOND ONLY TO LUMBER

EUGENE, Ore., March 31.—Potatoes stand second only to lumber in Oregon's exports, according to data compiled by Allan C. Hopkins of Central Point, of the University of Oregon school of commerce for the United States department of agriculture. In 1916, Mr. Hopkins finds 35,791 tons of potatoes, or 2386 carloads, were shipped out of the state, bringing to the producer, at an average price of \$1.90 a hundred, approximately \$14,000,000. This sum is an average of \$20 each for every man, woman and child in the state. The yield varies from 56 bushels in dry Wasco county to 209 in the moist Coos.

AMERICA PUTS BLAME FOR WAR UPON GERMANY

Zimmermann's Speech Brings Official Admission From Washington That Government Knew in January That U-Boat Decree Would Be Issued—Protest for Modification.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Secretary Zimmermann's speech to the reichstag charging the United States with responsibility for war if it comes brought forth today for the first time official admission that the United States government knew in the middle of January that the ruthless submarine decree was to be issued and that after its issuance three days were allowed to elapse before giving Germany an opportunity to modify or repeal it before the severance of diplomatic relations were announced.

Count Von Bernstorff, it was stated by department officials, knew of the impending decree two weeks before it was issued, and made every effort with his government to have it repealed.

Germany to Blame. Officials here are much aroused by Germany's continued attempts to convict the United States of desiring war and they intend to show that every possible opportunity was given Germany to avoid it. America's action they point out, foreshadowed in the Sussex note, delivered eight and a half months before the German decree, merely followed out the policy then outlined. Germany, on the other hand, abrogated her promises on seven hours notice to this government and then in face of certain drastic action by this country, allowed three days to pass without another attempt to meet the United States.

That Germany's decree was discussed two weeks ahead of its issue adds new interest to the Austrian submarine for it was just at that time that Count Tranowaki left Austria for this country to become the new Austrian ambassador. Whether Vienna was convinced that the United States would not sever relations, whether Austria was a silent and unsympathetic party to Germany's action or whether the new ambassador was entrusted with special arguments to present the Teutonic viewpoint, are not known.

State of War Exists. Zimmermann's statement that the United States had tried to set the entire war against Germany after the break might be construed by this government, it was stated, as a recognition that Germany considered a state of war had existed from the date of the severance of relations and President Wilson's appeal to neutrals to take similar action.

Whether Germany took that point of view or not was stated not to be known.

VILLA DEFEATED BY MURGUIA'S FORCES

JUAREZ, Mexico, March 31.—Unusual military precautions were being taken here today to prevent Francisco Villa and his forces from repeating the coup of November 15, 1914, when he surprised the garrison here and captured the city after having been defeated at Chihuahua City. Villa reached the city at that time on a troop train which was announced as a federal train and to prevent this trick being duplicated, all train movements have been suspended between here and Chihuahua. Outposts have been stationed along the railway and guards doubled about the city. No trains were permitted to leave here yesterday or today or no train has arrived from Chihuahua City since Thursday.

The victory yesterday over Villa has caused a general celebration and General Francisco Murguia is being called the hero of northern Mexico following his defeat of Villa. General Jose Carlos Murguia, his brother, who is in command here, was busy receiving the congratulations of city officials and military officials today.

JURY FINDS GILL NOT GUILTY OF LIQUOR BRIBERY

Seattle Mayor, Chief of Police, and Detectives, Charged With Conspiracy to Violate Liquor Laws and Having Accepted a Bribe are Acquitted After Long Deliberation.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 31.—The jury in the case of Mayor Hiram Gill, Chief of Police Charles L. Beckingham and City Detective Meyer M. Peyer, John Poolman, James Doom and Daniel J. McLennan, on trial in the United States district court charged with conspiracy to violating the federal laws by importation of liquor into the state of Washington, returned a verdict of not guilty as to all the defendants this morning.

The jury received the case at 5:30 last night, and the verdict was read in the court at 9:50 this morning, but had been arrived at before that time. The jury had been engaged in wordy arguments all night. There was delay in presenting the verdict owing to the defendants not being in court.

Accused of Bribery. Mayor Gill was accused of taking \$4000 from Logan Billingsley for dropping suits against Billingsley's brothers for liquor selling, returning incriminating papers and promising immunity to them.

Chief of Police Beckingham was accused of taking bribes of \$1200 from Fred Billingsley. The detectives were accused of taking money from the Billingsleys for letting liquor shipments to the Billingsleys enter the city while they were guarding the waterfront.

The trial ended by the verdict just announced was begun March 6. The principal witnesses for the government were Logan and Fred Billingsley and their former employes, confessed liquor sellers, and the witnesses for the defense were chiefly policemen and confessed liquor sellers, many of them former Billingsley employes.

Ninety Witnesses. Ninety witnesses testified in the case, including the six defendants. There were several defendants when the case opened, but at the conclusion of the prosecution's presentation of evidence, Judge Neterer instructed the jury to bring a verdict of acquittal of ex-Sheriff Robert T. Hodges, one of the defendants, saying that the evidence presented against Hodges showed offenses not against the United States laws, but against the state laws, with which the federal grand jury had nothing to do.

WILSON WRITES WAR MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, March 31.—President Wilson, having decided fully with the cabinet, upon a course of action to meet the national emergency, today set about the task of reducing the conclusions to writing.

Exactly what these conclusions are will be disclosed officially when the president appears before congress next week to deliver his momentous message.

Indications today, however, were that a formal recognition of the existence of a state of war between the United States and Germany would result.

The disclosure that a definite decision had been reached, was made following a final conference between President Wilson and his cabinet advisers yesterday. Decision was reached quickly and it was said there was no diversion of opinion on the question.

Just what part the United States would play in the war against Germany will not be developed until after congress defines the nation's status and completes urgent defense legislation.

Meantime plans for organization of the house so that President Wilson may appear early next week before congress went ahead today. Until it is known definitely, however, when organization will be effected, no date for the president's appearance will be set.