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Monroe, N. C.

U. S. STEAMER MONTANAN IS TORPEDOED AND SUNK

Three Members of Civilian Crew and Two of Naval Armed Guard Probably Lost—Ship Sunk in Foreign Waters—Was Built For Service Through Panama Canal.

Washington, D. C.—The American steamer Montanan of 6,659 tons gross was torpedoed and sunk in foreign waters last Friday with the probable loss of three members of the civilian crew and two members of the Naval Armed Guard, the Navy Department to-night announced. Eighty-one survivors were landed.

The Montanan was in the service of the quartermasters' department of the army and was used as a supply ship.

The members of the Naval Armed Guard reported as missing are David W. Johnson, coxswain, and Chester C. Eldridge, seaman. The names of the civilian members of the crew unaccounted for have not been ascertained.

The Navy Department's announcement follows:

"The Navy Department is informed that the steamship Montanan was torpedoed and sunk in foreign waters on August sixteenth. Eighty-one survivors were landed. Five men are reported missing—three members of the civilian crew and two of the Naval Armed Guard, David W. Johnson, coxswain, and Chester C. Eldridge, seaman. The names of the three civilians were not given in the dispatch received.

"The Montanan was an American cargo ship of 6,659 gross tons."

The Montanan owned by the American-Hawaiian line was launched in 1913 at Sparrow's Point, being built for service through the Panama canal. In October last year with other American vessels over two thousand five hundred tons dead-weight, she was requisitioned by the United States shipping board and soon afterward assigned to the army quartermasters' department. The vessel was manned by officers and crew from the Navy when sunk. The vessel was outbound from an American port.

STATE FAIR GROUNDS TO BE USED AS TANK CAMP SITE

Unanimous Agreement of Directors to either Rent or Sell Grounds Made Certain the Necessary Ground—Fifteen Thousand Acres Can be Given and Considered Best Camp Situation Between Arizona and the Atlantic—North Carolina's Third Camp.

Raleigh, August 22.—Definite announcement from Washington to-night that Raleigh had won the tank camp which Theodore Tiller, in the Greensboro News, has with such persistence prophesied, has brought joy to the city.

Raleigh newspapermen, "chloroformed" last week when Raleigh made its perennial stab for something were aroused to-night and told to go it. There was nothing to write then. Last week when the state fair directors were hastily summoned in special sessions and asked to vote the fair grounds for the camp, unanimous agreement gave certainty to the necessary land. The association will sell for one hundred thousand dollars or rent for fifteen thousand dollars the first year and ten thousand dollars per annum each succeeding year until the war ends.

Fifteen thousand acres can be given and from Washington to-night it is announced that this the best site between the Atlantic and Arizona. Raleigh had raised about \$20,000 to put into the property necessary for the Government's use. It took less than thirty minutes to do it.

RECENT HAPPENINGS

Latest News of the War, the State and the Nation.

On Tuesday Gen. Mangins troops near Fonteny on the Aisne captured several thousand German troops in the space of a few hours.

American aviators began a campaign of bombing German submarine bases with an attack on Ostend on August 15. Details of the attack are lacking but it is reported that the effort met with considerable success. It is said that in this attack the American aviators showed that they were particularly good at night bombing.

The Canadian casualty list issued for Tuesday contains the name of S. Leeper of Hermitage, Tenn., wounded.

A tank training camp, report has it to be the largest in the world, is to be located at Raleigh, according to advices coming out in Washington. This camp will embrace thousands of acres of land taking in part of state fair grounds.

Ninety-four survivors of the ship Proteus sunk in a collision with the tank steamer Cushing off the Diamond Shoals lightship were landed at Norfolk, Virginia, on Tuesday from the Cushing.

Enrico Caruso, the Italian Grand Opera singer was married Tuesday to Miss Dorothy Benjamin, the daughter of a New York Patent Attorney.

General Jose Marina, the Spanish war minister has issued a statement declaring the recent note from the Spanish Government to Germany will have no effect upon Spain's intention to remain neutral.

On August 14 Lieutenant Rene Fonec, a French aviator, shot down three German airplanes in the record time of twenty seconds, according to official dispatches.

The Chinese Government has sent plans to establish immense laundries at all of the large army camps. The average cost will be one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The Chinese Government has sent a large force of troops to the Siberian border to prevent a threatened invasion of Chinese territory by German and Hungarian prisoners of war who joined with the red guard and other elements of the Bolsheviks against the Czecho-Slovaks in the trans-Baikal region.

BRITISH MAKE SMASHING DRIVE ON TEN MILE FRONT

Drove Into Below's Army Before Dawn During Heavy Fog—Made Steady Progress Capturing Villages, Guns and Prisoners.

With the British Army in France, Aug. 22.—(By the Associated Press 3:30 P. M.)—Having smashed into General von Below's seventeenth army during a heavy fog at dawn today on a front of more than ten miles extending from the Ancre river to Moyenneville, the British have throughout the day made steady progress forward, capturing villages, taking prisoners and guns and inflicting heavy casualties on the surprised enemy.

Coming directly on the heels of the battle south of the Somme, the scene of which virtually adjoins the field of the new operations, this blow exploits to the limit the confusion created among the German forces by their recent defeats.

Heavy fighting has occurred along the embankment of the Albert-Arras railroad, which, although well within the German lines last night, seems to have been easily reached by the storming British infantrymen who were assisted in this task by tanks. It was from this embankment that the Germans, armed with countless machine guns, fired a rain of bullets in an effort to keep the British from coming further, but while they were doing it they themselves must have suffered severely, not only from the flood of direct and indirect machine gun fire, but from shells which were sent crashing about their ears from directly in front of them, for the British field guns moved up closely in the rear of the infantrymen and from their flank, where the big British guns hurled in an avalanche of steel from the north.

In comparison with the harder fighting it is worthy of mention that at some places no resistance of any practical importance developed. For instance the village of Beaucourt was taken with only three casualties. One wounded man returning from the fighting said he went in three kilometers through the enemy lines before seeing a single Boche. But this is explained by the fact that the German positions were very thinly held at some points. Logest wood was one of the most strongly held positions in the foreground, and this was reached early in the day.

As to prisoners, there is no definite information, but more than one thousand have reached the cages and they have come in from a considerable distance, most of them having been captured during the early fighting. Some of the first prisoners arrived at the cages with handbags and long curved porcelain pipes. They seemed clean and were as pleased with themselves as if going on leave. One of them, on being questioned, said he was happy to be taken.

SECOND AMERICAN TROOPS TRANSPORT AT VLADIVOSTOK

Movement of Jap Army Being Delayed by Demands for Control of Chinese Roads—Enemy is Massing—Terror is Reigning in Petrograd.

By the Associated Press. A second transport carrying American troops arrived at Vladivostok last Tuesday. The transport bearing the first contingent of American soldiers entered the harbor yesterday afternoon, after a voyage of seven days and a half from Manila. A third troopship is expected tonight.

In the absence of artillery, the British have equipped two gondolas with guns from a cruiser and sent them to the Ussuri front.

WHAT CZECHO-SLOVAKS FACE

General Dieterichs, commander of the Czecho-Slovak forces, pointing out to-day the great odds his troops are facing, estimated the enemy strength at forty thousand men, with seventy guns. The status of the Czecho-Slovaks in Transbaikalia is unknown, he said, but it certainly must be desperate. To attain the object sought by the Entente Allied Governments a substantial force must be sent to the Manchurian front.

Opinion on all sides appears to be that the Allied Government are under-estimating the magnitude of the task of liberating the Czecho-Slovaks, and do not realize the necessity of actual warfare against superior numbers.

Dr. Yaromir Spacek, a member of the Czecho-Slovak National Council, has left for Washington to acquaint Prof. T. G. Masaryk, the President of the council, with the situation of the Czecho-Slovaks. Dr. Spacek told the correspondent that the Czecho-Slovak will abide by the decision of Prof. Masaryk as to whether they shall proceed to France, which is their ambition, or stay in Russia to fight the enemy, if given adequate support.

MR. CARELOCK SAYS WEEVIL WILL DESTROY ONE

Mr. Carelock Reports Good Crops in Georgia.

(From the Pageland Journal.)

Mr. James F. Carelock left here Monday morning on his return to his home in Coffee county, Georgia, after a visit of more than two weeks in Union county. He moved from that county to Georgia eleven years ago, and it had been nine years since he has been back. He and his sons own two thousand acres of land a few miles from Douglas, and are going well. He says the boll weevil appeared there late in the season two years ago; last year it appeared a little earlier and did some damage. This year it was there waiting for the first forms on the young cotton. He thinks the weevil will destroy one-third or one-fourth of the yield. He is concerned very little about the weevil, however, as he says there are other crops that pay as well. He plants velvet beans and peanuts in all his corn. Last year when frost came he pulled the corn, and then about sixty cows and sixty hogs on forty acres of the beans and peanuts. No feed was given to the cattle or hogs and in early spring all were taken off in much better condition than when they were put in.

THE STATUS OF MARRIED MEN WILL BE UNCHANGED

Baker Says That Under New Draft Law Married Men Will Be Classed As Heretofore—Financial Dependency of Wives and Children Looked Upon as Reason For Deferred Classification.

Washington, D. C. August 22.—In answer to a letter from Chairman Chamberlain of the Senate Military Committee, asking whether it was true that the War Department proposed to exempt married men as a class under the new man-power bill, Secretary Baker to-day informed the Senator that existing regulation as to married men would continue in force. Senator Chamberlain had written to the Secretary saying if it was true that deferred classification for married men generally was contemplated many Senator would oppose lowering the present draft age to eighteen years.

"The present situation," Mr. Baker replied, "with regard to married men in class one is that four classes of married men are included within the limits of that class; first, married men who do not support their wives or families; second, married men whose wives support them; third, married men whose wives have adequate independent means; fourth, married men whose wives are the main or principal support of their families.

"There is no intention to change this situation. In construing the regulations with regard to dependency of wives and children, financial dependency has been looked upon as the reason for deferred classification. This will continue to be the case.

"I am told that in some parts of the country there is an abnormal increase in the rate of marriages which suggests the possibility of a desire to use marriage as a basis for a claim of exemption. Marriages so contracted will not have the effect desired. The status of registrants married at a time and under conditions suggesting any such purposes will be that of unmarried persons so far as their classification is concerned.

WESTERN BATTLE LINE IS SHORTENED BY SUCCESSES

Fifty Miles Cut out by Our Recent Advances—General March Name of the Thirty-Two Divisions of American Troops Already in France.

Washington, D. C.—Allied successes on the Marne, in Picardy and in Flanders in recent operations have resulted in a contraction of the western battle front by more than fifty miles, General March, chief of staff to-day announced. The Allies in engagements conducted this week, he added, have maintained their possession of the initiative by making attacks on limited fronts and at widely separated points.

At the beginning of the German offensive in March the battle front in France measured two hundred and fifty miles; to-day it is less than two hundred miles in length and the latest British gains are reducing it further. General March said he was without official confirmation of the result of the British advance north of the Scarpe and therefore would refrain from comment.

Summarizing the results of recent operations he pointed out that the Flanders salient had been flattened out by the enemy retiring from one to two miles on a fourteenth-mile front; on the plains of Roye the line had been put well back of the old 1916-1917 line and between the Aisne and the Oise the French have carried the line forward four miles to the plains surrounding the city of Noyon which is four miles beyond.

Captures of the town of Erappelle, in the Vosges, the chief of staff said, had resulted in the elimination of a very sharp salient. This operation was carried out by the fifth American division which has been under Major General John E. McMahon.

Thirty-two American divisions have arrived in France, General March said. They are the first to sixth, inclusive, of regulars; the twenty-sixth, twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth, thirtieth, thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third, thirty-fourth, thirty-fifth, thirty-sixth, thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth, fortieth, forty-first, and forty-second national guard; and the seventy-sixth to eighty-third inclusive, and the eighty-fifth, eighty-ninth, ninetieth, ninety-first, ninety-second and ninety-third national army.

PEOPLE OF VIENNA ARE IN RAGS BUT DRINK CHAMPAGNE

Plenty of Money in Austria, But Food and Clothes Are Scarce—Three Meatless Days a Week, Are Ordered in Vienna—A Ordinary Worker Earns From Eighty to One Hundred Dollars a Week.

Berne, August 22.—Public insecurity is greatly increased at Vienna because of the war, according to a traveler who has just returned to Switzerland from the Austrian capital. Thefts are reported every night, the thieves being especially anxious to obtain clothes, the price of which has risen fabulously.

A decent suit for a man costs from three hundred dollars to four hundred dollars. Shoes worth sixty dollars an a pound of bread bought secretly with a bread card, costs from two to three dollars.

On the other hand, the ordinary worker, is earning from eighty to a hundred dollars a week. As a result ordinary iron workers and coal-carriers are seen drinking champagne at fashionable bars. Coopers are greatly needed in view of the excellent harvests in the wine districts. Hungarian vineyard owners are offering most coopers sixteen thousand dollars a year.

Three meatless days a week have been ordered by the municipal authorities at Vienna, according to an official despatch to-day from Switzerland. The Austrian capital is reported threatened with complete exhaustion of its meat supply.

THE UNION AUTO EXCURSION.

To Leave at 7:00 to 7:30 Next Tuesday Morning—Notes and Suggestions.

The auto excursionists will leave Marshallville next Tuesday morning at 7:00 to 7:30. New Salem and east Goose Creek passengers can join the crowd at Polkton and South Marshallville and east Lanes Creek excursionists may get into line at Wadesboro.

The route of the excursionists will be the State highway by Wadesboro, Lilesville, Rockingham, Ellerbe, Jackson Springs, Pinehurst, Southern Pines and Sanford.

Stop will be made for dinner at Jackson Springs where the crowd will be requested to assemble in the pavilion to ascertain how many are in the party and to hear further announcements relative to the remainder of the trip.

It can be made interesting and profitable to spend two days and three nights at Raleigh and in attendance at the Farmers' and Women's State Convention, starting on the return trip Friday morning, but any group on a car can arrange the day for leaving Raleigh to suit themselves.

Before entering the college grounds at Raleigh it is suggested that each automobile on arrival at Cary go to the Cary High School grounds and wait until all the other cars arrive. Entrance can then be made into the college grounds in a body, which will enable the authorities at the college to assign rooms more conveniently.

The college authorities would like to know in advance approximately how many visitors will be included in the excursion and each car owner who will carry passengers is requested to report to J. Z. Green at Marshallville, either by phone or postcard between now and Saturday night of this week.

All the men in the excursion party are requested to wear overalls on the trip.

HAS FAITH IN GOVERNMENT

Man Who Knew Nothing of War's Cause Sent His Sons.

Cora Harris, in the Independent. (New York.)

Mr. Kirk lives in a little house where the north winds swirl through the hills into the valley. He thinks he is an American because his forefathers were born in this country. In fact, he is a reversion to type, a Scotchman, with Presbyterian brows, who had settled down in the Primitive Baptist Church as a rock settler to the bottom of the sea, from whence nothing can move that rock. He is an old man, poor in everything except sons.

I met him hauling wood one day just after three of them had been called to the National Army.

I wanted to know if any of his sons had asked for exemption.

"I told 'em not to," he answered simply.

"But you still have a large family to support, and you are too old to do heavy work. You might have kept one," I insisted.

"Would I be taking my boy's chance from him for that?" he returned, as if I had suggested that he take the bread out of his children's mouths.

"You wanted them to go, then," I asked.

"Not that exactly. But you know Herberman over there," he answered, pointing to the only painted house in our valley. "He has got more than the rest of us, but not a friend, not a real neighbor, and do you know why? Well, during the Civil War every man in this valley fought in the Confederate army but Herberman. He stayed at home, hid out. That's nearly 60 years ago, but we've never forgotten or forgiven him. He's dead. Peodn't even talk about him. That's why I mean, I wanted my sons to go as they'd live even if they died."

"That ain't all," he added, after a pause. "I am as you say, an old man, but I have had peace and plenty all my life. I have had my rights. I have been protected, me and my children, and I never paid more'n \$5 for taxes in my life. That is what the Government charges me each year to take care of me and my property. It is mighty little when you think of the privileges I have had. If the Government needs my sons, well, there they are!"

"But what is this war about, what are we fighting for?" I asked.

"I don't know. I am too busy to keep up with things. I don't read and I don't believe half I hear. I just leave it to the Government. If we are fightin', it's because we've got to fight, or because we ought to fight. That is what I told the boys when they left. A good soldier doesn't ask questions until he has done his duty and gets back into citizens' clothes. Then he doesn't have to ask any. He knows. The tables are turned. The Government doesn't own him; he owns the Government. So I don't care what they think we are fighting for. That is what this war means to me and my boys."

Card of Thanks.

We desire to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our friends and neighbors for their many acts of kindness during the sickness and death of our daughter, Lessie. May God's richest blessings rest on each one.—Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Helms.

Spilled Her Trip.

"Then your wife didn't enjoy her trip to Niagara?"

"No; the minute she saw that rushing water she began to wonder if she hadn't come away from and left the bathtub faucet open."

The Middlesex Regiment.

While some Scottish regiments were disembarking in France, some French officers were watching them. One observed: "They can't be women, for they have mustaches; but they can't be men for they wear skirts."

"I have it," said another. "They are that famous Middlesex regiment from London."

Defend the "Bread Line" with eternal vigilance—our men are risking their lives to hold it.