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SUBMARINE SINK 3 AMERICAN SHIPS WITHOUT WARNING

MOST OF THE CREWS
OF THE SHIPS SAVED

Washington, March 18.—With the announcement of the ruthless destruction of three unarmed American merchant ships by submarines, it was unofficially admitted here tonight that virtually a state of war exists between the United States and Germany.

One step the President is contemplating is a call for an immediate session of Congress to hear an address asking for authority to adopt aggressive measures against the submarine menace.

London, March 18.—The sinking of the American steamers City of Memphis, Illinois and Vigilancia was announced today. Fourteen men from the Vigilancia are missing, as are some of the men from the City of Memphis. The crew of the Illinois was landed safely.

The City of Memphis in ballast from Cardiff for New York was sunk by gun fire. The second officer and 15 men of the crew have been landed. A patrol boat has gone in search of the other members of the crew. The Illinois from London for Port Arthur, Texas, in ballast was sunk at 8 o'clock this morning.

The Vigilancia was torpedoed without warning. The submarine did not appear. The captain, first and second mates, first, second and third engineers and 23 men of the crew have been landed at the Sicily islands. The fourth engineer and 13 men are missing.

The American steamship City of Memphis which left Cardiff Friday in ballast for New York, was sunk Saturday when she left port. The City of Memphis had the stars and stripes painted on both sides. She encountered a submarine about 5 o'clock Saturday evening. The German commander ordered the captain of the steamer to leave his ship within 15 minutes.

The entire crew entered five boats and the submarine then fired a torpedo which struck the vessel on the starboard side, tearing a great hole through which the sea poured. The steamer settled down quickly and foundered within a few minutes.

During the night the boats became separated, and at 4 o'clock Sunday morning three boat crews were picked up by a patrol vessel and landed. These boats contained 33 men, mostly Americans.

All the officers were Americans. The officers believe that the other boats will be rescued.

Submarine Refused to Tow Boats To Land

Consul Frost at Queenstown reported to the state department tonight the sinking by a German submarine of the American steamer City of Memphis, saying 49 survivors had been picked up and that an admiralty vessel was searching for eight missing.

"American steamer City of Memphis, Cardiff to New York, reported sunk by German submarine, 4 p. m., March 17, 35 miles of Fastnet. Fifteen survivors landed Schull 7 p. m. today. Thirty-four survivors on admiralty vessel which continues search for eight missing. Will land Baltimore (on Irish coast) probably today."

The department announced that a dispatch from Consul General Skinner at London said it was reported the City of Memphis the Illinois and the Vigilancia, all American steamers, had been sunk the latter without warning.

The message added that some of the crew of the City of Memphis had been landed; that a patrol boat had gone to pick up the crew of the Illinois.

A second dispatch from Consul Frost at Queenstown stated that 33 survivors of the City of Memphis landed at Queenstown, and that seven Americans were among the 15 landed at Schull.

The despatch follows:

"City of Memphis, 33 survivors landed here; vessel sunk by gunfire; submarine large type, remained on the scene after crew left ship. Refused request to tow boats to land. Weather not severe but threatening. Survivors at Schull included Allen Carroll, second officer; — McPherson, second engineer; Robert Shea, surgeon; John Walkin, Henry Company, Gus Company, A. D. Horton, all American, and five Spanish, one Portuguese, one Swede and one Russian."

MR. VAUGHAN IN ROXBORO AFTER AN ABSENCE OF 26 YEARS

Walter H. Vaughan, brother of Mrs. John A. Noel and Mrs. R. A. Pass, of Roxboro, arrived here last Saturday, this being his first visit here in 26 years. He has some wonderful stories of the Golden State, especially of the benefits to be derived by agriculturists from good roads, in which California leads all the states, and of her exceedingly fertile soil.

In regard to good roads Mr. Vaughan says:

"As just one instance of the financial benefit the farmer derives from good roads, let us take the fruit section lying adjacent to the bay cities of San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley and others. Before that great system of State highways was completed the grower sold his apples on the tree to the wholesaler's agents at 25 cents per box. These same apples retailed in Oakland and San Francisco at \$2.50 per box. The freight by water was 3 cents per box. This left a profit for the middleman of \$2.22 for each box of apples. And this one example applies to all classes of fruit and vegetables, that is, with but little variation, the percentage of profit for the middleman was enormous, while that of the producer was small. So, you see, the ultimate consumer was compelled to pay the difference, and yet, we wonder why living is so high. Committees of Congress need not go far afield to discover the cause of high prices, if they really want to find it.

"Every farmer in California knows that diversified crops and intensive farming is not only the secret of success, but that it will preserve the fertility of her wonderful soil. Why down in the river bottoms around Los Angeles they raise sweet potatoes almost every month in the year without replanting. They simply take the mature potatoes from the hill and put the roots back into the original hole and another crop will come in a month or two.

"California ranks second among the states in the number of automobiles in use; almost every farmer in the state owns one. Also there are many lines of freight trucks running between the various towns and cities, which tend to reduce the cost of freight.

"And for these good roads and for the further gigantic task of freeing California from the domination of the railroads and the railroad politics, California owes thanks to Hiram W. Johnson, twice governor and now United States Senator. And permit me to say that many States need men of the calibre of Johnson, to do just what he has done for California."

Presbyterian Announcements
Midweek prayer service tonight at 7:30 o'clock. Subject: "Christ the Supreme Gift."

Sunday school at 9:45 A. M. next Sunday and preaching at 7:30 P. M. There will be preaching at Bushy Fork High School at 3:30 P. M. by Rev. Carleton E. White.

NOTICE

A Call of the Farmer's Union Locals

Dear Brethren:

Our next regular County meeting will be held in the Person County Union Warehouse on Saturday March 31, 1917 at ten o'clock. Please do not forget to have your local represented. Let every member come that will. We want to have a full attendance, as we have some very important business to attend to. I want one and all to make this the best year of our organization we have ever had. I want every member to resolve to make this the best year in the history of our Union. I want to visit every Local in the county during the year and if at any time I can be of service to any Local please let me know for I am at your service to do anything I can to promote the interest of every Local. My postoffice address is Roxboro, Route 5. I will ask you again to please turn out and meet me on the date above mentioned and let's do some business this year.

Respectfully, S. P. Jones, President of the County Farmer's Union.

The last Legislature, the most progressive in twenty years, said fire insurance was a necessity and the premiums were not too much. The Boys were right. SEE SATTERFIELD. "Old and Tried".

Bond Issue Carries By 243

Olive Hill 112 Majority

BIG GAINS MADE IN ALLENSVILLE AND MT. TIRZAH FOR BONDS OVER RESULTS OF ELECTION HELD IN 1914—BIG VOTE POLLED ALL OVER COUNTY.

The bond election is over and Person pulled herself out of the mud and her citizens have again shown their progressivism.

The majority in Roxboro Township for the road improvement bonds was far beyond the expectation of the most optimistic. A total of 488 votes were cast and only 70 were against the bond issue, making a total of 418 for the issue. A clear majority of 348 for good roads.

Olive Hill Township came to the front with 137 votes for the issue and 25 against, giving a majority of 112.

Allevinsville made the biggest change from the election in 1914. She gave a majority of eight for the issue.

Mt. Tirzah Township showed a considerable change from the former election, giving this time a majority of eight.

The Commissioners for Roxboro Township are: Messrs. C. H. Hunter, C. B. Brooks and R. A. Burch.

Commissioners for Olive Hill are: Messrs. John Brewer, Clyde Wagstaff and W. D. Fulcher.

Commissioners for Bushy Fork are: Messrs. J. I. Coleman, Edgar Warren and Dave Long.

Commissioners for Woodsdale Township are: Messrs. Green B. Williams, A. J. Mitchell and W. A. Warren.

Commissioners for Allevinsville are: Messrs. J. L. Gentry, S. T. Slaughter and D. C. Moore.

Commissioners for Flat River are: Messrs. N. T. Clayton, W. A. Barton and T. G. Lunsford.

Commissioners for Holloways Township are: Messrs. A. J. Crutchfield, O. D. Bailey and W. R. Seat.

The Commissioners of the different townships in the county will meet in Roxboro at the courthouse on next Monday 26th, 1917, and elect a Central Highway Commission.

Below we give the vote of each precinct in the county in the good roads election on Tuesday and of the vote in 1914:

Precinct.	1917		1914	
	For	Against	For	Against
Ai	11	50	10	56
Allevinsville	88	80	22	152
Bushy Fork	71	91	90	72
Cates	49	73	35	81
Centro	18	15	9	19
Chub Lake	26	57	16	60
Cunningham	8	42	0	45
Holloways	34	70	37	73
Mt. Tirzah	76	68	41	102
Olive Hill	137	25	74	56
East Roxboro	208	44	139	116
West Roxboro	210	26	159	77
Woodsdale	9	56	7	45
Total	940	697	636	954

ELATED OVER RESULTS OF BOND ELECTION

Having laid myself open, perhaps, to a charge of having read my fellow citizens of Person county a lecture last week through your columns, I now wish to beg space enough to explain my pride in Person county men for the splendid vote for good roads and for progress which they gave yesterday. I have just heard it with the deepest pleasure and all old Person county men in Durham are tonight rejoicing. We shall hereafter not have to apologize for bad roads in our native county and for a refusal to join the rest of North Carolina in advancing to meet the new day of hopeful and "forward-looking" men.

There is nothing that convinces like a good example, and I've no doubt the splendid roads built by Roxboro township in the last two years were the most moving argument to carry the election. So all honor to the men of Roxboro, who had the vision and the courage in starting the good work.

I trust no one will view with regret that your new roads will bring me and hundreds of other Durham people to frequent visits to the county which in the past were denied that pleasure or if so only rarely. All of us congratulate the county and its citizens.—W. L. Foushee.

Surprise Birthday Dinner

On March the 11th it was quite a surprise to Mr. and Mrs. John T. Brooks when the children began to come in with their baskets of nice dinner and began to spread the dining room table with things good to eat to celebrate their mother's birthday.

All of the children were present except Miss Ina Brooks. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Blalock; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Brooks and little daughter Elizabeth; Mrs. C. B. Brooks; Mr. and Mrs. Abie O'Brian and son Irving; and Messrs. Irving Brooks and Edgar Carver.—One who was present.

Mr. L. M. Carlton spent Sunday in Durham with relatives.

FIDDLER'S CONVENTION

Do you play a fiddle?

The question has arisen among the H. M. C. C. girls as to who is the best fiddler in their community. Each girl is positive that she knows, but strange to say, no two girls agree.

In order to decide the much debated question, they are going to call a Fiddler's Convention, when all of the fiddlers of the surrounding counties shall be invited to come and enjoy this concert.

Come one, come all ye merry fiddlers and compete for prizes! Those wishing to take part bringing your violins and banjos to the Hurdles Mill School at seven o'clock Saturday, March 24th.

Come all ye people of the community and join in merriment of this concert!

Doors open at 7:30—Admission, 15 cents.

NOTICE

To the Confederate Veterans of Camp Jones and Person County:

Mrs. J. A. Long, President of the Daughters of the Confederacy, informs me that the annual re-union of the Confederate Veterans will be held on Thursday May the 10th. All the speakers will be Person county men. It is also desired that any old soldier who will and cares to, will be expected and given the opportunity of relating some one of his experiences during the war. Mrs. Long wants all of the wives and daughters of old soldiers to present and join the Daughters of the Confederacy as she is very desirous of recruiting the organization.

The commander is very anxious that all the veterans be present at the re-union and wants the names of all the Veterans who will and expect to go to Washington next June for the general re-union. Through the efforts of our representatives in the last Legislature there was a bill passed allowing the County Commissioners to pay the fares of the old veterans to the coming re-union.

We want your co-operation to

"STATE OF WAR" A MERE MATTER OF HOURS, IS BELIEF

CALMLY DELIBERATES IN ACCUSTOMED WAY

News of Loss of Life On Vigilancia Adds to Gravity of Situation; Vessel Sunk Without Warning; Undetermined Whether Extra Session of Congress Will Be Hurried.

Washington, March 19.—President Wilson is expected within the next 48 hours to decide definitely that he believes a virtual state of war exists between United States and Germany.

News received from Plymouth that 15 men, some of them Americans, had been drowned when the American merchantman Vigilancia was sunk without warning by a German submarine added, if possible, to the already grave view of the situation held here as a result of the destruction of the Vigilancia, the Illinois, and the City of Memphis.

Whether the President will hasten an extra session of Congress already called for April 16, or will take additional steps to protect American commerce without this move was not disclosed tonight. No official pretended to know his plans, and the general view was that he was still considering the question in his usual deliberate way.

A cabinet meeting probably will be held tomorrow afternoon and at that time the situation arising out of the new acts of aggression on the part of Germany is expected to be thoroughly canvassed.

Preparation for aggressive action to protect American rights began today when the President visited the Navy Department personally, and directed Secretary Daniels to utilize the \$115,000,000 made available by Congress to hasten the naval building plans. The New York navy yard was directed to begin the construction of sixty submarine chasers and announcement was made that bids for 200 more will be opened Wednesday. Through the early graduation of two classes at Annapolis and the mobilization of reserves it is promised to make it possible to man quickly all ships of the navy.

The question was also taken up of getting into communication informally with Great Britain and France to discuss co-operation in the protection of commerce lanes across the Atlantic. This step will probably not be taken until the course of the United States has been finally determined.

In addition to his conference with Secretary Daniels, the President saw Secretaries, Lansing and McAdoo, William Denman, chairman of the Federal Shipping Board, and there is every indication that he is mapping out comprehensive plans for the protection of American interests in any eventuality.

It is generally conceded that already a virtual state of war exists with Germany in spite of the technical armed neutrality status of United States.

A suggestion advanced tonight was that the President might issue a call for Congress to meet within ten days, and in his proclamation point out the new situation facing the nation since he asked authority to establish a state of armed neutrality. No one professed, however, to be in the President's confidence.

MR. BRUCE CRAVEN SPEAKS IN ROXBORO

Mr. Bruce Craven, of Trinity, N. C., spoke to a large audience in the court house. Monday afternoon at one o'clock. A circular was being circulated last week intended to injure the cause of the bond issue with a part of Mr. Craven's article appearing in the Greensboro News of recent date. Mr. Craven was notified of this and came to Roxboro and made one of the best Good Roads speeches, we have heard during this election. Mr. Craven fully vindicated himself and showed how utterly impossible any one could take his entire article and state that it was written to injure any election for Road improvement.

make our County re-union the best we have ever had.

Very respectfully yours,
John H. Burch,
Commander Camp Jones,
Roxboro, N. C.
March 19, 1917.

PRESIDENT TO MOVE FORWARD DATE OF EXTRA SESSION TODAY

CABINET BELIEVED TO BE OF ONE MIND

Among Officials Unanimous Opinion Is That in Spite of Technical Armed Neutrality Status Actually a State of War Now Exists; Only Question is What Steps to Take

Washington, March 20.—For two hours today President Wilson discussed the international crisis with his Cabinet and heard urgent suggestions that the date for the extra session of Congress fixed for April 16 be set forward to consider further steps in defense of American commerce against German submarines. It is understood there was not a dissenting voice against this advice.

The President himself did not express his views, and so far as could be learned later had not finally determined upon the course to be pursued. The prevailing belief was that he would announce the call for an earlier meeting of Congress tomorrow.

Among officials virtually the unanimous opinion is that in spite of the technical armed neutrality status of the United States, actually a state of war exists as the result of the ruthless destruction of American merchant ships and the killing of American citizens in defiance of international law and of the most solemn warnings one nation can give another. The only question is what shall be done about it further than the arming of merchantmen to resist submarine attack if they get the chance.

Cabinet For Formal Declaration
The cabinet members generally are said to have expressed today their willingness to support a program based on an early call for Congress and a formal declaration that a state of war exists between Germany and the United States.

Tonight the President went to the theatre—a thing he frequently does when he has made a preliminary decision on a grave question and wants distraction in order to look at the problem anew with freshened mind.

After the cabinet meeting Secretary Daniels, saying that no naval orders had been issued, hurried to the Navy Department, and went into conference with the members of the General Board. Information for the President and tentative plans for further naval activities were discussed. The only argument known to have been advanced in official circles against the early calling of Congress was that the President himself can do almost everything possible immediately. But in spite of this argument the preponderance of official opinion seemed to be that Congress should be summoned just as soon as possible so that the full power of the government would be assembled in Washington.

Discuss Patrol Plans

Plans for organizing patrol squadrons of privately owned motor boats and yachts along the Atlantic coast were discussed tonight at a conference between Secretary Daniels and Capt. Geo. R. Marvell, an assistant for operations, who has just returned from a trip to New York, Boston and other coast points, to enroll valuable craft. Captain Marvell reported he had arranged contracts with many owners of small speedy boats suitable for mounting guns and chasing submarines or patrolling the coast, to turn their vessels over to the government in an emergency. A number of boat owners also agreed to volunteer as reserve officers.

Both Secretary Daniels and Secretary Baker spent several hours at their offices tonight going over department business.

The research Club met with Mrs. A. S. deVlaming, Wednesday afternoon. The guests assembled in the living room, attractive with jonquils, and here the lesson study was conducted. The subject, "Denmark," was led by Mrs. W. A. Sergeant, while Mrs. B. R. Long read a very interesting history of a Belgian writer. At the close of the program, delightful refreshments in two two courses were served.

It is not necessary to urge intelligent people to carry insurance. You need only to call their attention to it. SEE S. P. SATTERFIELD or phone 46-M and your wants will be granted.