

News Without Bias Views Without Prejudice

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First Shot of War Fired Today

German Submarine Attacks United States Destroyer in Early Morning Hours But Missile Missed Target

Enemy Fighter Escapes

All Subsequent Efforts to Trace Daring Under Sea Raider Are Fruitless.

Washington, April 17--The first shot of the war was fired by Germany and it missed its mark.

An enemy submarine, braving the perils of the Atlantic, in the early morning hours today attacked the destroyer Smith by firing a torpedo across her bows. The shot missed the missile, clearing the American vessel by thirty yards.

Official confirmation of the encounter was received by the navy department shortly after noon today. The official statement issued at that time stated that the Smith sighted an enemy submarine running southward at about 3.30 this morning as the H-hour fired a torpedo and disappeared.

This attack is the first concrete evidence of persistent rumors that an enemy submarine was lurking off the American coast. The fact that the Fire Island station conveyed the original information leads to the belief that the Germans are not far distant from New York City.

Boston, April 17--A German torpedo launched at an American war vessel from a submarine at twenty minutes past three o'clock this morning marks the first engagement of the war.

According to wireless messages received at the Charleston navy yard here, the torpedo missed its mark and the submarine quickly disappeared.

The United States ship that fired the torpedo was the Fire Island. The Smith was standing by and was able to see the enemy submarine. This is the first appearance of an enemy submarine in American waters since the United States entered the war.

The wireless message from the Fire Island off the coast of North Carolina was received at the navy yard here at 11.30 a. m. The message stated that the Fire Island sighted a submarine at 3.30 a. m. and fired a torpedo at it. The submarine disappeared.

General Haig's report this morning told of a new thrust south of Cambrai. Statements from Paris more than confirmed the most sanguine hopes of the success of the joint offensive.

General Nivelle reported a desperate German attempt to stem the tide of the

GERMANY WILL OFFER NEW PEACE

DIPLOMATS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH GERMANY - OFFICIALS LOOK FOR ANOTHER STATEMENT OF TERMS FROM TEUTONIC EMPIRES.

By WILLIAM G. SREPPER, United Press Staff Correspondent, Christiana, April 17, Germany is shortly to issue a statement on the terms on which she will make peace or consider peace negotiable according to rumors in diplomatic circles today.

The report comes from a source closely identified with the plans of German officials. No details of what Germany proposes to offer have been heard. However, it is not believed that the terms set out will differ in radical respect from the German inspired outline of what would be the demands of the Teutons given out at Washington in December.

American diplomatic officials have been formally advised that Germany is behind the pseudo-socialist movement for peace. The appointment of Bernstorff as ambassador to Sweden is in line with the attempt to come to terms of separate peace with Russia.

Tonight's Show At Alkrama

The show at the Alkrama tonight will be a grand one. The program is well planned and the cast is excellent. The show will be a real treat for the audience.

Cuba to be Represented

Washington, April 17--Cuba will send a commission here to confer with the English, French and American commissioners in their discussions of America's part in the war against Germany.

FOOT EXPERT HERE

Dr. E. W. Layton, representing the Smith Manufacturing Company is in the city for the first time since the week with Owens Shoe Company. Dr. Layton is here to give expert advice on the care of the feet and to relieve all manner of foot ailments. He knows how not only to relieve but to cure corns, bunions, callous spots on the sole and other foot ailments that make life torture to those who suffer from them.

Mr. Dean, "You see the star is to be your ward," "O, yes," replied Mr. Dean, "she is my Fannie Ward." The rest of the company promptly descended upon him but the founder managed to escape with his life. Others in the cast are Eugene Palette, Horace B. Corp. and Vol. Vale, Paul Weigel, Walter Long and others.

HINTS TO REDUCE MOTION PICTURE HAZARD

Material reduction of the fire hazard in the motion picture industry is expected to result from the publication of bulletins under the direction of the Committee on Fire Prevention, Legislation and Insurance of the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry, Inc. Bulletin number 1, which has just been issued, contains the following hints:

1. Place a gradual electrical discharge all year in a continuous with every electrical appliance and how they are used.
2. Keep film in containers when not actually in use. The time loss in replacing it is nothing. Naked film is the one condition that guarantees that a little fire will get beyond control in a few seconds.
3. Throw film scraps into self-closing metal cans, never into open waste baskets.
4. Keep the cutting rooms, etc., well swept. The tiny pieces of film that fly about make the dust as dangerous as so much gunpowder.

CIVILIZATION IS A GREAT PICTURE

VAST SUM OF MONEY EXPENDED IN ITS PRODUCTION AND THE PRICES CHARGED ARE QUITE REASONABLE.

Attention is called to an error in yesterday's ad of Civilization in which the retail prices were given as 25 and 35 cents. This should have been 75 and 50 cents. A very reasonable price when compared with what other theatres charge.

Over a year was spent in making the great cinema spectacle "Civilization" which is to be screened at the New Theatre this week and as the advertisements tell us, over a million dollars expended in its making. Even discounting both quantities by thirty per cent we still have the most remarkable thing yet done in the movies. These movies are nothing, if not marvelous. In fact a movie that was not in the estimation of its maker and his hirelings a marvel would not have the least chance of getting over.

The picture, "Civilization" made its bow, so to speak, at the Criterion Theatre, New York, with very little preliminary tramping in the way of press work. It just went on to Broadway and took House New York by storm, although hampered by competition of the many other forms of entertainment which Broadway always has on hand for its great thronged cosmopolitan population. Yet the picture, handicapped as it was by modesty, it held its place in the very building where picture competition is absolutely at its keenest in the world. The Criterion Theatre being one of the many imposing picture houses on one block on Broadway. Its phenomenal success is due to the fact that the producer, Mr. Thomas H. Ince succeeded in touching the hearts and minds of everybody who sees his beautiful screen sermon on the love of ones neighbor.

The Christus walks through this picture and walks through it with infinite dignity and compassion. The whole almost automatically finds itself conjuring up scenes of the Holy Land nineteen centuries ago.

Tyrrell County Man Drowned

News reached here yesterday of the death of Mr. Joe Liverman of Tyrrell county from drowning. Mr. Liverman and his brother had loaded a gas boat with fish and were trying to get them aboard the Alma which was off abreast of Doak Point. The men headed straight for the Alma. It was rough that morning and when they were close beside the Alma a wave dashed the boat overboard in front of her. The bow of the Alma struck the boat, causing it to capsize. Mr. Liverman being unable to swim, was drowned.

Sticking In First Sweets

Cold weather has delayed the putting out of sweet potatoes in Currituck this Spring but this week the farmers will generally begin to get their plants out. Mr. Lloyd Hamilton of Caldoek was visiting to the city from Currituck who came into Elizabeth City on that day.

ANNUAL COUNCIL TO MEET HERE

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NINE YEARS ELIZABETH CITY WILL BE HOST OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EASTERN CAROLINA

The annual council of the diocese of East Carolina will meet at Elizabeth City May 15th, 16, and 17th.

Christ church parish will be host to the council and it is expected that there will be about 200 delegates to be taken care of. These will consist of clergymen, women and girls representing the various branches of church activities. This is the first time that this council has met at Elizabeth City since 1908, when the town did her self proud in honor of the event and gave her guests a royal welcome.

It is believed that once again the gates of the city will be open wide when these visitors come here to see "The Kings Business."

The city will do its own part in the matter of the first annual council of the Episcopal diocese of Eastern Carolina. The city will be the host of the council and it is expected that there will be about 200 delegates to be taken care of. These will consist of clergymen, women and girls representing the various branches of church activities. This is the first time that this council has met at Elizabeth City since 1908, when the town did her self proud in honor of the event and gave her guests a royal welcome.

The members of the Elizabeth City Home Guard are called to meet at the treasury Thursday night at eight o'clock by order of W. A. Worth, major.

LODGE CONFERS DEGREE Eureka Lodge, No. 317, A. F. & A. M., will confer the second degree at their hall in the Robinson building tonight. All members are urged to attend.

CITY WILL TRY CONCRETE STREET

BEFORE EXPENDING PROCEEDS OF SALE OF NEW BOND ISSUE BOARD OF ALDERMEN INVESTIGATE MERITS OF CONCRETE.

Elizabeth City will try 2,000 square yards of concrete paving before deciding how the \$60,000 just made available from the sale of a new issue of municipal bonds for other paving shall be spent. The experiment will be made on Pennsylvania avenue.

This was decided by the board of aldermen in a special meeting Monday afternoon. The work will be done by the city under the supervision of an expert from the Portland Cement Association. This expert supervision will not cost the city a penny.

The action was taken by the board after they had listened to Mr. William P. Ensel of the Portland Cement Association set forth his claims as to the merits of concrete and after he had shown them letters from city engineers all over the state expressing a decided preference for concrete as compared with brick or sand foundation—the material which Elizabeth City has used on all its paved streets up to this time. Mr. Ensel convinced the aldermen that they should not make this new expenditure without at least giving a chance, and in his view, more satisfactory material a trial.

Mr. Ensel says that concrete is gaining in popularity as a paving material at a prodigious rate.

He cites convincing figures to prove his point. In 1909 the amount of concrete paving done in the United States amounted to only 750,000 square miles.

In six years, or by 1915, the total construction of concrete paving done in a year had increased to 16,500,000 square miles. In 1916, 24,000,000 square miles of concrete streets and road were constructed. And the rate of increase is climbing all the time.

The Portland Cement Association does not sell or manufacture cement. It is maintained by cement manufacturers and provides expert supervision of concrete work without charge. The purpose of the manufacturers is to protect their interests in the sale of cement and to insure that the best possible results will be obtained.

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Home Guards Meet Thursday

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WEATHER OR NO Fair, tonight. Wednesday fair and warmer.