

British Capture Four German Merchant Ships

Damage Two Vessels And Bring Two Crews To Harbor. Other Crews Escape.

(By United Press)
London, July 17.—The capture of four German merchant ships in the North Sea yesterday is announced by the British admiralty today. The Germans did their best to get away. Two of the vessels were damaged by gunfire from the British ships which sighted them. Two crews escaped, the others were brought into harbor.

BATTLE WITH SUBMARINE

Buenos Aires, July 17.—A battle between the British steamer, Thessaly and a German submarine when four days out from Liverpool was reported when the steamer arrived today. One of the Thessaly's crew was killed by gunfire.

HAIG'S SOLDIERS MAKE GAINS

(By United Press)
London, July 17.—Haig's soldiers gained during the night northwest of Warneton in the Nieuport sector, a British raiding party encountering a large enemy detachment in front of German positions. After a sharp fight the British drove the enemy into the trenches and bombed them.

WAS TRIUMPH FOR MILITARISM

(By United Press)
Washington, July 17.—Michaelis' appointment was a triumph for German military spirit, according to all dispatches received by the State Department. No peace but a German peace will be launched by the Kaiser and his fall has been accomplished, experts say.

AEROPLANE BILL REPORTED FAVORABLY

(By United Press)
Washington, July 17.—The Senate Military Committee today reported out the \$640,000 airplane bill with recommendation that it pass. Chamberlain will move to consider the bill tomorrow and expects to get the vote on it without delay.

DEPT. CALLS FOR MORE ENGINEERS

(By United Press)
Washington, July 17.—The War Department today ordered the drafting or recruiting of a tenth regiment of engineers to supplement the nine ordered sent to repair French railroads.

MAKE DEMONSTRATION ON WAY TO WORKHOUSE

(By United Press)
Washington, July 17.—Sixteen militant suffragists accepted sixty days sentence to the workhouse rather than pay the fine of \$25 for obstructing traffic while picketing the White House. They will make a great demonstration on the trip to the workhouse, having hired special conveyances for this purpose.

Miss Margaret Campen of Hertford is visiting Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Litchfield on Martin Street.

WHY STREETS ARE NOT BEING PAVED

MEMBER OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN GIVES OUT STATEMENT AS TO WHAT HAS HELD UP PAVING PROGRAM MAPPED OUT BY OLD BOARD

Alderman M. N. Sawyer, representing the second ward, today gave out the following signed statement for publication:

"At the regular meeting of the old Board of Aldermen, held on March 5th, 1917, the following streets were ordered paved: Southern Ave., Martin, Lawrence, Ehringhaus, Selden, Parsonage, Burgess, Cypress, Pennsylvania Ave., Pearl, Broad, Second, Dyer, Hunter, Matthews, and Bell. Bonds in the sum of \$84,000 were advertised and sold to meet this expense and also that of building stables. The bond buyers then refused to take the bonds assigning as their reason the fact that the bonds provided for the building of stables and that stables have never been declared a necessary expense of a town by the Supreme Court of North Carolina, and, therefore, it would require a vote of the people before the bonds would be valid.

"The new Board then took steps to issue bonds which would be acceptable to the bond buyers so as to begin the paving of streets as early as possible. While this was being done, a quo warranto suit was begun by the former city attorney, whose term of office had expired to recover that office. In this suit, he was aided by two members of the present Board who signed the bonds necessary for the prosecution of the matter. This suit has defeated the sale of the bonds for it is a rule among bond buyers that they will make no bid for any municipal bonds when the refusal of any officer of the city is in dispute. Therefore no bonds can be sold until this suit is ended.

"I explain this matter so that the people who live on these streets may understand who are responsible for not having the streets paved as was ordered. It is the old Board and those who have started this suit that are responsible, but we are not kicking for no money to spend brings no responsibility to us.

Respectfully,
M. N. SAWYER.

WHAT BROUGHT ON THE SUIT

The suit referred to in the foregoing statement was instituted by Thomas J. Markham, city attorney under the old Board. It is the contention of Mr. Markham that the election of his successor, Attorney M. B. Simpson, was illegal. If he should win the suit it would mean that almost every officer elected by the present board, including the city manager, was illegally elected.

How the present city officials were elected has already been told in this newspaper. The new board met with Mayor Sawyer in the chair. Markham contends that Mayor Sawyer's term expired along with that of the members of the old board. Mayor Sawyer's contention is that he held office until his successor was elected. The first business before the board was the election of a chairman. The aldermen from the first and second wards voted for Owens; the aldermen from the third and fourth wards voted for Pritchard. Mayor Sawyer broke the tie voting for Owens. This was the last official act of Mayor Sawyer's first term. Owens took the chair and voted for Sawyer as Mayor first as representative of the first ward and then, when that vote resulted in a

THE MILK SITUATION

We do not know what the Board of Aldermen have come to think of the milk situation in Elizabeth City, but the more we consider the effects of the law banning the dairies from the city on the 20th of this month the more we believe that such action was ill advised, ill considered and is inexpedient.

If the times were normal, it would be a different matter. The Advance would favor, under normal conditions, that all cows, after sufficient notice to their owners, be barred from the city limits for the sake of a cleaner city.

But the times are not normal. The nation is at war. The food problem is a serious one. And everywhere cities are making less stringent their laws in regard to keeping cows, and even hogs in the city limits.

The dairymen, too, have to dispose of their cows at a sacrifice because of the short length of time allowed them before the law goes into effect.

But chiefly, the little children suffer. They depend on milk very largely, if not entirely, for their existence. In the hot summer months the change from one sort of milk to another often produces serious results and is a dangerous experiment. With polluted city water, countless breeding places for mosquitoes thru out the city, and the season of typhoid fever upon us, it isn't giving the little children much of a square deal, and whatever may have been the motive of the Board in passing such a law it's certainly unfair to take it out on the kiddies.

FOUR MINISTERS HAVE RESIGNED

(By United Press)

Petrograd, July 17.—Minister of Finance Shingaroff, Minister of Education Manuiloff, and Minister of Public Relief, Prince Shakhovskiy, formally resigned today. All of these are members of the old Cadet party.

Minister of Railways is said to be considering a like movement. The premier is endeavoring to dissuade him.

KERENSKY HURRIES FROM FRONT

Minister of War, Kerensky, hurriedly returned from the front today, following the resignation of the cabinet ministers.

MICHAELIS HAS DIFFICULT JOB

(By United Press)

MUST PASS CREDITS BILL AND WIN OVER LIBERAL LEADERS OF THE REICHTAG SAY DIS- PATCHES

Berlin, July 17.—Chancellor Michaelis' program is to be "A strong policy within; unity without."

The highest sources give this as an outline of the premier's fundamental theories.

Michaelis is expected to make his maiden speech in the Reichstag on Thursday, or possibly Wednesday.

NOT YET PAST CRISIS

London, July 17.—Germany has not yet passed her crisis in internal affairs. The new chancellor must show that he can command enough support in the Reichstag to pass the Credits Bill. German dispatches indicate that this is no small obstacle.

Liberal leaders in parliament are dissatisfied with Michaelis' appointment because Hollweg was retired without consulting Reichstag members.

CONFERENCES UNFRUITFUL

Amsterdam, July 17.—Conferences which Chancellor Michaelis, Von Hindenburg and Ludendorff and other military chiefs have been holding with Reichstag majority leaders are thus far unfruitful, Berlin dispatches state.

The Reichstag leaders declare that they will continue to adhere to and insist upon their demand for a statement of Germany's war aims and the "no annexations" principle.

MARINES WERE FIRST ASHORE

(By United Press)

An Atlantic Port, July 17.—The marines were the first ashore in France. Also it was one of their transports the German submarines fired on. It was learned today.

IN POLICE COURT

In Police Court, Tuesday morning, Charles Edward Smith, colored, who was tried for stealing brass, was released under suspended judgment on paying \$2.18, the costs of court.

Fra Parker was fined \$6.95 for speeding.

R. M. Rigley was fined \$1.95 for operating an automobile without displaying the proper lights.

The case against Dollie Markham, colored, charged with assault, was dismissed.

CHILDE HAROLD SUNK BY U-BOAT

(By United Press)

Washington, July 17.—The American schooner, Childe Harold, was sunk by a submarine in European waters on June 20th, the State Department announced today. All hands were saved. The schooner was not armed.

He between Sawyer and W. C. Glover, Owens voted again as chairman of the board. In this action Owens was sustained by a precedent set two years ago when the present city charter went into effect. The action at that time aroused resentment on the part of one faction on the board but though there was talk of a suit then nothing came of it.

He elected to the office of Mayor by Owens' double vote, P. G. Sawyer again took the chair, and cast the deciding vote in the election of every city officer as to whom there was a contest. The present city attorney owes his office to the mayor's vote.

The suit against the city arises out of the foregoing facts.

Live Little Locals Many Minor Matters Merely Mentioned

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Litchfield and children motored to Hertford Sunday.

George Sawyer has returned to his post of duty on the United States battleship, Pennsylvania, after a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sawyer, on Bell Street.

Mrs. Sadie Toler and daughter, Miss Carrie Toler, of Norfolk, Va., who have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. George McHarney, Sr., on Hunter Street, left Monday for Nags Head, where they will spend several days.

Joseph Riggs has returned to his post in the navy, after a visit to relatives and friends in this city.

Exceptional pictures are booked at The Alkrama tomorrow with special organ music.

Vitagraph Blue Ribbon Special. The Ninety and Nine deals with the all too familiar subject of one becoming addicted to the habit of strong drink, and being the cause of an innocent girl having her name linked with a gully one.

FIGHT TO DEATH ALONG THE YSER

MOST OF THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLES AND NORTHAMPTON- SHIRES EXTERMINATED IN FURY OF GERMAN ATTACK BE- TWEEN LOMBARTZYDE AND THE SEA

(By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS)
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

With The British Armies in The Field, July 17.—History's fadeless pages will record the heroic deaths of most of the king's Royal Rifles and Northamptonshires in fighting between Lombartzyde and the sea. They died, almost to the last man, in fighting, the fury of which has not been surpassed by any of the titanic conflicts of this greatest of wars.

British army headquarters today permits the heroic story of this fight to be told to American readers.

Scarcely any of the meager group survivors of this great German attack on the sand dunes came out of the battle unwounded. All that did emerge were those who swam the river Yser.

The enemy bombardment of the sand dunes began at 6 o'clock in the morning. The fire of shells rested for a time near the front lines of the British trenches and then shifted back to the support lines, deluging them. Then it lifted across the river and pounded the British reserve positions. Throughout the day the hail of shells was repeated. It arose to a hell-fury of fire late in the day and then droves of the enemy airplane, flying low, spat their machine gunfire on the British, re-directing the artillery ranges.

By this time many of the British defenders were gone. The remainder stuck to their posts. They awaited calmly the attack the now knew was bound to come. The German guns had wiped out the bridges. The battlefield was a maelstrom of smoke, steel flying sand and debris.

Between 7 and 7:15 p. m. the enemy planted a barrage fire around the front line once again, while simultaneously the German marines, the Kaiser's hardest fighters, charged with flanks. The foremost attacking wave was concise, in the middle converging on the few remaining British troops. This fragment of the defenders, with one or two men to each unbroken machine gun that remained, worked desperately striving to beat the Germans back. Many machine guns were jammed with the sand. Then came the shock of man to man fighting. British officers with their men armed with bayonets and clubbed rifles in a struggling, body to body mass. It was a huge fight to the death.

One soldier, wounded and beset by the shelling and the desperate fighting of man to man, swam across the waterway and then went back with a rope so that those of the few remainder who could not swim might pull themselves across to safety.

The German official version of this struggle on the sand declared there were 1250 British prisoners taken. Here at headquarters it is declared this figure obviously includes killed and wounded.

British troops gained back at least one section of a trench south of Lombartzyde in a counter attack immediately after the German assault.

DRIFTED FOR TWELVE DAYS

Atlantic Port, July 17.—Drifting for twelve days in an open boat two members of the crew of a Norwegian schooner were picked up two hundred miles off the Irish coast by a British ship arriving here today. One of the men was unconscious from hunger.

WARNING

Until further notice all city water used for drinking purposes should be boiled. Water analyses indicates pollution.
C. B. WILLIAMS, M. D.
City Health Officer.

WOMAN'S WORK IS ORGANIZED

ELIZABETH CITY WOMEN WILL TAKE ACTIVE PART IN NATION WIDE ORGANIZATION FOR PA- TRIOTIC SERVICE

The Woman's Division of the Pasquotank Council for Defense was organized Monday evening with Mrs. Cam W. Melick, Permanent Chairman, Mrs. M. Leigh Sheep, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Wm. Boettcher, Secretary and Treasurer.

The meeting was held at the home of Miss Marcle Albertson who had been appointed temporary chairman by Governor Bickett. Miss Albertson will have charge of the Department of Food Conservation; Miss Edson Carr, the Department of Food Production; Miss Lillie Grandy, the Department of Child Welfare and Social Service; Mrs. J. L. Cunningham, the Department of Moral and Spiritual Instruction; Mrs. C. P. Brown, Home and Foreign Relief; Mrs. Herbert Peele, the Department of Public Health. Other chairmen of departments are yet to be appointed. Literature in regard to the work of the various departments is to be ordered, also, and active work will be begun by the organization as a whole in September. Meanwhile the chairmen and others who can do will be "doing their bit" toward concentrated work in the fall.

In the gathering of women that made up the charter membership of the organization all churches of the city and all women's organizations outside of the churches were represented. Among those present were: Mrs. C. W. Melick, Miss Marcle Albertson, Mrs. M. Leigh Sheep, Miss Lillie Grandy, Mrs. J. L. Cunningham, Mrs. Chas. Reid, Miss Hattie Harney, Mrs. S. C. Newbold, Mrs. R. T. Venters, Miss Eva Etheridge, Mrs. C. P. Brown, Mrs. W. A. Worth, Mrs. T. C. Jones, Mrs. Wm. Boettcher, Miss Minnie Albertson, Mrs. Whitehurst, Mrs. C. C. Clark.

The aim of the Woman's Division of the Council for Defense is to unify the manifold activities of woman's patriotic service, and Elizabeth City women will do their part in the great patriotic mechanism. At Washington stands the central organization, the National Council, composed of six members of the President's cabinet, and in addition to these, seven members of the Advisory Board, industrial leaders.

In each State capital there is the central organization for the state with its officers and in each county there will be county organizations, making a network of patriotic service over the land which will be of value in war or peace. The organization concerns itself with conservation, sanitation, co-operation, industry, preservation of historical data, transportation, home defense, hospital necessities and comforts, and stands ready to render service in any way which the government may desire.

FRENCH STRIKE OFFENSIVE BLOW

(By United Press)

Paris, July 17.—The German forces made further desperate assaults last night in Champagne, seeking to drive the French from their newly won gains around Mont Teton, but were repulsed, today's official statement asserts.

The war office announces a vigorous offensive blow by the French around Hill 304 and Verdun which resulted in the capture of positions which had been lost to the Germans on June 28th. Many prisoners were taken.

The Germans again attacked Mont Teton but the attacking waves were withered in French fire and the German troops fled back to the trenches leaving many dead.

There was active artillery around Caney and Courcy.

WEATHER

Local thundershowers this afternoon or tonight; Wednesday probably fair; warmer west portion; gentle to moderate winds mostly south and southwest.