

GERMAN BATTLESHIPS SUNK BY THEIR CREW

On the very day the German minister under Premier Scheidemann was giving way at Berlin to a new minister under the premiership of Herr Bauer, for the purpose of meeting the allied demands with respect to the peace treaty, the German officers and crews of the German warships interned at Scapa Flow opened the sea-cocks of the vessels. Many of the larger vessels—battleships and cruisers—were sent to the bottom. Some of the smaller craft were beached. Only a few remained afloat.

Under the terms of the armistice, according to the British admiralty, these interned vessels were manned only by Germans. When the ships were settling deep, the Germans took to the boats, some of which, refusing to surrender, were shelled and a number of the Germans killed or wounded.

The New German cabinet includes Dr. Eduard David, formerly president of the assembly; Matthias Erzberger, head of the armistice commission; and Gustav Noske, minister of national defense.

Peace conference circles view the situation with optimism and plans for the signing of the treaty are being carried into execution. The conference has not received any official communications or requests from the Germans.

Reports from Berlin, however, say Matthias Erzberger, head of the German armistice commission, is sending the conference a request that Germany be admitted to the league of nations, that the purpose to try the former emperor be not pressed and that the German indemnity be placed at one hundred billion marks gold. There is no official confirmation of this, and a report from Weimar received in Copenhagen says it is not in accordance with the actual facts.

The German government leaders at Weimar, after an unsuccessful attempt to form a cabinet favorable to signing, on Friday announced that they would wait 48 hours before making another attempt. Late Friday night, however, the leaders went into session again.

A state of siege has been declared in the region of Munster, east of the Rhine in Westphalia. Spartan disturbances are reported to have led to the proclamation.

The Italian cabinet situation has not yet been cleared up. Francesco Nitti, former minister of finance, apparently is continuing his efforts to form a ministry. It is reported that Tommaso Tittoni will resume his old post as foreign minister.

Wholesale Sinking of Ships Planned.

London, June 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—The German officers and sailors, forming the complements of the German ships interned at Scapa Flow, sank most of their fleet today. All the big ships, the battle cruisers, excepting the Baden and numerous smaller craft, were sunk, while others went ashore in a half-sunken condition.

Eighteen destroyers were beached by tugs; four are still afloat, while the remainder went under.

The wholesale sinking of the German ships, which were surrendered under the terms of the armistice, was carefully arranged by officers and crews. All explosives had been removed and therefore the only means of destroying the fleet was by opening the sea-cocks. The ships went down slowly, with the German flag, which the crews had hoisted, showing at the mastsheads.

Only Germans in Crews.

The crews, composed entirely of Germans, under the terms of the armistice, which did not permit British guards aboard, took to the boats when the vessels began to settle. While making for shore, the boats were challenged and called upon to surrender. Some of them ignored the summons and were fired upon, a few casualties resulting.

This stroke apparently was an entire surprise, and the first news reached London through a correspondent who was inform-

CLERGY OF MOUNT AIRY SHARPLY OPPOSE DANCE

Mount Airy, June 22.—The bare announcement by the entertainment committee of the big fourth of July celebration which is being planned by the Red Cross, that a street dance would be one of the attractions of the program, has precipitated a right lively row. Preachers and teachers, soldiers and sailors, business men, women and almost every creature have some remarks to submit on the matter, and it has become one of the chief topics of conversation. A storm of protest has broken loose and apparently has not reached the crest of its fury.

The preachers are all mightily "again" it. Rev. George D. Herman, pastor of Central Methodist church, in a sensational deliverance from his pulpit today, declared it was a misappropriation of funds for the officers of the local Red Cross to spend money in this way, when it was raised for war relief. He declared that officers of the local chapter had flatly refused to contribute any of the money to help relieve the suffering during the epidemic of influenza, and now purposed to insult the very people who gave the money by using it to stage a dance. The preacher created a sensation by charging that the soldiers of the country did not want to dance and that it was being staged to try to build up the political fortunes of three or four men.

"The boldest affront ever offered the church in this section," was the way Rev. T. H. King put it at the First Baptist church. Declaring that the church in this county had organized and kept up the Red Cross chapter, the preacher considered it an insult to the Christian people to put a dance on as part of the program.

Rev. W. P. McCarter, pastor of the Second Baptist church, thinks the street hop will be out of place and an insult to those who have died in France. His congregation took a vote to have nothing to do with the celebration unless the dance is called off.

Rev. Tom P. Jimison, pastor of Mount Airy circuit, characterized it as a "piece of amazing imprudence and colossal gall for a little handful of dancing devotees to show themselves off before the public and get official recognition from the Red Cross." Continuing, the circuit rider declared that if those having the arrangements in hand even permitted the street dance it would "kill the Red Cross in this section as dead as Hector, and they might as well write Ichabod over its tomb." He advised his members to stay away from town that day.

ed by farmers in the neighborhood that they had seen the German ships sinking, with their flags aloft.

The admiralty at first denied the report, but later confuted it and issued an official statement. The German officers and crews have been made prisoners. None of the officials tonight would offer an opinion as to how they are to be dealt with.

New German Cabinet Formed Under Bauer

Berlin, June 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—A German cabinet has been formed under the premiership of Herr Bauer, formerly minister of labor, with Dr. Hermann Meuller, the majority socialist leader, as minister of foreign affairs.

The other members of the cabinet are: Minister of the interior, Dr. Eduard David; minister of finance and vice-premier, Matthias Erzberger; minister of economics, Herr Wissell; minister of labor, Herr Schlicke; minister of the treasury, Herr Meyer; minister of posts and telegraphs, Herr Giesberts; chief of the colonial office, Dr. Bell; minister of national defense, Gustav Noske; minister of food, Dr. Schmidt.

No appointment has been made to the ministry of justice. Herr Meyer, the new head of the treasury department, is a native of Kaufbeuren, Bavaria.



1—Group of striking female employees of the Western Union Telegraph company in New York city. 2—Armed civilians arresting Red Guard soldiers in Munich, Bavaria, when the soviet forces were driven out. 3—Lieut. George Horowitz of Passaic, N. J., the high-honor man of the 1919 class just graduated from the United States Military academy.

AMERICANS AND REDS IN SKIRMISH IN SIBERIA

Vladivostok, Thursday, June 19.—(By Associated Press.)—Walter Kellerman, of Chicago, was killed and C. H. Batcheler, of Kansas City, and Chester Burt, of Antigo, Wis., were captured in a fight between 25 troops and 200 bolsheviks June 12, 100 miles to the north of Vladivostok.

Burt later was released, having been given a note saying that Batcheler would be freed only upon the release of all bolshevik prisoners. Burt said Batcheler was being well treated.

News of the death in action of the first American in Siberia, was received at headquarters June 13, but a few hours later communication with American detachments was broken when the bolsheviks attacked the Japanese sector at Nikolok and Spaskole, where the rails of the railway were loosened and the wires cut.

Communication was re-established June 18, but there have been no reports from the Americans, except news brought by a Japanese courier that the Japanese and American troops were making a determined effort to prevent the bolsheviks from destroying the railroad.

Kellerman met his death on the skirmish line, while Burt and Batcheler were captured while making a position map. In addition, one American was wounded.

The bolsheviks lost eight men killed and four taken prisoner. In another fight at Uspanka village June 11, four Americans were wounded and one bolshevik was killed and two were wounded and four made prisoner.

Transportation is demoralized between Nikolok and Khabarovsk, where railroad wrecks are frequent. The bolsheviks are stopping trains and firing on the cars. On June 11, near Spaskole a train, including American hospital cars, surgeons, was fired on for two hours. The Japanese finally relieved the situation.

On the 13th, in the American sector the bolsheviks attacked a train. Three civilians were killed and 18 others, including women and children, were wounded.

The small American force is experiencing difficulties in its work of protecting the railway, upon which the bolsheviks are able to dash at unprotected spots, remove the rails and cut the telegraph lines and make their escape. American patrols frequently surprise the bolsheviks and offer battle, but the reds usually run away without fighting. They vanish into the villages and hide their arms and pretend to be peaceful peasants. There have been a number of disturbances to traffic on the sectors of the Amur line guarded by American and Japanese troops.

BETTER RELATIONS ARE EXPECTED WITH MEXICO

Washington, June 22.—Relations between Mexico and the United States are expected by officials here to be greatly improved by conferences to be held

LARGE CROWDS WATCH WILLARD AND DEMPSEY.

Toledo, June 22.—With the return of cool weather, the largest crowd that have seen Jess Willard and Jack Dempsey in training today packed the camps of the heavyweight rivals. Forty-eight hundred persons paid \$2,400 to watch Dempsey box four rounds, and while the attendance at Willard's camp was not announced, the crowd was nearly as large.

Dempsey boxed two rounds with the "Jamaica Kid," and two with Bill Tate. Willard boxed the usual eight rounds and did three of shadow boxing and other exercises. Jack Heigen, the Chicago heavyweight, quit the camp because of an injury to his neck received when his head struck the unpadding edge of the ring when Willard knocked him out for the third time Friday.

With the arrival tomorrow of Maj. A. J. Drexel, president of the army, navy and civilian board of boxing control, definite announcement is expected to refer to a question is expected to be made. There was an unconfirmed report that Jack Welch, a veteran ring official of San Francisco, was under consideration as the final choice. Jack Kearns, manager of Dempsey, is not opposed to Welch, and Willard, is understood to favor him because of his work in judging Willard's championship battle with Jack Johnson in Havana.

Willard was advised that he had been granted the first professional boxer's license by the board of boxing control. Dempsey was granted license No. 2. The first promoter's license was awarded to Tex Rickard, promoter of the Independence day contest.

In New York this week between Gen. Candido Aguilar, son-in-law of President Carranza and minister of foreign affairs in Carranza's cabinet, and representatives of the oil companies operating in Mexico.

General Aguilar, according to official information, is empowered by President Carranza to make any agreement necessary to effect a settlement of the troublesome oil question. As a result of conferences between General Aguilar and officials of the state department last week, General Aguilar is considered as having obtained a better view of the reasons behind the stand taken by the American government in its insistence of protection of American interests.

Before leaving Washington last Friday, it was learned today, General Aguilar wrote a long and exhaustive report to President Carranza dealing with the American government's attitude on the oil question. It is not known whether he made any recommendation in this report, but it is believed in official circles that the outlook is brighter today than it has been since February 19, 1918, when President Carranza issued his first decree aimed at the oil companies.

VESSEL ARRIVES WITH MEN OF 81ST DIVISION

Charleston, S. C., June 22.—The transport Roanoke arrived here today with 1,371 officers and enlisted men from France. The soldiers were sent to Camp Jackson, Columbia, for demobilization.

Most of the veterans belonging to units of the 81st (Wildcat) division. The motor battalion headquarters, medical detachment, ordnance department and four companies of the 306th ammunition train, and medical detachment, headquarters detachment and three companies of the 630th field signal battalion together with the divisional military police, commissary unit No. 31, the 306th mobile ordnance repair shop and a casual company made up the complement of 35 officers and 1,336 men.

MRS. J. I. MYERS DIES AT NORTH WILKESBORO.

North Wilkesboro, June 20.—The whole community was shocked by the sudden death of Mrs. J. I. Myers, who passed away Monday. Mrs. Myers arose in the morning enjoying apparently good health. Shortly after breakfast she became ill, suffering from an attack of acute indigestion. A physician was called and though her condition was considered serious her death a few hours later was entirely unexpected, her death occurring before physicians could reach her again.

Mrs. Myers was a devout Christian woman, was a teacher in the Baptist Sunday school, missionary counsellor for the girls' auxiliary and the Sunbeam societies, also an active member of the Missionary and Aid societies. She was also president of the Woman's Christian Temperance union, and during the war loyal and patriotic in Red Cross work. Mrs. Myers was 54 years old, and is survived by her father, A. M. Church; three sisters, Mrs. H. H. Robinet of Tennessee; Mrs. J. O. Gragg, of Winston-Salem; Mrs. E. F. Stafford, North Wilkesboro; three brothers, T. W. Church, of North Wilkesboro; R. L. Church Knottville; W. H. Church, Ronda. Her husband and the following children survive: C. N. Myers, of El Paso, Tex.; Maj. A. H. Myers, now in France; Mrs. T. H. Parlier, of Henderson, Ky.; Mrs. J. C. Fletcher, of Charlotte; Mrs. T. J. Phillips, of North Wilkesboro; Misses Maie and Elnis Myers, North Wilkesboro. The funeral was held Thursday afternoon at the Baptist church, in the presence of a vast congregation of sorrowing relatives and friends.

CRANK WRITES TO SENATOR OVERMAN

H. E. C. Bryant, writing the Charlotte Observer from Washington, says Senator Overman has received the following letter from a man signing himself Elijah Du Norden, prophet of God Most High and giving his address as Mt. Clemens, Mich.: "Sir: You are one human being that has been hatched from Wade Hampton's and Jeff Davis' snake eggs of secessionism. "Why don't you roll yourself into h—l and get scrambled? "You put yourself up as a great statesman, because you framed the secession law. That law is an infernal lie and I, the prophet of God, will defy you and all the h—l bellowers of the south. "The Almighty God will change the flag of the United States to punish this nation for having such political beasts as you, Hoke Smith, the President, Burleson and others. "The Lord of Hosts will burn the so-called State of North Carolina in torment."

Baton Rouge, La., June 20.—Charles A. Hutchinson, planter, was shot and killed at his home, 20 miles from here today, by his son, Charles Hutchinson, Jr. The killing is said to be the result of Hutchinson chastising one of his daughters during which he stabbed her. Mrs. Hutchinson intervened, it is said, and when Hutchinson began to fight, his son picked up a shotgun and shot him in the head.

"JIM CROW" POSTOFFICE FOUND IN THIS STATE.

Washington, June 21.—Something new under the sun has been found in North Carolina—a "Jim Crow" postoffice where negroes receive their mail from one pigeon hole, and the white people from another. One of Senator Simmons' constituents has sent him a picture, showing the dividing line between the white and colored races at Makatoka, the Jim Crow office.

Makatoka is in Brunswick county, located in an isolated section, known as the Green Swamp section, in the heart of a primeval forest of juniper and cypress.

Christopher Little, who for 40 years was the postmaster of that community, no matter what the name of the office was, recently died at the age of 80. He was a native of the Makatoka neighborhood and a republican in politics.

Very few negroes went to that out-of-the-way place. A few years ago a western lumber company bought timber rights in the forest near the Little farm, and began logging it with swarms of colored men imported from other sections of the state. When the new-comers, the negroes, began to call for mail the postmaster put up this sign across the front part of the postoffice: "U. S. P. O., Makatoka, N. C., (left side) colored and (right side) white."

Postmaster Little was an honest loyal man, with warm heart and native cunning. During the last years of his life he was surrounded by grandchildren. His arbitrary settlement of the race question marked him as an original character.

A BIG "SCARE" CAUSED BY "CYCLONE" ROARING

Fayetteville, June 22.—When a black cloud appeared in the heavens and a roar the like of which they had never heard before smote their ears, farmers between Fayetteville and Wilmington swept the universe with an anxious glance, hurriedly unhitched their mules from between the plow traces and hot-footed it for their homes.

The mules were put away in the stables, the doors braced and all moveable objects about the farmyard made secure.

Visions of a country-side swept with ruin stared them in the face, and it is said not a few fervent prayers were whispered. The deafening roar in the clouds grew louder for a minute, then decreased in volume and finally died faintly away, the black cloud floated away and the sun again gave light.

The mules were brought from their places of security and began to walk between the traces again, and the country people were glad they had escaped the cyclone, but wondered what destruction it had wrought in the sweep of its path.

Next day they read in the papers of the establishment of an airplane route between Fayetteville and Wilmington, and airplane motors, as you doubtless know have a way of making a noise very much like a cyclone.

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Toledo, O., June 20.—Two bandits, after binding Miss Tessie Trudeau, teller and cashier of the Ironville branch of the People's State Savings bank, East Toledo, late Friday afternoon, escaped with \$800 in cash. Depositors entering the bank frightened the bandits away before they could open the vault in which was \$12,000 in currency. The robbers escaped in an automobile.

NEW GERMAN CABINET ASKS AND RECEIVES A BALLOT OF CONFIDENCE

Germany's new cabinet headed by Gustav Bauer has asked for and been given a vote of confidence by the German national assembly at Weimar, and the assembly has announced its willingness to sign the peace treaty of the allied and associated powers.

The offer has been communicated to the members of the peace congress in Paris, who have discussed its provisions, including reservations made by the Germans against affixing their signatures to the document while it contains clauses acknowledging the responsibility of the German people for the war and demanding the trial of former Emperor William.

As the requests of the Germans for further alterations have been definitely rejected by the allies, the Germans now must give her acquiescence to the treaty as it stands before the expiration of the time limit Monday afternoon on pretension of having the allies further invade her territory.

All is in readiness on the part of the allied troops in the occupied areas. More than a half million soldiers are concentrated there and are only awaiting the word to march eastward into Germany if the Germans prove obdurate. About 100,000 Americans are included in this force.

On the other hand, preparations are being made at Versailles to hold a session of the peace congress during the present week at which the Germans may affix their signature to the treaty in the famous hall of mirrors of the Trianon Palace. While the hall has been ordered prepared by Tuesday, the belief prevails in Paris that the ceremony of signing the compact will not take place much before Thursday.

Washington, June 22.—Decision of the German national assembly today to sign the treaty of peace formulated by the Versailles conference was in no wise surprising to officials in Washington. Belief had been general in official circles here since the Germans were handed the peace terms that eventually the German delegation would be instructed to affix its signatures. This feeling was much accentuated by the fall of the Scheidemann cabinet.

Many officials predicted privately at the outset of the negotiations with the German delegates that the ministry headed by Phillip Schiedemann would give way to another cabinet before the actual signing took place. The large majority recorded in the Weimar assembly in favor of signing the treaty was considered by officials here as an accurate reflection of the dominant desire of the German people for peace at the earliest moment.

The White House tonight had received no communication from President Wilson subsequent to the receiving in Paris of News of the German assembly's action. Consequently there was no definite information obtainable as when the President would leave France. It was thought possible that should the actual signing of the treaty take place Thursday, the President might leave Paris immediately so as to arrive in the United States by July 4. The President, it is known, has made all arrangements so that such negotiations with the Germans after the signing of the treaty as are necessary and the formulation of incomplete portions of the Austrian treaty may be placed in the hands of other members of the American delegation.

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