

BRITISH FIRST LINE FLEET IS READY

Correspondent Describes Visit to the Great Modern Armada in the North Sea.

BATTLE CRUISERS HOLD HONORS

SOMEWHERE IN THE NORTH SEA, Feb. 11.—(Via London.)—Great Britain's first line offensive fleet, an incomparable combination of speed and gunpower, ready for instant action, was inspected yesterday by a party of French and American correspondents...

In the fleet were virtually all the veteran fighting craft, which have been in action in this war, but they showed few scars, with the exception of an occasional dent in their armor. The pride of place was held by battle cruisers which in engagements from the Falkland Isles to the Dardanelles have borne the brunt of the sea fighting.

Unpopular with officers and men before the war because they were constantly coaling and never more than cautiously praised by the proponents of the superdreadnaught policy, these huge fighting machines held the premier position in the British navy, in which warship speed is now regarded as the first and most important principle of naval strategy.

Eyes of the Fleet.

The correspondents left the naval base under a sunny sky and on reaching the outlying patrol of torpedo boats found the water covered with a light haze. There was no sea running. As the launch with the visitors on board turned toward the line of battle cruisers against the horizon they could see the "eyes" of the fleet, in the form of a few prowling destroyers, which keep up incessant watch, not only to protect their mighty sisters from submarine attack, but to catch the first view of any adventurous German warship which might poke its nose into the open North Sea.

Before lunch the visitors were permitted to enter any portion of the ship they chose and those not too heavy got through the trap door in the top of a turret, the only entrance left open in war time, and occupied themselves chiefly in watching the 135 inch gun commander operate a huge 135 inch gun with the same ease that a man handles a sporting rifle. From the time the charge and the projectile leave the ammunition hoist to the actual discharge of the gun they watched the operation which makes the turret the most important part of the fighting ship.

Lion Has Scars of Battle.

The party then lunched as guests of the divisional rear admiral, who was using the cruiser as his flagship, then were taken on board the cruiser Lion, which was Admiral Beatty's flagship in the Dogger Bank battle. With the exception of a dent in its forward turret armor and a similar scar just above the water line this show vessel of the British navy displays little sign of the terrific hammering it got when three German battle cruisers concentrated their fire on it.

Carefully mounted in the companionway is an eleven-inch, unexploded shell which is the savior hurried through the Lion's armor below the water line. No evidence has ever been found to justify the story that the Lion was torpedoed, but its officers and crew are still marveling at the slight harm done her vital parts by the rain of heavy shells.

No sign was left of the twelve-inch shell which blew in the bulkhead of the admiral's quarters after going through the deck, except the casing and cap occupying the place of honor among the Lion's trophies. The captain's bath tub which was hurled overhead by the explosion of an eight-inch shell which probably came from the Bluecher, has been replaced. The engine rooms of the Lion showed no sign of the ship ever having been in battle.

The shell which did the most damage did not penetrate the armor casing of the engine room, but dented it so far that salt water got into a broken feed pipe. This reduced its speed from twenty-seven to eighteen knots and forced it to withdraw from the battle, in which any vessel speeding less than twenty-five knots had no chance of keeping the range of the fleeing Germans.

The tripod masts, with the control bridge and the crews' nest had not been subjected to a severe trial, as the secondary batteries of the German ships never had been within range and the big guns devoted their attention to the more vital parts of the ship.

Party Visits the Tiger.

A torpedo boat picked up a portion of the party from the Lion and the remainder from the almost equally celebrated Tiger, which looked like a newly commissioned ship, despite the many times it was reported to have been sunk. The oil burning torpedo boat tore along the impressive line of battle cruisers in the battle formation in which they expect to meet the German fleet.

Beyond the battle cruisers a long line of light cruisers lost itself in the fog, some of these vessels are veterans and show signs of the rough patrol work they are called upon constantly to do, but many are newly commissioned and have yet to wear the scars of service. Speed, now the fetish of the navy, reached the zenith with these light cruisers. Any of them could easily overbeat the fastest liner so far built.

Beyond the light cruisers was a great flotilla of oilers constantly feeding the hungry stokers of the battle cruisers, which even at anchor keep up a full head of steam, as their turbines must be heated but never allowed to grow cold. Scattered about the fleet were several destroyer squadrons, with light cruiser and merchant ships as escorts.

FIRST WOMAN PROSECUTOR IN UNITED STATES—Miss Lita Belle Hibben, recently appointed deputy United District Attorney Woolwine at Los Angeles. Miss Hibben is 29 years old, pretty and has been practicing law for two and a half years.



MISS LITA BELLE HIBBEN.

TEXT OF AUSTRIAN WARSHIP ORDER

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The personnel of the whole fleet seemed to be remarkably fit and eagerly interested in the work despite the uncomfortable conditions under which their patrol work in the North Sea is done.

The battle cruiser, Princess Royal, which was visited by the party, had only two members of its crew in the sick room. Both of these men were suffering from injuries caused by foot ball, which is played with great zest whenever a field is available. The officers occasionally got some golf, but both men and officers must depend upon their shipboard duties for their chief means of exercise.

Rumors of the possibility of Zeppelin raids on the list were rife, and the officers and crews expressed an eager hope that the Zeppelins would come to give the gunners a chance to test their self-war craft guns. The last glimpse the party caught of the great fleet was an occasional flash through the darkening mist as signals were exchanged between various divisions.

PRESIDENT'S FAITH IN CONGRESS BRINGS APPRECIATION VOTE

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Provision also will be made under which the quota of troops to be furnished by each state and the proportions of artillery, cavalry, engineers, signal corps and other special service troops would be determined by the War Department. Special federal appropriations would be proposed for the maintenance of these troops.

Not So Well Crystallized.

The senate committee is not so well crystallized. It is indicated, however, that its legislation for the regular army will include substantially all of the plans of the war college as to organization and that it will be accompanied by a regular army reserve act designed to build up and maintain a force more than equal in numbers to the force with the colors. Short enlistments with the colors and the discharge into the reserve of any man found efficient by his officers at the end of a year's training undoubtedly will be among the plans proposed to accomplish this end.

As to size of the standing army, the men with the colors, it is indicated that the senate bill will exceed the increase of 40,000 men asked by Secretary Garrison and many senators will urge the full 200,000 total strength sought by the war college. Chairman Chamberlain has prepared a bill carrying out the plan of 1912, devised by the war college and which would provide a force with the colors of approximately 200,000 men.

Where They Disagree.

It was over this plan that Secretary Garrison and Senator Chamberlain came into sharp disagreement last year. The chairman of the senate committee desired that the War Department urge a complete reorganization of the army as suggested by the plan of 1912. Secretary Garrison, however, presented a series of bills designed to strengthen what he conceived to be the weakest spots in the army and the fact that these should be enacted to be followed gradually by other bills to carry out the full plan.

It was reported without very definite authority tonight that the house would be willing to accept the senate regular army plan even on a basis of 200,000 men with the colors, provided the National Guard federalization plans went through. In addition to plans already outlined it is thought there will be provided in the bills proposed or in companion measures a definite plan for industrial mobilization in time of war behind the fighting lines. Reserves of civilian aides to military operations such as railroad men, automobile drivers and mechanics, telegraphers, telephone engineers and operators and the thousand and one men of other civil occupations necessary to an army probably will be formed, the task being made easier by the fact that enrollment will be in the army and the men being in constant training in peace times in the very duties they would be called upon to perform in war.

Phone Four Want Ads to The Bee.

LANE SUGGESTED FOR THE VACANT CABINET CHAIR

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retire "absolutely" from politics and public life. He said he would not discuss his resignation from any political angle.

Mr. Garrison intimated, however, that he might "do something" in the matter of giving support to the movement in favor of a continental army, the issue upon which his resignation hinged. This intimation came in response to a question put by newspaper men as to whether he would "give his moral support to those who continue urging the policy of a continental army."

"I cannot answer that question," said the former secretary, "because it would infringe upon politics. I say this to you now so that later if I do decide to do something you will not say that I tried to deceive you."

"I will not discuss my resignation from the cabinet from any political angle whatever, either as regards the present situation or the situation to be produced, or assumed to be produced. The facts will be disclosed to anyone who will carefully read the correspondence between myself and the president. That correspondence cannot be misinterpreted by anyone."

"I intend to retire absolutely from politics and public life. Get it out of your heads that there was anything political in my action."

Mr. Garrison was asked by interviewers if he intended to "follow the example of Mr. Bryan and come out publicly against any of Mr. Wilson's policies."

"Absolutely not," was the reply. "Would you accept the nomination for governor of New Jersey?" was another question.

"I would not accept the nomination for governor of New Jersey if the certificate was headed to me on a silver platter," he said.

Mr. Garrison said that he had no knowledge of the intention of any other members of the cabinet to resign.

In respect to his own resignation, he said he had consulted with no other cabinet member, although Assistant Secretary Breckenridge was aware of his intention.

"I assumed," he said, "if Mr. Breckenridge remained in the same state of mind he would resign also."

NOTHING TO IT, SAYS PINDELL

Peoria Editor Says He Has Not Been Offered Place in Cabinet.

PEORIA, Ill., Feb. 11.—Henry M. Pindell, publisher of the Peoria Journal, mentioned in dispatches last night as a possible successor to Secretary of War Garrison in President Wilson's cabinet, today issued a statement saying: "There is no foundation whatever for any report that I have been offered a place in the cabinet of President Wilson. I am going to Washington next week on a purely social mission."

Belgian Legation Denies Receiving Offer of Peace

LONDON, Feb. 11.—The Belgian legation announced today that the rumors which have been circulated that peace proposals recently were made by Germany to the Belgian government are devoid of foundation.

THREE HUNDRED ATTEND ADVENTIST CONFERENCE

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 11.—The Central Union conference of the Seventh Day Adventists reached its maximum attendance today with 300 delegates present from the states of Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Missouri and Wyoming. Rev. R. A. Underwood, president of the conference, in his semi-annual report said there had been a large increase in the membership of the denomination of the five states, with approximately 1,000 additions and a total of 602,774 in tithes, an increase of \$4,000 over the previous period. A paper for the blind, he said, had been established at College View. One session of the conference today was given over to reports by presidents of the local conferences in the union. Elder D. U. Hale of College View, reporting for Nebraska; W. D. Macleay of Wichita, for Kansas; J. E. House of Clinton, for Missouri; A. T. Robinson of Denver, for Colorado, and N. T. Sutton of Crawford, Neb., for the Wyoming conference.

LORIMER'S TRIAL IS SET FOR FEBRUARY 16

CHICAGO, Feb. 11.—The trial of William Lorimer, former senator, charged with conspiracy to defraud the LaSalle Street Trust and Savings bank, of which he was president, was set today for February 16. Counsel for Lorimer appeared in criminal court and asked for an immediate hearing of the case.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days. Druggists refund money if Pazo Ointment fails to cure itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. First application gives relief. 50c.—Advertisement.

Schwartz Wins Debate.

NORTH BEND, Neb., Feb. 11.—(Special.)—Schwartz won in debate from North Bend on preparedness.

Dozens May Have Perished by Blast

INDIANA, Pa., Feb. 11.—An explosion occurred in the mine of the Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal and Iron company at Ernest, five miles from here, late today. More than 100 men were at work at the time, but all escaped with the exception of twenty-four, whose fate is unknown.

YOUR BRONCHIAL TUBES

When a cold settles in the bronchial tubes, with that weakening, tickling cough, immediate treatment is very important. The breath seems shorter because of mucous obstructions; usually fever is present, your head jars with every cough and your chest may ache. This is no time for experimenting or delay—you must get Scott's Emulsion at once to drive out the cold which started the trouble, and it will check the cough by aiding the healing process of the enfeebled membranes.

If you have any symptoms of bronchitis, or even a stubborn cold, always remember that Scott's Emulsion has been relieving this trouble for forty years. It is free from alcohol or drugs, refuse substitutes.

Blouse Sale Saturday at Julius Orkin's. 1508-1510 Douglas Street. UP TO \$2.95 VALUES, \$1.00 UP TO \$5.00 VALUES, \$2.95. Also thousands of new Spring Blouses in all the new shades, special Saturday at— \$3.95, \$5.00, \$5.95, \$6.75. Hundreds of New Spring Skirts, special Saturday at \$5.00.

THOMPSON-BELDEN & CO. The Fashion Center of the Middle West. Established 1886.

In the Apparel Sections New Fashions Direct from New York Will be Shown Saturday for the First Time. There is a quiet dignity and quaintness about the new styles that is emphasized by a touch of bright colors. Of Particular Interest. The New Silk Dresses \$18.75, \$25, \$29.50, \$35. In Crepes, Taffetas, Satins and Novelties. No extra charges for alterations. Spring Suits, Coats and Skirts. Spring Silks. Fashion's favorites for the coming season are now ready in a plentiful variety of weaves and colors.

Great Money Saving Drug Bargains for Saturday at Beaton's. 1-pt Formaldehyde, 50c per pint; 2 1/2 J. & J. Fumigators, 19c for 10c Sulphur Fumigators, 25c for 4; 15c Formaldehyde Spray Pumps, 50c for public halls; 60c Long Stem Spray Bulbs, for home use, 39c.

Beaton Drug Co., 15th and Farnam. 50c Zora, Antiseptic Astringent, used as a gargle, recommended by Physicians and Dentists for removing all mucus from the throat that would cause infection of Scarlet Fever, etc., 39c.

LOST! Yes—lost—but while there is life there is hope—and while there's hope there's The Omaha Bee. Try Our "Lost and Found" Columns. Call Tyler 1000. THE OMAHA BEE. Everybody Reads Bee Want Ads.

AMUSEMENTS. EMPRESS TO DAY CONTINUOUS VAUDEVILLE AND PHOTO PLAYS "THE BLACK CROOK" Five-Act Fantasia. ADMISION 10c. HIPP Photo-Plays Last Times Today at 11, 12, 50, 1:00, 3, 4:00, 5:40, 7, 8:15, 9:30. Jesse L. Lasky presents FANNIE WARD in "Tennessee's Pardner" Tomorrow—Frances Wilson in "Love's Crucible." THE OMAHA BEE—THE HOME PAPER.