

BRITISH DESTROY GERMAN VESSELS

Warships and Merchantmen Are Sunk in Conflict in the South Atlantic.

OTHER LOSSES REPORTED

Transport With Fifteen Hundred Marines Is Said to Have Been Sunk by Japanese—Kaiser Declared Recovering From Indisposition—German Advance in Poland Checked.

London, Dec. 12.—The Kaiser has suffered further losses at sea.

The sinking of the German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, with 1,500 marines aboard, by a Japanese warship in South American waters is reported from Valparaiso, Chile.

The German armored cruiser Friedrich Karl has been sunk in the Baltic by a mine, according to an official statement of the French ministry of marine at Paris today. The sinking of the Friedrich Karl is said to have occurred two weeks ago and most of the crew of 557 officers and men are said to have drowned.

The completion of the raid by an allied fleet on the German squadron off the Falkland Islands in the south Atlantic a few days ago is reported in a dispatch from Montevideo, Uruguay, stating that the cruiser Dresden had taken refuge in the Argentine port of Santa Cruz in a badly battered condition. It is believed the Dresden will be interned there until after the war.

Nuernberg Fails to Escape.
London, Dec. 11.—The German cruiser Nuernberg which withdrew from the battle off the Falkland Islands and attempted to make its escape with the cruiser Dresden while the British warships under Vice Admiral Sir Frederick Doveton Sturdee were destroying the cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig, was hunted across the water by units of the British fleet and sunk the same day.

The main action lasted five hours. The Scharnhorst sank after three hours and the Gneisenau two hours later.

No loss of any British vessel is reported.

British Squadron Heavy.
London, Dec. 11.—A dispatch from Buenos Aires conveys the information that the British squadron includes nine big warships, notably the battle cruisers Lion and Indefatigable. The admiral declines to verify or deny that these great ships are in foreign waters.

German Cruisers Sunk.
London, Dec. 10.—Information received in London indicates that the destruction of the German fleet in the South Atlantic, with the sinking of three cruisers, was preceded by the sinking of three German merchant vessels.

This information comes from Buenos Aires. The message said a division of warships aggregating five ironclads and one transport, on the morning of December 6 sank one of the German vessels in the roadstead of Picton Island. Two other steamers were sent to the bottom the same evening outside the harbor of Pantalón, near Cape Sanpio.

Reports on Naval Battle.
The fate of the merchantmen is not mentioned in the statement given out by the British admiralty, which said that the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig were sunk in a battle with the British fleet under Vice Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee off the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic.

Admiral Von Spee Is Lost?

The official statement makes reference to some survivors rescued from the Gneisenau and the Leipzig, but no mention is made of any of the crew of the Scharnhorst, which was the flagship of the German admiral, being saved, and it is thus presumed that Count von Spee, his officers and men went down fighting.

As the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau each carried a complement of 765 men, the Leipzig 286, the Nuernberg 322, and the Dresden 261, the total German loss is estimated at not far from 2,000 men.

The British casualties were seven men killed and four wounded.

SAY KAISER IS IMPROVING

German Ruler, Who Has Been Seriously Indisposed, Reported to Be Much Better.

London, Dec. 12.—A dispatch to the Evening News from The Hague says: "According to information reaching here through private sources, Emperor William's condition today showed marked improvement. His temperature this morning was normal. His physicians allowed him to sit up for a few hours."

A message from Paris says the crown prince has been summoned to the bedside of the Kaiser, according to the Echo de Paris.

Illness Held Serious.

Rome, Dec. 12.—A report received from Berlin says no one is allowed to enter the sick room of the Kaiser and that all war news is withheld from the emperor, who is extremely nervous and restless. His illness, this message adds, is more serious than

the official bulletin would lead the people to believe.

CHECK ADVANCE, IS CLAIM

Russian Advances Are That Forward Movement of the Kaiser's Forces Has Been Stopped.

London, Dec. 12.—Of the five Austro-German columns which for some days appeared to be making steady progress in their invasion of Poland, three have suffered checks, according to tonight's official report from Russian headquarters.

The column which was making a downward stroke from Mlawa, on the East Prussian frontier, and which was reported in one dispatch from Petrograd today to be within fifteen miles of Warsaw, was repulsed after an energetic offensive, and under counter-attacks from the Russians was compelled to retire at some points.

The attacks of the main German column, which had its front on the line between Lodz and Lowicz, and which came down diagonally from Thorn, were delivered with great force, but, according to the Russian account, were repulsed with heavy losses to the invaders.

The Germans attach the utmost importance, it is said, to securing a decisive result in the east before the Russians are able to make their numbers, which military men believe must already be superior, so overwhelming that the better means of transportation possessed by the Germans will be discounted.

German Official Statement.
Berlin, Dec. 12.—The German army headquarters staff today issued the following communication:

"There is no change in the situation in the east of Mazurian lakes in East Prussia. Our attacks in northern Poland are progressing. No news is at hand from southern Poland."

The latest reports from the fighting zone around Lodz, according to information given out by the German official press bureau today, show that the resistance of the Russians in that region is by no means broken. The new Russian positions on Miazga cut are only twelve or thirteen miles to the eastward of Lodz, which demonstrates, it is said, that much yet remains to be done before the Russians can be considered definitely defeated.

Allies Hold Trenches.

London, Dec. 12.—That the Germans are determined to cut through the allies' lines in West Flanders, if such a thing is possible, was demonstrated again today when the forces in the vicinity of Ypres made a violent and continued attack, only to be repulsed with heavy losses.

A dispatch from Berlin signed by the chief of the army administration insists that the Germans have made progress in Flanders, but there is no inkling of the point where this advance was made.

It also is asserted that French attacks in the forest of Le Pretre and to the west of Pont-a-Mousson were repulsed.

Attack Harbor of Dover.

Dover, England, Dec. 11.—The city of Dover was thrown into excitement today by the announcement that the Germans early this morning attempted a submarine attack on the harbor works and the fleet at anchor in the harbor.

A heavy rain and haze made searchlight work difficult. At six thirty o'clock the observers sighted what they believed to be a fleet of about six submarines several miles out in the channel.

The channel forts commenced firing in the direction of the supposed submarines and kept it up for almost half an hour. At the same time a torpedo boat destroyer flotilla put to sea, where it remained all day.

Sees Italy Joining War.

Rome, Dec. 12.—Signor Canepa, a member of the chamber, has announced that he desires to withdraw his request that the government join with the United States in a protest against Germany's violations of the agreements of The Hague conferences. Signor Canepa said significantly that he hoped action by Italy was imminent and hence a protest by this country at the present time would be useless.

Decline Christmas Truce.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—The proposal of Pope Benedict for a truce among the warring nations during the Christmas holidays is said by the official press bureau today to have been declined by Russia.

The German press bureau had announced that Germany was willing to agree to a Christmas truce, provided the other nations at war gave their assent.

Press Austrians Hard.

Rome, Dec. 12.—The Serbian legation announces that the Austrians have been driven back on Shabat and are being hard pressed by the Serbians, who are attacking toward Belgrade. The Austrian prisoners of war in Serbia number 300 officers and 30,000 men.

Roumania's Position.

Berlin, Dec. 12 (by wireless).—"Word has arrived from Bucharest that Prime Minister Bratianu of Roumania has rejected the demand of the triple entente that Roumania attack Bulgaria if Bulgaria should prevent Greece from going to the assistance of Servia."

THEIR SHIP COMING IN



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TIME NOT RIPE FOR PEACE

MEXICAN FACTIONS RESUME WARFARE.

Overtures of Holland and the United States Should Be Delayed—Killed Mother in Fit of Anger.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. El Paso, Tex.—Fighting between the Carranza and Villa troops has been in progress south of Parral, Chihuahua, according to reports received here. Persons arriving here Friday said that the Carranza troops under Gen. Luis Herrera had captured the town of Ballest, exterminating the entire Villa garrison of about 500 men. Later Villa reinforcements numbering about 2,000 men engaged Herrera troops, which numbered 1,800. Heavy fighting was in progress when the refugees left the region. The Villa agents here issued a denial that the Carranza troops had captured any of the towns where Carranza victories have been reported.

Killed Mother in Fit of Rage.
McCool Junction, Neb.—In a fit of rage over a fancied grievance, Otto Bellows, twenty-three years old, shot and killed his mother, Mrs. Frank Bellows, wounded his sister, Lorena, and then shot himself through the head at the family home five miles southwest of this village. His sister's condition is not thought to be serious, but it is thought that Bellows cannot recover. Earl Wideman, a former student of the medical college of the state university, narrowly escaped death. Bellows fired seven shots at him.

TIME NOT RIPE FOR PEACE.

United States and Holland Should Delay Overtures.

New York.—The time has not yet come for either the United States or Holland to make peace overtures to the belligerent powers of Europe, in the opinion of Dr. Henry VanDyke, United States minister to The Netherlands, who was the guest of honor at a dinner given here by the Lotus club.

The American diplomat, who returned to this country for a brief respite from his arduous duties, praised the attitude of neutrality of the United States and Holland. He said he hoped the time would come, and come soon, when the nations would get together and aid each other in bringing about an honorable peace.

Sudden Death of Congressman.

Washington.—Representative Sere-no E. Payne of New York died suddenly of heart failure at his apartments here at 11:15 o'clock Thursday night. Mr. Payne had retired to his room apparently in robust health. He telephoned to the apartment house clerk about 11 o'clock, asking that a physician be sent for. When the clerk reached the room the congressman was dying and life was extinct before the doctor arrived.

All But Two Perish in Flames.

Barrow, England.—Wrapped in flames and with the sea about her ablaze from the cargo of gasoline she was carrying, only two men of her crew of thirty-six escaped death when the British steamer Vedra piled on the shore near Barrow during a heavy gale, broke up and was consumed. The two men rescued were severely burned while swimming through the flaming sea to a tug. The majority of the crew were trapped in the fore-castle of the Vedra and perished.

Mexico City Is Quiet.

Washington.—Mexico City is "quiet, orderly and well policed," according to official dispatches received by the state department. Few political arrests are reported, although five well-known Mexicans have been executed by military order on a charge of counterfeiting. There have been no confiscation or occupation of private property, according to official dispatches. The cabinet of Provisional President Gutierrez has not been finally completed, the portfolio of foreign relations still being vacant.

BRIEF NEWS OF NEBRASKA

Havelock Y. M. C. A. has a member ship of over 200. Springview is preparing to install a new electric light plant. The Dodge county automobile association has been disbanded. Chimes are being installed in the new Methodist church at Hastings.

The Nebraska art association is holding its annual exhibit at Lincoln. Seward now has three papers—Russell & Craig being the last to enter the field.

Fire in the opera house at North Bend caused a damage of several hundred dollars.

The Goehring hardware store at Seward was burglarized and a small amount in cash taken.

Box Butte county's new court house is practically completed and will be dedicated December 28.

The Loomis mill and an elevator adjoining were destroyed by fire with a loss of nearly \$50,000.

Several deaths have resulted from whooping cough which raged as an epidemic at Dorchester.

Elks over the state held their memorial services for departed members Sunday, December 6.

The annual meeting of the state firemen's association will be held at Nebraska City, December 19 to 21.

George Aldrich, son of former Governor Aldrich, and Miss Alberta, Wyatt were married in Omaha last week.

Chief of Police Harm of Hastings threatens to close dance halls there because morals of youth are endangered.

Conrad Dennecker is dead at his home near Rulo from blood poisoning caused by stepping on a rusty nail.

The Stanton commercial club held its first annual banquet last week and over a hundred members were present.

William Heideman is dead at the home of his parents near Tecumseh from injuries received in a runaway accident.

The big boulder on which will be placed the Nebraska D. A. R. bronze tablet, has been put in position at Nebraska City.

Extensive arrangements are being made for the second annual coursing meet to be held in Fairbury, December 17, 18 and 19.

The pupils drilled out in regular order when a fire was discovered in the schoolhouse at Dunbar. The fire loss was nominal.

Burns she received when a pan of blazing floor wax set her clothes on fire caused the death of Mrs. Alice Stafford at Omaha.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed a number of business houses, including the postoffice, at Palmyra, causing a loss of nearly \$50,000.

C. W. Beecher, for over twenty years a resident of University Place, is dead at the home of his daughter at Elk Mountain, Wyo.

William Hinton, of Curtis, 83 years old, was stricken with paralysis on board a Burlington train enroute home from a visit to St. Louis.

Five horses and a quantity of hay and grain were destroyed when the barn on the George Pearson farm, near Tecumseh, was burned.

Box Butte county has organized a farmers' association, and expects to have an agricultural agent or demonstrator by the first of the year.

Delegates from nearly every state in the union were in attendance at the meeting of the farmers' society of equity held in Omaha last week.

The annual show of the Dodge County Poultry association at Fremont last week was the most successful exhibit ever held by that organization.

Delegates from Colorado, Montana, Iowa, Michigan, Kansas and Nebraska will attend the meeting of the German Prayer brotherhoods to be held at Lincoln, December 26 to 28.

Richard Rutherford, left halfback on the Nebraska football eleven for the past two seasons and a junior in the university in the college of arts and science, has been elected to captain the Cornhuskers during the gridiron campaign of 1915.

A lone bandit held up the proprietor and a number of guests at an Omaha cafe, securing \$65, but was captured after an exciting chase.

Crawford has just completed its magnificent fire department building and city hall, and wants the meeting of the state firemen's convention to be held there.

The only known real Son of the American Revolution in the west, and one out of a very small number in the United States, has just been discovered in the person of Nelson Moore of Havelock, whose father fought in the war of independence.

University Place choral society is rehearsing "The Messiah," which they will present shortly.

Harry Wales, a Plattsmouth lad, had an arm broken during a "rush" in a football game.

Edwin Reils, a junior in the university of Omaha, was awarded the Irene Sullivan memorial prize of \$25 for the best written article on the temperance question.

Kennedy Gillespie, a Nemaha county farmer, has completed husking and cribbing over 10,000 bushels of corn, the yield being about fifty bushels per acre and of good quality.

School teachers of O'Neill, Atkinson, Stuart, Newport, Bassett, Long Pine, Wood Lake and Valentine will meet in Alnsworth, January 16 and 17, to form an organization.

Steward Gutzman and six patients at the Norfolk insane hospital, have mild cases of smallpox, and the institution has been placed under quarantine.

While in a delirious condition A. J. Moore of Lincoln jumped through a window at his home, scantily clad, and it was only after a long chase over the city that he was overtaken and returned to his room.

ON A PAYING BASIS

POSTAL SERVICE WILL NET BIG PROFIT FOR LAST YEAR.

NEBRASKA HAS PRIZE HEN

Record for Egg-Laying in Competition in Nebraska—Nebraska Irrigators Win in Colorado.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Washington.—Asserting that for the first time since its organization by Benjamin Franklin, the postoffice department is on a self-sustaining basis, Postmaster General Burleson has submitted to President Wilson his annual report. It records enormous growth in the department's business because of the parcel post and postal savings bank divisions and recommends a program of postal legislation to increase the scope of the department's activities.

Mr. Burleson features his report with an estimate that a surplus of \$3,569,545, the second of his administration, will be shown for the fiscal year of 1914 when all claims and charges have been met.

NEBRASKA HAS A PRIZE HEN.

Record for Egg-Laying in Competition in Missouri.

St. Louis, Mo.—The result of the annual egg-laying contest, just concluded at the state poultry experiment station at Mountain Grove, Mo., shows that the record for laying previously held by a Missouri hen, Lady Show-you, has been eclipsed in the last year by Lady Lay-more, owned by Oscar E. Henning of Mead, Neb. Lady Show-you's record was 281 eggs in 365 days. The Nebraska winner eclipsed that by five eggs, a total of 286 for the year. Both the present and the former champions are White Leghorns. Lady Show-you is valued at \$1,000. No price has been put on the new champion.

For Nebraska Irrigators.

Denver, Colo.—A decision involving all irrigation projects in Colorado and with a wide bearing on similar cases throughout the United States was handed down in the federal district court when Judge R. E. Lewis decided that state boundaries have no bearings on water rights and that the state has no special claim on the water of the rivers which spring up within its boundaries. The decision was given in the case of the Pioneer Irrigation company of Nebraska against John E. Field, state engineer, his assistants and all users of water from the Republican river in Colorado. The plaintiffs claim priorities on the river antedating many of those held by Colorado irrigators, who have been taking water from the stream before it passes out of the state. The court decreed that the Colorado users must leave twenty-nine feet of water in the river where it crosses into Nebraska.

Germany Favors Christmas Truce.

Berlin.—Among the news items given out by the German official press bureau was the following:

"Immediately after Germany received the suggestion of Pope Benedict for a truce among the warring nations for a truce during the Christmas holidays an affirmative reply was sent to the Vatican. The reply, however, was conditional on the acquiescence of all the other belligerents in the pope's suggestion."

Balance of Trade in Our Favor.

Washington.—A balance of trade in favor of the United States of \$21,852,342 was shown at the close of the week ending December 5, marking a gain over the previous week of \$5,492,047. These figures were given in a report issued by the department of commerce based upon returns from the twelve ports of the United States which do 80 per cent of the nation's entire export and import business.

For Organized Belgian Relief.

Lincoln, Neb.—Mayors of all the cities and towns in the state have been asked to attend a meeting at Governor Morehead's office, December 20, at which Belgian relief work will be the subject under discussion. The intention is to organize Nebraska to carry on this phase of charity.

Find Counterfeit Coins.

Beatrice, Neb.—Three counterfeit silver dollars have been turned over to the local police. They were found in a house formerly occupied by Mike Smith and Mirron Seitzof, who were recently arrested in this city by B. H. Mills of the government secret service and taken to Kansas City. The dollars are just as they came from the mould and still have the burr marks around the edges. They are all of the date of 1901 and are in an unfinished state.

Nebraskans Win in Judging Contest.

Des Moines, Ia.—The team representing the Nebraska Agricultural college defeated the Ames college team in the judging contest at the Iowa Horticultural association meeting. The Nebraska team, in charge of Prof. J. R. Cooper, was composed of C. W. Smith, O. W. Sjogren, Stephen Whitehead, H. A. Jones and P. A. Stewart. Judges were Prof. Cady of Minnesota, Prof. Hanson of South Dakota and Victor Selter of De Soto, Ia.