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## More German Steamers Sunk

Stockholm, via London, Oct. 20.—In addition to the four German steamers reported yesterday as having been torpedoed in the Baltic, four other German steamers were sent to the bottom by British submarines outside the southern Stockholm archipelago.

The Dalafven was caught and sunk just outside Swedish waters and under the eyes of Swedish warships.

There are now forty-one German ships, mostly iron-ore carriers, blockaded in Swedish waters.

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## Misery of German Soldiers' Wives

According to the socialist newspaper, Vorwaertz, a petition has been addressed to the German Reichstag by Frau Louise Zeitz, in the name of the socialist women of the county, asking for an increase in the government war allowances.

"Numerous soldiers' families," the document reads, "in less fortunate circumstances have been reduced to a pitiable plight. The State allowances are miserably small, 12 marks (about \$3) a month for women and 6 marks (about \$1.50) for children. Thousands of communities do not supplement this meagre grant with a local allowance, and in the few cases where this is done the assistance rendered is of little account. Only in some very rare instances the communal authorities contribute an amount equal to, or greater than, the national government allowance. Bitter complaints are continually being raised by wives of soldiers, whose situation has become precarious, especially in communities where no local help is afforded."

Further on the petitioner explains that the increased prices of provisions make it impossible for the common people to procure sufficient nourishment for themselves. Untimely administration measures have also lately aggravated the already critical situation. In Saxony and several parts of Prussia, wives of soldiers have seen their scant allowances taken away from them, if they had obtained employment of some kind, no matter whether the latter gained them a living or not. The petition concludes with this appeal:

"This general misery among the families of the soldiers has brought with it a want of necessary commodities, which has been decidedly injurious to their health, and has filled their minds with bitterness. Surely the soldiers at the front will feel depressed, too, when they learn that their dear ones are suffering, while they are themselves sacrificing their lives for the

### Fatherland.

"Therefore, the socialist women pray the Reichstag to make arrangements for an increase, in the war allowance to soldiers' families, and to oblige the local communities to grant supplementary amounts, which may be later reimbursed by the national government in case where the local finances are not in a condition to sustain a burden of this kind. We socialist women hope confidently that the Reichstag will heed our appeal in the interest of these poor ones, who will otherwise be subjected to severe hardships while the war lasts."

I is very likely, adds Vorwaertz that the Reichstag will take early and favorable action in the matter.

## British Control Of The Baltic

(New York Herald)

The conquest of the Baltic Sea by the British naval forces is expected to be the forerunner of a new campaign by the allies, which, if successful, may have decisive results on the war. A fortunate outcome of this campaign would mean the termination of the great struggle at a much earlier date than the most optimistic permit themselves to forecast.

It has been known for some time by those in touch with the work going on in the British and French naval construction departments that the British admiralty has not been content with merely keeping its fleet in the position of the watchdog, watching the rat hole, to repeat Mr. Churchill's homely metaphor, but has been engaged on a gigantic scale. Hints recently have come out regarding some of the means which are to be employed in this offensive.

It long has been felt that the capture of Kiel and its canal would be a more vital blow to the heart of Germany than the taking of Berlin itself. Even the German authorities to-day must be informed of the fact that such a purpose is within the present intentions of the British authorities.

The position had been regarded by military experts as practically inexpugnable, but the basis for that belief no longer holds good. The light draught, small displacement monitors, which were sprung as a surprise early in the war in the attack on German positions on the Belgian coast, were a token of new methods conceived by the British Admiralty.

To overcome the mighty fortresses with which Heligoland and the German mainland on its western front are defended, it is understood a fleet of war craft of a new type are being constructed. These vessels of small dimensions will have the sole scope of carrying the new British and French heavy guns which, using a powder which is said to be a great improvement on the famous French "poudre B," will have a range superior to any of the German coast defence guns and a destructive force much greater than the Krupp 42-centimetre of the Skoda 35 centimetre gun.

The new craft will be protected by fleets and flotillas, and even if destroyed their loss will be small compared to that of the ordinary war ships, as their construction will provide almost exclusively for the carrying power required for the one or two great guns which they will mount and for a certain motive power for their own propulsion. The project for the invasion of Germany is said to presuppose important preliminary work by the great submarine catching nets, which have proved so extraordinarily successful as a defensive weapon. For offensive purposes also it is believed that they can be used most efficaciously.

The raid on the Dardanelles, whatever may seem to be its fortunes to-day and whatever may be its actual outcome, has proved to be a lesson in military operations of the very highest value and one of which the British navy is in position to profit. It is now known almost to a mathematical certainty what risks are involved and what results may be expected by certain methods of land and sea attacks on modern

coast defences. They have been so encouraging that the British Admiralty has pushed forward its arrangements for the great blow, on the enemy's fleet and territory which may prove to be the supreme blow of the war.

The present operations in the Baltic Sea, which are proving so disastrous to German mercantile shipping besides their value as part of the proposed invasion of Germany, also will have political consequences of the highest character. The allied powers are determined that the diplomatic methods which allowed Bulgaria to throw in her fortunes with their adversaries will not again be adopted with regard to other powers with which Germany has been treating.

The era of the diplomacy of deeds, instead of words, has opened and at the same time the passive method of dealing with neutral powers will be abandoned for one of energetic endeavor to win them over to the cause of the allies. Sweden and Spain are the only neutral countries where a considerable measure of sympathy has been manifested for the invaders of Belgium. Of these two Sweden alone is in a position to be of great benefit or detriment to the purposes of the allies, according to the attitude which she might adopt.



By the energetic rails on German property and interests which she has undertaken in the Baltic, Great Britain may be able to fulfill a two-fold object. She may succeed in keeping the main part of the German fleet bottled up in the Kiel Canal, at least on the Baltic side, and she may make a deep impression on the mind of the people of Sweden by showing her ability to prevent the Germans from carrying out their aspiration of making the Baltic a German lake.

Sweden, by natural position, dominates practically one half of the Baltic Sea, and, with a world peace finally established and the nations showing a just and friendly attitude toward one another, Sweden's important interest in that sea could not be denied. It is to Russia's interest now to show that this view is entertained also by her and that any policy of aggression against Sweden or any design for an unfair domination of the great inland sea is far from her purpose. Great Britain is daily increasing the strength of her position as guarantor to Sweden that her rights in the Baltic will be respected.

The great effort which Germany has recently been making in order to win over the Swedish nation to a policy of war like aggression against Russia has been accentuated by the publishing and circulation throughout Sweden of a pro-German volume entitled "The Foreign Policy of Sweden," a book of immediate German origin, which has aroused such keen discussion throughout the kingdom that it may lead, at an early date, to an energetic expression of attitude on the part of the people of Sweden. The so-called interventionists of Sweden, who are pro-German and favor participation in the war, are spurred on by this and other German literature to seek a restoration of old-time holdings of the kingdom.

The energetic efforts of the Germans to get possession of Riga show on the other hand that part of their policy is to establish themselves solidly in the Baltic provinces. A division of opinion is developing in Sweden regarding the desirability of favoring this outcome.

When Field Marshal von Hindenburg entered Libau he solemnly announced that the permanent possession of that port was "indispensable for the security of German navigation in the Baltic." Since then the Pan-German newspapers have repeated insistently the statement with regard to the necessity for the permanent occupation of Riga by the Germans.

This attitude by the Germans is bringing up again the whole question of the control of the Baltic, which caused so many wars in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and which seemed to be definitely settled by the Congress of Vienna in 1815. On this

question has pivoted to a great extent the modern history of Russia and of the Scandinavian countries.

There is no question that on the other hand, among a great section of the Swedish people the conviction prevails that, while the success of the Allies would not invalidate Sweden's position in the Baltic, Germany's success would mean that the Baltic would surely become a German lake, a condition which would be fatal to the great commercial future which Sweden believes in store for her.

It is the immediate policy of the Allies to remove to as great an extent as possible all basis for the fears which have been felt in Sweden with regard to Russia's purposes of aggrandizement. The problem of the Aaland Islands, which lie very close to Sweden, and which have been fortified by Russia, will probably be settled in a way to give satisfaction to Sweden, and the fears which Germans have recently been arousing with regard to alleged Russian intentions of seizing Swedish ports to serve her commercial purposes will be ended.

## Turkish Fleet No Longer Exists

Copenhagen, Oct. 19.—A Danish gentleman, who has just arrived from Constantinople, states the Turkish fleet no longer exists. The Goeben was disabled and the Breslau's engines destroyed. The cruiser Medjidieh, wrecked during the expedition in the Black Sea, was torpedoed by the Turks themselves. Later the Russians set her afloat and took her to Odessa. The Haireddin Barbarossa, an armored cruiser of 10,000 tons, on the way to the Dardanelles with German officers and crew, was torpedoed with a smaller cruiser and a destroyer, and 1,400 perished. The Torgud Reis was disabled by the explosion of its own guns, 25 men being killed. Many small cruisers and torpedo boats were destroyed by mines. The Hamidieh is the only cruiser remaining. Nearly the whole Turkish merchant fleet was destroyed by the Allies submarines.

London, Oct. 18.—The Athens correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs that reports of a depletion of the forces at the Dardanelles, or a slackening of the operations there, in order to assist the Serbians, are characterized by a military authority as purely fantastic. The Allies on the Gallipoli Peninsula, says this authority, have been reinforced and are holding their positions stubbornly. Their pressure against the Turkish line is, in fact, described as being so strong that not one Turkish soldier can be released for assistance to Bulgaria.

## The Panama Canal

It is well that the Panama Canal exhibition is about over as the Panama Canal is closed for the rest of the year and shipping companies plying to the western states, to Australia and to Western South America, which were just learning the advantages of the new route and the kinds of traffic that could profitably make use of it, are all thrown out of their reckoning. This is not the first time the canal has been closed. In the short time since the first ship went through there have been a half a dozen slides each of which has to a greater or lesser extent obstructed traffic. All the major obstructions have been in the Culebra cut, which is a deep digging through the height of land. They do not indicate that there has been either oversight or error on the part of the engineers who built the water way. It was always known that this cut would be a treacherous feature until its slides were brought to a slope considerably less than that at which an ordinary gravel bank will stand, as the ground is of a peculiarly sliding quality. It was ad-

visible that the canal be opened as speedily as possible that it might be put into use. It was also easier to open the canal and clear out the mud from such slips as might occur afterwards than to make the slopes of the cut so gradual that no slide could occur. This sliding goes away with operations that are costly. The mud that slips into the canal can be much more easily taken out with powerful water dredges than it could have been taken from the slopes of the bank in the railway cars by which the main part of the cut was made. Fortunately the land is of such a nature that the slides never cause any loss of life. This last slide which is by far the biggest that has taken place was caused by an earthquake, for the canal is in the zone in which earthquakes are uncommonly frequent. But even with such a cause it came on very slowly. Ordinary slides go down, but slides in the Culebra cut come up; they are no surface slides, but sub-surface movements of the earth by which the bottom of the canal is pushed up inch by inch by the pressure of the hills on the surrounding ground. There is no likelihood that the present slide will be the last, but each one that occurs will make less probable another.

## British Submarine Busy in The Baltic

Stockholm, Oct. 19, via London.—The German steamers Pernumco of 4,788 tons, and the Soedehamn, of 1,499 tons, were torpedoed last night by a British submarine off Oxelesund, along the Baltic coast of Sweden.

Pernumco sank, but the Soedehamn was kept afloat by her cargo of wood. Both vessels were bound for Germany. The Pernumco carried a cargo of ore.

New York Evening Mail: Within 50 miles of New York to-day there are orchards with the ground covered with apples that are rotting. There are farms with more fruit than the hogs can be induced to eat. In New York City there are tens of thousands of families that need fruit and vegetables from the farm, but find them too expensive to buy. There are great armies of school children who would eagerly reach for the apples that are being wasted in the orchards up State. This condition is not local to New York State. It is general.

Brevet rank is rank on degree higher than the pay received. Thus, a brevet-major has the title of major, but the pay of captain.

## Their Idea of Honor.

(Brooklyn "Eagle.")  
According to the German professors, the masses of their country consider it "a point of honor to hold on to Belgium." It is this German definition or conception of honor which arouses the antagonism of the whole world and the one man in Germany who understands that is Liebknecht, the Socialist leader, sent to the trenches for daring to speak his mind.