
* Notice to Advertisers. *
* In order to ensure changes *
* being made in advertisements, *
* they must reach this office not *
* later than 9 a. m. on the day of *
* publication. *

The Daily Mail

* The Weather. *
* Maritime: Fresh northwest- *
* erly to westerly winds, fair and *
* not much change in tempera- *
* ture. *

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1917

TWO CENTS PER COPY

HUN COMMERCE RAIDER SINKS SHIPS IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

French Achieve Successes On the Western Front

A Number of German Positions Have Been Brilliantly Captured---Fierce Counter Attacks Repulsed---Enemy Lost Heavily From Machine Gun Fire.

PARIS, March 31.—French troops last night successfully attacked German positions south of the Ailette river and made important progress eastward, the War Office announces today. The French advance was scored to the east of the line running from Neuville-Sur-Margival to Vregnyl, northeast of Soissons. A number of points of support were brilliantly captured by the French forces. In the Champagne region five violent counter attacks delivered by the Germans on positions recaptured yesterday by the French west of Maisons de Champagne were checked, the Germans sustaining heavy losses. The statement follows:

“Between the Somme and the Oise, in the sector of Benay, there was spirited artillery fighting. South of the Ailette we attacked with success several positions of the enemy on the front between Neuville-Sur-Margival and Vregny. Our troops made important progress east of this line, and brilliantly carried several points of support, notwithstanding the energetic defences of the Germans. In the Champagne the Germans redoubled their efforts against the positions which were captured yesterday west of Maisons de Champagne. In the evening and during the night the Germans made five violent counter attacks. These assaults were broken up by our machine guns and curtains of fire, and the enemy suffered very heavy losses. The number of prisoners taken was eighty, of whom two are officers. In Alsace, near Ammertzweiler we checked a surprise attack of the enemy. We dispersed German patrols in the region of Pfetterhausen, and took prisoners and some war material.”

The Reactionaries are Expected to Put Up

A Fight, With Von Ludendorff as Champion

LONDON, March 31.—Special news despatches from Holland, reviewing reports in and comments by German newspapers on Imperial Chancellor Von Bethmann Hollweg's speech and the debate in the Reichstag, emphasized the prominence given to the reform agitation, but arrive at different conclusions as to its significance.

The correspondent of the Times says: “The revolt, signalized by the Socialists voting against the budget, is a sham. The whole debate was pre-arranged and artificial and evidently like the most important section of the Chancellor's speech, intended to influence the Russian pacifists and Socialists.”

The Reform Movement in Germany is

Regarded as Nothing More Than a Sham

The correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, on the other hand, says the reform movement is championed by the whole progressive press as an important factor which is going to play a great part during the remainder of the war, and adds: “The reactionaries will doubtless put up a fight and there are hints that General Von Ludendorff may be used as their champion against Von Bethmann-Hollweg, who is accused of vacillation.”

DEMOCRACY AGAINST GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, via London, March 31.—The Munich Post, in an editorial, says: “In the past fortnight the world has become quite another place through Russia going over to democracy and the United States entering the lists against us. Germany now stands against an alliance of world democracy, and the people of the world are persuaded and are daily becoming convinced that the triumph of the freedom of the world is impossible as long as Germany remains what it is.”

RUSSIA TO ABOLISH DEATH PENALTY.

LONDON, March 31.—The Russian provisional government has decided to abolish the death penalty, says a Reuter despatch from Petrograd today. Penal servitude for life or for a term of years will be substituted for the death penalty in cases where such a penalty is prescribed by the penal code or by military law.

RUSSIAN PREMIER TO VISIT FRONT.

LONDON, March 31.—Prince Lvoff, the Russian premier, and all the other members of the provisional government, left Petrograd today to visit general headquarters at the front, a Reuter despatch from Petrograd announces.

PREMIER FOSTER

RETURNS TO ST. JOHN

Consulted With Officials of Agricultural Department During the Afternoon.

Premier Foster, who was yesterday entrusted with the task of forming a new administration, left for his home in St. John last evening. He will return to the capital early next week and will submit the names of his ministers to His Honor for approval.

At noon yesterday Mr. Foster was the guest of Lieut. Governor Wood at luncheon at the Queen Hotel, and in the afternoon paid a more extended visit to the Agricultural Department, which at the present time is without a deputy as well as a minister. Messrs. P. J. Hughes and E. S. Carter accompanied him.

Mr. Foster inquired particularly into the work pending and instructed that nothing be left undone to see that the officials of the department staff generally give every possible assistance in forwarding the work necessary in the agricultural interests of the province.

His attention was drawn to the fact that there had been an outbreak of the tussock moth in several parts of the province and he directed that this pest should be dealt with most vigorously.

Hon. Mr. Foster made particular inquiry as to what information is in the possession of the department regarding the supply of seed grains and fertilizer throughout the province, and the officials took steps to have these matters inquired into immediately.

There have been some reports made to Mr. Foster already from different parts of New Brunswick that, because of railway embargoes and other reasons, there is likely to be a scarcity of seed and fertilizer and he impressed upon the officials of the department the importance of dealing with these matters promptly. Later in the afternoon Mr. Foster visited the office of the Auditor General and the Deputy Provincial Treasurer and had long conversations with the heads of these departments.

COMMERCE RAIDER

IS OPERATING IN

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

Is Well Armed and Equipped and Has Sunk Eight Ships Including a Canadian Schooner---French Bark Lands The Crews at Rio Janeiro.

RIO JANEIRO, March 31.—The French bark *Cambronne*, which arrived here yesterday with 285 men of crews of vessels sunk by a German raider, reports that she fell in with the raider on March 7 in latitude 21 west and longitude 7 south. After the survivors of the sunken vessels were put on board, the bark was ordered to proceed to coast of Brazil, a voyage of 22 days.

According to the Journal de Brazil, the raider was loaded with wines, which explains the destruction of vessels off the coast of Brazil. The commerce destroyer is reported to be armed with two guns of 105 millimetres, and 16 machine guns.

Only the German Emperor and the Crown

Prince Knew of the Raiding Expedition

The vessel has three masts and is equipped with wireless. Its crew consists of 64 men under command of Count Ukner.

According to the refugees the raider left Germany on Dec. 22, escorted by a submarine. They say that the commander declared that the German Emperor and the Crown Prince alone knew of the expedition. No complaints have been made as to the treatment of the sailors while they were prisoners on board the raider. They give the name of the boat as the *Sea Adder*, and say that she was provisioned for eighteen months and had a great supply of munitions and explosives.

Ships Aggregating Nearly Thirty Thousand

Tons Have Fallen Victims to the New Raider

On sighting a merchantman the raider hoisted a Norwegian flag, which was replaced by the German ensign when her prey was within reach of her guns.

Among the refugees are two women, the wives of the captives of the sunken vessels.

The ships sunk by the raider include the following: Gladys Royle, 3,268 tons; Charles Gounod, 3,100 tons; Rochefourcauld, 3,050 tons; ntoine, 4,000 tons; Lady Island, 4,500 tons; Rohmgoth, 5,500 tons; the Hongarth, and the Canadian schooner *Perse*, 500 tons. The Hongarth, which was on her way from Montevideo to Plymouth with 6,500 tons of grain, disobeyed the raider's orders to halt and attempted to escape. The captain finally surrendered after four members of his crew, including the chief engineer and his assistant, had been wounded by machine gun fire.

Another Report Says the Raider is the Sea

Eagle and is Operating with Great Daring

RIO JANEIRO, March 31.—A new German raider has reached the South Atlantic and sent nine or more merchant vessels to the bottom. According to survivors from the sunken vessels, the raider is the *Seedler* (Sea Eagle) a formidably armed craft operating with the same daring as its predecessor, the *Moewe*, which recently returned to a German port from the same waters. News of the activities of the raider was brought to Rio Janeiro by the French bark *Cambronne*, which arrived here yesterday. She had on board 285 men from the crews of vessels sunk by the *Seedler*.

The *Cambronne* encountered the raider on March 7 at latitude 21 south, longitude 7 west, a point in the Atlantic almost on a line with Rio Janeiro and about two-thirds of the way to the African coast. After the survivors had been put on the *Cambronne*, she was ordered to proceed to the coast of Brazil, a voyage of twenty-two days.

MANY ARE STILL MISSING.

LONDON, March 31.—The owners of the British steamer *Alnwick Castle*, which was sunk recently by a German torpedo boat, when 320 miles out in the Atlantic ocean, have issued a statement differing from that made public Thursday night, concerning the number of boats which left the steamer. This statement says the crew and passengers embarked in six boats instead of five. Three of these boats have not yet been heard from. Up to the present the only persons known to have been saved were eight passengers and fifty-three members of crew.

GERMAN RAIDER MAY

BE AN AMERICAN BARK

The Pass of Balmaha was Captured and Taken Into Cuxhaven in 1915 and was Afterwards Confiscated by a Prize Court.

RIO JANEIRO, March 31.—It is reported here that the German raider operating in the South Atlantic is the captured American bark *Pass of Balmaha*. The *Pass of Balmaha*, a vessel of 1,571 tons gross, was taken into Cuxhaven by a German prize crew in August, 1915, while on a voyage from New York for Archangel with 5,000 bales of cotton.

She was held up by a British naval vessel, which placed a prize crew on board. Subsequently a German submarine stopped her and placed her in charge of a German crew, which took her to Cuxhaven. The Germans said they did not know there was a British prize crew on board until the Englishmen were discovered hiding.

On account of the fact that the *Pass of Balmaha* was transferred from British to American registry after the beginning of the war, a German prize court ruled that the ship and her equipment should be confiscated, but that the owners should receive the proceeds of the sale of the cotton.

BOMB FOUND IN CARGO.

BUENOS AYRES, March 31.—A report received here says that on the voyage from New York to Rio Janeiro a bomb was found in the coal cargo of the steamer *Tennyson*. According to the newspapers eight bombs were discovered in the coal cargo of the Norwegian ship *Alderney* during her trip from New York to this port recently.

PERSONAL.

Lieut. Governor Wood left this morning for his home in Sackville.

Hon. Walter E. Foster returned to St. John by last evening's train.

Mrs. J. Z. Currie, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Spurden, has returned to her home in Cambridge, week.

Mass. Mrs. J. W. McCready has left for Montreal, where she will spend the Easter holidays.

Sergt. and Mrs. R. B. Dayton have gone to Montreal for a two weeks' visit.

Mrs. W. T. Whitehead, who has been spending the winter in California, will leave for her home in Fredericton next week.