

Notice to Advertisers.

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

The Daily Mail

The Weather.

Maritime: Fresh to strong westerly winds, fair and cold; local snow flurries.

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1917

TWO CENTS PER COPY

AMERICANS WERE ON SHIPS SUNK BY COMMERCE RAIDER

U. S. Ambassador at Berlin Said to be Willing to Resign

Will Quit His Post if President Wilson Disapproves of His Recent Speech---Austrian Papers Counsel Against the Violation of Switzerland's Neutrality.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—United States Ambassador Gerard offered to resign if President Wilson disapproved of his speech at the banquet tendered him by the American Association of Commerce and Trade, according to a Rotterdam despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co., quoting a Cologne telegram. The despatch says the American ambassador sent a special message to Washington with an explanation of his speech and his offer of resignation if the explanation was unsatisfactory.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. from Rotterdam says: "The Austrian newspapers are commenting extensively on the possibilities of a violation of Switzerland's neutrality. They admit that France would have no purpose in making the move, while Germany and Austria might hope to gain breathing space. Switzerland, however, would defend her neutrality to her last man, so success on the part of the Central Empires is considered doubtful. Generally the newspapers therefore counsel the Austro-German staffs not to augment the number of enemy powers. The Hungarian papers declared that the violation of neutrality has never helped any belligerent, and say that had Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir presumptive to the Austro-Hungarian throne, who was assassinated at Sarajevo, lived, he never would have sanctioned a violation of Belgium, neither for military or dynastic reasons."

LONDON, Jan. 18.—In compliance with the demand of the Entente, the arrested Venizelists have been released, according to an Athens despatch to Reuters. The despatch says quiet prevails in the Greek capital.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—The night passed quietly along the entire front, to-day's official War Office announcement says.

Mr. Balfour's Note to President Wilson

Is Approved by the Manchester Guardian

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Commenting on the note of Foreign Secretary Balfour, supplementary to the Entente reply to President Wilson, the Manchester Guardian says:

"The most noteworthy words in Mr. Balfour's despatch are those in which he speaks of the American appeal for a league of nations. The war has shown that no international law is of the least avail as a protection against a power unscrupulous enough to disregard it and strong enough to despise the condemnation of neutrals."

The newspaper expresses belief that there must be force behind international law, and thinks this is contemplated in the American proposal of a league to enforce peace.

"But what is necessary in discussing the matter with Americans," says the Guardian, "is that we should make them realize that the whole thing were breath and words unless they, along with the rest of us, are prepared in the end to put force into execution. The idea is a great one, and with Mr. Balfour's note it has made one further step towards general acceptance."

President of German Farmers' Union Wants

Piratical Submarine Campaign Kept Up

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Dr. Roesicke, president of the German Farmers' Union, is noted in an Amsterdam despatch to Reuters as saying in an address to the Schleswig Holstein Union:

"God has given us a hint. He caused the harvests of the world to be so bad that Great Britain finds it difficult to feed herself. Therefore, if we do not prevent the wheat laden ships from Australia and India reaching Britain, it is doubtful whether God will again give us such an opportunity because He demands that the hand shall be seized which He stretches out to us at this time."

HUNS EVACUATE POSITIONS.

Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 18.—Evacuation of German positions near Sere, on the Somme front, was announced by the War Office today. A British attack near Loos was repulsed after violent fighting.

CAMPAIGN IN DORCHESTER WILL BE WARM

Quebec, Jan. 18.—The meetings in the Dorchester by-election are to be "Assemblies contradictories," joint Liberal and Conservative gatherings. It is said here that the suggestion came first from Lucien Cannon, the Liberal candidate. Yesterday afternoon the Hon. Albert Seigny, Conservative candidate, drew up a programme of meetings for the campaign, and forwarded it to Mr. Cannon. The latter accepted the list.

The programme is a strenuous one, including twenty meetings in the few days before polling.

MARITIME MEN IN CASUALTY LIST

Ottawa, Jan. 18.—Casualties among Maritime Province men are reported as follows:

Infantry.
Died of wounds—Gabriel Bishara, Yarmouth, N. S.
Wounded and missing—Lieut. H. C. Bawhon, Truro, N. S.
Shell shock—L. R. Rath, Crossburn, N. S.; J. W. Sibley, Marstown, N. S.

Bank of England Reduces Rate

London, Jan. 18.—The rate of discount of the Bank of England was reduced from 6 to 5½ per cent. today.

The reduction of the bank rate was regarded as an indication that the gold situation and the question of the foreign exchanges are well in hand, so that maintenance of the six per cent. rate is no longer necessary.

Mr. Thos. Inglis, of Kincardine, Ont., is a guest at the Queen.

BRITISH WARSHIPS ON THE TRACK OF GERMAN COMMERCE RAIDER

**A Chase Now Said to be in Progress
And Raider May Soon be Rounded
Up---Americans on Board of One
Of Sunken Ships.**

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 18.—British agents here said that British warships had received such accurate information of the location of one of the German raiders in the South Atlantic as to warrant the statement that a chase was in progress and that the capture or destruction of the vessel would be made known in a few days.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—No definite news of the operations of the German raider in the South Atlantic is published here this morning beyond the official announcement in regard to the loss of ships. The statements of the Admiralty and Lloyds are given a prominent place in the morning papers, which otherwise print nothing but comment and speculation.

About as Easy to Find a Needle in a Hay Stack as a Ship Trying to Elude Capture

It is generally admitted that the raider may possibly enjoy a long immunity and it is recognized that it is easier to find a needle in a hay stack than a ship bent on eluding capture in the Atlantic. Anxiety is expressed over the fate of cargoes of grain and meat from Argentine and steel from the United States. It is admitted that the loss of such cargoes may be severely felt, coming on top of the depredations of the submarines.

A number of steamers besides the victims of the raiders, are posted at Lloyds as missing. The raider is assumed to be identical with the vessel reported on December 4, but there is nothing to indicate whether it dodged the British cordon in the North Sea or started its career from some neutral port.

Reported to Have Sunk a Ship Without Warning, Causing the Loss of 400 Lives

RIO JANEIRO, Jan. 17.—A Pernambuco newspaper, the Jornal Pequeno, prints a statement attributed to the purser of the British steamer Netherby Hall, that the German raider in the South Atlantic sank an English ship without warning and that four hundred persons are believed to have lost their lives.

Thirteen Americans are among the victims of the German raider who have been landed at Pernambuco. The remaining number is made up of 170 Englishmen and 54 Frenchmen.

While nothing is definitely known as to the identity of the raider, two hypotheses have been constructed from the details supplied by the crews of the sunken ships. One of these is that the vessel is the German auxiliary cruiser Vineta, but the one most generally held is that the raider is either the Moewe itself or a sister ship. Every detail in regard to the ship's construction seems to fit this latter supposition.

Sailors Landed From Ships Destroyed by the Commerce Raider Were Brutally Treated

The exact position of the Hudson Maru when it lost sight of the raider on January 10 was longitude 25.16 west, latitude 7 south. According to telegraph reports from Pernambuco, the men landed from the ships sunk by the raider report that they were brutally treated. The correspondent of the Jornal de Brazil reports that sailors he interviewed claim to have been kept for two days without food. The commander of the French steamer Nantes is said to have declared that the raider approached his ship under the British flag.

THE REICHSTAG MEETING.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The Reichstag will not assemble this month but will meet on February 10th, according to an Amsterdam despatch to the Central News.

NEW RUSSIAN WAR MINISTER.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—General M. A. Belisoff has been appointed Minister of War in the place of General Chouvaieff, who has been made a member of the Council of the Empire. General Belisoff was formerly assistant minister of war and chief of the general staff. He is fifty-four years old.

ANOTHER WAR SESSION OF FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

OTTAWA, Jan. 18.—The Senate and the Commons assembled today in the sixth regular session of Canada's twelfth Parliament. The morning trains from east and west brought in members in good numbers, but the attendance promises to be rather on the small side. There are thirty-four vacancies in the two Houses, nineteen in the Commons and fifteen in the Senate. Half a dozen members are still overseas, though a number have returned from the front. As the real business of the session starts only on Monday next, the arrival of others will be delayed.

New Speaker in Both Houses.

Today's proceedings were confined to the election of a Speaker. It is the third time since the present Parliament was elected that this ceremony has had to be gone through with.

At the start Dr. Sproule was elected Speaker; last year, when he went to the Senate, Hon. Albert Seigny took the chair and he in turn is being replaced by Hon. E. N. Rhodes, member for Cumberland, Nova Scotia. Likewise there is a new Speaker in the Senate, Hon. Joseph Bolduc replacing Speaker Landry, who resigned. In the Upper House the government appoints the Speaker; there is no formal election.

Today's Proceedings Formal.

The proceedings in progress this afternoon conform to the constitutional usage. A House cannot do business without a head, and so when the Commons obeyed the summons of the deputy Governor General this afternoon, the clerk informed Sir Charles Fitzpatrick that the Commons is without a Speaker.

The members were advised to go back and elect a presiding officer, and when this is done the Governor General tomorrow will communicate the reasons of the Crown for summoning Parliament.

Hon. E. N. Rhodes will be unanimously chosen Speaker.