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GERMAN FLEET RAIDS ENGLISH COAST

UNFORTIFIED ENGLISH COAST TOWNS ARE SHELLED BY GERMAN CRUISERS

Men, Women and Children of the Civilian Population Left Dead or Wounded, Struck Without Warning While at Work—A Wave of Intense Anger Has Spread Over England Because of the Attack—Hostile Squadron Escapes in Mist After Encounter With Coast Guard Vessels—In All the Casualty List Totals 110.

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—For the first time in centuries England has been struck by a foreign foe. A squadron of swift German cruisers crept through the fog last night to the eastern coast and turned their guns against the Britons.

When day broke they began bombardment of three important towns—Hartlepool, at the mouth of the Tees; Whitby, 35 miles southward, and Scarborough, noted as a pleasure resort, 15 miles beyond.

Hartlepool suffered most. Three two battle cruisers and an armored cruiser were engaged. The British war office fixes the number of dead at Hartlepool as seven soldiers and 22 civilians and the wounded at 14 soldiers and 50 civilians.

At Scarborough, shelled by a battle cruiser and an armored cruiser, 13 casualties are reported while at Whitby two were killed and two wounded.

Men, women and children of the civilian population were left dead or wounded, struck without warning while at work. In all the casualty list totals 110, according to the official estimates, of which 31 are known to be dead.

At Hartlepool churches were damaged and the gas works and lumber yards were set afire, while the abbey at Whitby was struck. The Balmoral Hotel at Scarborough received the full effect of a shell. A number of houses and shops were shattered and partly burned in each of the towns.

The hostile squadron escaped in the mist after an encounter with coast guard vessels.

The official account of the attack, as issued by the press bureau, with more complete details from the war office, follows:

"This morning a German cruiser force made a demonstration upon the Yorkshire coast in the course of which they shelled Hartlepool, Whitby and Scarborough.

"A number of their fastest ships were employed for this purpose and they remained about an hour on the coast.

"They were engaged by patrol vessels on the spot. As soon as the presence of the enemy was reported a British patrolling squadron endeavored to cut them off. On being sighted by the British vessels the Germans retired at full speed and, favored by the mist, made their escape.

"The losses on both sides are small, but full reports have not yet been received.

"The admiralty takes the opportunity of pointing out that demonstrations of this character, against unfortified towns or commercial ports, though difficult to accomplish, provided a certain amount of risk is accepted, are devoid of military significance.

"They may cause some loss of life among the civilian population, and some damage to private property, which is much to be regretted, but they must not in any circumstances be allowed to modify the general naval policy which is being pursued.

"The land batteries replied and are reported to have hit and damaged the enemy.

"At 8:50 the firing ceased and the enemy steamed away. None of our guns was touched. One shell fell in the rear of the 18th service battalion of the Durham light infantry.

"The casualties among the troops amounted to seven killed and 14 wounded.

"Some damage was done to the town and the gas works were set on fire.

"During the bombardment, especially in West Hartlepool the people crowded in the streets and approximately 22 were killed and 50 wounded.

"At the same time a battle cruiser and an armored cruiser appeared off Scarborough and fired 50 shots, which caused considerable damage and 12 casualties are reported.

"At Whitby two battle cruisers fired shots doing damage to buildings and the following casualties are reported: Two killed and two wounded.

"At all three places there was an entire absence of panic and the demeanor of the people was everything that could be desired."

"A wave of intense anger has spread over England because of the attack. Bitter denunciations are heard every-

where of a policy which permits shelling of undefended towns. The fortress at the mouth of the Tees is supposed to give some protection to the important shipping base of Hartlepool, but Whitby and Scarborough are open to the enemy as is Atlantic City on the New Jersey coast.

Scarborough, with its old castle on a high hill, the big casino with a high tower and a row of pretentious hotels on the water front, permits a shining mark for target practice.

Few visitors were at the hotels, because of the cold weather, but one invalid is known to have been wounded.

In the direct line, the mouth of the Tees is about 250 miles from Heligoland, the German naval base in the North Sea. The British admiralty says the German ships were among their fastest. They chose a night when a thick mist prevailed and must have left their base at least two hours before dark. As they started to return about 9 o'clock they remained about seven hours of daylight for the pursuit, which, however, was rendered almost impossible for the fog. How the Germans evaded all the mines and patrols remains a mystery, although

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Belgium a Looming Headline of Starving Humanity

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—"A tragic misery, the like of which the world has never seen," was the term applied tonight to conditions in Belgium by Theodore Waters, secretary of the Christian Herald, who went to Belgium last month to supervise distribution of the food cargo of the relief steamer Jan Block, and who returned today on the Transylvania.

He said, in one long breath, "starving men, women and children clamoring for a daily single ration of soup and bread."

"In Antwerp," he said, "I saw over a thousand poorly clad women standing shivering in the snow, waiting for food to be delivered out. In Malines, under the shadow of the cathedral, its walls caved in, its old stained glass windows but ragged fragments, I saw men, women and children gazing desolately at the ruins of houses. But once were their homes, poor people who begged something to eat of us as we passed. On the road to Brussels we overtook thousands of refugees returning to villages where there is not food enough to sustain those already there. In Brussels we saw women

holding babies, standing on the cold street corners, begging for food. "In Holland I found thousands of refugees from Belgium huddled in garrets and on barges, some refined, some coarse and brutalized, all sleeping together without partitions to insure the least privacy. "Stagnation lies like a blight upon Belgium—stagnation of energy, of hope, of courage. Every village, a country, a town, the very streets failed to make way for the refugees. Its crops long gone to seed, sticking hardly up through the snow. Broken houses, broken families, broken hearts, the refugees were starved and returned to their homes. "What I saw in Belgium was not only a food and clothing famine, but a famine of hope. What I saw was a famine of all that makes life worth living. "The refugees are being driven from Belgium and the star of our sources—her people will starve, as starvation will spell ruin. For when people are hungry they are apt to commit ill advised reprisals against the military."

Chairman of Committee Probing Naval Affairs



Representative Lemuel P. Padgett of Tennessee is the chairman of the naval affairs committee of the house of representatives, which is now investigating the condition of the United States navy. The work has been taken up largely because of the agitation inaugurated by Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, who had introduced a resolution for a special committee to investigate both army and navy. Already Mr. Padgett's committee has brought out some interesting facts concerning the readiness of the United States in case of war.

DESPERATE FIGHTING IN MEXICO

First Important Battle Between Carranza and Villa Armies in Progress.

BOTH SIDES HAVE AMPLE ARTILLERY

The Carranza Advance Marks Long Threatened Move to Take Torreon.

Carranza Victory Reported.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 16.—The first important battle between the Carranza and Villa armies is in progress near San Pedro de las Colonias, east of Torreon. Several columns of Carranza troops from Coahuila state, aggregating about 5,000 men under Colonel Alfonso Vasquez, are engaged by a slightly larger force under General Villa.

Both sides have ample artillery and the fighting is described as desperate. Reinforcements on both armies are being rushed to the scene of battle.

The Carranza advance marks a long threatened movement to take Torreon, railroad center of the interior, and to shut off Villa's communication with the north. Villa garrisons in northern Mexico have been depleted by the movement into Mexico City and troops from the national capital probably will be sent to the northern theatre of war.

It appears that Carranza, from Vera Cruz, has ordered a general movement into the north. Four hundred men from General Hill's forces in the extreme east of Sonora are moving on Juarez, held by a small Villa garrison. Five hundred Carranza troops from Coahuila recently passed below Sierra Blanca, Texas, on their way toward Juarez.

The situation has been complicated by the appearance in central Chihuahua of General Jose Yves Salazar, the former federal leader, who escaped recently from jail at Albuquerque, N. M. It was learned today that more than one million rounds of ammunition destined for Salazar had passed the border safely.

George C. Carothers, American state department representative with General Villa, arrived at El Paso today. Carranza agents today repeated previous claims that San Luis Potosi had fallen into their hands.

INVESTIGATION OF ALL LARGE INSTITUTIONAL CHARITIES AND BENEVOLENCES IN NEW YORK WILL BE UNDERTAKEN

INVESTIGATION TO BEGIN JAN. 11

Many of the Leading Financiers of the Country Will Be Summoned to Testify.

(By Associated Press.) DENVER, Colo., Dec. 16.—Investigation of virtually all large institutional charities and benevolences centered in New York city, during which many of the leading financiers of the country will be summoned to testify will be undertaken by the federal industrial relations commission, soon. This was announced today by Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the commission, which closed its inquiry into the Colorado coal strike late today.

Institutions to be investigated include the Russell Sage foundation, the Baron de Hirsch fund, the Carnegie Benevolences, the Rockefeller charities and the Cleveland foundation. The investigation is tentatively scheduled to begin in New York January 11.

The basis of the work is to be, according to Mr. Walsh, to investigate the origin of the foundations, represents the beginning of an effort to perpetuate the present position of predatory wealth through the corruption of the sources of public information.

The commission will seek to determine, according to Mr. Walsh, "how the policies of these foundations are shaped and by whom; their relation to high finance; the extent to which their charters may be stretched under the United States constitution, and whether they constitute a menace or a benefit to the nation."

Those who will be asked to testify, according to Mr. Walsh, include President Arthur Hadley, of Yale University; Dr. Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard University; Andrew Carnegie; John D. Rockefeller, Sr.; John D. Rockefeller, Jr.; J. P. Morgan, Daniel Guggenheim, E. H. Gary, T. N. Vall, Edward T. Stotesbury, of J. P. Morgan & Co.; George W. Perkins, Frank A. Vanderlip, T. P. Shonts, Jacob Schiff, Norman B. Reed, Francis L. Hine, John Hays Hammond, Robert W. DeForest, Cleveland H. Dodge, H. C. Erick, Adolph Lewisohn, Thomas W. Lamont, Seth Low, Jerome D. Greene, Rev. Fred Gates, representative of John D. Rockefeller, Sr.; Starr J. Murphy, personal counsel for John D. Rockefeller; W. L. Mackenzie King, of the Rockefeller foundation; J. H. McClelland, director of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company; Charles P. Neill, John M. Glenn, director of the Russell Sage foundation; Ralph M. Fasley, chairman executive council National Civic Federation; Allen T. Burns, director of the Cleveland foundation; Samuel Untermyer, Robert Bruere, trustee Rand School of Socialism, New York; Dean George W. Kirschway, of Columbia; Seth M. Milliken, New England cotton mill magnate, and Senators Kenyon, of Iowa, and Owens, of Oklahoma.

Mr. Gardner has not quit his efforts toward the appointment of a special committee of the house to investigate the military and naval position of the United States to "bring about the preparation for war. Mr. Gardner insists that the country is at the mercy of any first-class European power. While it is not considered likely in Washington that the house will name the committee, regular committees, spurred on by the agitation he has brought about, have already begun an investigation.

TO USE HIS PERSONAL INFLUENCE

Brigadier General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff of U. S. Army, Goes to Naco, Ariz.

WILL TRY TO STOP FIRING ACROSS LINE

If This Final Effort Fails, It is Understood a Defensive Fire Will Be Begun.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Brigadier General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, left tonight for Naco, Ariz., to endeavor to use his personal influence with the warring factions across the border to stop their firing into American territory.

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France Will Not Interfere With Cotton Shipments

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The French government in a note to the state department today gave assurance that France would not interfere in any manner with American cotton shipments either to belligerent or neutral countries.

Announcement was made that France would adopt the same attitude toward cotton shipments as that of Great Britain.

Great Britain had announced late in October that cotton was not and would not be considered contraband and assurance was given that there would be no interference with shipments. Since then the state department has been seeking like treatment from France.

Ambassador Gerard informed the state department there was practically an unlimited market for cotton in Germany so that two million bales probably could be disposed of in the empire in 1915. It was reported from Vienna 500,000 bales could find a market in Austria-Hungary and Ambassa-

Latest Photo of Man Pushing War Probe



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ALLIES HAVE MADE FURTHER PROGRESS

BRITISH, FRENCH AND BELGIANS CONTINUE THEIR OFFENSIVE IN WEST

ASSISTED BY BRITISH FLEET

Preparations Are Being Made For a New Battle or Series of Battles in Poland.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Dec. 16.—The raid of German warships on the northeast coast of England today and their escape in a fog after having bombarded Scarborough, Hartlepool and Whitby, where a number of persons were killed and wounded and considerable damage was done to property, completely overshadowed the activities of the land forces.

Land operations, however, as on preceding days, have been of the utmost importance. The British, French and Belgian troops have continued their offensive in the west, according to the French official reports, have made further slight progress. This was accomplished, however, only by foot-by-foot fighting.

Along the coast of Flanders, where the Allies are trying to push their lines forward from Nieuport, they have the assistance of the British fleet, which violently bombarded Westende, one of the many little coast towns which have suffered greatly since the commencement of the war. This attack, Berlin says, was without effect and the Allies were repulsed.

Further inland the French also claim to have gained ground, although in a less marked degree than on previous days. In the Argonne they apparently have been a lull, but both in the Woerre and Alence, the two other regions where severe fighting has been in progress for some time, the Germans appear to have delivered counter attacks.

In Poland preparations are being made for a new battle or series of battles. The Russians, according to a former member of the cabinet at Petrograd, have decided, despite the disappointment it must cause, to withdraw their left wing at least and form a new line back in their own territory. This will relieve the pressure, but will compel the Austro-German forces to fight farther away from the strategic railways from which they have moved troops quickly to desired points.

This plan doubtless will affect the rest of the battle front only except in the extreme north of Poland, where the German column has been driven back by a superior Russian force.

A Rome dispatch credits the Austrians with having admitted the loss of 100,000 men in their expedition against Serbia, and their subsequent defeat by the army of that little nation.

Petrograd advises that Austria is seeking a peace agreement with Russia.

France estimates that the war for the six months in 1915 will cost her \$1,185,888,573 or about \$200,000,000 monthly.

Vienna has admitted officially, according to a Rome dispatch that 100,000 Austrians were killed or wounded in the unsuccessful campaign against Serbia.

The German embassy at Washington received advices from the German minister to Chile saying that in the recent fight between British and German warships off the Falklands the British ships were badly damaged and one apparently was sunk.

Basel, Switzerland, reports that the French armies apparently have taken the offensive on the front from Rebert to Sainte-Marie-Aux-Mines and have converted them into a single hold.

Washington has sent the cruiser Tacoma to Colon to protect the neutrality of the canal zone.

President Wilson Buys Santa Claus

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—President Wilson did his Christmas shopping today. He went into the downtown district at the rush hour, visiting department stores, two book stores, and a toy store for his gifts. All of the places were crowded and at times the President had to push his way through to get what he wanted. He was recognized by many shoppers and greeted all who spoke to him with a broad smile. Several secret service men accompanied him.