

WAS TORPEDOED SHIP FROM U. S. A.?

AMERICAN SHIP AND CREW IS SENT TO THE BOTTOM?

Standard Oil Steamer Communipaw Reported Sunk by Submarine in the Mediterranean Sea With No Lives Spared.

THE DETAILS ARE ANXIOUSLY AWAITED

Serious Controversy Appears to Face the United States if First Reports of the Tragedy are the Actual Facts.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
ROME, Dec. 8.—The crew of the American steamer Communipaw, reported sunk by a submarine near Tabruk, Tripoli, is believed to have been lost. Greek and Italian steamers which answered the tanker's distress signals, today reported they found no survivors though they made a careful search.

Dispatches from Genoa where the Communipaw put in recently, said she carried a crew of thirty-nine men and five American officers. She was commanded by Captain George Norstrom and was bound for Alexandria.

The nationality of the attacking submarine is unknown. No further details have been received here.

Nothing But Wreckage.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—An Athens dispatch to the Daily News reports that a Greek torpedo boat sent out in response to a wireless from an American ship, saying she had been torpedoed, found nothing but wreckage on reaching the scene and reported the crew had probably been lost. The position of the torpedoed ship was not given. It is believed possible that the torpedoed vessel was the American steamer Communipaw.

Former German Ship.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—The Standard Oil steamer Communipaw, reported sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean, and the Standard Oil steamer Petrolite, reported in state advices to have been shelled by a submarine, were both changed from German to American registry after the outbreak of war. They were flying the American flag when attacked. They were sister ships, each displacing 3,710 tons and were built in 1893-94. The Communipaw left New York October 27 with 5,000 tons of oil bound for Alexandria via Italian points. She was held at Genoa for two weeks by Italian authorities, but sailed on November 30. The Standard Oil Co. today had no advices confirming the report that the Communipaw had been sunk, but accepted it as true.

David T. Warden, head of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, which owns both vessels, said he had feared for the safety of the Communipaw since he read the report that an American ship had signalled she was being attacked by a submarine. The Communipaw was due in the position indicated by the ship being attacked, he said. No word has been received from the commander of the Petrolite.

COLORADO TO GO DRY AFTER END OF THE YEAR

Bargain Liquor Sales Are Announced and People Are Stocking Up.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
DENVER, Colo., Dec. 8.—With the state's sixteen hundred saloons resigned to the inevitable operation of the prohibition law, effective New Year's, bargain liquor sales were announced on every hand today. About \$3,500,000 in wet goods still on hand were to be disposed of by midnight December 31 and many were the bulky packages carried from saloons and liquor stores by men and women having in a supply for the dry spell. A non-refillable physician's prescription for four ounces will be the only legal means of obtaining liquor after the prohibition amendment becomes effective, although the private consumer may import his drinks from outside the state through the railroads and other common carriers. All liquor sales and deliveries will be carefully recorded and reported. Keep-

Serious Situation.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Another serious submarine controversy today appeared to face the United States. Sinking in the Mediterranean of the American steamer Communipaw, a Standard Oil ship, with possible loss of American lives, threatened new international complications. The state department today bent its efforts to fix the submarine's nationality. While officials believed it to be an Austrian boat, doubt on the point delayed decision on a course of action.

That the American nationality of the Communipaw was not known to the attacking submarine was declared inconceivable if, like other Standard Oil steamers, she carried the American flag painted on both sides of her hull. The former German registry of the vessel was not warrant for the attack. Operations by Austrian submarines in the vicinity of the Communipaw attack, caused the conviction that first representations should be made to Austria. This was strengthened by the report from the U. S. gunboat Des Moines of the unsuccessful attack by an Austrian submarine upon the Standard Oil tanker Petrolite.

The state and navy departments today rushed orders to representatives abroad for complete reports regarding both incidents. Messrs. advices told that the Petrolite attempted to warn and ordered to submit to search, it is probable no protest will be made.

Pending a report by American Ambassador Page at Rome, the inclination of the administration today was to suspend judgment and action regarding the Communipaw. That delay would be encountered in obtaining full information, was expected. Although the Communipaw, formerly the German steamer Dutschland, was only transferred to American registry last spring, officials declared the fullest protection of the government was due her. Claim for damages was the least important of questions presented.

A report from the Petrolite is expected within a few days, following the arrival of the ship at Gibraltar.

Reported Safe on Sunday.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—The Standard Oil steamer Communipaw, reported in Rome dispatches to have been sunk by a submarine, arrived at Alexandria on Sunday, according to a cablegram received by the New York office today.

The cable was signed by the Standard Oil agent at Alexandria. It stated

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GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
AMSTERDAM, Dec. 8.—Two man aeroplanes, maneuvering Ellerbuck Monday night, collided at a height of several hundred feet and dropped to earth, their four occupants being killed. The gasoline tanks exploded, playing streams of flame over the falling air craft. The bodies of the four men were burned beyond recognition.

IMPORTANT SPEECH TOMORROW.
AMSTERDAM, Dec. 8.—Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg, whose address in the reichstag tomorrow is expected to touch peace discussions and Germany's intentions in the Balkans, conferred with the kaiser today. Berlin dispatches said every seat in the reichstag gallery has been taken. It is generally believed that the chancellor's speech will be one of the most important made in the reichstag since Germany entered the war.

Von Bethmann-Hollweg took to the kaiser's headquarters today the draft of his remarks, for approval.

SUCCESS IN FRANCE.

BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville, L. I., Dec. 8.)—Continuing their successful offensive in the Champagne, the Germans yesterday re-captured 500 yards of French trenches on Hill 193 north of Souain, which had been taken by the French in their September offensive. At the same time they held the ground taken the day previously, east of Aubervilliers, taking an officer and 120 men prisoners and capturing two machine guns.

General Von Hindenburg has repulsed isolated attacks of minor Russian detachments, the war office report stated this afternoon.

BELGIUM

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
AMSTERDAM, Dec. 8.—Count Schulerberg indicated to citizens of Liege that Germany has no intention of relinquishing Belgium, at a public gathering recently, according to advices received here today.

He drove the first nail into a wooden statue of General VonEmmich, conqueror of Belgium, which was erected in the court of honor of the palace of justice.

What VonEmmich has conquered we will hold, Count Schulerberg was quoted as saying.

EXPLOSION AT FORT.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The newspaper Echo de Belgie, published in Holland since the German occupation of Belgium, reported today that an explosion wrecked Cognes fort at Namur, killing eighty German soldiers.

Died in His Cell.

GALESBURG, Ill., Dec. 8.—William Sweeney, 45, who viciously assaulted his wife with an axe as she lay sleeping in her bed on Monday night, died today in his cell in the city jail. He grieved greatly over the affair. Acute alcoholism was assigned as the cause of his death. Mrs. Sweeney was improving today.

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BALKANS

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
SOFIA, (via Amsterdam) Dec. 8.—"Our victorious troops are continuing the pursuit of the French on both banks of the Vardar," said an official war office statement today.

ONE READY FOR PEACE.
BERLIN, Dec. 8. (Via wireless to Sayville.)—King Nicholas of Montenegro has suggested to the entente ambassadors that Montenegro be allowed to conclude a separate peace because she is exhausted, according to reports published in the Frankfurter Zeitung today.

The ambassadors have replied that if Montenegro moves for a separate peace they will break off diplomatic relations and withdraw all assistance hitherto given Montenegro, the newspaper asserted.

JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

[By William G. Shepherd, United Press Staff Correspondent.]
SALONIKA, Dec. 8.—(Delayed.)—A furious battle is being fought in the Christmas Holly woods near Strumnitza. The Bulgars have been attacking the Anglo-French positions since early Saturday. Their attacks thus far have been repulsed with heavy losses.

Everywhere the allies' artillery visited the French and British fronts along the Serbo-Bulgarian frontier Friday night and Saturday. The mountainous hills were topped with batteries. The big British guns were sending shells screaming eight miles across hills a mile high. The Holly hills shook with the dull roar.

The sheen of the Holly leaves on the hillside was dulled by spattering blood. Lying among the bright red Christmas berries, Red Cross searchers found the bodies of Bulgarians, French and a few British artillerymen after one of Saturday's desperate hand to hand struggles.

The Bulgars broke over the hills at intervals in wild charges, screaming like demons. Through the Balkan wars they were hailed as the saviors of the bayonet. But in sudden collision with French Zouaves, they met their match. In three distinct encounters they were caught by French cold steel, stabbed to death or sent fleeing back over the hills, target for machine guns and shrapnel.

Extremely cold weather is increasing the horrors of war on the Strumnitza sector. Several men on outpost duty have been found frozen to death. The wounded suffer agonies if they are not dragged to the rear at once. At night it is so cold that eggs burst from their shells. And bands of howling wolves prowl the hills despite the pounding of big guns.

Back of the firing line the whole region has a Christmas look. The soldiers' tents, their wagons, their automobiles, their horses are decorated with sprigs of holly. Overhead fly vast flocks of wild ducks. They pass unharmed because General Sarraill has ordered the troops not to shoot them.

I spent several hours beside a soldier.

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FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
PARIS, Dec. 8.—That England, against the wishes of her allies, favors the withdrawal of the expeditionary forces from the Balkans was strongly hinted following today's session of the allies' war council.

A high French official made this statement: If England persists alone in favoring leaving Salonika, then the remainder of the allies will continue to aid the Serbs.

Sir John French, British commander in chief, is understood to have brought the suggestion that the Balkan campaign be abandoned, to the allied war council which held its third meeting today. It is said to have met with opposition not only from General Joffre, but from other allied representatives. It has been known in France for some time that England was far from satisfied with affairs in the Balkans. Several speakers in the English parliament called the Salonika expedition useless, holding that it arrived too late and the number of troops was too small to give any real aid to Serbia.

Four French officials have given out several interviews, proclaiming the intention of France to give strong support to Serbia, though newspapers recently have carried articles suggesting the situation of the allied forces in Serbia may become perilous.

ENGLAND

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
MESSINA, Sicily, Dec. 8.—Captain Wilson, owner of the Wilson Steamship line of England and member of parliament, and Colonel Napier, former English military attaché at Sofia and half brother of Lord Napier, were taken on the Greek postal steamer Speza and made prisoners by an Austrian submarine commander. The Speza was halted by the submersible off Patras and an officer went aboard to search her. The deck commander protested violently, but the Austrian ordered the two Englishmen to return with him to the submarine. While the search was being made, some one threw over several mail bags believed to contain papers belonging to the Englishmen. The submarine crew fished the bags from the water.

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TURKEY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
BERLIN, Dec. 8. (Via London.)—The allies have begun a new offensive at the Dardanelles, according to the Constantinople correspondent of the Cologne Gazette, but the Turks believe the movement a bluff.

A squadron of Anglo-French avia-

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THE WOMAN IN THE CASE IS NOW COMING FORWARD

New York Society Woman Wrote Letter to German Agent, Finding Fault With the Attitude of This Government.

LETTER IS NOW BEFORE GRAND JURY

Federal Authorities are Looking for Mrs. Cornell in the West for Her Knowledge of Crowley's Activities.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—A New York society woman, whose identity was shielded by federal authorities, was brought into the government's investigation of the activities of Franz Von Rintelen, German agent, today. Federal authorities in charge of the grand jury bomb, arson and strike plot investigations, today declared the state department had received from the British government copies of the woman's letter to Von Rintelen, denouncing this government's attitude on the German situation. The woman is said to be wealthy, owning a home in New York and another at Newport. The British government, federal authorities said, seized letters from Von Rintelen when he was arrested on the liner Noordam as a spy.

The investigation of Von Rintelen's activities widened today beyond the probe of his alleged effort to embroil the United States with Mexico. It was reported to the government that through his social connections he had been able to visit American vessels at Newport and inspect sections of the ships ordinarily denied to aliens. It was not stated whether the American woman might be named in conspiracy charges as a result of the letters said to have been found on Von Rintelen. The documents were not before the grand jury.

Matters now under direct investigation are believed to be Von Rintelen's alleged disbursement of nearly \$500,000 to start a revolution in Mexico and divert attention of the United States from Europe and the case of August Mente, Austrian, arrested in an alleged "bomb studio" here last Saturday.

One in the West.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 8.—Women were mentioned today in the investigations of pro-German munition plots and an alleged English spy's work in the German secret service ranks was another development.

Federal authorities handling the grand jury, were seeking Mrs. Abbie Cornell, who is supposed to have been in close touch with the movements of C. C. Crowley and William Von Brincken, under arrest. Another woman was cloistered with District Attorney Preston.

The arrested German agent's attorney claimed today that Lewis J. Smith double crossed Crowley and Von Brincken while ostensibly working with them. Smith is reported to have told a Tacoma man, after a munition explosion took place there, that he was "just fooling" the Germans. He also was arrested and testified before the grand jury.

WOMEN WORKING TO SAVE A LIFE

Mrs. Jennie Hawkes is Sentenced to Be Hanged for Murder on December 29.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
MACLEOD, Alberta, Dec. 8.—The women of Alberta have today secured 30,000 names to a petition asking the commutation of the sentence under which Mrs. Jennie Hawkes is to hang for the murder of Rosella Stolley, her husband's paramour. Every woman's organization in the region is aiding in the movement to save Mrs. Hawkes from the scaffold. Her execution is set for December 29.

Far out on the lonely prairie above Wetaskawin, Mrs. Hawkes lived with her husband in contentment until her place in his affection was assumed by another. She was not only forced to bear the indignity of another's presence in her home, but also the

Third Tug Is Sent.

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 8.—A third tug was enroute to the aid of the Great Northern freighter Minnesota which was reported in tow of two tugs about 150 miles south of here today. Uneasiness was felt over the steamship's persistent failure to detail how anti-alleys spies aboard put all her boilers out of commission and frustrated the delivery of 15,000 tons of food stuffs to London.

Officers to Be Recalled Without Any Trouble

It is now believed Secretary Lansing's original statement to Berlin that Boy-Ed and Von Paven have become person non grata, because of military activities, will be accepted without further demand for specifications.

Ambassador Bernstorff was reported today to have recommended sequence in this government's demands after being convinced President Wilson would risk an open breach of diplomatic relations rather than relate the reasons for the action against the attaches.

Possible departure of Von Paven and Boy-Ed before formal announcement of their recall is made, is reported. Negotiations probably will be resumed to secure safe conduct for the attaches.

No Favors Asked Yet.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—No safe conduct for Captain Boy-Ed has been requested by the American government, Sir Edward Grey, British foreign secretary told the house of commons this afternoon. Grey's statement was in response to a question from a member. He said that only four safe conducts for Austro-Germans have been granted by the foreign office at the request of the United States since the beginning of the war.

Henry Ford Fires a Peace Shot From Wireless Battery of Ship

[By Charles P. Stewart, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

ABOARD PEACE SHIP OSCAR II, Dec. 8. (Via wireless to Cape Race, N. F.)—All is not peaceful aboard Henry Ford's ship of peace today.

Rev. Charles F. Aked, of San Francisco, and several others, who entertain some doubts as to the success of the peace plan, have asked to be "shown." They insist on being allowed to examine the documents that Mme. Rosika Schwimmer asserted she had in her possession, providing that certain belligerents on both sides are not opposed to peace negotiations and that all neutrals favor the peace conference. They also insist that Mme. Schwimmer offer proof of her statement that unofficial representatives of belligerents will attend the Ford peace conference. Mme. Schwimmer has thus far refused to produce the documents on the ground that they are confidential.

The commander of the Oscar II today hoisted the international flag designed by Roser Babson, economic expert, on the bridge at the request of Ford. Rev. Jenkins Lloyd Jones of Chicago, assisted at the ceremonies.

The Ford peace voyagers will wireless President Wilson their opinion of the message he read to congress yesterday as soon as they can reach an agreement. Radical peace advocates are urging that the party denounce the president's preparedness program and assail him as a reaction-

ary. The conservatives are opposed to criticizing the president.

There are symptoms that Ford is converting some of the skeptics on board to his peace program.

Ford has broadened the scope of his activities. He says he is determined to end not only the war in Europe, but industrial warfare. Details of his plan are being awaited with interest.

No answer has been received to the wireless message sent by Governor Hanna of North Dakota, asking that Washington issue passports to belligerent countries for the Ford voyagers.

Fires a Peace Shot.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Henry Ford fired another "peace shot" from the wireless battery of the peace ship Oscar II today. He sent to the United

States and other news associations via the Cape Race wireless station, an eight hundred word article describing a meeting aboard ship last night in which Ellis Jones of Forest Hills, L. I., attacked President Wilson's preparedness message to congress. Jones launched his attack after S. S. McClure, editor of the New York Evening Mail, had read extracts from an advance copy of the president's message to the peace voyagers.

"This is a reactionary message," said Jones. "It comes to us at a time when we must speak out. We are going now to stop a terrible war among nations, every one of which was prepared in a military way for war. This is no time to disturb American traditions and prepare the United States for war."

Jones called attention to the absence of forts on the American-Canadian frontier and on the Norway-Swedish boundary as indications that absence of war-like preparations had resulted in peaceful relations. He challenged the president to state what enemy the United States fears.

"They tell us we are all mollicoddies," shouted Jones. "It may be true that every mollicoddle is a pacifist, but it's not true that every pacifist is a mollicoddle and this we are going to show President Wilson and the munitions trusts of the United States before we are through."

Ford's wireless message noted applause for Jones at this period.

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Germany Will Not Insist on Being Given the Reason.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Germany is yielding.

This was the belief of officials today causing marked relaxation of the tension over German-American relations. Unofficial information reaching the state department, led the administration to believe Germany shortly will agree to the request for the recall of Captains Boy-Ed and Von Paven, embassy attaches.

While the crisis in the dispute with Germany was not considered past, and complications from investigations of pro-German activities not averted, there was a marked air of relief in official quarters.

Word is expected within forty-eight hours, either from Ambassador Gerard or Ambassador Bernstorff of the retirement of Boy-Ed and Von Paven. There were several developments from which the administration based this hope.

Only 14 More Shopping Days Until Christmas.