

FAILURE OF U-BOATS PUT ON VON TIRPITZ

Capt. Perseus Says Admiral Bluffed German People With False Figures. 149 THE MOST IN SERVICE Promised to Destroy British Fleet and Then Devaluated England.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. Copyright, 1918. All rights reserved. LONDON, Dec. 25.—An explanation of the failure of Germany's submarine campaign has been given to the Daily Express correspondent in Berlin by Capt. Perseus, the German naval critic. Germany entered the war, he says, with twenty-seven U-boats. This number was added to by Admiral von Tirpitz, who actually built fifty-four additional boats during his regime, but some of these were mine layers only. Von Tirpitz, says Perseus, bluffed everybody by giving the boats big numbers, making it appear that moral superiority was his own. He said that he could destroy the British grand fleet with submarines, and afterward drove England itself with the German grand fleet. It was only after the U-17 and other submarines were sunk that Von Tirpitz changed his mind. Notwithstanding the fact that Von Tirpitz saw the failure of his great scheme after a few trials, he continued to bluff the German people. Capt. Perseus says the real failure of U-boats was due to the convoys, and recites that one submarine commander in ninety-eight attempts to sink merchantmen during one trip got only seven.

U. S. AID GOING TO NEAR EAST.

Government Transport to Carry Food and Supplies. An American relief expedition carrying physicians, nurses and supplies will sail next month for the Near East, it was announced yesterday by the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief. "The United States Government," the statement said, "has loaned a 7,000-ton transport, which will sail with a commission of agricultural engineers, doctors, nurses, medical supplies and great numbers of modern American farm implements which will be used in increasing next year's crop." The committee made public a series of cablegrams received setting forth the needs of the people. One message, dated by Charles P. Gates, president of Robert College, said the situation was "desperate," and appealed for gold and coal. One from Port Said declared 6,000 children were destitute and asked for \$100,000 for Red Cross purposes. Cables from Turkey said 2,000,000 deported Armenians, assembled in various towns in hope of returning to their homes, were starving, and that only 40,000 of these might survive.

Three Attack Detectives Jailed.

Two sailors and a civilian were sent to the workhouse for five days each by Magistrate McGeehan in the Morrisania Court yesterday after they had been found guilty of assaulting Detective Patrick Sheridan of Police Headquarters as he was on his way to midnight mass at St. Ann's Church. He said they stepped out of a doorway at 14th street and Tinton avenue and attacked him, running away as soon as they saw his badge. The prisoners were Daniel Reagan, from the Charleston, Mass., navy yard; James Walsh, a boatswain from the Brooklyn navy yard, and John J. Monahan, an express driver of 1412 Bryant avenue.

Woman Killed by Automobile.

An automobile owned and driven by Samuel Silverstein, a real estate broker of 69 South Seventh avenue, Mount Vernon, knocked down Mrs. Anna Rush of 1341 Third avenue, yesterday as she was crossing Central Park West at Seventy-fifth street. Patrolman Beatty of the West Sixty-eighth street station rendered first aid before an ambulance arrived from Roosevelt Hospital. Mrs. Rush died soon after she reached that institution. Silverstein was arrested, charged with homicide.

Skull Fractured After Party.

Patrolman George Flannigan found Steven Hollowitzky of 142 East Fourth street lying in the hallway at that address with a fractured skull early yesterday. The police learned he had attended a Christmas eve celebration in the house, and a man who described himself as Metra Betruff of the same address was arrested on a charge of felonious assault.

German Eats, Then Ends Life.

Otto Heller, a native of Germany, ate his Christmas dinner with his wife Augusta in their home at 630 East 14th street, The Bronx, yesterday and then took poison. Dr. Carl Kennard, Medical Examiner, said he believed Heller had swallowed hydrocyanic acid. Mrs. Heller said she knew of no reason for his suicide.

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DESTROYED TWO U-BOATS.

U. S. Naval Unit's Work Described by Montclair Man. Writing to his mother, Mrs. G. R. Davis, 96 Church street, Montclair, N. J., Robert Davis, who has been serving in the United States Navy, says that his unit, known as No. 8, stationed at Plymouth, England, has two submarines to its credit, as well as the saving of three lives from a fallen dirigible and the destruction of three floating mines. He says that the unit's former commander, Williamson, landed and tied up to one of the floating mines all night when it became too dark to sink it by gun fire. "Our only glimpse of a submarine was one night," Davis writes, "when a hunting unit of one cruiser and twelve chasers ran upon a pair of them, charging their batteries on the surface. The cruiser sank one with a single shot and the other submerged so hastily that she left two of her men on deck. One of these was decapitated when he tried to get through the closing conning tower hatch. This submarine was probably destroyed, as about sixty depth charges were released within a wide area."

NEARLY STARVED BY GERMANS

New Jersey Boy Writes Home From Hospital. Held prisoner by the Germans, Corp. Charles Shafto, son of John Shafto of West Grove, N. J., was saved from a slow death by starvation by the signing of the armistice, according to letters he sent to his father and an aunt, Mrs. Harry Benson of Asbury Park. "I was a prisoner with the Germans," he wrote, "and as they didn't treat me with all the politeness that they should, and did not feed me any steak, I decided it was a hard matter to live. When Uncle Sam's army found me I was in a pretty bad condition. I was put in a hospital and here I am still weak. Of course, it takes time, but I hope before long to be O. K. and back in the U. S. A. again." Corp. Shafto, only 19 years old, was a member of Company H of the 134th Infantry, Twenty-ninth Division, which covered itself with glory in the battle of Ormont Woods, in the some forests, north of Verdun, called the "worst battle of the war." His company was almost completely wiped out in the fighting of October 12 to 16, and it was during that time that he was captured by the Germans.

Sailor Slashes Doctors.

Demetrius Lopez, a sailor, 48 West Fifteenth street, paid a Christmas call yesterday on two physicians who have been treating him for some time. Dr. Isaac Glassman and Dr. Solomon Selkin, 182 Lexington avenue, according to the police the seaman began his visit by lending the doctors, after which he drew a razor and attacked them, slashing Dr. Selkin's throat and Dr. Glassman's right arm. They were taken to Bellevue Hospital and Lopez was arrested charged with felonious assault.

BUYING A TRUCK. An illustration of a large truck with 'WHEELEY TRANSFER LINE' and 'PIANO MOVING' written on its side. Below the truck is a small image of a hand holding a book.

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WOUNDED SOLDIERS GET XMAS CHEER

42,000 in Hospitals and Camps Here Receive Gifts and See Funmakers. 60,000 MORE ENTERTAINED

Salvation Army, Many Clubs and Other Organizations Are Holiday Hosts.

What a real Christmas it was: Who minded the lack of a snow carpet or the absence of Col. Jack Frost, with the war over and done with and peace comes back to mankind? All through the city and the country, too, no doubt, there was such a spirit of Christmas rejoicing and Christmas merriment as had not been felt for many a year. The gloom tinged festival of 1917 seemed very far in the past—safely buried.

For the first time in four years' people felt that they had a right to be happy on Christmas Day; that they had a right to those small dissipations and extravaganzas and all the pleasures of foolery and sentiment that had been put aside so long, and this, indeed, was the secret of the happiness in so many homes. But there was a finer, bigger side to the Christmas celebration of this year. It had to do with the soldiers and sailors, and especially with the lads that are wounded or sick. Nothing was spared, nothing forgotten to make theirs a delightful feast. Perhaps 100,000 boys in the service were remembered in one way or another in and about New York city.

Red Cross Takes Lead. The Red Cross, of course, took the lead in entertaining the boys of the army and the navy and in seeing to it that every one got a present. To more than 42,000 soldiers and sailors in hospitals and camps the "greatest mother of them all" brought a touch of home cheer and home thoughtfulness. Nearly all these received a big red Christmas stocking (it was at his cot when he awoke yesterday) filled with candy and cigarettes and some little hunting unit or other, and before the day was over all had had a chance to have one big laugh with the entertainers the Red Cross sent on the rounds of the hospitals and camps.

At the big base hospital, up in the Gun Hill road in The Bronx, the Red Cross distributed 1,000 red stockings and 1,000 canes or swagger sticks, and at this hospital in the morning the Y. M. C. A. gave a singing festival—the jolly songs that our fighting men like to sing and like to hear. To the men in the debarcation hospital in the old Greenhut store the Red Cross gave 3,000 stockings, canes and swagger sticks. In at least 10,000 homes soldiers were invited guests for the enjoyment of the Christmas turkey and all the good things that went with it. At the War Camp Community units throughout the city another 15,000 were entertained at Christmas dinner last night, at which they received presents. Last night, too, the theatres opened their doors to men in uniform, and at the new Pershing Theatre, Broadway and 47th street, a continuous performance was given. More than 100,000 tickets were issued to soldiers and sailors for the various theatres.

Salvation Army on War Basis. An indication of the part played by men in uniform this Christmas was the fact that the Salvation Army abandoned its Christmas dinner for the "down and out." Instead it fed and entertained 10,000 needy families, mostly families of soldiers or sailors, and provided 10,000 dinners for the purpose. The dinners were sent out in baskets from Salvation Army headquarters and from four distributing points. Each basket contained a turkey or chicken, according to the number of persons in the family, together with vegetables, fruit and candy. Investigators had located families in

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real need of a Christmas dinner, and the greatest care was taken to find families of soldiers and sailors that had not received their allotments. However, the crippled and very poor of the civilian population were not forgotten by the Salvation Army. They, too, received their baskets. The Salvation Army Club at 15 East Forty-first street was kept open all day for men in uniform and the rooms were crowded. Major Louis Livingston Seaman of the Medical Corps of the United States Army, sent to the club a case of safety razors and blades, and every volunteer in uniform got one of these for a Christmas present.

Outdoor Christmas celebrations were held pretty continuously at the big Christmas trees in Madison Square and at the Battery, and soldiers and sailors were carried from one entertainment to another in buses provided by the War Camp Community Service. A number of the clubs held Christmas celebrations. The Elks kept open house as usual, with a big tree for the children, and a concert at the vaudeville show. The New York Athletic Club entertained 300 soldiers and sailors in its clubhouse at Central Park South and Sixth avenue, and Major Graeme M. Hammond delivered an address of welcome. After dinner in the Ludlow street jail, twenty-five of them, and the Sheriff, a hotel man, supplied the feast himself. It was especially good, the prisoners said.

The Volunteers of America, very active this year, sent baskets to more than 5,000 families, baskets containing the makings of a Christmas dinner and toys and candy for the children. The organization sent out also more than 400 bundles of clothing, and hundreds of dolls were provided for children who never expected anything quite so good. There were many other celebrations of course, so that not all can be chronicled; but the ones mentioned illustrate the happiness and spirit of the day.

608 Seaman Entertained. At the Seaman's Church Institute, 25 South street, dinner was served to 668 men who had been guests overnight. This hotel for seafarers contained visitors from all parts of the world, and there was a strange babel of tongues when the big feast was served. The gifts distributed to the hardy mariners who came from everywhere, New Zealand to Christiania, consisted of sweaters, candy, tobacco, members and gloves, and for their Christmas dinner they had plenty of turkey and fish.

In most of the big hospitals there were special celebrations. A very attractive one was that in the Harlem Hospital, where there was a huge Christmas tree in the children's wards, and where the rooms were decorated with holly and evergreen. The children were entertained by a magician who performed marvellous feats for the little people, and each child received a toy.

There were special Christmas dinners at the Knickerbocker, where one of the doctors prepared Santa Claus, at the Trebleton, Flower and St. Laurence hospitals. More than 2,600 children in the Catholic Protectorate in The Bronx had a fine dinner, followed by a motion picture show. So it went all over the city, even in the prisons.

It was a good Christmas in the "bombs," and the prisoners all were there, as the old quip has it. Warden John J. Hanley played Santa for the 475 boarders (none of whom escaped yesterday), and there was a dinner of roast chicken, vegetables, fruit and mince pie. Some of the extra hot ones were not permitted out of their cells, but even for these there was a bit of attention. A phonograph was kept going for their benefit. Perhaps this was cruel and unusual punishment, since the interred folk could not possibly get away from it, but the warden's idea was kindly. For the prisoners allowed out of cells there were a concert and religious services. In other city prisons, the Jefferson Market among them, there were dinners and goings on.

Next to the soldiers and sailors the children got most attention. At the East Thirty-fifth street police station more than 2,000 little folk were entertained yesterday and to them went a lot of presents, clothing, oranges, candy and toys. Patrolman John Benner was the Santa Claus. Later the kids were entertained by policemen with a knack at singing, dancing and story telling.

700 Brownsville Kiddies Happy.

A party much like this was held over in Brownsville, where Fourth Deputy Police Commissioner Wallis and Mrs. Wallis had charge of the fun. In the Brownsville police station about 700 children who wouldn't have had much of a Christmas had it not been for the good hearted police gathered to hear the police glee club sing, to enjoy the monkey-shines and tricks performed by volunteers from the force and to have their hearts warmed by the radiance of the fine big tree. Every child received a present, and besides there was enough money left after the expenses of the party had been paid to keep many needy families in coal this winter.

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MANY DINNERS AT CAMP UPTON

Special Services Also Mark Soldier Celebration. Special Despatch to The Sun. CAMP UPTON, L. I., Dec. 25.—The whole camp—that is all the officers and men who were not away on leave—attended the Christmas exercises held last evening and to-night on the plaza between the Y. M. C. A. auditorium and the camp chapel. The lights and decorations were hung by 600 men, who worked four days, and there was an immense central tree around which the vast audience sang, and listened to an address by Col. Latrobe, the camp commander, and music by the Forty-second Infantry Band.

Midnight mass was sung at the K. of C. auditorium. All the welfare organizations served dinners to men who did not eat turkey in their own barracks. At the base hospital Mrs. Gardner Crane, wife of the camp inspector, Major Crane, and Mrs. Jacob Litt of Belpport distributed gifts donated by the Stage Women's War Relief.

Woman Dies in Kitchen Blaze. Mrs. Mary Hannington was cooking her Christmas turkey at her home at 261 East Sixtieth street yesterday when she fell asleep before the stove. When she awoke the coal had burned low and she poured on some kerosene to renew the fire. Her hair and clothing were set afire by the sudden blaze. Her screams aroused the neighbors and an ambulance was called, but when it arrived Mrs. Hannington was dead.

Women's League Feeds 1,000.

More than a thousand uniformed men had a fine turkey dinner at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Club maintained by the National League for Women's Service in 261 Madison avenue, for which they were not allowed to pay. The dinner was a continuous performance. All day long, beginning be-

fore noon Mrs. Donn Barber's canteen girls hurried to and fro serving succulent turkey and cranberry sauce and mashed potatoes and boiled onions and pudding and coffee and hot cream and so forth and so forth to the hungry lads in blue and olive drab.

Upstairs on the first and second floors—the canteen is in the basement—there was music and all sorts of merriment. Open fires burned in the grates, and those who preferred lounged in easy chairs and read or talked, as they do there every day; but for those who liked to be amused there was an entertainment, music and sleight of hand tricks. In the evening there was a dance.

At the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin, 376 Lafayette street, 100 homeless boys were taken care of. Sheriff Knott gave a party for his boarders in the Ludlow street jail, twenty-five of them, and the Sheriff, a hotel man, supplied the feast himself. It was especially good, the prisoners said.

CAPT. FISKE KILLED LEADING A CHARGE

Princeton Man Urged Troops On With Last Breath. Capt. Newell B. Fiske of Cranford, N. J., a graduate of Princeton in the class of 1918, was killed at Chateau Thierry, according to news received yesterday by friends at the university. Capt. Fiske was in command of Company B of the Seventh Infantry, and the letters announcing his death say that he had been recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry in action. Capt. Fiske met his death while leading his men in a counter attack through a heavy fire. When he was hit he turned and called out: "I'm bumped off. Now, boys, go on and get them!" He had been at the front in France since last April. Capt. Fiske was at the Plattsburg training camp in 1915 and in 1916. He was commissioned a First Lieutenant in 1917 and received his Captain's commission last March. Lieut. Joseph Anthony Cornier, wounded in the right arm and leg in France, will soon be on his way back to New York, so a letter received by his family at 1647 East Twelfth street, Brooklyn, from a Red Cross nurse at the Mexican border and won his commission after graduating from the officers' training school at Camp Lee. He went overseas last May.

PASSAIC DOCTOR DECORATED.

Lieut. R. N. MacGuffie Receives British War Cross. Word has been received by Mrs. Robert N. MacGuffie, a contract singer and Red Cross leader of Passaic, N. J., that her husband, First Lieut. Robert N. MacGuffie, a physician who was assigned to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment of the British Army and who was wounded in both thighs by a high explosive shell at Valenciennes November 1, after being under fire five months, has received the British War Cross for gallantry and devotion to duty under shell fire and machine gun fire in the front lines. Lieut. MacGuffie was assigned to the British Army soon after his enlistment here. He received his war surgical training at the military centre in Leeds, Bradford and Keighley, England, and his military training at Blackpool, England. He went to France June 1 and ten days later was up in the front lines. He was in the thick of the fighting in the Menin sector before Ypres, Arras, Lillers, Arras and in Foch's great Flanders drive. He had just successfully evacuated several British and 160 Boche wounded from his open air aid post when he was gassed and then wounded. He was operated on three times in France, and a fourth time in the Third London General Hospital, where he has been two months under the care of three celebrated English surgeons who feel confident that in time he will have the use of both legs.

Hots in Barcelona One Killed.

By The Associated Press. BARCELONA, Dec. 25.—Disorders occurred here during last night between groups representing the Autonomy Party and others from the Spanish Valt party. A police lieutenant was shot and killed.

ECONOMY

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