

GERMANS TAKE LIBAU, BIG SLAV PORT, IN RAID ON BALTIC PROVINCES

Czar's Great Granary Falls to Invaders' Sweep—Teutons Push Across Wistok River on Road to Przemysl.

German invaders of the Russian Baltic provinces have captured the port of Libau, the Czar's greatest granary. The Berlin War Office, in issuing this report of northern operations, adds that in the south the steady eastward advance of the Austro-Germans has carried them across the Wistok River in Galicia, and that they are pushing forward on the road to Przemysl.

The capture of part of a line of trenches, whereby the British regained some of their lost ground at Hill No. 66, southeast of Ypres, is announced by the Paris War Office. The trenches were taken at the point of the bayonet.

New German attacks are now developing in the neighborhood of Peronne, France, and in Champagne. The French report the repulse of attacks in these sectors, after furious bayonet fighting.

LIBAU, ON BALTIC, FALLS TO GERMAN INVADERS

Great Grain Port in North Captured; Wistok Crossed in South. BERLIN, May 8. The German War Office today announced the capture of the Russian port of Libau, on the Baltic. They took there 1600 prisoners, 12 cannon and four machine guns.

The official report issued from the German General Staff reports that French troops suffered heavy losses when their attacks at Steinbruck were repulsed. In Western Galicia the Austro-German forces are forcing their advance eastward. They have crossed the Wistok River near Czumy, less than 10 miles west of Przemysl and have cut off Russian forces.

The German invasion of the Russian Baltic provinces, launched a fortnight ago from East Prussia, was characterized by Petrograd as a "comic opera" campaign. The land advance, supported by a German fleet, was interpreted as a movement designed to hold Muscovite forces in the north while Austro-Germans pushed their new Galician offensive.

LIBAU, A CITY OF ABOUT 35,000 population, is the principal seaport of Russia on the Baltic, in the province of Courland, north of Lake Libau and 105 miles southwest of Mitau. Although its harbor is an artificial one, it has recently been improved by works on enormous scale, giving it vastly increased importance and value as a seaport. It is one of Russia's greatest grain ports. The town is famous for its watering place, and has extensive factories for agricultural machinery, flour and lumber mills. Libau is pronounced "Leebow" with the accent on the first syllable and a short "o" in the second.

BRITISH RECAPTURE YPRES TRENCHES AT BAYONET POINT

Lost Ground Regained in Fierce Charge at Hill No. 60. PARIS, May 8. The British have carried a part of the line of trenches near Ypres, previously lost to the Germans, at the point of the bayonet.

The Germans have lost very heavily, according to the War Office. The British have now regained part of their original position at Hill No. 60, southeast of Ypres.

AUSTRIAN ARMY MARCHES AGAINST SERBIAN FRONTIER

Archduke in Command for Another Attempted Invasion. GENEVA, May 8.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Vienna says that an army corps under Archduke Eugene has arrived at Moravitz, 19 miles from the Serbian frontier, advancing against Serbia.

VIENNA, May 8.—An official statement says that during artillery engagements Austrian mortars destroyed naval guns near Belgrade.

QUEENSTOWN TOWN HALL TURNED INTO VAST MORGUE

QUEENSTOWN, May 8. The big Town Hall here has been turned into a temporary morgue. Lines of coffins bearing the bodies of victims of the Lusitania tragedy are being placed in the main room. It is announced that all will be taken there for identification, and that as fast as the names are ascertained they will be made public.

GERMAN ATTACKS REPULSED AT PERONNE AND CHAMPAGNE

New Teuton Offensive Develops as Battle Lulls at Ypres. PARIS, May 8. Two German attacks of minor importance, one of them west of Peronne and the other at Beaumont, in Champagne, are reported by the War Office. Both attacks were repulsed, the bayonet supplementing artillery fire in the defense. Violent artillery duels on the heights of the Meuse are also reported.

The night communique says: "During the night of Thursday to Friday the enemy made two slight attacks, one at Fries (west of Peronne), the other in Champagne, at the field works of Beaumont. Both attacks were repulsed by artillery fire and the bayonet.

The very bad weather prevented all active fighting this morning. In the afternoon there were merely artillery duels, which were very violent on the heights of the Meuse.

J. F. LEWIS, ADMIRALTY LAWYER, JUSTIFIES LUSITANIA ATTACK

Authority on Marine Law and President of the Academy of the Fine Arts Says Germans Acted Within Rights. Tower Urges Calmness.

Different views regarding the sinking of the Lusitania by a German submarine are taken by two Americans whose station and experience places them in a position to speak on the matter in a manner which will be generally accepted to be authoritative. They are John Frederick Lewis, president of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, admiralty law lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania, and Charles Tower, former Ambassador to Germany and to Russia.

Mr. Lewis takes the stand that Germany is in a course which is perfectly proper in sinking the Lusitania. Mr. Lewis is one of the world's leading authorities on international law, and while he says there is no precedent for the attack and sinking of the big ocean liner with hundreds of passengers, he lays stress on the fact that, even if Americans went to their deaths with the liner, the United States could have no cause for taking official action, as the victim had been officially warned and the Lusitania was an English vessel and subject to German attack.

Mr. Tower counsels extreme caution, but intimates that if the disaster has resulted in the loss of any American lives official action should be taken by this Government. "The only difference between this catastrophe and the sinking of other vessels," said Mr. Lewis, "is that in this particular instance the vessel happened to be very large and worth a great deal of money, besides having many persons of much prominence on board.

"No American on board has any right to complain to the Government at Washington, nor has he a right to ask United States officials to take any action.

"The thing the newspapers and the public often fail to realize is that in war the theory is that every citizen of one country is an enemy of every citizen of the country with which it is at war. Thus for one citizen of England to trade with a citizen of Germany is an offense in both countries.

"If on only stops to think, the obvious right of Germany to attack a vessel of England ought to be apparent. Each country has attacked vessels of the other, and because the Lusitania was so much more costly than any vessel sunk up to this time, and because it had a passenger list of prominence doesn't alter the situation a trifle.

"The people in this war are friends at heart. If the Kaiser and his Cabinet were to die tonight and the English Government directors were to die, and those of the other Governments at war also, the war would stop at once and the people would be friends.

"It is only a case of government against government, not really nation against nation."

Mr. Tower said: "The very fact that what happened to the Lusitania creates a situation that is absolutely new is the important reason why we ought to act very slowly and very cautiously, and above all very calmly.

"This is not a time when we ought hastily to express an opinion. I hope very much that everybody has been saved. I would hate to think any American had been hurt. But I would not say anything beyond that, because I do not know any details about what has happened."

"It is very necessary that we be calm. I can't be too emphatic about that. We are confronted with a condition that has never faced us before, and I hope above all things that we act with caution and with calmness; I hope that I would hate to see any American hurt."

SENATOR STONE HOLDS SINKING WAS LEGAL

Head of Foreign Relations Committee Asserts Lusitania Same as British Soil.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Senator Stone, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Upper House of Congress, issued the following statement at noon concerning the Lusitania's destruction:

"The tragedy is, of course, to be profoundly regretted. If the reports as to the loss of life are true the sympathies of the civilized world will be deeply stirred. But for us it seems to me that good sense dictates that we keep our heads until we get our bearings. It is a bad time to get rattled and act impulsively. Don't 'rock the boat'."

Without expressing an opinion as to our relations to this event or as to our duty in the premises, there are some facts we cannot overlook and are bound to consider. We cannot overlook the fact that the Lusitania was a British ship flying the British flag, and subject at any time to be put into the actual naval service of the Government.

"Indeed, it is stated that at the time she was attacked she was carrying military reservists to England for service in the British army. True there were American citizens aboard, but it must not be forgotten that they went aboard a belligerent ship with full knowledge of the risk, and after official warning by the German Government. When on board a British vessel they were on British soil. Was not their position substantially equivalent to being within the walls of a fortified city? If American citizens stay within a city besieged or threatened and the enemy attacks, what should our Government do if our citizens should be injured? I express no opinion at this time. I am merely suggesting reasons why we should maintain our equilibrium and not 'rock the boat' until we know what we are about.

"And from the possible loss of American lives, let us ask ourselves just where we come in.

"At the present moment and with the lights now before me I confess that it appears to me that from our standpoint as a neutral nation the Gulflight case presents a more delicate and serious complication than the case of the Lusitania."

JAPAN'S UTMOST CONCESSIONS EMBODIED IN ULTIMATUM

TOKIO, May 8. Further modifications of Japan's demands upon China as embodied in the ultimatum sent to Peking, represent, it is reasonably considered, "Japanese officials assert that war has been averted and that China will concede the demands, but military preparations have not been suspended.

The following statement was issued here today: "Full details of the issues involved will be given out at Washington today. The Government is confident that a complete settlement of Japan's case will convince friendly Powers of the moderation of Japan's attitude."

With the presentation of the final ultimatum at Peking, all indication of hesitancy has vanished. The press shows a strikingly united front, expressing unanimous resolve to go forward to a finish.

HARVARD FACULTY SPLIT ON LUSITANIA SINKING

Prof. Wiener Condemns Germany. Teuton Sympathizers Defend Action. CAMBRIDGE, Mass., May 8.—"Cannibalism will come next," said Prof. Leo Wiener, of the department of Slavic languages at Harvard, today in commenting on the sinking of the Lusitania. "The sinking is a horrible example of the lengths to which Germany will go to achieve her purposes. There is nothing else to say. It's horrible. I can only hope that the Administration will sever diplomatic relations with Germany."

ACTRESS A SURVIVOR

Miss Rita Jolivet, a photoplay star, was on the Lusitania. She was seen here last in "Unfratid," a film exhibited two weeks ago.

Noted Theatrical Star Saved From Stricken Liner. Among those saved on the Lusitania is Rita Jolivet, the noted actress. Miss Jolivet is best known in America for her appearance in "Kismet," the melodrama of Baghdad in which Orla Skinner starred last season and the season before. Miss Jolivet came to America at the request of the playwright, Edward Knoblauch, to take the part of the daughter of the beggar, Hajj. Since "Kismet," Miss Jolivet has been unlucky in her parts; most of the plays in which she appeared have been failures or at the most very short-lived.

This year Miss Jolivet appeared before the moving picture camera in a photoplay of the Balkans called "The Unfratid." Her vivid, exotic beauty and the varied, nervous quality of her facial play, made her acting well fitted for reproduction in the film.

GARDNER'S WAR TALK HIT BY WHITE HOUSE

Repetition of Liner's Sinking Should Send U. S. to War, Says Congressman.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The White House retorted sharply this afternoon to expressions of Congressman Gardner, of "big navy" fame, concerning "strict accountability" in connection with the Lusitania disaster.

The statement was issued by the President's private secretary, Joseph P. Tumulty, in these words: "I do not care to make any comment on Congressman Gardner's utterances, except to say that the White House regrets his action in using it as an auxiliary to his press bureau."

Gardner, after visiting the White House, where he saw Tumulty, but not the President, said: "I sincerely hope that the President will not recede one inch from his notice to Germany that he would hold her to 'strict accountability' if she blew up American citizens in her submarine warfare. If the President recedes Uncle Sam will become in the eyes of the world nothing better than a great international bluffer.

Asked how he interpreted the expression "strict accountability," he answered: "You remember the answer President Lincoln sent to Lord Palmerston when he was reported a second Alabama was being fitted out? 'A second Alabama, your Lordship, said Lincoln, 'mean war.' 'I am no international lawyer, but if Roosevelt were president the words 'strict accountability' would have been defined beforehand so that Germany would have known what they meant and would have disagreed at her peril. Roosevelt might torpedo the constitution himself, but he would not let anybody else torpedo anything American without knowing the reason why.

"If I were in the President's place I should demand that Germany make instant amends and I should warn that nation that a recurrence of the outrage of yesterday would mean that Lincoln meant when he warned Lord Palmerston."

FEAR FOR LIVES OF EIGHT TRENTON RESIDENTS ON LINER

Absence of Report on Fate of Passengers Rouses Apprehension. TRENTON, N. J., May 8.—Eight Trentonians and a young woman from Canada, a bride-to-be, engaged to a Trenton man, were among the passengers on the Lusitania, and it is not known what fate has befallen them. No word has been received by their relatives here.

Those from this city are Arthur R. Foley, 718 Hamilton avenue, a rubber salesman; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Fox, 224 Cleveland avenue, who were on a trip to visit Mrs. Fox's mother in England; Mrs. Thomas Barker and 8-year-old daughter Winifred, 621 Atlantic avenue; Mrs. Richard Brammer and 8-year-old daughter Edith, of 5 Charlotte avenue; John H. Reed, Genesee street, and Miss Henrietta Ferris, of Ottawa, Canada, who was engaged to marry Frederick Bailey, of this city. She was here visiting the Bailey family up to last Saturday.

AIRMEN DESTROY GUNS THAT BOMBARDED DUNKIRK

Two Thousand Shells Dropped When Battery Is Located. PARIS, May 8. A news dispatch received here from Dunkirk says the battery of 15-inch German guns which bombarded Dunkirk several days ago was located by an aviator who flew over the spot at a height of 450 feet. The aviator took photographs showing the exact position of the guns, after which 2000 shells were fired on the casemates sheltering the cannon, which are supposed to have been destroyed.

TODAY'S MARRIAGE LICENSES

Robert Gardner, 2435 E. Fairmount st., and Kathryn W. Murray, 2074 E. 12th st., and John Hubicki, 2012 Blavis st., and Anastasia Kowalski, 2015 Blavis st., and Florence Edla Green, 1018 Kate st., and Florence Grant, 2007 Fairmount st.

Antonio Barada, 4609 Melrose st., and Francis G. Bakcinski, 4609 Melrose st., and Charles J. Bergman, 4127 Grand st., and Sarah A. Lestrin, 15 N. 23d st., and Edith H. Hart, 1430 Locust st., and Edith Louis E. Green, Salem N. J., and Mary T. Hunter, 2141 S. 11th st.

Paul Steiner, 1042 Taylor st., and Felice Turchi, 1212 Taylor st., and William J. Wilson, 235 S. Canal st., and Joseph Owens, 718 E. 11th st., and John J. Whelan, 2125 Franklin st., and Pauline McKee, 1712 Ridge av.

MISS HATTIE TRATTNER

Her friends will give her a farewell party this evening at her home, 215 South 61st street, before her departure for Seattle.

MISS HATTIE TRATTNER

ITALY AND AUSTRIA AT BREAKING POINT

Rome Will Not Alter Demands, Which Vienna Refuses to Concede.

ROME, May 8. A break in the negotiations between Austria and Italy, now apparently strained to the utmost, is expected hourly. The relations between the two countries are believed to have reached a critical point. The general impression is that Italy will not concede from her demands and that Austria cannot satisfy them.

The Austrian Ambassador has delivered to Baron Sonnino, Foreign Minister, a note which is reported to be the prelude of an actual rupture in the diplomatic negotiations. Later a similar note was handed in by Prince von Buelow, German Ambassador, Foreign Minister Sonnino immediately conferred with the French Ambassador and the Rumanian envoy, but no details of the conference could be learned.

BRITAIN TO PROTECT ROUTES OF LINERS

Sinking of Lusitania Expected to Change Naval Policy—Recruiting Greatly Stimulated.

LONDON, May 8. The sinking of the Lusitania is expected to bring about important changes in the naval policy of England, and some persons expressed the belief today that it may result in the departure of First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill from the cabinet. More ships will be placed under command of Vice Admiral Sir Charles Coke, commanding on the Irish coast, to protect the trade route followed by the transatlantic liners, and it is expected that in the future all liners from the United States will be met by warships and escorted through the war zone waters to port.

Recruiting throughout the Empire today has been greatly stimulated and large numbers are expected to flock to the colors over the week-end. The spirit of vengeance seems at last to have penetrated the British calm and there is far greater indignation everywhere expressed against the Germans than ever before.

The Manchester Guardian today, after reviewing the tragedy, says: "The submarine campaign now has entered into a new phase which is marked by even greater recklessness for innocent lives than has gone before."

The Liverpool Post says: "If Germany had desired to have the power of the United States thrown into the scales of war against herself she couldn't have chosen a more effective method of making her wish known."

The Westminster Gazette says: "The Westminister Gazette says: 'If we cannot re-establish a law making it a binding obligation to respect the lives of non-combatants; if one of the results of this war is to give the nations unlimited rights of assassination at sea, then we will plunge the world into a welter of savagery which will grow in proportion as science improves the weapons for slaughter. These atrocities but harden and inflame our resolution to pursue the war until we have redeemed ourselves and the world from this barbarism.'"

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THE PHOTOPLAY

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The Photoplay Editor of the Evening Ledger will be pleased to answer questions relating to his department. Questions relating to family affairs of actors and actresses are barred absolutely. Queries will not be answered by letter. All letters must be addressed to Photoplay Editor, Evening Ledger.

It is in many years since any dramatic production has caused so much speculation and discussion as "The Birth of a Nation," which this city will not see until autumn—and perhaps not then. The play is superlative as a motion picture. But there are scenes which treat the negro question as it existed during Civil War times, with a brutal frankness (and to the offensive, Cosmopolitan New York took to the play; Boston, the cradle of the anti-slavery movement, hemmed and hawed and then, with grimaces and wry faces, swallowed the film. The race question as presented in the play has been treated and misinterpreted editorially by some of the leading papers, such as the Springfield Republican and the New York Evening Post. The latter paper, in a recent utterance, says: "Wherever it goes, the 'Birth of a Nation' film arouses widespread indignation. In Boston the excitement has been at white heat, because of a series of hearings before Mayor,

se-Congressman McCall and Lieutenant-Governor Cushing have spoken out emphatically against presenting the play to continue, though the Mayor sided with the producers—as our own New York Mayor has failed to recognize in his utterances, rise to the emergency, being content with the promise of certain slight exaltation, which appear to be of little or no value.

The truth is that this "wonderful" new means for public amusement and education has brought with it grave perils which we are only just beginning to realize, for side by side with its educational possibilities are the dangers of unrestricted license. Ask the Rev. Dr. Crothers has pointed out. * * * Now, let us suppose, as Doctor Crothers has also suggested, that others inspired by this shameful example turn to religious propaganda and represent the horrible murdering of Catholics at Drogheda by Cromwell, or the massacre of Protestants on St. Bartholomew's night—what then?

Undoubtedly, the tortures of the inquisition would make effective capital against the Pope at Rome; and if more might have existed in 1890, we might have seen a still more vindictive anti-Spanish crusade by films of battle, or devastation, or economic trade camps. Pictures of Russian pogroms would make plenty of money, yet arouse bitter national and racial antipathies. Obviously the feeling that would result from a religious film-propaganda might lead to most serious breaches of the peace.

What makes the matter worse is that it is not a question of dealing with a single theatrical production, for the film can be duplicated so that the objectionable performance may be going on in 40 or more cities at the same moment. It is not surprising in view of this power for evil, that the United States Supreme Court on February 23 last in three unanimous decisions upheld the Ohio and Kansas laws creating official censorship. "We would have," it said, "to shut our eyes to the facts of the world to regard the precaution unreasonable or the legislation to affect it a mere wanton interference with personal liberty." The Court plainly had in mind the difficulty of controlling by public sentiment alone a series of films scattered over the whole country.

Yet so excellent a newspaper as the Boston Advertiser feels that the proposed censorship may be a most dangerous infringement of our freedom of speech and of expression, on a par with the efforts to suppress Garrison and Phillips in anti-slavery days. The Boston Transcript and Herald appear to believe that if one bill proposed should become a law any citizen who indulged in a fight over a play could stop it, and that any play with a lesson to teach or one which undertook to dwell on the weaknesses of a group of our citizens might easily be driven off the stage.

Edison's Teetotal

Replying to a letter, asking whether teetotaling liquors were used in scenes

Governor and a committee of the Legislature. A Judge has been found with authority and courage enough to cut out the most objectionable scene. The press has been full of arguments for and against the film and the proposed legislation. On Sunday last many clergymen preached about the film, and ex-President Eliot, speaking in a Cambridge church, was one of those who protested against its falsification of history. Never before have the colored people of Boston been so united and determined, or appeared to better advantage, and their white friends have rallied in great force to their aid. Governor Walsh,

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PHOTOPLAYS

PHOTOPLAYS