

SUBMARINED LINER SANK IN 49 MINUTES, SAYS CONSUL

American Official Reports on Torpedoing of Japanese Ship Near Port Said—Was Given No Warning.

Nationality of Undersea Craft Sought Before Protest Shall Be Made—All Passengers Were Rescued.

The submarine controversy between the United States and Germany and Austria took a graver turn today when the first official report to reach the State Department showed that the Japanese liner *Yasaka Maru*, with one American aboard, was torpedoed and sank without warning in forty-nine minutes.

All the passengers and crew, 282 in number, were saved. The identity of the attacking submarine was not established. This will stop the United States Government from entering official protest until further facts are received establishing the blame.

Text of Report.

The official report was from Edward Lyell Bristow, United States consul at Port Said, Egypt. It said: "The *Yasaka Maru* was sunk by a submarine without warning. No attempt was made to escape. Periscope was not seen until after torpedo struck the vessel. She sank in forty-nine minutes. One hundred and twenty passengers, one American, W. J. Leigh, and 182 crew took to boats and were followed by submarine, nationality unknown, until French gunboat appeared. "Consul Bristow was instructed to obtain further facts of the disaster as a basis for official action.

Officials received the report from the American consul with the gravest concern. The facts as stated by Consul Bristow are accepted as proof that the sinking raises an issue graver, in some respects, than the sinking of the *Ancona*, even though there was no loss of life. If it is established that the *Yasaka Maru* was torpedoed by a German submarine the issue will be graver, officials said, than if subsequent proof establishes the blame as Austrian.

Demand for Disavowal.

The German government has given pledges in writing that no vessels will be torpedoed without warning. Austria has given no pledges, and has refused to be bound by any understanding on this point between the United States and Germany.

State Department officials indicate that peremptory demands will be made for disavowal of the *Yasaka Maru* attack. If it is proved that an Austrian submarine sank the *Yasaka Maru*, the *Ancona* negotiations will be supplemented by renewed demands for disavowal, punishment of the submarine commander, and reparation in each case. No official comment on the *Yasaka Maru* has been made.

Hasten Decision.

Officials are puzzled by the statement in Consul Bristow's dispatch that the submarine followed the escaping passengers. It is not plain whether this action was taken as a measure of safety to assure the escape of the passengers and crew. Further advice will be sought.

It is believed that the *Yasaka Maru* case will urge the State Department to bring the entire submarine issue to a final and binding definite action in the pending *Lusitania* and *Ancona* cases.

Big Liner Arlanza Sunk Near Archangel, New York Shippers Told

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The big British liner *Arlanza* was sunk off the Russian port of Archangel, probably by a floating mine, on December 10, according to authoritative information reaching New York shippers today.

The news is said to have been suppressed by the British censor for fear that the neutral ship owners might become alarmed at the possible dangers in Russian waters.

Excepting the *Lusitania* and the *Arcturion*, the *Arlanza* is the largest steamer sunk by mines or submarines since the beginning of the war. She was owned by the Royal Mail Packet Company, displaced 10,000 tons and was 650 feet in length. She was built in 1912 and it is believed here was commanded by the British government at the outbreak of the war.

Submarine Sinks The British Steamer Hadley—Crew Saved

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The British steamer *Hadley* has been sunk by a submarine. Her crew was rescued, according to dispatches received here today.

The *Hadley* displaced 1,777 tons. She was owned by W. Cory & Son and registered at London.

Holland-American Liner Floated and on Her Way

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The Holland-American liner *Nieuw Amsterdam*, from New York, was ashore off Goodwin Sands during a heavy gale early today, but was refloated at 6 a. m., and is proceeding on her way. Dispatches received here said she was unharmed. She was delayed about five hours.

Turks Defeated in Mesopotamia Battle

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Turkish forces were defeated with heavy losses and driven back in attack on the Anglo-Indian Mesopotamian base of Kut-El-Amara on Saturday, according to official dispatches received here today.

General Townshend reported the Turkish losses totaled between 600 and 800. The British lost less than 200, he said.

The latest dispatches from Constantinople reported the Turks engaged in an attempt to surround General Townshend's troops at Kut-El-Amara.

PATERSON HOME SWEEP BY BLAZE

Fire Practically Destroys Old Mansion on Stretch North of Kendall Green.

Fire practically destroyed today the old Paterson mansion, north of Kendall Green, one of the few remaining structures of the architecture of the days before the war.

The house had been unoccupied for many years. About two months ago vandals entered the family cemetery nearby and riddled the Paterson tomb, which at that time contained eight bodies, the last having been laid to rest about fifty years ago.

Smoke was seen arising from the deserted house shortly before 10 o'clock today. Students at Gallaudet College nearby, and engine companies 10 and 12, with a truck company, responded.

Firemen Are Troubled.

The firemen experienced difficulty in getting the hose through the thick underbrush which surrounds the old place. The building was almost destroyed when the firemen were enabled to turn a stream on the place.

The Paterson house, built nearly a hundred years ago, it is estimated, was gradually tumbling down. During the many years that it has remained vacant there has been a steady stream of vandals, including the old-fashioned bulwarks and windows. Of late the dilapidated house has been used by playing children of the neighborhood.

The house stands in the center of a tract of about eighty-two acres. In their recent estimates to Congress, the Commissioners asked an appropriation to purchase the entire tract and make a great park for that section of the city.

Of Colonial Style.

In architecture the burned house is similar to many of the old-style Colonial homes of the South. It was spacious and well built and in the long ago was one of the magnificent residences about Washington.

The cause of the fire which gutted the house has not been ascertained, but it is believed it might have been accidentally started by the boys who were making the old mansion their playground.

While fighting the fire Lieutenant Dixon, of No. 12 Engine Company, was struck on the head by a piece of the falling cornice, but was not seriously hurt.

SEVEN PERISH ON SUBMARINED LINER

Italian Destroyer Captures Greek Steamer Suspected of Shielding U-Boat.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—Six passengers and one member of the crew perished when the Italian liner *Porto Said* was sunk in the Mediterranean by an Austrian submarine, according to Milan dispatches today. Other passengers and crew took into port at Derna a Greek steamer that had watched the sinking of the liner in the belief that she shielded the submarine's approach.

The liner *Porto Said* presumably is the vessel mentioned in the Paris dispatch. The *Porto Said* displaced 5,300 tons, and is owned by the Italian Maritime Society of Genoa. London dispatches ten days ago reported she had been sunk in the Mediterranean, but gave no other particulars.

MISSION IS MENACED BY CHINESE BANDITS

PEKING, Dec. 27.—Missionary Friedman telegraphed to Dr. Paul Samuel Reisch, the American minister, that the Scandinavian Alliance Mission at Patehobol, Mongolia, was surrounded by bandits, and that the Chinese troops were unable to furnish protection.

The foreign office is urging the local officials to act.

THRONGS MAKE RUSH TO BARS, POLICE CALLED

Wet Goods Offered at Bargain Prices by South Carolina Dispensaries.

SHOPS ARE OVERSTOCKED

Seven States Going Dry on Jan- uary First. Six of Them in West.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 27.—Police were called in today in many counties to aid in handling the crowds which are storming the dispensaries before their closing under the State dry law on January 1.

In many counties the shops were greatly overstocked and as a result whisky, beer and wine are being sold at bargain prices. All dispensaries must go out of business January 1. What to do with the stocks left over will be one of the problems before the legislature.

The last legislature passed what is known as the "saloon-smooth" law, which gives a citizen the right to receive one gallon of whisky or beer a month. A member of the coming legislature will introduce a bill to reduce this to a quart. The State went dry in last September's election.

The present county dispensary system was founded twenty-five years ago by Senator Ben R. Tillman, then governor.

Water Wagon Rumble Sends Westerners On Lope to Saloons

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Six Western States bought liquor at high speed today in preparation for the extension of the water wagon route to Colorado, Iowa, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Arkansas, January 1.

The six States voted dry by legislatures, are preparing to enforce the law which became effective at midnight December 31.

With South Carolina, which also became dry January 1, and Virginia, where prohibition is effective November 1, 1916, nineteen States will be in the column of prohibition, California, Michigan, South Dakota, Vermont and the Territory of Alaska will vote on State-wide prohibition next year, they have already announced, and several other States are expected to ballot on the question.

The seven States which board the water wagon next Friday midnight, and a population of 5,254,043 to the dry ranks according to the 1910 census.

Ready to Put Lid on In Three States of Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 27.—In three Pacific Northwest States, preparations for clamping down the State prohibition lid on the night of December 31 were completed today by saloonmen and public officials alike. For several months every liquor store has been emblazoned with a banner advising citizens to "stock up for the drought."

The champagne supply is exhausted. So is the supply of bottles in cafes for next Friday night, New Year eve. At 11 o'clock that night many saloons men will give away the remainder of their stocks.

Some Oregon liquor houses will move to California to do mail order business. The law allows a family to receive two quarts of whisky or wine and twenty-four quarts of beer every four weeks.

Idaho "Wets" Still Fighting to Keep State Off the Water Wagon

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 27.—Idaho's 200 saloons will close next Friday under the "dram" liquor prohibition law passed by the last legislature. The wets have not yet given up the fight. An attack on the law is now before the United States Supreme Court on appeal.

Idaho has no prohibition amendment in a constitution, such an amendment will be voted on next November.

Arkansas to Become A Sahara When Clock Marks Midnight Friday

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 27.—The remaining 136 saloons in Arkansas will be closed at midnight Friday under the most stringent prohibition law in the United States. Under local option elections, all but six of the seventy-five counties in the State have been dry for some months.

The new law provides one year in the penitentiary for violations and prohibits courts from suspending sentences or from continuing cases on plea of guilty on the first offense. Clubs are prohibited from serving drinks to members.

DETAILED TO TEACH COAST ARTILLERY

Capt. Albert C. Thompson, Jr., commanding officer of the 102d Coast Artillery at Fort Howard, Md., was detailed today as inspector instructor of the Coast Artillery Militia of the District. He will report to the commanding officer of the district militia and to the chief of the division of militia affairs for duty on January 1.

The detailing of Captain Thompson for this duty was brought about by the transfer of Capt. Maribrough Church, III, field artillery, from duty with the district militia to duty in Paris with the force of army observers.

Asquith's Rule Nears End; Fate Lies in Conscription

ONLY PROMPT ACTION BY MINISTRY CAN SAVE IT

Newspapers Continue in Attack Upon Present Heads of Britain's Government.

LLOYD-GEORGE IS FAVORED

"Too Late" Slogan in Campaign of Munitions Minister for Premiership.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The Asquith ministry was under heavy attack today. Using David Lloyd-George's charge, "too late," as their slogan, influential London newspapers have launched a campaign for a reorganization of the ministry. Only prompt, decisive action by the cabinet council tonight on the conscription issue can save the prime minister and several of his colleagues from retirement, several newspapers hinted.

Lloyd-George himself, once an object of scorn among the British "upper classes," probably will become the head of the government if Asquith is forced out.

Fails to Bring Enough.

Despite previous optimistic reports, it was hinted in government circles today that the Lord Derby recruiting campaign did not bring into the army the number of volunteers needed. The very fact that the government has not published the results apparently confirms this report. The cabinet council, it was generally understood, will be called upon tonight to meet the conscription issue squarely.

The conscriptionist advocates demanded today that there be no further side-stepping. The government should not attempt to evade responsibility, they asserted by submitting the question to a general election. On the other hand, the anti-conscriptionists pointed to the speech of the Irish leader, John Redmond, in common as indicating the danger facing adoption of compulsory enlistment.

Unless the situation is met tonight the leaders now in opposition to Premier Asquith expect to renew the fight on the prime minister in common, reopening discussion of the Dardanelles and Balkan failures.

The Northcliffe and other leading London papers have called to the support of the conscriptionist.

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GREECE AWAITING BULGAR INVASION

Lull Along Border Presages Drive—Reports of Athens' Attitude Conflicting.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Italian troops landed at Avlona have crossed the Albanian mountains and reached the Greek frontier in southern Albania, the Athens correspondent of the Telegraph reported today.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Conflicting reports come from Athens today as to the probable course of the Greek government in the event of a Bulgarian invasion.

Former Premier Gounaris, who holds the reins of power, is quoted by one correspondent as declaring that Greece will deal firmly with such a situation.

Another report from Athens said that King Constantine had wired the Kaiser that he would not consent to Bulgarian or Turkish troops crossing the Greek frontier.

Still another dispatch said that the Greek government had given its consent to a Bulgarian invasion, Germany having promised to force the Bulgars to withdraw after accomplishing their object.

The lull along the Greek border continues.

SERB KING GUEST OF ITALY'S RULER

Aged Balkan Monarch Carried From Italian Warship in Armchair.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—King Peter of Serbia has arrived in Italy aboard an Italian warship, according to Rome dispatches today. He plans to visit Rome and then go to the Royal villa at Caserta, which was placed at his disposal by King Victor Emmanuel.

The King had to be carried from the ship in an arm chair, according to a press dispatch. He told correspondents that he had turned authority over to the Crown Prince Alexander. If his physicians permit, he plans to go to Salonica to confer with the Serbian minister of war.



DAVID LLOYD-GEORGE.

Alsace Soldiers Hurl Christmas Shells As Families Hold Fetes

William Philip Simms, of the United Press, was the only American correspondent permitted to visit on Christmas Day the French front in Alsace, where, at present, the heaviest fighting in Europe is in progress. Only one other correspondent, the official representative of all the English newspapers, won the coveted permission.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN ALSACE, Dec. 27.—Under an abominable, warm drizzle, and with thawing snow, except on the peaks and high passes, the oddest and most impressive Christmas Alsace has ever known has come and gone. The world has witnessed few more dramatic Yuletides than in this coveted corner of the war. While soldiers from the lines forgot the birthday of Jesus, grimly calculating ranges in a ceaseless artillery duel, and softly swearing over their misses, happy Alsatian families, a thousand yards in the rear, dressed Christmas trees and sang old-time carols, happy over their return to France.

THOUSANDS AT MIDNIGHT MASS.

While enormous millions of Christians and Christians of high exalted rank, in the ceaseless drizzle, toiled across the Jura and Vosges mountains, crowds packed the cathedrals at midnight mass, praying for the new-come armies under the banners of France.

While the great pipe organs trumpeted "La Delivrance" and "Le Noel" by Adam, guns on Hartmannswillerkopf boomed an accompaniment like the roar of distant surf.

Belast never staged anything as dramatic as this.

"On Christmas Eve I watched the bombardment of German positions north of Altkirch. Through the rain and the houses of the city seemed only across the street. The public square was distinctly visible. It was deserted save for the passage of a few vehicles or German soldiers scurrying across, eager to get under cover before the drizzle recommenced. This was the only place where the Germans were always visible.

"That last shot was beautiful, magnificent—a bull's eye to the hair." An officer was saying over the telephone to the distant batteries as we entered the observation post.

While the French guns continued hurling Christmas gifts of high explosives toward the Germans, some one in the party quoted the "Peace on earth, good will toward men" to a young French officer, a graduate of the St. Cyr Military School in the month when the war began, but now a veteran captain, decorated with the war cross and Legion of Honor.

"You think man-killing and Christmas are incompatible," he smiled.

While Altkirch was perhaps an unofficial truce would be observed in honor of the occasion," was suggested.

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ALBANIANS DYING BY THE THOUSANDS

Homeless, Without Food, and Crops a Failure for Two Years.

ROME, Dec. 27.—At least 150,000 Albanians have starved to death in the last year, and the same fate awaits an equal number during the coming year, according to W. W. Howard, owner of the American relief schooner *Albania*. Howard has just reached Rome after distributing 30 tons of flour to the starving Albanians.

"The crops have been a failure for the past two years," said Howard. "The normal population of 1,000,000 have been added 200,000 Serbian refugees, who arrived without food and possessing only worthless Serbian money. And they brought with them 30,000 Austrian prisoners, who must be fed."

"Two years ago the Greeks destroyed 225 villages in the Berat district, and the Serbs more than 100 villages in the Sanjak region. That has left a joint population of over 200,000 which is today homeless and without food. These people are dying by the thousands."

While Howard was unloading his flour cargo at Durazzo he fed several thousand Serbians and their Austrian prisoners.

UNCOVER NEW PAN-AMERICA, IS PLEA MADE BY MARSHALL

Vice President Extends Wel- come to Representatives of Twenty-one Nations—Wants a New Columbus.

Lansing Lauds Monroe Doc- trine—Gay Colors Mark Opening Scene at Confer- ence of Delegates.

Representatives of the twenty-one republics of the Western Hemisphere gathered in Washington today to locate, through scientific discussion, "a new Columbus, with a loyal crew, who is going to discover a new Pan-America."

This, at least, was the mission laid down by Thomas R. Marshall, Vice President of the United States, in his address of welcome at the formal opening at Memorial Continental Hall to the second Pan-American Scientific Congress.

A new Pan-America, drawn together by a common opportunity and linked with bonds of mutual understanding and reciprocal sympathies was the goal which Vice President Marshall set up for the congress to attain, and from the enthusiasm with which the delegates to the congress plunged into their work every one of the sciences represented in the meeting is going to be drawn on for material.

ALL WILL CONTRIBUTE.

Astronomy and physics, chemistry and psychology, medicine and meteorology, geology and biology are all expected to contribute their share toward the upbuilding of a new and broader community of interest between the nations on this side of the globe.

Standing forth as the host and patron of the congress, the United States Government, through Secretary of State Lansing, signaled the opening of the congress by proclaiming anew the Monroe Doctrine.

Mr. Lansing evoked prolonged applause when, speaking slowly and deliberately and amid a buzz of profound interest on the part of his auditors, he declared that the Monroe Doctrine, which has stood unchallenged for four decades, is to be perpetuated with all the vigor and strength that the United States can command.

Display of Color.

The opening session of the congress was staged in a scene of gorgeous floral and color display. The ambassadors and ministers from the South and Central American republics, sat on the stage with Vice President Marshall and Secretary of State Lansing, pyramided behind them were the silken banners of the twenty-one nations, and standing in the wings were United States marines in dress uniform, each holding a United States flag. At each end of the stage stood a huge basket of American Beauty roses, while along the front edge of the platform ran a flaming border of red carnations.

On the top, behind the brilliantly uniformed Marine band, sat the delegates, and the American men, who were seated in Latin-American men who wore their mustaches and appeared luxuriantly carefree, and olive-skinned women with lustrous eyes and full lips, came in a blend of gray-haired American scientists, with their wives and smartly dressed daughters.

Seated here and there throughout the auditorium were brilliantly uniformed officers of the army and navy, while in the lobby, seats were constantly arriving groups of visitors representing every nationality in the western hemisphere.

No Real Business.

As it was the opening session, the real business of the congress will not get under way until this afternoon. All during the forenoon and up until the hour for luncheon there will be addresses of welcome and the responses, long set speeches couched in terms of flattery, those of the Vice President and Mr. Lansing, receiving always to the strong bond of interest between North and South America, and those of the Latin-American diplomats, running in similar vein.

There was much that could not be understood, for the diplomats read their speeches in English, and standing all the stenographers departed, and which was as hard for the Americans as the Latin-Americans in the audience to understand. Applause, however, was frequent.

Wire From Wilson.

Emphasizing the importance which the United States Government attaches to the meeting, the following telegram was received from President Wilson after the session had got well under way, and read from the platform:

"Please present my warmest greetings to the delegates to the Pan-American Scientific Congress and extend

guard along the entire front."