

# GERMAN WARSHIPS SHELL ENGLISH RESORTS PANIC STRICKEN PEOPLE FLEE FROM TOWNS

## Two Of Kaiser's Cruisers Sunk By British Warships

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The official press bureau this afternoon made the following statement with regard to the German attack on the North Sea coast of England: The fortress commander at West Hartlepool reports that German war vessels engaged that fortress between 8 and 9 o'clock this morning. The enemy was driven off. A small German war vessel also opened fire on Scarborough and Whitby.

ers could be seen looming out of the haze, and the flashes of artillery fire could be easily observed from the Redcar promenade. The people of Redcar sought the water front, but they were driven back by the military authorities beyond the zone of danger.

## LOCAL MAN IS POSSESSOR OF REAL CURIO

By Associated Press. LONDON, Dec. 16.—For the first time in modern history English towns have suffered from the attacks of a foreign enemy.

A German squadron, the size of which is not yet known, crept upon the northeast coast of England during the darkness of a misty night. When the fog cleared, between seven and nine o'clock this morning, the vessels of this squadron opened fire on the towns of Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool. A distance of about 40 miles separates the first named port from the last. This stretch of coast is something like 200 miles.

British flotillas are engaging the invaders of British waters and the fortress of West Hartlepool at the mouth of the River Tees fired upon the enemy.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—A German fleet made a sudden dash into the North Sea today and shelled Scarborough and Hartlepool, English coast towns on the North Sea, and engaged certain units of the British fleet.

Four German cruisers appeared off Scarborough at an early hour and began to bombard the town. It is apparent that they had no difficulty in dropping shells into the city. Panic seized the people and many of them fled from their homes.

The residents of Hartlepool were aroused from sleep by the sound of heavy gun firing. They flocked to the streets and then made their way to the beach to learn what was going on. In a few moments shells from the German cruisers began dropping into Hartlepool, thereupon the crowd along the shore broke for shelter. Panic also showed itself at this point. Fear took possession of the people and many of them abandoned their homes and fled inland.

The news of the naval raid was announced by the British admiralty shortly before 11:30 o'clock this morning, and it threw London into the greatest state of excitement that has prevailed since the outbreak of the war.

The preliminary announcement of the admiralty made no mention of the damage to Scarborough, which is a fashionable seashore resort on the North Sea 37 miles north of York and a little over 200 miles from London.

Hartlepool is an important shipping center about 40 miles north of Scarborough. The British flotillas have been engaged with the enemy at several points, however, and at noon the situation was described by the admiralty as developing.

It could not be ascertained at first whether the German attack was designed merely to spread panic among the British people or whether its purpose was to engage the British fleet in a general action or to act as an escort in an attempt to land troops on the British coast.

Neither Scarborough or Hartlepool are fortified. Scarborough has a population of 40,000 people and during the summer months the seaside hotels are crowded. At this time of the year the hotels are comparatively deserted. Hartlepool, together with West Hartlepool, has a population of about 90,000.

WHITBY, York, Eng., Dec. 16.—Two German cruisers bombarded this town between nine and ten o'clock this morning.

PANIC STRICKEN PEOPLE BOARD TRAINS. SCARBOROUGH, Dec. 16.—When the German shells began falling into Scarborough shortly before eight o'clock this morning the people rushed out of their houses in a state of the greatest excitement. The crowds ran hurriedly to the railroad station and all who could board the train that was just leaving for Hull.

Several buildings in Scarborough were damaged by the fire from the German warships.

FIFTY SHELLS FIRED BY CRUISERS. HULL, Eng., Dec. 16.—A man who has arrived here from Scarborough estimates that the German cruisers fired a total of about fifty shells into that city. He declares he saw only three chimneys shattered. He believes, however, that the damage nearer the shore will be more serious than this. Fugitives arriving here from Scarborough say that the German bombardment was heavy and great damage was done to property.

The morning train from Scarborough to Hull brought many passengers who left Scarborough when the shelling commenced. A railroad man has wired his wife here from Scarborough saying: "Shells are falling thickly around me, but I am alright."

## Poker Room Raided By Policemen

ABOUT THIRTY NEGROES CONGREGATE IN BASEMENT TO RESTAURANT. SIX MEN ENGAGED IN PLAYING WERE ARRESTED, FORFEITS PUT UP.

Negro poker game was abruptly ended last night about midnight when City Policemen, led by Assistant Chief Scamom, raided the room in the basement of the negro restaurant run by Billie May on Washington Street.

It is said that at the time of the raid about 30 negroes were in the place but of this number only six were really taking part in the game. These six were placed under arrest, but kept from going to the city jail by placing forfeits of \$10, each in the hands of the officers.

The case came up in Police Court this morning. It was postponed because of the lack of witnesses and will be tried later although the time has not yet been set.

A pack of playing cards together with a large quantity of poker chips were confiscated by the raiding party and will be used as evidence against the men.

Complaints have been made several times recently about the basement of this building, being a disorderly place but last night was the first time that the officers were able to catch them unawares.

The gang of other negroes who were in the place when the officers arrived, did not waste any time in getting away, and most of their names were not learned.

SMALL FIRE AT HUTCHINSON. There was a small fire at the Hutchinson power plant of the Consolidation Coal Company this afternoon. The blaze was quickly extinguished, but not before one generator was badly damaged.

The remains of the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart W. Schooley, et 209 Polk Street, East side, whose death occurred yesterday, were interred in Maple Grove Cemetery this afternoon by Undertaker Jenkins.

INFANT DEAD. Matilda Frisembo, the infant daughter of Adolphus Frisembo, died last night and the remains were interred this afternoon in Maple Grove Cemetery by Undertaker Jenkins.

The young man was very popular with all the railroad men and large numbers of them will be present this evening at the funeral.

Passenger traffic was delayed to some extent on account of the wreck. Train No. 2 from Wheeling did not arrive in this city until after six o'clock this morning, making it about three hours late. Train No. 72 arriving at 10:30 was also a little late on account of the wreck.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Reports aer current in London that two German cruisers have been sunk in the North Sea.

CRUISERS ARE DRIVEN AWAY. LONDON, Dec. 16.—A statement given out by the official information bureau says that the German warships which have been bombarding the eastern coast of England have been driven off by the West Hartlepool fortress.

NINE PERSONS KILLED AT HARTLEPOOL. HULL, Eng., Dec. 16.—Nine persons are reported to have been killed at Hartlepool and a number injured in the bombardment of that port by German cruisers this morning.

WHITBY, Dec. 16.—The two German cruisers appeared to be about three miles off shore. In their bombardment several persons were injured and a number of buildings, including the historic abbey here, were damaged. One person is reported to have been killed. The cruisers, after the bombardment, disappeared in a northeasterly direction.

Whitby is in the north of Yorkshire on the coast and about half way between Scarborough and Hartlepool. It is a town of about 12,000 people and also is a seaside resort.

HULL, Dec. 16.—The bombardment of Hartlepool lasted for 25 minutes. The hostile vessels which took part in the operations are estimated from two to six, but never once were they clearly visible from shore. The forts on the river Tees replied to the fire of the German vessels. Pieces of shell have been found all over Hartlepool. The damage inflicted on the town is said to be considerable. One shell hit a gas tank and set it afire.

## S. E. MCFALL KILLED NEAR BARRACKVILLE

BALTIMORE AND OHIO FIREMAN KNOCKED FROM HIS ENGINE AND KILLED.

FUNERAL SERVICES TO BE HELD AT THE RESIDENCE OF HIS BROTHER TONIGHT.

THE REMAINS WILL BE TAKEN TO THOMAS, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR INTERMENT.

In a freight wreck which occurred at 2 o'clock this morning at Barrackville, Simon E. McFall, age 22, living at Bellevue and fireman on B. & O. engine No. 89, was instantly killed.

Engine No. 89 is known as a helper engine. This morning at the time of the wreck it was lying on a side track at Barrackville when it was sideswiped by a coal train coming from Underwood, running at a good rate of speed.

McFall, the fireman, was on the back part of the tender, placing up his signals, when the accident occurred. While it is not known just how he happened to be killed, it is thought that he was knocked by the jar between his own engine and the sideswiping cars. His body is terribly mutilated.

The unfortunate man is single and his home is in Thomas, Pa. He was boarding in Bellevue. He was called out last evening. He is a brother to Chas. A. McFall, who lives in Bellevue.

The body of the dead fireman was brought to this city and turned over to Undertaker Jenkins, who prepared it for interment. Funeral services will be held this evening at 7:30 at the home of his brother, Chas. H. McFall, in Bellevue, after which the body will be shipped to his home at Thomas, Pa., where interment will be made.

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## Commission Appointed

WILL ASSESS DAMAGES FOR RIGHT OF WAY TO FAIRMONT GAS COMPANY.

A petition of the Fairmont Gas Co. asking for the privilege of a right of way for their gas lines through the lands of Daniel Hibbs et al. in Paw Paw district has been favorably acted upon by Judge Haymond, of the Circuit Court, and a commission has been appointed which will award the defendants damages for the land taken by the company.

A commission composed of the following men was named: Festus Downs, Geo. A. Amos, Wesley Hawkins, J. Y. Hamilton and W. H. Neptune.

These gentlemen will go and view the lands to be taken, after which the evidence of witnesses as to its value will be heard.

The gas company is represented by its attorneys, Geo. M. Alexander and A. J. Colborn, while Attorney J. A. Meredith is looking after the interests of Mr. Hibbs and the other defendants.

Motion is Overruled. A motion to set aside the verdict in favor of the plaintiff in the civil case of Henry Starn vs. Hamilton-Huffman Construction Company has been overruled by Judge Haymond and the record is ordered entered on the records. The verdict was for \$342.00 for alleged damages to the plaintiff's land by the defendant company while grading on the Buckhannon and Northern railroad near Catawba.

## Ross Williams Charged With Robbing Mails

MAIL CARRIER OF HUNDRED, IS HELD FOR THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY.

Ross Williams, a Star mail route carrier of Hundred, W. Va., was brought before United States Commissioner J. W. Mason, Jr., this morning and bound over to answer an indictment by the federal grand jury on the charge of robbing the mails.

Williams' arrest came after an investigation made by inspectors C. W. Mench and Wrightson Chambers, who have been at Hundred for several days ferreting out the affair. The inspectors say that for some time the department has received complaints of robberies and they placed in the mail a letter which was to be delivered by Williams on his route. This letter contained a \$1 bill and a 50 cent piece which had been noted. Later it was found that the letter was not delivered and Williams was arrested and searched with the result that the money was found in his possession and also the letter which had been opened.

The prisoner was brought to this city last night and placed in the county jail and given a hearing before the Commissioner.

Deputy U. S. Marshal Moore took charge of Williams and left this afternoon for Parkersburg, where he will be confined until the grand jury meets in January.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS. City taxes are now due and payable at the office of the Treasurer. During December only no interest will be charged. After December 31, 1914, interest will be charged on all unpaid taxes.

Taxes will be collected as soon as possible by the Treasurer after January 1, 1915.

Why not call at the office now, save your interest and a visit from the Treasurer. J. R. MILLER, Treasurer.

NOTICE OWLS! There will be Election of Officers on Thursday, Dec. 17, 1914. All members are requested to be present.

W. H. RANDOLPH, Sec.

## Mercury Goes Down To 12 Below Zero

SEVERE WEATHER EXPERIENCED—NINE DEGREES COLDER THAN YESTERDAY.

LOWEST TEMPERATURE NEAR HEAR REPORTED FROM EDMONT.

Fairmont and vicinity is in the throes of the coldest wave which has visited this section in years. This is the hope which the government thermometer recorded and gave out to a West Virginian reporter this morning.

The mercury crept down gradually during last evening and night until it reached a point 12 degrees below zero, this being the minimum temperature recorded, while the highest temperature recorded, or the maximum, was 12 degrees above zero.

While the mercury registered some nine degrees colder last night and today than yesterday, yet the absence of the stiff wind, which prevailed yesterday, lessened the bite of the cold and many people find it hard to believe that this morning was so much colder than that of yesterday.

The Fairmont Gas Company reports a similar temperature recorded at the compression plant thermometer at Farmington, reports from which say the mercury registered 12 degrees below zero.

A thermometer on a centrally located residence placed in a sheltered portion of a veranda, this morning registered 7 degrees below and at the same hour yesterday registered zero.

According to local dopsters 12 degrees below zero is the coldest weather experienced here in years. The lowest recorded temperature of last year was 11 degrees below zero.

U. S. weather forecasters predict another 24 hours of such weather as we have at this time. While the weather is cold, nevertheless it is good, healthy weather, and a great improvement over the weather of last week. At Edgmont thermometers registered 18 degrees below zero.

Mrs. H. S. Falconer is out after a week's illness.

- READ THE WEST VIRGINIAN
- It is on sale each evening at the following places:
  - FAIRMONT.
  - Fairmont News Agency, Monroe street.
  - Marion News Agency, Main street.
  - A. G. Martin's News Agency, Main street.
  - J. H. McCloskey, Drug Store, Locust avenue.
  - Hamilton Drug Co., Tenth street.
  - Moran and Springer, Water street.
  - J. B. Rose, Main St. and Parks avenue.
  - Holt's Novelty Store, Main street.
  - Clarence Fisher, Grocer, Market and Columbia Sts., First ward.
  - Howard C. Cunningham, Grocer, Morgantown Ave., near Owens' Works.
  - MANNINGTON.
  - Smith and Millan News Agency.
  - FARMINGTON.
  - F. G. Gray, Grocer.

BIRTHDAY RINGS FOR ANY MONTH IN THE YEAR  
SOLID GOLD, \$3.50 to \$6.00 A. B. SCOTT & CO., Jewelers