

INTEREST CENTERS ON ITALY

Negotiations Reach Crisis With Austria—German Envoy Arrives at Rome—Vatican's Influence Exerted on Side of Peace.

Submarine Activities Continue, Three Ships Being Torpedoed Off Beachy Head—Attack on Dardanelles Makes Little Progress—First Reports Exaggerated—Quarter Million Turks Aid Forts in Defense of Capital and Thought That Land Forces Will Be Necessary to Capture Constantinople—Germans Deny Reports of Russian Invasion of Prussia—Allies Have Made Slight Gains in France.

BLOCKADE MUST BE REAL.

United States Will Dispute British Order in Council.

Washington, March 19.—The "blockade" of Germany by Great Britain and France must be real to give the allies the legal right to stop commerce to Germany in neutral ships and through neutral countries. This is understood today to be the position of the administration in regard to the British "order in council." It is expected that it will form the basis of new representations soon to be made to the British and French.

VATICAN WANTS PEACE.

Negotiations Between Austria and Italy Reach Final Stage.

Rome, March 19.—A special courier from Berlin arrived in great haste at the German embassy today. It is reported this afternoon that negotiations between Austria and Italy have entered the decisive stage. The Vatican is exerting every influence to preserve peace.

CROWN PRINCE WOUNDED.

Head to Throne of Bavaria Severely Injured by Shell.

London, March 19.—Crown Prince Rupprecht, of Bavaria, has been severely wounded by an exploding shell in the Champagne district. (News dispatch.)

French Battleship Sunk?

Constantinople, March 19.—Official.—The French battleship Bouvet has been sunk by the Dardanelles forts. The Turkish warships are taking offensive in the Black sea. They have bombarded and fired the shipyard and torpedo destroyer station of the west Russian ports at Theodosia. The Turks have captured Korna, at the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers from the British.

German Gunners Check Ships.

London, March 19.—The accurate fire of the German gunners who are working the great Krupp guns in the Turkish forts on the Dardanelles has caused a cessation of the concentrated bombardment of the Turkish works by the allies' warships, says an Athens dispatch. The report that the Bouvet has been sunk is discredited here. The naval experts now state that they believe the international fleet will be unable to force the Dardanelles without the cooperation of land forces. A quarter of a million Turks are concentrated along the Dardanelles and shores of the Marmora sea, and they are greatly strengthening their fortifications. It now appears that earlier reports of the allies' successes along the Dardanelles were somewhat exaggerated. The Straits have been cleared only as far as Kephezburno, twelve miles from the entrance.

Russians Nearing Memel.

Petrograd, March 19.—The Russian troops in East Prussia are advancing rapidly toward the Baltic. The inhabitants of Memel at the approach of the Russians are fleeing to Koenigsburg. The Russians expect to capture Memel shortly. South of the Vistula river thaws are causing a lull in the fighting except by the artillery. Scores of soldiers were caught in dugouts and drowned.

Three Ships Sunk in Same Place.

London, March 19.—The British steamship Blue Jacket was torpedoed by a submarine off Beachy Head today. This makes the third torpedoed here within twenty-four hours.

German Communications Cut.

Paris, March 19 (Official).—The German line of communication has been destroyed northwest of Arras. The French have made important gains near Eparges. Two more

DELAY IN CONSULAR CASE.

ARRAIGNMENT OF MUELLER AND SCHULTZ DEFERRED.

Official Confers With United States Attorney in Regard to Alleged Violation of Treaty Rights.

Seattle, Wash., March 19.—The arraignment of Wilhelm Mueller, German consul at this port, and his secretary, Max Schultz, on charges of violating a state conspiracy law, set for today, was postponed to Tuesday at the request of Mueller's counsel.

Mueller conferred with United States District Attorney Allen today and is said to have presented his case in full. Alfred H. Lundin, the prosecutor, who laid the information against the consul and his secretary, charging them with inducing John Murdock, a shipping clerk employed by the Seattle Construction and Dry Dock company, to reveal his employer's secrets, said he was content to stand on the record of his office in the case, despite the protest of the German ambassador at Washington the treaty rights should not be violated.

The construction company said today that the only parts of submarine shipped by it to Canada were those built here for Chile and sold by the government to British Columbia before war was declared. It has been alleged that the secrets which Mueller and Schultz were trying to obtain were intended to show that knock-down submarines were being built in Seattle and shipped to British Columbia for the use of the British government.

the inflexible Thursday. More ships are being rushed to the Dardanelles. When the reinforcements arrive the allies will have over one hundred ships in the great armada. The casualties on the French and British vessels during the past three days are believed to have been over a thousand and killed and wounded. The night sweeping operations continue under heavy fire.

TURKS CELEBRATE VICTORY.

Inflict Loss of More Than Seven Hundred on Allies.

Constantinople, March 20.—Over seven hundred and fifty allies perished as the result of the unsuccessful attack of the fleet upon the Dardanelles Thursday. Aboard the Bouvet out of a crew of six hundred only three escaped. Many were lost when the Irresistible was sunk. The Turks are celebrating the victory today. Fifty-two were killed aboard the inflexible Thursday.

ITALY GAINS TERRITORY.

Reported That Austria Has Agreed to Italy's Demands.

Rome, March 20.—It is currently reported in diplomatic circles today that Austria has agreed to cede the districts of Trent and Friuli to Italy and that preliminary drafts of a treaty have been signed. The Italian public is clamoring for Trieste also.

Belgians Drive Germans.

Paris, March 20.—Five hundred and fifty-seven of the crew perished and sixty-four were rescued when the French battleship Bouvet sank in the Dardanelles.

Withdrawal of the Germans from the Yser region to reinforce their army near Neuve Chapelle enabled the Belgians to make important progress, establishing new positions. They shelled the German batteries at West Ende and Dixmude violently. The German batteries have been silenced. German counter attacks were repulsed.

Russians Cross Niemen.

Petrograd, March 20.—The Russians have again crossed the Niemen river, East Prussia, and are making a drive toward the German fortress of Koenigsburg. Large forces of Russian cavalry are within fifty miles of Koenigsburg. The situation on other fronts is unchanged.

American Ship Captured.

New York, March 20.—The report of the capture by a British warship of the American steamer Lorenzo was confirmed today. The Lorenzo was carrying coal and supplies to the German cruiser Karlsruhe east of the West Indies. An arrival from St. Thomas today declares that the Karlsruhe was blown up by her own crew after going on a reef of St. Charles, West Indies. The crew was transferred to another German ship.

Submarine Campaign Successful.

London, March 20.—It was officially admitted today that the German

AMERICAN HALTS STEAMSHIP.

SHOT ACROSS BOW OF GERMAN VESSEL MAKES HER TURN BACK AT SAN JUAN.

Permission to Sail Refused the Odenwald Pending Instructions From Washington—No Clearance Papers Given.

San Juan, P. R., March 21.—The German merchant steamer Odenwald, which attempted to leave port late today without obtaining clearance papers, was stopped as she was passing out the entrance to the harbor by two shots fired across her bow from a 5-inch gun, and direct shots from a Maxim. She then returned and was taken in charge by the collector of customs.

Permission to sail was refused the Odenwald by the collector pending instructions from Washington. The steamer has been at San Juan since August 6. Three days ago she began coaling and taking on provisions. Failing to obtain clearance papers, her commander apparently decided to risk the attempt to put to sea. A heavy gun on Morro Castle sent two shots across her bows, but it was not until the machine gun opened a direct fire that the steamer headed back to port.

CONVICTED IN STEGLER CASE.

Madden and Cook Found Guilty of Conspiracy.

New York, March 18.—Richard Madden and Gustave Cook of Hoboken were found guilty today of conspiracy against the United States in aiding Richard P. Stegler, a German naval reservist, to procure a false American passport. The jurors who were selected because of their neutral opinions on the European war made "a strong" recommendation for mercy.

The men will be sentenced tomorrow and immediately afterward Stegler, who became a State's witness, will be called for trial. His counsel announced Stegler would plead guilty and throw himself upon the court's mercy. It is expected that in asking a light sentence for Stegler, his counsel will refer to international aspects of the case not brought out in the trial but given publicity at the time Stegler was arrested.

The penalty for the offense is a maximum of two years in prison, a \$10,000 fine or both. Cook was accused of introducing Stegler to Madden, and Madden of furnishing Stegler with his birth certificate to enable him to procure the passport in Madden's name.

LYNCHBURG GIRLS WIN.

Timmonsville is Defeated in Fast Game of Basketball.

Lynchburg, March 19.—The Timmonsville high school basketball team came to Lynchburg on last Saturday afternoon for a game with the Lynchburg high school girls and, notwithstanding the Lynchburg team failed to play their usual good ball during the first half and were four points behind in starting the second half, they made a superb finish, defeating the Timmonsville team by the score of 15 to 13. Mr. Norris of Timmonsville acted as referee, with Miss Elizabeth McNeill of Lynchburg as umpire.

GARRISON WONT TALK.

Secretary of War Declines to Discuss San Juan Incident.

Washington, March 22.—An official dispatch from San Juan, Porto Rico, states that the German steamer Odenwald was stopped by a warning shot across the bow when she attempted to leave port without proper clearance papers. Secretary of War Garrison declined to comment on the incident.

submarine campaign has been more successful than expected. During the week ended Wednesday, eight British vessels were sunk by submarines. Thirty-two English vessels have been sunk or badly damaged since February 18th.

Aeroplane Drops Bombs.

Deal Eng., March 20.—A German aeroplane dropped bombs near the coast today. No damage was done.

Russians Take Baltic Port.

Berlin, March 20.—(Official)—The Russians have occupied Memel, a German seaport on the Baltic. The Germans have advanced in Flanders and taken some French trenches in the Champagne district. French attacks in Alsace were repulsed.

RUSSIANS TAKE PRZEMYSL

After Five Months' Siege Important Galician Fortification Falls to Enemies With 50,000 Austrian Prisoners, Opening Way to Cracow and Berlin.

Memel Recaptured by Germans is Another Important News Item From Scene of War—Recapture of Memel Safeguards Baltic to Germans and Fall of Przemysl Releases 150,000 Russian Troops to Press on Into Austria—At Dardanelles Ships Have Been Forced to Discontinue Bombardment Because of Storm—French Battleship Sunk—Dutch Protest on Capture of Their Vessels by Germans—Germans Repulse Opponents in East and West.

PROTEST TO ENGLAND.

United States Will Make Representations Concerning Order in Council.

Washington, March 22.—It was learned officially today that the United States will make representations to Great Britain on the "order in council" shutting off all trade between Germany and the outside world.

UNITED STATES OFFICER DROWNED.

Lieut. Commander Bricker Lost Life in Bosphorus.

Constantinople, March 22.—While rowing to the United States converted yacht Scorpion in the Bosphorus Lieut. Commander William Bricker, of the United States navy and three American sailors named Ford, Dowell, and Levering, were drowned Saturday night. Their boat was swamped by heavy seas. Bricker arrived at Constantinople six days ago to take charge of the Scorpion.

AMERICAN SHIP SEIZED.

Steamer Maracais in Custody of British Prize Court.

London, March 22.—Despite the protest of the United States government the American steamer Maracais has been placed in the custody of a British prize court. It is claimed that the ultimate destination of the cargo of the ship was Germany.

HOLLAND EXCITED TODAY.

Capture of Dutch Ships by German Submarine Anger Dutch.

The Hague, March 22.—Dispatches from Rotterdam and Ymuiden report the seizure of the Dutch ships Batavia and Zaanstroom by a German submarine and attack upon the Dutch steamer Zeevenbergen in North sea by a German aeroplane. It is understood a strong protest has been transmitted to Berlin. The capital is greatly excited.

PRZEMYSL FALLS AT LAST.

Russians Take Strongest Austrian Fortress After Five Months' Siege.

Petrograd, March 22 (Official).—Przemysl, the strongest Austrian fortress in Galicia has fallen after five months' siege. Another great battle has opened in Poland, the front extending from Myszeniec to Kasidlo. The Germans have reached Kasidlo which is only ten miles from the fortress of Ostroleka, but Russians halted enemy there, inflicting heavy losses. The Turks have been defeated in Alusgard valley, the Russians captured two important posts.

The garrison of Przemysl which surrendered, numbered about fifty thousand. This releases one hundred and fifty thousand Russians, which will now press on toward Krakow "to open the way to Berlin."

Another French Ship Sunk.

Constantinople, March 22 (Official).—The French battleship Gaulois sank off the island of Tenedos, as the result of damage received Thursday while bombarding the Dardanelles forts.

Big Zeppelin Wrecked.

Maestricht, March 22.—A new Zeppelin was wrecked at Liege Saturday.

Austria-Italian Trade Suspended.

Paris, March 21.—A news dispatch from Milan states that commerce between Italy and Dalmatia has been suspended. The commander of the Italian fleet has announced that he will seize ships of any nationality in the Adriatic conveying goods to Austria.

Memel Russian Naval Base.

Petrograd, March 22.—The capture-

ed German base from which sea attacks were launched against German cities as soon as navigation opened. Memel is only one hundred miles from Danzig. Germany's strongest naval base on the Baltic.

Storm in Dardanelles. Tenedos, March 22.—The operations in the Dardanelles have been rendered impossible since Sunday by severe storms.

Germans Retake Memel. Berlin, March 22.—The Russians have been driven from Memel.

French Gain Minor Success. Paris, March 22.—(Official).—The French have recaptured several trenches in the region of Arras. Fighting has been resumed in the region of Alboit. The Germans are again bombarding Rheims. The Germans have been repulsed in the Argennes, losing heavily.

Germans Recapture Memel. Berlin, March 22 (Official).—The German seaport of Memel, which was occupied by Russians on Thursday was recaptured Sunday by the Germans, after a terrific hand to hand fight in the streets. The Russian attacks north of Mariampol were repulsed, the enemy suffering severely. West of the Orzyo river, near Jednorozek, northeast of Przasnysz and northwest of Cichanow the Russian attacks were repulsed. Over four hundred Russians were captured. A French attempt to take the German position south of Lorette heights has failed. French attacks north of Lesmesnil and Reichacker Kopf in Alsace were unsuccessful.

ANOTHER DUTCH VESSEL SEIZED.

The Batavier V, Loaded With Eggs, Taken Into Port of Zeebrugge.

Amsterdam, March 21 (Via London).—Another Dutch steamer, the Batavier V, has been seized by the Germans and taken into Zeebrugge, according to the Telegraaf. The ship left Rotterdam Thursday for London, with a meat cargo.

The Rotterdam Maasbode says it has learned that the crews of the Batavier V and the Zaanstroom (a Dutch steamer seized by the Germans Saturday) together with the women and children, who were on the two vessels, were released on their arrival at Zeebrugge, but that the officers and 16 Belgian passengers have been arrested.

The Batavier V is a steamer of only 950 tons, owned by a Rotterdam firm. The Zaanstroom, which was loaded with eggs, is classed as a trawler.

Dutch Indignant. London, March 21.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph declares that great indignation is being expressed in Dutch shipping circles because of the German seizure of the Batavier V and the Zaanstroom. The press calls on the government to protest to Berlin.

JUDGE ROAN DYING.

Man Who Tried Leo M. Frank Has Cancer.

Atlanta, March 22.—Judge Roan, who presided at the Frank trial, is dying of cancer in the Polyclinic Hospital, New York.

Heavy Snow in Tennessee.

Chattanooga, March 22.—One of the heaviest snows of the winter fell here this morning. The thermometer is 29 degrees above zero.