

DECLARES NAVY'S MEANS FOR LAYING MINES INADEQUATE

Rear Admiral Fiske, of General Board, Tells House Committee Only One Ship Is Equipped.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The United States navy has but one ship equipped to lay submarine mines, according to a statement made today before the House Naval Committee by Rear Admiral Fiske, a member of the General Board of the Navy. Admiral Fiske said this nation should have more mine-laying ships than Germany, on account of the longer coast line of the United States. Germany has five mine layers. Representative Butler, of Pennsylvania, strenuously objected to this portion of Admiral Fiske's testimony. He said the Admiral should not be asked to discuss such weaknesses in public. "I am an unfriendly nation," said Butler, "that is exactly the kind of information I would want. We tell the world we have but one ship to lay mines."

GERMAN WARSHIPS OUTSPEED BRITISH

Continued from Page One. Admiral Fiske said this nation should have more mine-laying ships than Germany, on account of the longer coast line of the United States. Germany has five mine layers. Representative Butler, of Pennsylvania, strenuously objected to this portion of Admiral Fiske's testimony. He said the Admiral should not be asked to discuss such weaknesses in public. "I am an unfriendly nation," said Butler, "that is exactly the kind of information I would want. We tell the world we have but one ship to lay mines."

150 BUILDINGS WRECKED IN RAID ON SCARBOROUGH

SCARBOROUGH, England, Dec. 17.—One hundred and fifty buildings in Scarborough are destroyed or damaged as a result of the bombardment by German warships and the casualties amount to 51 killed and 200 wounded, according to a careful overnight canvass made by the authorities. Scarborough now knows what the horrors of war really are. Streets that 48 hours ago were disturbed only by the peaceful traffic and routine of everyday affairs, are now silent and deserted, or are overrun with the rubble of buildings, churches, dwellings and manufacturing plants are ripped with jagged holes and are blackened with fire. Along the thoroughfares one sees houses after houses with the windows shattered, the glass having been broken by fragments of shells or by the concussion from the bombardment.

POSTBAG FROM BATTLE FRONT

First-hand Accounts of Land and Sea Conflicts Told by the Fighting Soldiers and Sailors Themselves. [The real war correspondents of the present European struggle are the men in the trenches and the men on the quiver deck. Professional writers are not permitted at the front. All they know is what they can glean from the wounded occupants of ambulances taken to the rear. The Evening Ledger will print from time to time the only intimate side of the war—the reflections of soldiers and sailors in their letters home. German letters, when obtainable, as well as those of the Allies, will be printed.]

BRITISH RECRUITS RUSH TO ARMY AFTER RAIDS

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Lord Kitchener's army will be increased by thousands of men as a result of the bombardment of the three coast towns yesterday. This was evident today, when every recruiting station reported the enlistment of more volunteers than any time during the last three months. The rush of recruits to Scotland Yard resulted in scenes rivaling those presented in the early days of the war. Men from factories, shops, professional men and, in fact, men from every walk of life were offering their services, all thoroughly aroused by the attack upon the fortified cities.

ENTIRE BRITISH CABINET MEETS TO DISCUSS RAID

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The British Cabinet today met in full session to discuss the raid of German warships upon the English coast yesterday. Premier Asquith, Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty and Secretary for War Lord Kitchener were among the first members of the Cabinet to appear for the meeting. All other Ministers were present during the session.

with them, but to stand for days (to be exact, 35 days) at a stretch in water not only up to your ankles, but often above your knees, takes a lot of stuffing out of you. We dropped on a terrible pitch a month ago. No matter whether it was the wet water kept trickling into the trenches, which reminded me of the Bourne or Woot waters, which periodically rise under the Surrey Hills and flood the district. As fast as we tried to drain our trenches, so they filled up again with the water and oozed through the hillside. Life in these trenches has been damnable; but it is marvelous what one can get used to when pushed. To grumble was no good; it did not mend matters. Officers were fired the same as ourselves, and as they took it as part of the game, we did likewise. One officer—a buck-you-up sort of a gent—has rechristened the battalion. He has named us "the amphibious brigades," and says when he gets home he will back his men against any battalion in the British army, or any other army, for feats of endurance under any conditions any one likes to name. We have the knowledge that we have repulsed scores and scores of attacks made by some of the finest troops of the Kaiser. We have upheld the honor and the good name of the Coldstream, but you take it from me our officers, many of whom, I am sorry to say have gone under, have simply performed wonders, and there is not a man in the wide Brigade of Guards but what would readily admit that all the hardships the men have endured have been shared by the officers.

Silver Plated Toilet Sets Brush, Comb and Mirror Sets of the best quality in a variety of patterns at \$5.00 to \$8.00. Large combination sets, \$10.50 to \$18.50. A useful and inexpensive gift for a lady. C. R. SMITH & SON Market Street at 18th, Philadelphia

WOMEN AND CHILDREN VICTIMS OF GERMAN FIRE

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The total of deaths in Hartlepool and West Hartlepool from the shelling by the Germans yesterday was 51 killed and 115 wounded. Most of the victims were women and children who crowded into the streets or rushed to the railway station. Among the killed were 15 schoolboys.

GERMAN RAID STARTS NEW SPY SEARCH IN ENGLAND

SCARBOROUGH, Eng., Dec. 17.—A vigorous search is being made in Scarborough today for spies. Reports of mysterious flashlight signaling seen Tuesday night before the bombardment by the German warships have reached the authorities. It is believed the German cruisers may have been aided in directing their fire on the town by spies who signaled the position of the railroad station and other buildings on which the shell fire centered.

SAVINGS BANK CELEBRATES

Institution at 520-S E. Ninth Street in Thirty-Five Years Old. Established in 1879, the Star Savings Bank, 520-S E. Ninth Street, a mutual savings bank, is celebrating its 35th anniversary today. Each depositor today was presented with a souvenir in recognition. The bank is decorated with Christmas greens. The last report submitted to the Commission of Banking shows that the deposits of the institution were \$82,927.79 and there were upward of 2,000 depositors, whose accounts ranged from 1 cent up to \$500.

BRITISH LOSSES IN AFRICA

Casualties of 489 Reported, 337 Being in Fighting Against Boers. JOHANNESBURG, S. A., Dec. 17.—The total casualties of the Union defense forces in the course of the fighting at the Boer and 25 in the fighting against the Boers in Damaraland, German Southwest Africa, and twenty-nine of the Boer defense troops were killed and 337 in Damaraland 25 of the Boer defense troops were killed or wounded.

BLANKS

FRUIT CAKE POUND CAKE PUMPKIN PIE PLUM PUDDING MINCE PIE FANCY CAKES HAMPERS and BASKETS of FANCY FRUITS. Please order early to insure prompt delivery. 1024-26 Chestnut St.

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HEPPE There should be A Pianola in your home this Christmas PADEREWSKI, the world-famous pianist, says—"the Pianola should be in every home"—in your home. The Pianola is the master player-piano. It is the only player-piano used and recommended by such pianists as Paderewski. It is the only player-piano used in the great courts of Europe. It is the only player-piano unanimously selected by every great American. Its patrons include the greatest men of today. Player-Pianos, so-called, are not Pianolas. There is but one Pianola, made exclusively by the Aeolian Company. The Pianola is obtainable only in certain pianos such as the Steinway, Weber, Wheelock and Stroud—all on sale at Heppes. The most popular of these models is The Stroud Pianola, \$550. Settlement by Cash, or Charge Account, or our Rental Payment Plan. All Rent applies to Purchase. The Stroud Pianola has every patented Pianola feature used in our famous Steinway and Weber Pianolas. It is made by the same people, designed by the same builders, and manufactured in the same factories, and, furthermore, it carries the same guarantee. But we go still further—we guarantee the Stroud Pianola to be the best \$550 value in Philadelphia. We will refund every dollar you pay us within 30 days after purchase if you can find a better value. No other store dare make such an offer. The price of the Stroud is extremely reasonable and the terms doubly so. If you desire, through our rental-payment plan, you may pay monthly, or weekly, on terms as low as \$3 per week. You can also apply your regular piano as part payment. We will gladly estimate on its exchange value. If you do not have time to call today or tomorrow, just phone or write us. We will gladly mail you illustrated catalogs of our complete line. The Aeolian Family is on sale at Heppes, and includes The Steinway Pianola, \$1250 The Weber Pianola, \$1000 The Wheelock Pianola, \$750 The Stroud Pianola, \$550 Francesca-Heppes Player-Pianos, \$450 Aeolian Player-Pianos, \$395 C. J. HEPPE & SON 1117-1119 Chestnut Street Sixth and Thompson Streets

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