



FOUR CITIES ON ENGLISH COAST ARE ATTACKED BY GERMAN FLEET

Kaiser's Warships Make Sudden Dash Into the North Sea and Bombard Scarborough, Hartlepool, Whitby and Redcar—Great Damage to Property Reported At First Named City While At Hartlepool Nine Persons Are Said to Have Been Killed and Many Injured—Reports Current in London That Two German Cruisers Were Sunk—Attack on Cities Made Under Cover of Heavy Fog

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 16, 11.52 A. M.—A German fleet made a sudden dash into the North Sea to-day, shelled Scarborough, Hartlepool, Whitby and Redcar, English coast towns on the North Sea, and engaged certain units of the British fleet.

London, Dec. 16, 12.35 P. M.—Reports are current in London that two German cruisers have been sunk in the North Sea.

Hull, Dec. 16, via London, 3.12 P. M.—The arrival of the German raiders off Scarborough took place under cover of a thick veil of fog. Some people declared they saw a German cruiser lying off Castle Cliff.

The roof of St. Martin's church was struck and one woman is known to have been killed. Another church was damaged, and the roofs of several houses were carried away by shells.

The people were greatly excited. They rushed from their houses at the first sound of firing, and women and children were seen running through the streets in their night clothes.

London, Dec. 16, 3.12 P. M.—The Yorkshire "Evening News" reports that two German cruisers were sunk in today's engagement and that the British flotilla was damaged.

Hull, Eng., Dec. 16, via London.—Fugitives reaching here from Scarborough say the German bombardment of that port was heavy and that great damage was done to property at Scarborough.

BOMBARDED HARTLEPOOL 25 MINUTES

Hull, Dec. 16, via London, 5.10 P. M.—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. The bombardment of Hartlepool lasted for 25 minutes.

The hostile warships which took part in the operation are estimated from two to six, but never once were they clearly visible from the 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 of the shells hit a gas tank and set it a fire.

Hartlepool, Dec. 16, via London, 2.45 P. M.—Many business premises and private homes were wrecked here by the German shells.

Whitby, York, England, Dec. 16, via London, 1.48 P. M.—Two German cruisers bombarded this town between 9 and 10 o'clock this morning.

Whitby is in the north riding 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. It has a group of hotels along the cliffs and the town itself is situated on both banks of the Esk.

ATTACKING TEES BAY FORTS?

Redcar, York, England, Dec. 16, via London, 1.27 P. M.—Heavy firing was heard off the coast here between 8 and 8.20 a. m. to-day. The forms of three cruisers could be discerned 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

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LATE WAR NEWS SUMMARY

The eastern coast of England was raided to-day by German warships which dropped shells in several towns along a forty-mile strip of coast. Considerable damage was done in Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool and it is reported that several persons were killed or wounded.

The German raid apparently was performed by a few fast cruisers and so far as is known the main British and German fleets were not engaged. London has a report that two German warships were sunk. The British Admiralty stated that naval encounters were in progress but details as to the size of the engagement and the outcome were lacking.

Official announcements from the British official information bureau came through with unusual celerity. Some of these dispatches were passed by the censor and transmitted to New York in about an hour, as compared with delays of two to four hours, which are not unusual in the forwarding of news from London.

Although the raid on England over-

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AN EYEWITNESS DESCRIBES SHELLING OF SCARBOROUGH

Hull, Dec. 16, via London, 1.40 P. M.—James Harvey Scott, of Scarborough, who arrived here after the bombardment of the seaside resort by the Germans, said:

"I could not believe it was a real attack; I thought the battleships were practicing. Then I saw a shell fall on the roof of a house which caught fire and there was a cloud of smoke. I also noticed that the Balmford Hotel, right in the center of the town, was struck. As I walked to the station I saw shells bursting overhead and at the station shells fell into the yard. A porter then picked up a fragment.

"A man accompanied by his wife and children, came running into the station, saying that the roof of their house had been damaged by shells." Another eyewitness from Scarborough said that a large amount of debris was scattered about the square near the railway station by the shell fire. Roofs of houses were torn away, windows were broken and holes were bored entirely through some houses. The huge chimney at the brick works was knocked down.

It is reported here that word had been received that an attack by the Germans was anticipated and that consequently the authorities were in readiness to meet it. The coast defenses had been thoroughly prepared and all the units of infantry and artillery were at their stations and in the trenches.

Up to 3 o'clock this afternoon no reliable estimates of the casualties were available.

GERMAN WARSHIPS DRIVEN OFF BY HARTLEPOOL FORT

London, Dec. 16, 11.20 A. M.—The official bureau announces that German movements of importance are taking place in the North Sea and that the Germans are shelling Scarborough and Hartlepool.

The official announcement regarding this important development follows: "German movements of some importance are taking place this morning in the North Sea. Scarborough and Hartlepool have been shelled and our flotillas have at various points been engaged. The situation is developing."

London, Dec. 16, 1.46 P. M.—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.

ENTIRE ROWS OF HOUSES AT HARTLEPOOL DESTROYED

London, Dec. 16, 2.30 P. M.—The New Castle "Evening Chronicle" places the number of German cruisers which bombarded Hartlepool at three. It says that these cruisers were attacked almost immediately by four British destroyers.

Several entire rows of houses at Hartlepool were destroyed and the gas works were seriously damaged, this newspaper says. It is believed several persons were killed or wounded.

KAISER'S CONDITION SAID TO BE CAUSING GREAT ANXIETY

Paris, Dec. 16, 4.15 A. M.—A Madrid dispatch published in the "Journal" says:

"Reliable news received here says that Emperor William's condition, although recorded by the bulletins as improved, is giving great anxiety. His doctors speak of a serious sore throat, following diphtheria, which the Emperor contracted during a visit to the eastern front."

Tribes Declare War on Serbia

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 16, 2.50 P. M.—A telegram from Constantinople to the "Telegraaf" says that the tribes in northern Albania have declared war on Serbia.

NO RELIEF FROM COLD EXPECTED

River Is Icebound and Skaters Begin Winter Season at Wildwood Park

SEVEN DEGREES THIS MORNING

Zero Temperature Did Not Materialize But Mercury Will Stay Around Ten For Remainder of Week—Yesterday Was 23 Degrees Below Normal

There will be no decrease in the strength of the cold wave during the remainder of the week and below normal temperatures will continue, according to officials in charge of the local office of the weather bureau.

While the minimum mark of last night did not reach the expected zero mark, the river became icebound during the night and skating was made possible on the lake in Wildwood park. The ice is nothing to brag about at present, but the continuation of the cold snap will make it ideal.

Four times since 1870 the Susquehanna river at this point became icebound earlier than this year, but no comparison can be made because the municipal dam nearing completion and the coffer dams around the piers at the Cumberland Valley bridge all served to keep the floating ice intact. There were two small channels open yesterday at nightfall but they were closed this morning.

Not As Cold as Yesterday The mercury touched a minimum of 7 degrees here this morning, three above the record-breaking temperature of yesterday. Two high pressure areas

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WANTS COMMISSION FIRED

Lawyer for Dissatisfied Commuters Asks Toner to Remove the \$10,000 Members of Public Service Board

Edwin M. Abbott, an attorney, of Philadelphia, representing business men of that city and the Commuters' Association, who are not satisfied with the recent ruling of the Public Service Commissioners in the matter of the increased passenger rates put into effect yesterday by the Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia & Reading and the Baltimore & Ohio railroads in this State, called on Governor Toner this afternoon and, according to Mr. Abbott's statement made afterward, asked the Governor to fire all the Commissioners from their \$10,000 jobs and appoint an entirely new board.

Mr. Abbott first called on the Public Service Commissioners to ask when he

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DIPHTHERIA CLOSES SCHOOL

Pleasant View Grammar Building Closed Yesterday by Order of the State Health Department

The State Health Department yesterday closed the Pleasant View grammar school building due to an epidemic of diphtheria. Since the opening of the building in September nearly fifty cases of the disease have been reported in the schools and a number of deaths have occurred.

In order to check its progress it was decided to close the building until after the Christmas holidays. This gives over three hundred children about two weeks more vacation than they would otherwise have gotten. It is hoped that by January 4, when the school will again open, that the disease will have disappeared.

\$27,000 FOR TEACHERS

Christmas Pay Saturday After Lots of Trouble

The public school teachers in the Harrisburg district will receive their Christmas pay Saturday. The total money to be distributed will be something over \$27,000.

There were all kinds of complications that may have caused some inconvenience in getting out the warrants. First it was the fear that the board could not organize in time to have the president sign the warrants and then the printer did not get the new check book out in time. Secretary D. D. Hammelbaugh solved this latter problem by making the printer send down some sheets not yet bound in the new book.

565 POUNDS IS JOINT WEIGHT OF THIS PAIR

The "Two Johns" of the Western Union Telegraph Office Have Been Crack "Wire Ticklers" Since Boyhood



"THE TWO JOHNS"

Here are the "Two Johns" of the Western Union Telegraph office in Harrisburg—two of the most widely known telegraph operators in the State, one of them a "wire-tickler" for almost fifty years, the other since his thirteenth year.

"To the right," as the man on the rubberneck wagon says, is William H. Boggs, night wire chief of the Western Union, a gentleman who displaces the weight at 250 pounds. Mr. Boggs

is a native of Franklin county. He came to Harrisburg from Fayetteville in 1869 to visit his uncle, John Hutchinson, who was superintendent of the restaurant in the Pennsylvania railroad station, and in a short time he was up stairs among the telegraph operators. It wasn't long before he was handling a key with the others. Then he got a place in the Western Union and he has been there ever since, and now, when sixty years have frosted his head, he is still as useful as ever. Outside of a short time spent in Chambersburg, where he handled a wire in a broker's office as a diversion, Mr. Boggs has been stationed in Harrisburg all that time. He began to take on weight at an early age, and he is still accumulating avoirdupois in order to catch up with his side partner.

"To the left" is Harry W. Ritter, only 38, and he looks to be 30, but he certainly has "weight for age," as they say on the turf. Mr. Ritter tips the beam to 315 pounds, and is as active as a young fellow of 21. He began to look into the mysteries of telegraphing when he was thirteen years old, and was a messenger boy at the Western Union at that age. He committed the Morse code to memory in one night and then set about putting it into practice, the result being that in a short time he could receive and send with the best of them, and he is still at the business. He was with the Norfolk & Western railroad for a while, but finally went back to his first love and William Boggs, and is now the reliable night man.

The two operators strolled into a night photographer's one time and that's the reason for the picture that accompanies this story.

GOUGH SAVES THE COUNTY HIS PAY

Strikes Bargain Whereby He Redeems \$20,000 Par Value Bonds for \$18,000

TRANSACTION CLOSED TO-DAY

Including Interest for the Next 16 Years This is a Gain of \$7,120 for Taxpayers—He Has Saved \$2,517 in This Year Alone

Through the redemption of two hundred Dauphin county \$100 serial thirty year improvement bonds, due in 1931, at \$90 each or \$10 below par, County Controller Henry W. Gough and the Board of County Commissioners have effected a saving for Dauphin county estimated at something like \$7,120.

Controller Gough conducted the transaction and to-day asked the Commissioners to draw a warrant in the sum of \$18,000 to cover the redemption of the bonds.

The deal was made with Wagner & Fitzharris, Philadelphia brokers, and was closed on Monday, the bonds arriving here this morning. A voucher was drawn and the bonds taken up. The bonds originally were offered a week ago to the county at \$94, just \$6 below par. Mr. Gough refused to consider the offer, urging the company to make a more attractive price, and under a second proposal the brokers agreed to turn over the bonds at 92 1/2. That also was rejected by Mr. Gough and the price was dropped half a point, to 92.

That too was rejected and a fourth offer was made, this time the \$90 figure being set up by the brokers and Mr. Gough closed the deal. Interest on the bonds from July 1 to the present day, December 15, exactly five and

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PAPERS SERVED ON DR. STOUGH

Evangelist Subpoenaed to Appear for Trial Next Monday

Papers were to-day served on the Rev. Dr. Henry W. Stough, evangelist, requiring him to appear next Monday at Wilkes-Barre to answer to four separate charges of libel, preferred against him by business men whom he attacked in an evangelistic campaign in Luzerne county.

The subpoena was served by Sheriff Campbell, of Wilkes-Barre.

CASH AWARDED IN BARGAIN CONTEST

More Letters Entered for Competition This Week Than Any Previous Time

PRIZES AGAIN OFFERED TO-DAY

There Is Chance to Get Christmas Money in Pleasant Way By Submitting Choice of Best Offers on Bargain Page of Star-Independent

Last Wednesday's bargain page in the Star-Independent called forth more letters than in any previous week's contest, and for the most part they were very good ones. The writers selected the offers they considered the best bargains, and presented good reasons for doing so.

A number of boys and girls were among the letter writers, as indicated by the handwriting, and they showed themselves to be good judges of best bargains. They did very well for a start, and should keep at it from Wednesday to Wednesday until they are among the prize-winners.

Chance to Get Christmas Money Another page of bargains appears to-day in this paper, offering readers their last opportunity to get Christmas money in an easy and pleasant way. The usual cash prizes will be awarded next Wednesday for the best letters received by the Bargain Editor on what the writers consider the best offers on the page.

The prize-winners this week, unlike preceding weeks, all happen to be of the fair sex. They are: First prize of \$3, Minerva Greager, 402 North Third street; second prize of \$2, Lillian Miller, 701 Garfield street, and third prize of \$1, Mrs. S. M. Taylor, 903 North Second street.

The winning letters follow:

First Prize Winner

Bargain Editor. Dear Sir—The "best bargain" to the greatest number of readers, is the Arcade Laundry advertisement; because it insures satisfaction and a just equivalent for value received. And six other valuable reasons added. Saves

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Mummers Meet To-night

The Harrisburg Mummers' Association will meet this evening at police headquarters. Important business will be transacted and a large attendance is expected.

14 TO 25 CRITICAL AGE, SAYS STOUGH

Declares Protestants Should, Like Catholics, Take Children Early Into the Church

NURSERY CLOSED BECAUSE OF COLD

Evangelist and Party Are Vaccinated to Ward Off Smallpox—Belief Is Expressed That Tabernacle Will Be Properly Warned To-night

The closing week of the Stough campaign started at the tabernacle last night with one of the smallest audiences at any of the evening meetings. The big building was cold and the nursery was not opened because it could not be properly heated. Dr. Stough, who had just been vaccinated so as to take the greatest precaution against smallpox, to which he had been indirectly exposed, was nevertheless cheerful and displayed his optimism by declaring that he was glad he had the privilege of talking to people so courageous as to venture out on such a night. He said that he believed the tabernacle would be properly heated this evening. Announcement will be made when the nursery is to be reopened.

Delegations of city firemen attended the meeting and a speaking trumpet, which has not yet reached the city, was awarded by Colonel Demming, president of the Firemen's Union, to the Royal Fire Company for the largest attendance. Dr. Stough preached a brief sermon, emphasizing the importance of training children in the church.

Believes in Child Conversion "Some persons do not believe a child can be a Christian," he said. "I believe in child conversion. When a child is old enough to love its father and mother, it is old enough to love

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BELLEVUE TO HAVE COPPER

Police Telegraph and Fire Alarm Boxes Are Placed in Residential Section

The person whose avocation has been frightening couples in Bellevue Park and contiguous territory during the past two summer seasons will have to look to his safety next year for a police telegraph station has been placed within the confines of the park and after it has been placed into service it will be a regular report station on a police beat through the East End.

With it on the same standard at Twenty-first and Chestnut streets will be a fire alarm box. The fire alarm box is No. 48 and the same district companies which now respond to Market street boxes on the Hill will respond to alarms from that box. This box was tested out at noon and was placed in service this afternoon.

The police telegraph station will be No. 35. It will also be equipped with a telephone on the police system. Both boxes are arranged on a standard similar to the ones on Market street.

JAMES RUSS SERIOUSLY ILL

Prominent Former Hotel Man Is Confined to Apartment With Diabetes

James Russ, for many years identified with hotel interests in Harrisburg, is seriously ill with diabetes in his apartment in the Rodemal, Third street near North.

Mr. Russ some time ago retired from the management of the Senate hotel, which he originally established, and after more than half a century withdrew from active business pursuits. He was in ill health at the time and recently diabetes developed. One foot is affected to such an extent that he is unable to walk.

For three weeks Mr. Russ has been confined to his bed and his condition has been such as to cause apprehension among his friends. He was reported to be feeling somewhat better to-day.

WALL STREET CLOSING

New York, Dec. 16.—The closing was heavy. Prices sagged again in the final hour from sheer inertia rather than any pronounced pressure. A number of issues went under yesterday's low and several touched minimum prices. Foreign developments were particularly responsible for the heaviness shown by to-day's market. Dealings showed a marked contraction from yesterday's active session.