

GERMANS BOMBARD VERDUN; TWO BRITISH SHIPS SUNK; THIRD HIT BY SUBMARINE

Teutons, Shell Outer Defenses of French Stronghold After Seven Months of Continuous Effort—Douaumont, Five Miles From City Proper, Under Fire of Kaiser's Howitzers.

Liner Flaminian and Cargo Boat Crown of Castile Sunk Near Scilly Islands, Off Southwest Coast of England. Crew Saved by Danish Vessel—City of Cambridge Arrives at Liverpool Badly Damaged by Torpedo Off Wales—Escaped in Night.

The Germans have at last succeeded in shelling the outer defenses of Verdun with their great howitzers. Fort Douaumont, five miles northeast of the city, was struck by shells. For seven months the Kaiser's troops have tried vainly to get their artillery within range of the forts and have finally succeeded in driving back the French from their entrenchments beyond the circle of forts. More than a dozen great shells struck Fort Douaumont, which is one of a group of six on the Conflans road.

Another German submarine raid claimed three British ships. Two were sunk off the Scilly Islands, while the third was attacked off the coast of Wales, but succeeded in reaching Liverpool, although badly damaged. The liner, Flaminian and the cargo boat Crown of Castile were sunk and the City of Cambridge damaged. No lives were lost, as a Danish ship stood by and picked up the crew of the Flaminian.

The Germans are at last bombarding the ring of forts surrounding Verdun in the French city. This was admitted by the French War Office today. After seven months of determined efforts the German troops have finally been able to break through the entrenched line outside the ring of fortifications and get near enough to bombard the outer forts with their heavy howitzers.

Port Douaumont, defending Verdun on the first bombardment. More than a dozen great shells struck the fort, which is about five miles from the city proper. Douaumont is one of a group of six forts and redoubts north of the Conflans road which constitute the outer defenses on the northeast. An Austrian vanguard is advancing toward Chotin, a fortified town in Bessarabia, on the Dniester River. Petrograd acknowledges, but minimizes the importance of this invasion of Slav soil from an unexpected quarter.

The second Russian army invading Bukovina has been swept across its eastern border into the home province of Bessarabia. Admission of retreat of this force that menaced Czernowitz is coupled with the statement that the drive on the Bukovina capital succeeded in its primary purpose of diverting Austrian troops from the Hungarian and Carpathian defenses.

Slav advantage on both these fronts is asserted in the Petrograd official report, which speaks of heavy German forces being sent to fill in the gaps in the line.

THE WEATHER

March exists today. If you can remember it far back as 21 days you will remember it was a bit difficult to determine whether the month swung into sight around the corner as a lion or a lamb. Today there seems to be considerable doubt as to which of the two animals it is that bids farewell for another year.

FAIR

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FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Fair tonight and Thursday, with but little change in temperature; moderate northwest winds. For details, see page 2.

Table with tide information for Philadelphia, including times for high and low water at various locations like Port Richmond, Chestnut Street Wharf, and Breeze Hill.

PART OF CREW OF SUBMARINE F-4 NOW LYING AT BOTTOM OF SEA



Top row, left to right—Ernest C. Cauvin, Joseph Carr, George Deith and Walter Covington. Bottom row—Edwin Hill, Charles H. Wells, Henry Withers, Aleston Grindle and Harley Colwell. This picture was taken on an outing near San Francisco, shortly before the vessel sailed to take up her duties at Honolulu. All these men were members of the crew at the time of the disaster, according to the official list, with the exception of Carr and Withers.

VON BUELOW LEAVES ROME ON FLYING TRIP; RUMORS OF WAR RIFE

Departure of German Ambassador Believed to Mask Breaking Off Diplomatic Negotiations Over Cession of Land.

LONDON, March 31.—Two more British steamships have fallen victim to German submarines, while another ship arrived at Liverpool today badly damaged by torpedoes. The Ellerman liner Flaminian, Glasgow to Cape Town, was torpedoed 150 miles southwest of the Scilly Islands, off the extreme southwestern point of England, at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon. Her crew of 41 are safe. They were landed at Holyhead this morning by the Danish steamer Finlandia.

COHEN'S PITY FOR SUFFERER MADE HIM KILL

This Theory of Murder of Grandmother Is Advanced by Members of Family.

Sacrificed Life to Spare Aged Woman Further Pain, According to Those Who Often Heard Him Express Regret That She Endured Ills Beyond Relief.

Henry Barnett Cohen murdered his grandmother to end the suffering old age had brought her, ending his own life at the same time to gain this end, according to relatives. They said several members of the family of the suicide were satisfied this was his motive.

READING IS INDICTED ON CHARGE INVOLVING FINE OF \$1,320,000

Three Bills Returned Alleging Violations by Railroad of Interstate Commerce Law in Transportation of Coal.

The Federal Grand Jury returned three bills of indictment today against the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company on the charge of violating the interstate commerce law in connection with coal shipments to and from Philadelphia. The bills were returned before Judge Thompson in the United States District Court.

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DETECTIVE TUCKER HAS SINKING SPELL

The wife of Detective Harry Tucker was summoned to his bedside today at the Episcopal Hospital, where he had a sinking spell. Tucker has a bullet near his spine, but has not recovered sufficient strength for the physicians to probe for it. The detective, who has seven children, was shot last Thursday by Jacob Miller, the former sailor, who also killed Detective James Manely.

SERIOUSLY BURNED BY GASOLINE

A pun of gasoline that caught fire flared up in the face of Walter Smith, of 3641 Walnut street, late this afternoon, and inflicted painful burns. He will recover.

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VARE URGED TO GAIN GOVERNOR AS ALLY BY AIDING LOCAL OPTION

Brumbaugh's Support in Mayoralty Campaign May Be Reward if Down-town Leader "Lines Up" in Liquor Fight.

DETECTIVE WHO KILLED DISCHARGED BRAKEMAN IS HELD WITHOUT BAIL

Dead Man Sought to Drag Extra Employe From Locomotive and Quarrel and Shooting Followed, Is Inquest Testimony.

ASK FREE TRANSFERS AT 40TH AND 41ST STS.

Public Service Commissioners Will Hear Plea of West Philadelphia Section.

WILL SPEND \$20,000 TO RAISE SUBMARINE

Secretary Daniels Authorizes Outlay to Recover the F-4.

BARON ROTHSCHILD DIES

Banker Was One of the Richest Men in England.

'LIBERTY BELL' CAST BEFORE SUFFRAGISTS

Women of Three States Attend Exercises in Troy, N. Y., Foundry.

WOMEN WIN IN JERSEY

Governor Signs Bill for Watchers at the Polls.

SUNK OFF IRISH COAST

South Pacific Lost in Collision With Undefined Vessel.

LOST AND FOUND

Various lost and found items including a diamond ring, a watch, and a pocket book.