

British Political Crisis Not Taken So Seriously

London, Nov. 16.—The Pall Mall Gazette this evening says: "The crisis advertised by the news of those who disliked the premier's speech in Paris, turns out to be more of a touch of lobby fever." No possible doubt remains that the reception of the allied council idea in Paris, Rome and Washington has squelched opposition, untainted by parochial politics. A few papers here are still acridly parading the bogey of civilian-military antagonism, but the great organs of public opinion, such as the Times and Daily Telegraph, are directing the public mind advantageously.

STRONG ARGUMENT.

Nayhere is there more plain language than in northern England where a passage of an editorial in the Manchester Guardian is worth repeating. "The unity which exposes that Serbia, then the Roumanian destruction, obviously leaves a great deal to be desired. We are working to prevent the same fate from overwhelming Italy, or rather to convert the enemy's advantage to our advantage. Why not recognize the plain fact—whatever success may be gained in the west is not sufficient to protect our allies now any more than it was in 1915 or 1916? The success in the west has been great. There are no charges in our military history to compare with these battles for a story of heroism. If the war were decided on points the decision would have gone in favor of our army in the west. But war is decided on results. Of the 1915 results the Neuve Chapelle losses were not worth the failure to capture Constantinople, which was an item on the debit side, or the over-running of Serbia which was another item. Not great as was the victory at the Somme did it compensate the over-running of Roumania in 1916, and the reprieve of Austria from the fate which then threatened her. Shall we persist in our candor? Victories in Flanders in 1917 do not compensate us for defeats in Italy. They may next year—but as yet they have not."

Cowdray Resigns. resigned as a consequence of Lord Northcliffe's letter to Premier Lloyd George.

Eligibles Must Report By Next Monday or Take Consequences

Monday next will see a drastic change in the working out of the Military Service Act. It marks the closing of the days of grace given to those tardy ones who failed to register. For those who had not registered up to November 10, the authorities allowed until next Monday to do so under certain conditions. If they have registered before Monday they will not be proceeded against criminally, but if they have not and are discovered they will face a term of imprisonment and leave themselves open to other serious penalties.

The story is told of a young man who talked in a local shoe-shine parlor. Day after day he was heard to boast in no choice language that he would not register; he had not and he did not intend to. However some one got his number and he received an authoritative communication informing him to report on Monday or else he would be given a bayonet term in prison. Registration looked easier and more alluring to him so he will comply with the letter. Those who have registered within the week-of-grace allowed to the delinquents, will have to report on Monday again at Colonel McAvity's office in the agricultural hall. Their leave from the time they have registered expires again on Monday and they will again report to the D. C. of the battalion depot and await further instructions.

British Airmen Hit Targets In Constantinople Raid

London, Nov. 16.—During a recent air raid over the Gallipoli peninsula and Constantinople by British naval aviators the former German cruiser Goeben, now the Turkish warship Sultan Selim, was hit and a large explosion caused, it was officially announced today. A vessel named the General, and reported to be the German headquarters at Constantinople, was twice hit by bombs the raiders dropped. Two hits were also obtained upon the Turkish war office.

TURKS STILL ON GO.

London, Nov. 16.—The British army, which is pursuing the Turks along the coast in Palestine, has made further substantial gains. The war office announces it has reached a line from Ramleh Ludd to a point three miles south of Jaffa.

The official announcement follows: "General Allenby reports that during yesterday our troops after a slight resistance, reached the line from Ramleh Ludd and to some three miles south of Jaffa. In one part of the zone of operations an attack by a Turkish regiment on New Zealand mounted troops was beaten back by a bayonet charge, with heavy losses to the enemy. The total number of prisoners verified since October 31 now exceeds 9,000. Ramleh Ludd is on the railway between Jaffa, on the Mediterranean coast, and Jerusalem, the junction of which line with the railroad between Berecheba and Demascus, was captured a few days ago by the British. Jaffa is fifty-four miles northwest of Jerusalem. Bombed Handzaem.

London, Nov. 16.—Yesterday a bombing raid was attempted by naval aircraft on the Uytkerke (Belgium) air-drome, but on account of very high winds our formation did not proceed to its original objective, but dropped a large number of bombs on the airfield situated near Handzaem, says an admiralty report.

"In the course of offensive patrols two enemy aircraft have been destroyed and two driven down completely out of control. All our machines returned safely. Sign of Battle?

London, Nov. 16.—Intense artillery activity on the British front in France and Belgium occurred today according to the war office announcement tonight. The communication follows: "There has been intense artillery activity during today on both sides of the battlefield, particularly in the neighborhood of Paschendale. Our patrols brought in a few prisoners. On the remainder of the front there is nothing of special interest to report."

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Butter and Egg Prices Too High

Ottawa, Nov. 16.—A steady accumulation of butter is commented upon by W. F. O'Connor, acting commissioner on the cost of living, in his monthly report on food commodities, covering the amount of food held in cold storage on November 1. October figures as to butter in storage showed a 24 per cent. increase and November figures showed a 34 per cent. increase as compared with a year ago. The commissioner says: "It is difficult to appreciate either the reason or necessity for this." He points out that butter is not a seasonal commodity and the realizable export demand is not abnormal. In his opinion the ruling price of butter is unreasonably high and is held up, to some extent, at least, by means of unjustified accumulation. "The price of butter," says the commissioner, "should decline. The con-

ditions do not justify the present price, and, under the terms of the order-in-council of November, 1916, offers of reasonable prices therefore to those holding quantities cannot be refused without risk of offence against the terms of that order-in-council." The commissioner also expresses dissatisfaction with regard to the egg situation. He points out that the increase of holdings is only four per cent., but the circumstances are peculiar. Exports, as shown by the department of customs for October, decreased from 1,574,034 dozen in 1916 to 951,194 dozen in 1917. "There is," says the commissioner, "notoriously an absence of opinion to ship, which has resulted in a falling off of demand. Perishable stocks are being held notwithstanding. It would seem that plain business prudence would dictate the placing of these egg stocks in the Canadian market at once, otherwise there is likely to be a serious loss of valuable food."

George Shelburn, a stone mason, who recently died at Twickenham, Eng., was proud of having cut the letters on the stone that covers the remains of Charles Dickens in Westminster Abbey.

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This country will have a new vision after the war. We will be a united empire, and we will be living in a world of new alliances and new ambitions. Let us, therefore, be prepared commercially for the new order of things.—Jas. W. Murray, president British Chamber of Commerce.



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