

YOU'LL BE SURE TO FIND IT IN "The MAIL and ADVOCATE"

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. III. No. 5.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1916.

Price: 1 Cent.

ASQUITH GETS BIG MAJORITY ON THE COMPULSORY BILL

Scenes of Wild Enthusiasm in the Commons and Outside as Figures Are Made Known—Balfour Makes Magnificent Speech Which Earns for Him the Warmest Congratulations of Premier, Grey and Others—Government Gets Majority of Conservative Vote—Irish Nationalists and Labor Party Vote Against Bill—O'Brien Took No Part

LONDON, Jan. 7.—Amid scenes of wild enthusiasm, the House of Commons to-night passed the first reading of the Government bill for Compulsory Military Service by a decisive vote of 403 to 105. The vote came shortly before midnight with the galleries packed and every seat on the floor of the House occupied. Ministerial benches were filled and an air of eager expectancy prevailed. The events of the day had increased the tension to a high pitch, notably the action of the Labor Congress and the quick sequel of the retirement of three Labor members of the Ministry. Throughout these developments outside Parliament the debate in the House had forged steadily ahead, but had been left largely to the lesser figures. It was reserved for A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Admiralty, to close the debate on behalf of the Government and he did so in a persuasive appeal of half an hour which roused the lagging spirits of the advocates of Conscription and turned the tide of adversity, which had been running steadily against the measure through the debate and outside the events of the day.

"Let this vote to-night show that we are a united people," was his closing appeal. "Do not let us give a false impression to the world that in the moment of our country's gravest emergency we are a divided, one against the other. Abandon your theories and remember we are dealing with stern realities which call for great sacrifices."

Then came the vote, which was taken amid eager interest, as the members filed before the tellers and peers crowded their galleries to witness the final result. The announcement of the figures was received with a tremendous outburst of cheering, which rang through the Chamber and was echoed to waiting crowds outside. Scores of members in khaki waved their handkerchiefs and the air was rent with white papers flung in triumph at the Government's success.

Amid the demonstration, Premier Asquith, his face usually pale, now glowing with satisfaction, walked down the floor of the House to present

the Bill formally to the Chamber. His appearance was the signal for a rapturous ovation. Members on all sides stood and cheered, while the galleries could only with difficulty be restrained from joining in the enthusiasm. An analysis showed the Government had the great bulk of the Conservative vote. The Irish Nationalists had voted against the Bill, but the Irish Unionists supported the measure, while the O'Brienites took no part in the division. The minority showed a sprinkling of members, the most notable being John Burns, the former Cabinet Minister. A number of Labor Members also voted with the Opposition.

Balfour's closing speech was one of the notable features of the debate. He spoke with great earnestness, but with good natured confidence, which kept the members between applause and laughter. This measure, he declared, was not designed to settle the military policy of Great Britain. It was for the present occasion and for the present war. "I have never favored conscription in any form," said the First Lord, "but it is no longer an abstract question. We are dealing with the stern reality. First, the Prime Minister has given his pledge for this Bill, a pledge which it would be dishonourable to ignore and, secondly, the safety and success of the country is at stake. Let me say, with the greatest emphasis, that those of us who know the conditions in the field know that this bill is absolutely essential to the proper carrying on of the war. If this House refuses this Bill to the Government, it refuses what the Government considers an absolute necessity. It is not the thin edge of wedge or the first drop of poison to corrupt our whole system. In truth, this bill is a tribute to voluntarism, for we have raised six million volunteers. Now this bill merely brings in those few shirkers who have failed to respond to the volunteer system. No future Prime Minister can ever use this Bill as a precedent for permanently fixing on this country the taint of Prussian militarism. Militarism is an affair of hearts. It is grown in the hearts of the German people to have militarism, while it is the heart of the Britisher not to have it. But, for the moment, we are dealing with a stern necessity. Our greatest danger is not that traditions will be abandoned, but that we are lulling ourselves with a great illusion of false security."

Premier Asquith, Sir Edward Grey and other Ministers warmly congratulated Balfour as he closed his appeal.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

TRUE STATE OF AFFAIRS LEAKS OUT

Failure of Teutonic Forces to Make Any Progress and Depressing Letters From Greek Queen's Sister Cause Greeks to View Allies With Favor

LONDON, Jan. 6.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Athens, says:—"The last 10 days have been the biggest drop in German prestige since the war began, and this, despite the Entente Allies' evacuation of a portion of the Gallipoli Peninsula. The causes of the German slump have been external and internal, namely the failure of the Teutonic forces to advance in Macedonia together with General Castelnau's confidence in the strength of the Entente Allies' position at Salonika, and the impatience of the Greek troops to resist any attempt at a Bulgarian advance in Greek territory, which has compelled the Government to give the commanders on the border the necessary orders to be prepared for action against the Bulgarians if necessary. Moreover, through the Queen, who has had depressing letters from her sister Princess Charlotte of Saxe Meiningen, King Constantine is learning the true state of affairs in Germany."

THINKS DRIVE ON SALONIKI IS AT HAND

Germans Have Brought up Large Numbers of 12 inch Mortars to the Greek Frontier—Allied Commander Thinks it Looks Like an Early Attack

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The Austro-Germans are massing heavy artillery at Givgelfer on an early drive on Salonika. A despatch to the Paris Temps from its Salonika correspondent, last night, said that Allied aviators returning from a reconnaissance over the German lines state that large numbers of 12-inch mortars are arriving at the Greek frontier from Nish. Field Marshal von Mackenzen will command the combined army of Austrians and Germans, Turks and Bulgarians in their campaign against the Allies. Despatches yesterday definitely locate the noted German commander on the Greek frontier, he had previously been reported withdrawn to Bessarabia. Despatches from three sources indicate that the drive on Salonika is at hand. The Salonika correspondent of the Corriere della Sera of Milan writes to his paper: "The Commander-in-Chief of the Allies said to me today: 'It looks like an early attack, that is just what we want.'"

LABOUR MEMBERS RESIGNED

There Are Now Four Vacancies in Coalition Ministry—Gossip Already Busy as to Who Will Be Their Successors

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The resignations of Henderson, Bruce and Roberts were the direct outcome of the Labor Congress held to-day which was followed by a two hour conference among Parliamentary Labor Members. At the close of the latter conference the announcement was made of the withdrawal of three Labor members of the Coalition Ministry. It is understood that Henderson will take an early opportunity to explain his position to the Commons, probably at next Tuesday's session. There are now four vacancies in the Coalition Ministry, including that caused by resignation of Sir John A. Simon, Home Secretary. Gossip is already busy over the probable successors of the outgoing Ministers.

AUSTRIANS SEVERELY PUNISHED

Paris, Jan. 7.—The fighting on the Russian front, near the Roumanian frontier, is fast growing in intensity and assuming a great ferocity, says the Petrograd correspondent of the Havas News Agency in a despatch filed Wednesday.

Despatches from Kiev declare that the noise of cannon can be heard along a distance of thirty miles and that the windows in all the villages in this region have been broken by the concussion. The battle is raging with great fury on the Tarnopol Trembowla front where more than 800,000 men with 3500 cannon are incessantly engaged.

Austro-German red cross trains are leaving this front daily for more remote and thinly populated towns where hospitals have been organized. Wounded Russian officers report that the consequences of this battle already are being shown in certain sections by the blowing in of the first line of German trenches, and the slow but irresistible progress of the Russian forces.

The same officer tell of enormous difficulties the Russians had to surmount on this front where engagements of the barbed wire fence often led 24 feet deep and were charged with powerful electric currents supplied from sections especially erected, so as an immediate approach to the entanglements was impossible. The Russians soldiers have invented the following method of surrounding the difficulty: A good marksman fling ropes with hooks at the ends over the barbed wire, then all pull and the whole entanglement is removed.

Latest From the 'Persia'

London, Jan. 7.—An announcement to-night by the Peninsular Oriental S.S. Co. says, the number of persons on board the steamer Persia, who have not been accounted for, aggregate 336, of these 119 were passengers and 217 members of the crew.

British Sub Sunk

London, Jan. 7.—The sinking of a British submarine off the coast of Holland was officially announced this morning. The crew was saved.

HAMILTON'S REPORT GALLIPOLI OPERATIONS IS NOW PUBLISHED

Russian Advances Force Enemy to Retire in Galicia

PETROGRAD, Jan. 6.—It appears not improbable, according to advices from the front, that the Austro-German forces in the southern extremity of the fighting area, will be forced back on a line running through Kolmen and Hanislau, in Galicia, in the near future, as a result of the steady and continuous advance of the Russians between the upper reaches of River Stripa and the Roumanian frontier. Already the Austrians are reported to have removed their base from Czernowitz towards Kolomea. Notwithstanding these facts the Austrians are fighting courageously. The Russians, it is declared, have succeeded in taking by storm the fortifications around Czernowitz, that were recently described in the German press as impregnable. Having cut the railway line from Zalesonayki to Czernowitz the Russians are threatening communications between Czernowitz and the Kolmea zone. The Russian offensive is extending northward, bringing into action the left flank of the central front. From Olitza they have pushed out on the railway line 25 miles to Kevertzi, and are reported advancing along the roads in the direction of and close to Lutsk, also between Poshcherevitch and Kostuhova.

General Hamilton's report of the British operations on Gallipoli Peninsula was published in the Official Gazette to-night. It tells the story of fighting on the Peninsula from beginning of May to the middle of October. Probably no more important contribution to the history of the present war has yet been made. The report throws light upon the great landing at Anzac Cove and Sulva Bay, Aug. 7th, which has been subject to strong attacks upon the military administration of the Government, the whole operations requiring the combined action of the army and navy. The handling of masses of troops within a limited area, probably was the most complicated military movement ever undertaken. Military men are not surprised that some important details failed to work as planned. Sulva Bay landing failed to accomplish its object, report shows partly, because force consisted largely of untried troops under Generals inexperienced in new warfare, and partly through failure of water supply and sufferings of troops from lack of water makes painful reading. General Hamilton bestows the highest possible praise upon the bravery of the men. He believes that after the middle of August the Turks outnumbered the British and that they had plenty of fresh soldiers, and munitions, while the British Government was unable to furnish him with the reinforcements he wanted. General Hamilton strongly opposed the abandonment of any bases held by the British troops.

SAYS IT MAY COMPLICATE SITUATION

Greek Press is Worried Over What Might Happen if Allies Find it Necessary to Remove Greek Authorities at Salonika

PARIS, Jan. 7.—The Greek Press is considering with some concern the situation which may arise in case the Allies find it necessary to send away the Greek authorities at Salonika, if an invasion should be attempted by the Teutonic Allies.

An Athens correspondent to the Havas Agency says, it is explained that such action would be only provisional and in no way an encroachment on the sovereignty of Greece. Nevertheless the newspapers say it would complicate the situation for the Greek Government, which is now pressed by the Central Powers for a reply to their protest against German

Each Day Finds Russians Claiming Additional Gains

The Whole Energy of the Russian Army is Directed Towards Making a Gap Between German and Austrian Armies—Comparative Quiet is Reported From Other Fronts—The Baralong Case Creates a Sensation Among the London Papers—Feared German Reprisals Will Take Violent Form

LONDON, Jan. 6.—While battle on the borders of Bessarabia is apparently still far from decision, each day finds the Russians claiming occupation of additional enemy positions, and Petrograd believes that if this process continues, a short time longer a break somewhere in the lines of the Central Powers must come. The whole energy of the Russian army is being directed towards making a gap between the German armies in the centre and the Austrian forces. Desperate Austrian attacks in the region of Kolki are designed to prevent this. Fighting must continue for a considerable time yet, but upon the result

will depend in a large measure the strategy of both sides when the spring comes. Other fronts continue to maintain a state of comparative quiet. For Britain the attitude that labor men will take regarding conscription at a great conference to be held at London to-morrow is a matter of anxiety. Robert William, leader of the transport workers' federation here to-night is practically assured that the conference will affirm the rejection of conscription in any form. The story of the Baralong case has created a wide sensation. A considerable part of the British press question the veracity of witnesses, the Globe expresses doubt whether there is any such person as Larimore Holland, and suggests the next time Von Bethmann Hollweg's subordinates invent a witness they should provide one who is more convincing. There is general expectation that Germany will express its satisfaction at Sir Edward Grey's reply by immediately instigating reprisals which Great Britain fears will take violent form.

Russian Success Upsets Plans Central Powers for Invasion of Saloniki and Egypt

Austrians Are Hard Pressed at Czernowitz and Are Rushing Huge Reinforcements Into That District—40,000 Serb Refugees in Greek Territory—6000 of Which Are at Saloniki—Question Asked in Commons Regarding Serbian Army Not Answered by Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The area of the Russian successes over the Austrian-Hungarian forces, in the east, continues to widen. Although the situation around Czernowitz has not yet been cleared up, officially, it appears from advices from Russian sources that the Austrians are hard pressed over a long line of defence and are throwing huge reinforcements into the district.

The Russians here are expected to strike at Kolmen-Stanislaus-Halitz line where powerful defensive works have been in preparation for some time by the Austro-Germans. Meanwhile, the Russian position, 250 miles further north, in the middle of Styria River, has been greatly strengthened by successful operations in the region of the great marshes, where the Russians are beginning to emerge from the marshes with prospects of being able to use the roads leading neither northwest, west, or southwest. Their advance here has not been the result of an isolated battle, but of a series of engagements lasting over a considerable period. In the capitals of the Entente Allies the opinion expressed is the Russian offensive has completely upset the plans of the Central Powers for an invasion of Salonika and Egypt.

In connection with yesterday's announcement of the defeat of a German war vessel on Lake Tanganyika in East Central Africa, half a mile above the sea level, it is announced, the British ships which accompanied the surrender of the German vessel were especially constructed in England and transported to the hearts of the Africa. Until the arrival of these vessels, the Germans dominated Lake Tanganyika, which is the centre of a large important territory. The presence of British armed vessels on the Lake will reverse the situation there. This is considered here as most opportune in view of the forthcoming campaign in East Africa.

Interest in Serbian refugees and army was seen by a question asked in the Commons to-day "whether a considerable part of the Serbian army is in distress at Scutari, after having

OFFICIAL

BRITISH

To Governor, Newfoundland:

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The quarter in France report special artillery activity on the southern front. British aeroplane bombed the Douai aerodrome. A German aeroplane dropped bombs on Boulogne. No damage.

Furious fighting continues northeast of Czernowitz. Further portions of the enemy positions have been seized. Counter-attacks were repulsed with heavy losses. The enemy were also repulsed south-west of Pinsk and the ground previously captured in the Middle Stripa was consolidated. Joffre in army orders, says:—"The German army's effectiveness and resources are dwindling, and the Allies are ever becoming stronger."

BONAR LAW.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The following official communication was issued on Tuesday:

"On the Western Russian front, south of the Pripiet, in the region of Gukosotz Kavlia we repulsed the Germans."

"In the region of the Middle Stripa, we have consolidated the positions won. Attempts by the enemy to retake the works he had previously lost were repulsed, with the great enemy losses."


North-east of Czernowitz sharp fighting continues, we have taken further hostile positions. The enemy counter attacks were repulsed by a fire which inflicted huge losses. One of our units in this region captured 18 officers, 1043 men and four machine guns.

On the Caucasus front in the region of the river Arkheva our fire dispersed the Turks concentrated near Padjour and demolished Turkish block-houses in many sectors.

suffering great privations in their retreat through the mountains and whether His Majesty's Government will offer the Serbs' army some suitable locality in the Mediterranean area, where the men may rest and recuperate."

In reply, Lord Robert Cecil, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said there was a considerable body of Serbs army at Scutari, where at first the men had great distress, but the situation, he added, had now been largely relieved. The Entente Allies, the Secretary said,

Strong Arguments



CLEANING

that appeal to your pocket—our challenge that we can restore your faded and almost discarded wardrobe to you at a fraction of its original cost. That we clean beautifully pleasing the particular and tickling the pleased. Our methods of

CLEANING AND PRESSING

give now life to costumes, and suits. We are wizards in our line—WE are!

W. H. Jackman
39 WATER STREET, WEST.
2 Doors East Railway Station.
Phone 795. P. O. Box 186.

CUSTOM TAILORING, CLEANING, PRESSING AND GENT'S FURNISHING.