

GREECE MAY YET FEEL HORRORS OF WAR DESPITE KING'S EFFORTS; SMITH-DORRIEN GOES TO EAST AFRICA

TURKS' ATTACKS ON THE TRIGRIS RIVER FAILURE

OVER 1-2 MILLION RECRUITS IN RUSH OF LAST WEEK

Admit No Progress at Kut-El-Amara -- Reports of British Losses Exaggerated -- Greece Likely to be Battleground When Next Big Conflict is Staged -- Allies Safe at Saloniki and Being Reinforced While Bulgars Cross Greek Frontier in Pursuit.

London, Dec. 14.—The next big battle will, in all probabilities, be fought in Greece, despite the efforts of the Hellenic King and government to save their country from the horrors of war. The British and French forces have made good their retirement down the Vardar Valley, and are now approaching Saloniki, where reinforcements are being landed, while reports received in Paris and Rome say that the Bulgarians have crossed the Greek frontier in pursuit. The reports of such action by the Bulgarians come somewhat as a surprise, as it had been thought that such a move by them would provoke the Greeks, and that consequently if the Entente Allies are followed all the tank would be allotted to the Austrians and Germans.

Greek Government in a Quandary.

Greece's situation diplomatically has been complicated by the request of Germany to know whether the Athens cabinet does not look upon the use of Greek territory by the Entente Allies as a breach of her neutrality, and the inquiry is considered to foreshadow German participation in the pursuit. However, it is not believed here that the Germans have many troops in that part of the Balkans, their main forces being concentrated in Rostochuk where the Russian threat of an invasion of Bulgaria seemed likely of fulfilment, and that therefore, the Entente troops, for the present only, have to fear the Bulgarians, as the Austrians are still being occupied in Montenegro and Albania, where the Montenegrins and Serbians are keeping up a stubborn resistance. It has again been reported that the Italians have landed an army on the Albanian coast to go to the assistance of the Serbians, and Montenegrins. There has been more fighting on the Gallipoli peninsula. The Turks here claim to have repulsed an attack against their left wing at Seddul Bahr. The Turkish official accounts say nothing new has occurred at Kut-El-Amara, where the Turks are operating against the British who retired from the Bagdad region. This is taken, in military circles here, as an admission on the part of the Turks that their attacks on the British position on the Tigris river have failed.

The previous reports of the losses the Turks inflicted on the British, when the British retired down the river, are declared, in private information now reaching London, to have been exaggerated. For example, the three vessels which they captured were said to have been a tug boat and two barges.

Gorizia Again Bombarded.

The Italians are still hammering away at the Austrian positions around Gorizia. The town of Gorizia itself has again been bombarded. Austrian officers who have been through many big battles on the eastern front describe the Italian artillery fire as more terrific and continuous than any they have previously experienced.

The appointment of Gen. Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien to the supreme command of the forces operating in East Africa means that the British are taking steps in an endeavor to clear the Germans out of the only colony that remains to them except a small part of the Kamerun. The Germans are in a strong force in East Africa, but Gen. Smith-Dorrien, with the army that is being raised in South Africa, and the troops who are already there, and those who are going from home, hopes to complete the new job in short order. The commander, like this man under fire, is experienced in African warfare.

Socialists in Bulgaria Parliament Oppose Credit Vote

Sofia, via London, Dec. 14.—It is announced here that the Sobranje will meet December 23. The government will ask a credit of 150,000,000 francs. The government will be supported by all parties, except the Socialists.

At the meeting of the ministry at which it was decided to convene the

Sobranje it was announced that Bulgaria had enlarged her territory by 50,000 kilometres (over 3,100 miles).

Turks Claim Allied Attack Failed

Constantinople, via London, Dec. 14.—The following official communication was issued today:

"There is no news from the Irak front.

"On the Caucasian front surprise attacks at several points were repulsed.

"On the Dardanelles front an enemy armored cruiser, assisted by an observation balloon, bombarded our positions near Anafarta. Our artillery replied, successfully bombarding the enemy trenches and batteries. Near Ayburnu there have been severe bombings and artillery combats. Near Seddul Bahr, on Saturday night, the enemy fired a large number of shells against our left wing. On Sunday, after firing for hours bombs and aerial torpedoes against the same wing, the enemy attempted an attack which completely collapsed under the fire of our artillery. The enemy was forced to retreat to his own trenches with great losses."

Estimates Turkish Forces at 850,000.

London, Dec. 14.—Replying to a question in the House of Commons today, Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary secretary of war, said that it was calculated that Turkey had 650,000 men in the field, and that this might be increased to a million.

Fine but Cold on Western Front.

London, Dec. 14.—The war office tonight made public the following official communication:

Field Marshal French reports that today our artillery bombarded Dommeourt, enemy trenches east of Givochy and the village of Le Mesnil. Hostile artillery showed considerable activity east and northeast of Ypres, to which our artillery replied with vigor.

"Last night we bombed one of the enemy trenches at Le Touquet, just west of the river Lys, with hand grenades, causing great confusion in a trench which appeared to be strongly held."

"The weather continues bright and cold."

Italian Statement.

Rome, Dec. 14, via London, Dec. 15.—The Italian official report on the progress of hostilities says:

"During the 43rd the enemy continued to bombard, persistently, our positions along the Isonzo front. We replied effectively."

"There is nothing further to report."

A Ruse To Allay Suspicions of Greece

London, Dec. 15.—Telegraphing from Saloniki the Times' correspondent says:

"The reported concentration of large enemy forces south of Monastir today is authoritatively denied, and therefore the Doiran-Giverev section is the only quarter from which an enemy advance may be anticipated at present."

"The exclusion of Bulgarians from the civil administration of Monastir is now clearly seen to have been a pretense, intended to allay Greek suspicions, and the Serbian resistance was completely broken and the line of the Greek policy definitely known. It now must be discarded. Monastir has been officially declared by the German minister at Sofia to be in the irrevocable possession of Bulgaria. While a purely Bulgarian administration is being installed in that coveted town, one of the first acts of this administration has been to close the frontier to travelers from Greece."

MAJ. COLES GOES HOME TO INSTRUCT A. S. C. OFFICERS.

London, Ont., Dec. 14.—It is reported here that Major W. G. Coles, of the Army Service Corps of the first Canadian division, is to be returned to Canada at once, to instruct army service

THANK GOD FOR CRITICISM, SAYS SIR SAM

Minister of Militia Raps Stay-at-Home Armchair Critics Who Slander Men in the Trenches.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—General Sir Sam Hughes, speaking at a meeting of Conservatives tonight, stated that Col. John Currie, of the 48th Highlanders, was the "best slandered man in Canada." He said: "At the front Jack Currie stood in the trenches all Thursday, all Friday night, all Saturday, and returned with seventy men. It will become any craven coward to stay at home and slander a good soldier and man like Jack Currie."

Regarding the morals of the Canadians, he said: "You could not pick out 5,000 mayors and controllers in Canada who would be better behaved. Do you imagine that 3,000 darlings, sweet, loving Women's Christian Temperance Union women would be any better behaved if they were placed similarly?"

Speaking of shell making, he said that today 350 institutions were making shells, or parts of shells, in Canada, and 100,000 workmen were employed.

Britain, by spring, would have six million men and Canada one million. "I am criticized," he said, "and I thank God for it. Under no circumstances would I have the good opinion of some people in Toronto. I would do something wrong first to have their poor opinion of me."

GERMAN EDITOR HAS BEEN ACQUITTED.

Amsterdam, Dec. 14, via London.—Herr Schroeder, editor of the Telegraaf, was acquitted today, at the conclusion of his trial on the charge of having made improper utterances in his newspaper.

The public prosecutor demanded that he be sentenced to six months imprisonment for saying: "There are in Central Europe a number of scoundrels who are responsible for the war."

MCGILL GRADUATE DIES ON BATTLEFIELD FROM BLOOD POISONING.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—Captain J. L. Mavety, only son of Rev. Dr. J. E. Mavety, pastor of Eastern Methodist church, here, has died of acute poisoning in France. His parents were notified by the war office tonight. Captain Mavety was attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps. He graduated from McGill in 1911, and was in his 25th year.

corps officers in training for overseas service. Major Coles, who is to be given the rank of lieutenant-colonel, has been in charge of a divisional supply train in France, and has served with distinction. He was a member of the London board of control when war broke out.

Gen. Smith-Dorrien In Charge of Campaign In East Africa



GENERAL SIR H. L. SMITH-DORRIEN.

London, Dec. 14.—General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien has been appointed to the supreme command of the forces operating in East Africa.

General Smith-Dorrien was in service on the Franco-Belgian frontier in the earlier months of the year. He commanded the second British army for a time and in May was placed in control of one of Great Britain's six new armies. He returned to London in June. No official mention was made of his return from the front, for which various reasons were advanced. A vigorous campaign has been instituted recently by the French and British to conquer German East Africa.

GREECE, SHORT OF FOOD AND COAL, TAKES OVER SHIPS IN FOREIGN PORTS

Nation Keenly Feeling Effect of the Restrictions by Entente Powers.

London, Dec. 14.—The Greek government, it was learned here today, has commandeered all Greek shipping in British and American ports in an effort to supply the deficiency in food and coal which exists in Greece as a result of the Entente Allies' restrictions.

The Greek vessels will be loaded with cargoes purchased by the Athens government, which does not anticipate further trouble.

London, Dec. 14.—In a despatch filed at Saloniki on Monday Reuters correspondent says the Bulgarians have occupied the positions formerly held by the Serbians along the Greece-Serbian frontier. At last, reports all was quiet there.

ALLIED LOSSES SMALL IN RETREAT ALTHO' ODDS HEAVY AGAINST THEM

London, Dec. 14.—Reviewing the past week's operations, Reuters' correspondent at Saloniki says the fighting during the week did not involve serious harm to the Allied forces, the Bulgarians having shown no desire to come to close quarters since last week, Monday.

"The British casualties on that day," says the correspondent, "although severe, totalled less than a thousand, but during the rest of the week a few dozen would sum up the total casualties, along the whole Franco-British front."

"During the week the Allies retired about 14 miles by gradual stages, removing all their own stores and absolutely denuding the country of everything valuable to the enemy. An unusual sight that was witnessed was herds of cattle and sheep being driven ahead by the allied soldiers, who greatly enjoyed this novel fatigue duty. On Saturday the rear guard of the Allies was only two miles from the Greek frontier, and the town of Donraan had been completely stripped. The British recognised numerous German uniforms among the Bulgarian troops."

OVER 1-2 MILLION RECRUITS IN RUSH OF LAST WEEK

Vote of Another Million Men Postponed Until Next Week — Announcement of Result of Earl Derby's Campaign Not Ready Yet—Bonar Law Threatens to Resign.

London, Dec. 14.—The vote for another million men for the army, which Premier Asquith intended to move on Thursday of this week, has been postponed until next week.

The premier had promised to give the House of Commons the results of the Earl of Derby's recruiting campaign also on Thursday, but it has been found impossible to tabulate the figures in time, and this announcement is likewise postponed until next week.

According to the Evening News last week's rush for enlistment brought in more than 500,000 recruits.

London, Dec. 14.—Andrew Bonar Law, secretary for the colonies, told Sir Edward Carson and a few Unionist dissenters, in an outspoken warning in the House of Commons this evening, that further signs of revolt would lead to his retirement from the government.

Mr. Bonar Law was opposing a motion, backed by the dissident Unionists, for the rejection of the parliament bill introduced on Thursday last by Sir John Simon, secretary for home affairs, providing for the continuation of the present parliament beyond the five year period, and the postponement of a general election during the war. This would keep alive the plural voting bill.

The objecting faction took exception to the prolongation of the life of the plural voting bill, and urged the desirability of a general election. Mr. Bonar Law, after stating that the present compromise bill was his own proposal, dealt with the Unionist criticism of the government.

"I would say to my Unionist friends," said the secretary, "if the time comes and I think it has not come yet—that they honestly think the war is not going to be won by this country without a change of government, it would be better for them to go openly into opposition and move a vote of no confidence. We Unionists are members of the government as the representatives of our party, and if I thought that in this position we had lost the confidence of our party I would feel that I was of no further use to the government. If my party lost confidence in me, I would not dream, for a moment, of continuing in the government."

Not Easy to Sit Silent.

Premier Asquith also participated in the debate. He declared, regarding the criticism of the government's secrecy, that it was no gratification for the government to sit silent, day after day, under imputations and suggestions which could easily be refuted and blown into the air if it were not their bounden duty, as the trustees of the nation, to maintain reticence.

Dealing with the bill, the premier declared that a general election at the present time would be a national calamity, but, he added, the government was not inflexibly wedded to the present period of postponement named in the bill, and would be prepared to consider reasonable suggestions for an alteration of the terms suggested.

After a short debate the bill was given a second reading.

"Since the system of inspection of British prisoners camp in Germany was instituted the staff of the United States embassy at Berlin has paid 155 visits to camps," said Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under secretary for foreign affairs in the House of Commons today. "By their untiring efforts they have secured improvements, though even now conditions in some camps are far from satisfactory."

Interned Alien Enemies in Great Britain.

London, Dec. 15.—It was announced in the House of Commons today that the number of "alien enemies" interned in England are: Civilians, 32,274; naval and military, 15,475.

Besides these, prisoners of war now in England total 21,205.

ENEMY SEAPLANE BROUGHT DOWN BY BRITISH

German Machine Chased and Crippled Falls Into Sea a Mass of Flames.

London, Dec. 15 (12.30 a. m.)—A British official communication, just issued here says:

"Flight Sub-Lieut. Graham, in an aeroplane, with Flight Sub-Lieut. Ince as observer, while on patrol off the Belgian coast this (Tuesday) afternoon, sighted a large German seaplane and gave chase.

"After a severe engagement the German machine was hit and fell. Before reaching the water it burst into flames, and at the moment of striking exploded. No trace of the pilot, passenger or machine could be found.

"Sub-Lieut. Graham's machine was severely damaged by machine gun fire, and fell into the sea, but both the officers were picked up and safely landed."

WOLGAST-WHITNEY BOUT STOPPED

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 14.—The lightweight fight between Frank Whitney and Ad Wolgast here tonight was stopped at the end of the fifth round, when Wolgast's manager stated that Wolgast was in no condition to continue. A cut high on the former champion's forehead, was opened early in the fourth round, and blood flowed from it freely. The bout was to have gone ten rounds.

Baron Zweidnek Mixed Up in Passport Deal Acted Under Instructions of Dr. Dumba.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The State Department probably will accept the explanation made by Baron Elich Zweidnek, charge of the Austro-Hungarian embassy here, regarding a letter he wrote to the Austro-Hungarian consul general in New York suggesting that neutral passports be bought to assist reserovists in this country to reach Austria-Hungary.

The letter was written while Dr. Constantine Dumba, the recalled ambassador, was in charge of the embassy. Baron Zweidnek called upon Secretary of State Lansing the day after it was published and explained that he was subordinate official at the time and was acting under the instructions of Dr. Dumba. Secretary of State Lansing did not indicate what his view would be but it is learned that there is no disposition at the department to question the charge's statement that he was not responsible for the letter.

Acceptance of Baron Zweidnek's explanation will clear up one of the incidents out of which grew the situation aggravating relations between the United States and Austria-Hungary. There probably will be no decision in the case of Alexander Von Nuber, Austro-Hungarian consul general at New York, charged with objectionable activities, until after a reply has been received to the note to Austria-Hungary, demanding reparation for American lives lost when the liner Ancona was sunk, and assurances that such attacks will not be repeated.

WOMEN'S PEACE COMMITTEE REPUDIATES FORD EXPEDITION

London, Dec. 15.—The International committee of women for permanent peace, through the president of the Swedish section, has issued an official communication which says that neither the Swedish section nor the headquarters of the committee at Amsterdam will have any connection with Henry Ford's peace mission.