

VENIZELIST TROOPS REACH HERMOPOLIS AND ARE CHEERED

Royalist Officers Detained—
Men Join Nationalists.

NEW BATTLE FRONT SOON?

Remark Made by Premier
Briand May Refer to
Greece.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The "Times" Syria correspondent, telegraphing the 12th, says: "Venizelist troops have just disembarked at Hermopolis, the port of Syria and the island passed under the rule of the national government. Crowds cheered the troops as they landed."

Royalist officers and men of the local forces are detained for the present under a British safeguard, but several of the men have declared their wish to join the national army, and have been accepted.

Stronger Policy Toward Greece. There is neither an official explanation nor a trustworthy indication here as to the reason for the replacing of Admiral du Fourrat, commander-in-chief of the Entente Allied sea forces in the Mediterranean, by Admiral Gauthier, and the announcement is printed here with scarcely any comment.

One or two newspapers, however, interpret the change in command as the first step in a "stronger" policy by the Entente Allies towards Greece. The Daily Mail, quoting the statement of deputies that "tomorrow" a new front will be formed, says it is difficult to see how this can point anywhere but to Greece, but remarks that it is not clear whether Premier Briand used the word tomorrow rhetorically or literally.



Advertiser Illustration.
Striking war pictures by the British official photographer, from the western front. The British regimental sergeant-major came along, carried by four German prisoners, shouting to the reserves going up, "Good boys—let 'em have it."

BOILERMAKERS ARE ON STRIKE, DEFYING THE UNION LEADERS

Work of Vital Importance to
Admiralty Held Up.

GOVERNMENT WILL ACT
Will Deal Drastically Under
Defence of Realm
Act.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The Press Bureau issues the following statement: "Since Saturday a majority of the boilermakers in the port of Liverpool have been on strike. The strike followed the refusal on the part of the same men for a period of five weeks to work overtime. Their action has been taken in defiance of the urgent requests of the leaders of the union and in violation of the provisions of the munitions act."

"The grievance of the men arises from the award given by the committee on production on November 3. They applied for an advance of ten shillings on the ground of increased cost of living, and the award given was three shillings. . . . In order to give the men every opportunity of reconsidering the matter—(name of the sender omitted; will be sent when received)—sent the following message to the union officials: "I assumed office today and regret that my first duty is to deal with the strike. No matter what grievances the men have, it is impossible for me to deal with them until work is resumed. Despite this the men have remained on strike, though admiralty work of the most vital importance, is being greatly delayed. Accordingly, the Government has issued notice, drawing the attention of all concerned, to the defence of the realm act regarding the matter, and the Government proposes to deal with the situation drastically under the power given by the munitions of war act and the defence of the realm act."

RUSSIANS OPPOSE ANY SUSPENSION OF WAR STRUGGLE

Consider Peace Talk Merely
Another German Snare.

TERRIBLE RESPONSIBILITY
Stopping of War With Objec-
tives Gained Too Much
To Assume.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 14, via London. —The peace proposal of the central powers is regarded by the Russian Government as "an attempt to court public opinion and encourage the people of Germany by appearing to put the responsibility for the continuation of the war on the Entente Allies." The proposal has been received by official Petrograd without an atom of sympathy. An official of the foreign office today made the following statement, which has been issued by the semi-official Petrograd News Agency: "The new appeal of our enemies is not their first attempt to throw upon the Entente powers the responsibility for the war they are losing. In order to obtain the support of the German peoples, who are tired of the war, the Berlin Government many times has had recourse to flimsy words of peace and has frequently, in order to animate its troops offered prospects of an early peace. It promised peace when Warsaw was taken, when Serbia was conquered, forgetting that such promises unfulfilled would create profound distrust."

Whole World Knows Game. "In its further efforts, which are similarly due to the same interested considerations, the German Government is obliged to carry this question outside of Germany, notably its balloons d'essai, which were sent up in neutral countries, particularly the United States."

"Seeing the inanity of such methods which deceived nobody, Germany attempted to create a peace atmosphere, which would allow her to consolidate her aggressive and imperialistic tendencies while sowing discord between the Allies, by seeking to make public opinion believe that separate negotiations were in progress between her and the Entente powers. There were also persistent reports of a separate peace."

"In view of the fact, however, that the Allies with strong unanimity rejected all these attempts, our enemies had to think of a more serious plan. They today are making in spite of their confidence in their military and economic power, an appeal to the United States, Spain, and Switzerland, announcing their anxiety to enter into negotiations for peace."

"The lack of sincerity and the object of the enemy proposals is evident. The enemy governments have need of heroic measures to complete the gaps in their armies. Germany is projecting a sort of serfdom in the guise of compulsory military service, to uplift the hearts of its people and prepare it for fresh sacrifices, is striving to create a favorable atmosphere with the following thesis: 'We are struggling for our existence; we are proposing peace! It is refused us. Therefore the responsibility for the continuation of the war falls upon our enemies.'"

German Object is Clear. "The object pursued by Germany, however, is clear. She speaks of respect for the rights of other nations, but at the same time she has already introduced into Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro and Poland a regime of terror and violence. As for the future, Germany has proclaimed an illusory independence for Poland, she proposes to divide Serbia between Bulgaria and Austria, economically to subjugate Belgium and to cede to Bulgaria part of the Rumanian territory."

"Everywhere the idea of the hegemony of Germany predominates. The latest speech of von Bethmann-Hollweg shows the true aspirations of the German Government. But today, when the Entente powers have proclaimed their unshakable determination to continue the war to a successful end and to prevent Germany from establishing hegemony, no favorable ground exists for peace negotiations."

Sure for Public Opinion. "Our enemies knew of the speeches of Lloyd George, Briand and Boselli and the statement of Trepoff; they were therefore assured that their proposal would be unacceptable. It is so, not because the Entente powers—the friends of peace—are not inclined that way, but because the peace offered by Germany is a snare for public opinion. That is why the enemy governments carefully avoid mentioning the conditions of peace."

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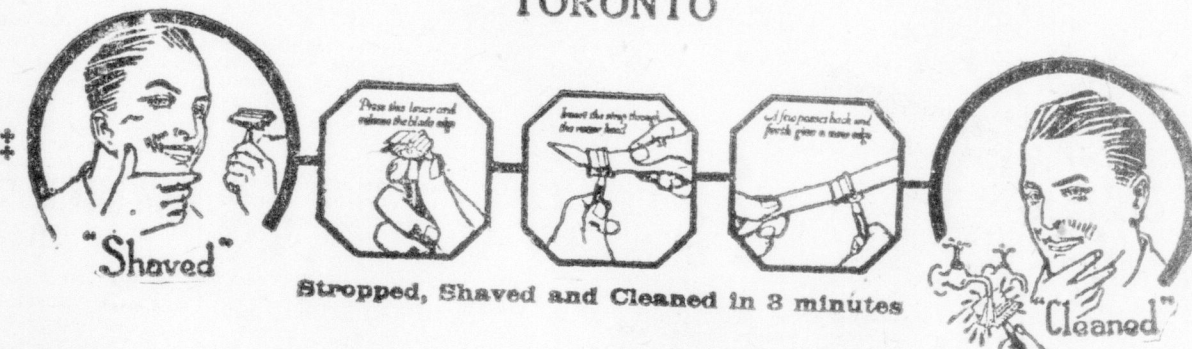
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