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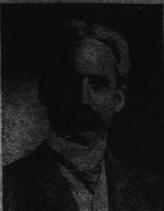
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Londan, April 20.—It is now an open secret in Berlin that some very serious defects and shortcomings were revealed in the German naval manocuvres last year, and the emperor and his nava! advisers are greatly chagrined at the result of these operations. In the first place, it is known throughout the fleet that the gunnery of the ships was extraordinarily poor, Even in the newer ships, mounting the latest pattern guns, and equipped with the most modern sighting and ranging appliances, the number of hits scored was very disappointing. The gunnery records of the British have are very eagerly scanned in Berlin, and the kaiser is asserted to have spoken his mind very strongly upon the poor shooting achieved on the poor shooting achieved

German navy is ahead of the British as regards numbers, but it is doubtful if they were handled with the same skill. It is perhaps significant that, after the first few days of the manoeuvres had shown conclusively the defects of the battle fleet, by express order of the emperor chief attention was given to the movements of the destroyers.

There is a feeling of profound uneasiness at the naval headquarters at a subjects. Will Consist of Six States

Just as the German empire is made up of a group of 26 kingdoms, principalities and duchies, so will the Balkan empire consist of a group of six states will be Turkey, Bulgaria, Roumania, Servia, Montenegro and Greece.

For the supreme head of this combination Sultan Mehmed V. of Turkey, as the ruler of the broadest real manual services.

The position in the German navy today is this: In Wilhelmshaven it cossesses the largest and finest naval case in the world, and a fleet of any magnitude could be fitted out there and prepared for war with a rapidity that could probably not be excelled by any other yard. The newer pattleships and cruisers now complet-

Training at Fault

It is the personnel and the system of training that is at fault, and here Germany is surpassed alike by the British, the French and the Japanese. This has been admitted for some time past by many German officers of experience who have seen anything of the work of the British fleet at sea. The same rigid cast-iron discipline that pervades the German army has been introduced into the navy, and every rank has had its initiative and than any other one thing to do with making the prospective combination of the Balkan states possible, but Ferdinand has handled the actual negotiations and handled them so well that he is on the even ow of accomplishing what every one believed a few months ago was absolutely impossible. His country is one of the best governed, freest and most prospective combination of the Balkan states possible, but Ferdinand has handled the actual negotiations and handled them so well that he is on the even now of accomplishing what every one believed a few months ago was absolutely impossible. His country is one of the best governed, freest and most prospective combination of the Balkan states possible, but Ferdinand has handled them so well that he is on the even now of accomplishing what every one believed a few months ago was absolutely impossible. His country is one of the best governed, freest and most prospective combination of the Balkan states possible, but the prospective combination of the prospective combination of the Balkan states possible but the prospective combination of the pros

the best ships, engines, and suns that money can buy, and human ingenantly suggest is studiously preached and adopted in Germany. The value of the man behind the guit is, however, completely ignored the property is a supposed in the politic of the most experienced officers will fail if ever it comes to grips with the Britteh nave.

For some time part there has been a growing feeling among German, the personnel of the freet and that the system of training now adopted is streetly simulated to the requirements of the south of the system of training now adopted in the personnel of the fleet and that the system of training now adopted is streetly simulated to the requirements of the situation, one has only to join the system and the personnel of the fleet and that the system of training now adopted is streetly simulated to the requirements of the situation, one has only to join the system and the personnel of the fleet and that the system of training now adopted is streetly simulated to the requirements of the situation, one has only to join the system of the situation, one has only to join the system and the system of the situation, one has only to join the system and the system of the situation of the street of the system and the system of the situation of the system of the situation of the system of the situation of the system of the system

MR. AEMELIUS JARVIS-A promi-

by his fleet.

As a result it is probable that the present system of gun training in vogue in the German fleet will be radically altered. Already the allowance of ammunition for training purposes is almost twice as much in the German party as it is in the British, and it is now proposed to increase this allowance. It is anserted by those who are in a position to judge that both the gunnery officers and the gun crews themselves are equally at fault. The officers do not seem to exercise sufficient care in ranging their target before giving the order to fire. The captains of the gun crews, for their part, are content to accept the range as given them from the control stations and

them from the control stations and obt to check it for themselves.

Ships Are Worthless

The presence of the Baltic fleet in the operations was merely an attempt to swell the importance of the eet, and to act in some measure as est-off to the recent visit of the 137 tish fleet to the Thames. The right Siegfrieds comprising it were all built between 1829 and 1897, and their designed speed was only 15.5

The new power will be known as the Balkan Fmnire the Balkan Comes.

eight Siegfrieds comprising it were all built between 1850 and 1897, and their designed speed was only 15.5 knots an hour, while their armament consists of three 9.4 inch guns and ten 3.4 inch guns. Their fighting value is practically nil, and, in the words of an officer upon one of the vessels, "two British cruisers could wipe them all out"

Things were almost as bad in the high seas fleet itself. Germany really possesses only twenty-four hattleships that can be regarded as of any real fighting value. Of these only sixteen were manned by full crews the others being nucleus crews of varying strength. The largest battleship taking part in the mitnoeuvres was about the same class that is now being withdrawn from the main battle fleets, and passed into the reserve. It anything they are rather slower, and earry four 11-inch guns in place of the four 12-inch weanons mounted on the Albion. The only portion of the fleet that can be said to have given anything like satisfaction during the recent German naval manoeuvres was the flottilla of fast ocean-going destroyers, of which a very large number was employed. Here at least the German nays is ahead of the British as regards numbers, but it is doubtful if they were handled with the same skill. It is perhaps significent that, after the first few days of the

Berlin at the present time over the esults of these manoeuves, and the laiser is understood to have under under a matter of fact, the sultan onsideration As a matter of fact, the sultan will probably, however, be not much more than nominal head of the confederation. He would not be likely

tion

But the federation's real head will be Czar Ferdinand of Bu garia.

European statesmen generally consider Ferdinand an extremely slippery customer, but there is no question concerning his ability as a diplomat and an administrator.

Russian influence has had more than any other one thing to do with making the prospective combination.

ing for sea will be fully the equal of any warships yet built, and their guns

been introduced into the navy, and every rank has had its initiative and power of individual thought and decision studiously trampled out of it.

Th's is a fact that is now impressing itself strongly upon the heads of the German feet where it is pointed out that a British master gunner is permitted much greater freedom of action than is allowed to the gunnery officer himself on a German battle-ship. It is this that is paralysing the German fleet today. The doctrine of the best ships, engines, and guns that money can buy, and human ingenuity suggest, is studiously preached and adopted in Germany. The value of the "man behind the gun" is, however, there has been intermittent talk and considerable real prospect of war between the two countries. There has been incentively in fact, been frontier fighting, on a small scale, to be sure, but amply sufficient to have resulted in a declaration of hostilities from one side or the other if there had not been the most cogent reasons for preserving peace.

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toward a Balkan confederation as long as two years ago. They ceased with the Balkan explosion of 1908, when Austria grabbed Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Bulgaria threw off its allegiance to Turkey. There even seemed for a time strong prospects of a free fight between the various states. A year later, however, the now and there is plenty of tangible evidence to bear them out. Czar Ferdinand has been and still is fighting from Balkan court to Balkan court conferring with monarchs and ministers with reference, as he says openly, to the combination. He has seen Czar Nicho'as at St. Peters-burg, and is now just back from in-terviewing the sultan at Constantin-

chat with Czar Nicholas of Russia The latest report is that a marriage is being arranged between Prince Al-exander and the suitan's niece. Prin-

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