

Army, while guerrilla officers will be offered facilities for special training; four classes are to be called up for the National Army in December; meantime, the Military Governor of Attica is placed under the orders of General Scobie.

Professor Svolos has announced that the Government has decided to issue a new drachma on or before the 11th November.

A special military tribunal is to try ten persons charged with high treason. These include General Tsolakoglou and John Rallis, the first and last puppet Premiers; General Bakos, Minister of Defence in the Tsolakoglou Government; Simonidis, Governor-General of Macedonia; Lambou, Chief of the Special Security Police; and Colonel Plitzanopoulos, head of the Security Battalions. General Pangalos is said to have been arrested. Six Ministers have been entrusted with the task of reporting how a purge of State officials may best be effected.

Albania.

On the 20th October Enver Hoxha, the F.N.Ç. leader, announced the formation of the first Albanian Democratic Government before a crowded and enthusiastic Assembly at Berat where the F.N.Ç. have set up their headquarters. There was fanatical excitement in the town, and Enver Hoxha will probably try to obtain Allied recognition for his Government in spite of the present confusion in Albania. Mr. Law repeated in the House of Commons on the 1st November the British Government's view that the Albanian people themselves must decide on the future government of the country.

The F.N.Ç. have been extending their control in the north, but the Germans still hold the chief places on the lines of communication there. There has been heavy fighting between the F.N.Ç. and the Germans 20 miles to the south and east of Scutari. In the south the F.N.Ç. have continued to harass the Germans at Elbasan, they have entered Korça and they are reported to have surrounded Struga in conjunction with Macedonian partisans.

Bulgaria.

The evacuation of Western Thrace by the Bulgarian civil and military authorities was completed on the 25th October, although General Beresov, the Soviet commander, proposes to continue using Bulgarian troops in Yugoslavia. While the general leniency of the armistice caused a measure of smug satisfaction, the evacuation of Western Thrace must have been a rude shock to Bulgarian territorial aspirations, and it was no doubt in order to sweeten the pill that the Government and press boosted the armistice, stressing their satisfaction with the moderate terms secured, their intention to see them faithfully carried out and the advantage of so doing. One paper also stated that during the armistice discussions the Bulgarian delegates found constant support in the Russian people, and the Sofia radio announced that the delegates who had stayed on in Moscow for trade discussions had received a promise from M. Mikoyan that he would see whether Bulgaria's needs could be met.

On the 26th October, Sofia radio broadcast a manifesto by the Macedonian National Assembly to Macedonians everywhere including Greece to close the ranks in order to establish a free Macedonia as an equal unit in a federal Yugoslavia and to destroy the present artificial frontiers.

Public interest is being worked up in the forthcoming trials by the People's Courts. Demands for condign justice arrive from local and other associations. Jewish victims of the Fascist régime are invited to depose, and it is ordered somewhat naïvely that public prosecutors must base their charges on adequate evidence and not rely, as under the former régime, on confessions. It is announced that Prince Kiril is one of a batch of two hundred persons to be tried. Princess Eudoxie, the sister of the late King, has also been arrested. Filov, Bozjhilov, Bagrianov, all members of their Cabinets, two bishops and a number of other clerics, two former Presidents of the Sobranje, and other public men and journalists are to be tried. In Sofia alone there are nearly seven hundred to be charged, and arrests continue.

Turkey.

In opening the Grand National Assembly on the 1st November President İnönü stated that the finances of the Republic were sound—a claim for which there seems to be considerable justification. He touched on the many branches of internal reconstruction with which the Government has managed to proceed in spite of the war, and with reference to agricultural improvement at any rate his

optimism seems to be confirmed by the fact that a bumper harvest was obtained although a million men were under arms. With regard to foreign affairs he expressed the hope that Allied victory would bring justice and security for all nations, great and small—and here he betrayed a fear which constantly obsesses the Government. He repeated a statement he has made more than once, that Turkey would do her utmost to be a helpful member of the family of nations. In her relations with her great Soviet neighbour Turkey had carefully respected her treaty obligations and she hoped that these relations would develop in friendliness. She also hoped for closer relations with the United States. To the British alliance which had kept its vitality after the severest tests, Turkey would continue to attach the highest importance. Turkey rejoiced at the liberation of France and Greece and she would do everything she could to promote peace in the Balkans. She had no outstanding differences with anyone and no secret designs. She desired only to progress morally and materially in conditions of peace. Declaring that the Republic ensured equality, justice and freedom for all its citizens, that it was government by the people and that it would fight any tendency to imitate a foreign régime, President İnönü ended by affirming what in fact distinguishes the Turkish from most other authoritarian States, namely, that the Republic has acted for the benefit of the people.

The cordial telegram of good wishes sent by the Prime Minister, M. Saracoğlu, to the Greek Prime Minister on his Government's return to Athens left no doubt about the Turkish Government's desire to continue the friendliest relations with Greece.

THE MIDDLE EAST.

Few details about the assassination of Lord Moyne in Cairo on the 6th November, beyond those reported in the press, have so far been received. The known facts are briefly that Lord Moyne was attacked and seriously wounded by two armed men dressed in European clothes outside his private residence at Zamalek, in Gezira, shortly after 1 p.m., and died of his wounds in hospital that night. Both the assailants were arrested. The police authorities are now satisfied that the men are Jews. King Farouk, members of the Egyptian Government and many other Egyptians have shown their deep concern and sympathy. The King went in person to the hospital to enquire after Lord Moyne's condition, and also gave a special award to an Egyptian policeman who had shown gallantry in arresting the assassins.

The Egyptian Government has announced its decision to appoint a commission to investigate the alleged irregularities of the late Cabinet. The commission is partisan in composition, the chairman being Makram Ebeid himself who, from the time of his famous "Black Book," has been the main accuser of Nahas, while the only other Minister appointed belongs to Makram's party. The fact that the other parties of the coalition are not represented has provoked a good deal of comment. It is believed that the Prime Minister is himself reluctant to take extreme measures against the Wafd, and that his party (the Saadists) have deliberately refrained from participating in the work of the Commission so as to leave the Makramites and the Palace, which is said to be behind the move, responsible for its proceedings.

It is reported that Hassanein Pasha has proposed a fresh distribution of seats for the forthcoming elections, differing from that mentioned in *Summary* No. 265. The suggestion that he made to the Prime Minister was to give 90 seats to the Saadists, 70 to the Liberals and Makramites respectively, 20 to the Watanists and 14 to the Independents. No free seats would be allowed. Ahmad Maher, who wants to have a number of free seats for his own party (as he hopes) to win, has not yet acquiesced in this proposal. The number allotted to the Watanists certainly seems excessive. It is in any case doubtful whether 20 Watanists of standing could be found, and if this number is accepted by the Prime Minister he may try to introduce some of his own representatives into that party, so as to use it in order to secure a majority against Makram Ebeid.

In a statement last week on Arab Union, the Egyptian Prime Minister said he believed in collaboration between Egypt and other Arab countries, and thought that Arab Union was the best means to this end. While, of course, giving no credit to Nahas for the success of the Alexandria Committee, he allowed that the decisions taken were of importance and interest to the present Egyptian Government. He added that a special section for Arab Affairs (to the head of which

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