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# THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

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## OFFICIAL

### BRITISH

London, Sept. 20.—General French reports no change in mining and artillery activity. The French reports are similar.

German reports announce the capture of Vilna. Russian reports enemy advance in the Vilna region, and further successes near Rovno and in Galicia, where numerous prisoners have been captured.—BONAR LAW.

### FRENCH

Paris, Sept. 20.—Official statement given out by French War Office this afternoon.

"In the Artois district our artillery last night delivered violent bombardment against works of the enemy and interfered with their provision trains in the environs of Arras and on the front along the Orinchon River, where cannonading was accompanied by a spirited rifle fire and outbursts from the machine guns.

In the Champagne district our artillery replied to a bombardment of our positions to the north of Camp de Chalons and checked the fire of the German heavy artillery. To the north of Perthes a depot of munitions within the enemy's lines was blown up.

Between the Aisne and Argonne district the artillery of the enemy maintained its activity during all that night. This fire was answered with energy.

In Lorraine our batteries continued their destructive fire upon the works of the enemy and brought into their field certain routes by which the enemy has been securing provisions. In the vicinity of Ban de Sapt French field artillery dispersed a detachment of the enemy.

### ST. PIERRE BULLETIN

Paris, via St. Pierre, Sept. 20 (official).—The British fleet having bombarded the German organizations of the Belgian coast, our heavy artillery in Neuport district, co-operating with our Allies' fleet, cannonaded the German shore batteries which were shelling the warships.

On the Artois front the enemy's artillery fire slackened. Our batteries kept up their bombardment on the German batteries and positions. There was cannonading and bomb struggles in the Roje district. On the canal running from the Aisne to the Marne we maintained our bridgehead at Sappignee in spite of three hostile attacks.

In Champagne the enemy replied faintly to our bombardment, but shelled fiercely the district situated between the Aisne and Argonne; also on the Meuse heights.

In Lorraine and Vosges our shelling appears to have been particularly efficient. During the day we blew up four German munition depots. Near St. Mihiel a German aeroplane was attacked by the quick fire of our aeroplanes and our batteries, and dropped in the German lines.

### BELGIAN OFFICIAL.

A quiet night. The morning was characterized by a great activity on the part of the enemy's artillery, especially directed against Goot Oostkerke and Renlinghe. During the evening was intermittent firing on several points of our front and rather fierce bombardment of Pypegaand. Our artillery replied most vigorously and dispersed the German sappers working in the direction of St. Hoore and east of Knocloc fort.

### Fate of Army Of Russian Czar Hangs in Balance

London, Sept. 20.—The Russian army, menaced since the fall of Vilna by a German encircling movement, is estimated variously at 250,000 to 500,000. The conditions under which the Russians are attempting to extricate themselves furnishes a striking parallel to those which followed the capture of Warsaw.

They may precipitate one of the greatest, if not the greatest, battles which has been fought on the Eastern front. Although no official confirmation has been received in London from Petrograd this morning, the fall of Vilna, the British Press has accepted the German claim.

Scientists have figured that about 36,000,000 babies are born each year, or at a rate of about 70 a minute.

## Submarine Warfare No Longer Attracts German Sailors

Many Failures Have Sapped the Courage U-Boat Raiders

### CHANGE OF SPIRIT

Everywhere Visible Among the Crews Lately Left Germany—Outlook Hopeless

London, Sept. 20.—The Daily Telegraph says that of late there is apparent, in connection with submarine crews, which but lately left Germany a significant change of spirit. It almost appears for the first time since the beginning of the war that the only active section of the German navy has lost faith.

It may be that the grim succession of failures to report has, at length, had its inevitable effect in sapping the nerves of the men entrusted with "U" boats on hopeless missions. Most significant evidence of dry rot having set in among the German submarine sailors has been reported this week. The details may not be given but it is sufficient that the evidence is of a nature not hitherto experienced in the war, subject in its chief feature and astonishing in the hopelessness of the outlook for return.

### Anchor Liner Rescues the Crew Burning Steamer

New York, Sept. 20.—The Anchor Line steamer Tuscania is on her way to New York to-day, bringing the passengers and crew of the Greek steamer Athinal, which was on fire and abandoned at sea, according to a wireless message received from Captain McLean of the Tuscania.

The Athinal left New York last Thursday for Piraeus, Greece, carrying a few passengers, a large general cargo and many bags of mail.

The Tuscania's latest message came from a point 453 miles from the Ambrose Channel Lightship, and was dated at noon. The passengers aboard number 341 and the crew 68. On the Rumanian Prince there are 61 other survivors. Everyone was saved.

The Tuscania sailed from Glasgow on Sunday week, and is due here late to-day, but is not expected to arrive before to-morrow.

### United States Probing the Case Jas. J. Archibald

Washington, Sept. 20.—Whatever Government action toward James J. Archibald, the American correspondent involved in the case of Dr. Dumba, the Austrian Ambassador, it will not be taken for several days, not until Archibald has had an opportunity to make explanations to officials here.

No further word of the Austrian government's intention to recall Dumba has been received at the State Department to-day. The only action that the Department will take on Dumba's letter published yesterday, will be to formally acknowledge its receipt.

### Superdreadnought Ready For Commission

New York, Sept. 20.—The super-dreadnought Barham, of the British Navy, whose keel was laid in 1913, 600. The conditions under which the Russians are attempting to extricate themselves furnishes a striking parallel to those which followed the capture of Warsaw.

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## RUSSIAN ARMIES FIGHT AT BAY SURROUNDED BY GERMAN FOES, WHO STRAIN EVERY EFFORT DESTROY THEM

Petrograd Express Confidence in Ability of Cornered Army Fight Its Way Out—Germany Sends Troops Against Serbia Where Their Artillery Has Destroyed Serbian Guns Across the Danube—British Fleet Bombarbs Germans Along the Belgian Coast—Heavy Guns Pound Positions Along Western Front.

London, Sept. 21.—Of the many big battles fought on the Eastern front during the past five months, few, if any, have been fought of such importance for the opposing armies as that now in progress east and south of Vilna, where the German Field Marshal Von Hindenburg is attempting to cut off the retreat and destroy the Russian army which defended the city.

A German official report issued to-day throws little light on the progress of the operations, simply stating that the attack against the enemy retreating from Vilna is proceeding.

Petrograd continues to express confidence in the ability of the Russians to extricate themselves from the net thrown around them.

In the opinion of military writers they are in a dangerous position. It

is quite likely, however, that they got their artillery away before the Germans moved across the railways of Vilna, decided upon a week ago. Prince Leopold of Bavaria is also approaching the railway South-East of Lida, having reached the district of Dworzko, which is immediately West of the road skirting the Priepets marshes through running Rovno.

South of Priepets the Russians still control the situation and keep on harassing the Austro-German armies in Volhynia, Galicia.

Although presumably Germany has her hands full in driving the Russians back she has found men and guns to go to her Allies' assistance against Serbia. A German official communication announced that German guns have taken up the fight against the Serbian artillery across the Danube

and claims to have silenced it. Bombardment with heavy guns has become mutual in the West both sides maintaining an almost continuous fire, while the British fleet makes matters lively for the Germans on the Belgian coast.

There are no signs as yet of a general offensive, however, and another winter in the trenches may be looked for.

Intense interest is taken in the Bulgarian situation where the efforts of the Opposition parties are trying to induce the King and Government to depart from the paths of neutrality and join the Entente Powers. It is believed, however, that despite denials the railway agreement with Turkey binds Bulgaria to maintain benevolent neutrality toward Turkey and the Germany powers.

## Bulgaria Induces More Complications In Balkan Situation

Assumes Right to Mobilization of Macedonians Before Territory

### HAS BEEN CEDED

Serbia Was Willing to Cede Portions on Understanding That Bulgaria Aid the Allies

Paris, Sept. 21.—Despatches from Sofia, Bulgaria, announcing the mobilization of troops made up of residents of Macedonia have caused another complication to be introduced in the Balkan situation, which already is tense, through the presentation by the Entente Allies of a joint Note, requiring Bulgaria to define her attitude.

The mobilization of Macedonians has caused surprise and indignation in official diplomatic circles here, as it is declared the whole purpose of the present negotiations between the Allies, Bulgaria and Serbia is to determine whether Macedonia belongs to Bulgaria or Serbia.

That Bulgaria should mobilize Macedonia while the future of Macedonia is still at issue is declared in the highest Serbian and Greek quarters to be an affront to the Allies and other Balkan States. On of the legations taking part in the negotiations outlined the situation today as follows:—

Bulgaria demanded from Serbia the recession of Macedonia as an essential condition to Bulgaria's joining the other Balkan States and co-operating with the Entente Allies. The latter took up Bulgaria's claims and presented them to Serbia in a joint Note. Serbia, after mature consideration, yielded to the desires of the Allies and conceded virtually nine-tenths of the territory of Macedonia demanded by Bulgaria. The only portion of Macedonia not conceded was a small section, which was considered essential to Serbia's military defenses. These concessions of Macedonia territory were made in order that Bulgaria give something in return, namely her co-operation with the Balkan States and the Allies.

The Allies, therefore, handed Bulgaria a joint Note last week, reciting Serbia's concessions of nine-tenths of the disputed Macedonian territory, in effect asking Bulgaria what she proposed doing as a result of the concessions. Now, however, before giving an answer, Bulgaria assumes that she is master of Macedonia and begins re-mobilization of Macedonian residents, that is she assumes control of Macedonia before stating what she is willing to do for the Allies in return for such control.

This, the diplomatic authority pointed out, gives the situation a new phase, which may cause another Note from the Allies, in addition to that of last week, asking an explanation of Macedonian mobilization at a moment when the Allies are negotiating terms by which Bulgaria may secure the recession of Macedonia.

It is understood the Allies' joint Note of last week, accompanied by a verbal request to M. Radoslavoff, Bulgarian Premier, calls for a reply at the earliest possible day.

### Advises Silencing Harmsworth Press Or Applying Censorship

London, Sept. 21.—Strong protest against the Harmsworth Press campaign was made to-day at the National Brotherhood Conference by Rev. Hughes, successor to Dr. Clifford. All is not ideal in the Government, he said, but we are not ready to change seats of power for editorial chairs in the fleets. Some of us are puzzled to know why this noisy ambition for dictatorship is not silenced at least subjected to the same scrutiny as Labor Journals. National agency must not be exploited for mere political ends.

Lloyd George's assurance that the Government is fully alive to the necessity for giving definite lead to the conscription question pleases moderate people in both political parties. The "Morning Post" says the letter contains good, wholesome common sense. The "Manchester Guardian" (Liberal) suspects the Minister is suffering from over-strain because he uses strong language against personal recriminations.

### British Steamer Sunk by Submarine

London, Sept. 21.—Announcement is made that the British steamer Horden has been sunk. The crew has been landed. She was of 1434 tons owned by the Burnett Steamship Company, Newcastle.

## Financial Com. Aims to Stabilize National Exchange

Payments For War Munitions Will Adjust Itself COMPLETE ACCORD

Is Said to Exist Between Finance Commission and American Associates

New York, Sept. 21.—Munitions of war will not be allowed to block the proposed big credit loan to Britain and France, nor will the \$600,000,000 or \$800,000,000 to be secured be locked up at once in the New York treasury chest, according to the consensus of opinion today among these in close touch with the negotiations for raising the money.

It would be assured, said a banker, who has been almost daily in conference with the Commission, to assess the whole problem of stabilizing exchange and thus providing for a continuance of all American exports.

Halled over discussion as to whether the Credit Loan should be available for munitions payments, he said the big thing is to stabilize exchange, then the matter of paying for munitions automatically takes care of itself. Exports of munitions was estimated to constitute considerably less than twenty-five per cent of the first total value of American shipments to Britain and France. Leaving them out of the calculations, if provision can be made for the shipment of soil products and the chief manufactured articles, exchange will, in the opinion of bankers, become stabilized.

It would not then be difficult to find a method of paying for munitions. If it were absolutely necessary to adopt a different method, it is believed gold or American securities, or both, or even some other method of payment would be arranged. On this point the Anglo-French Commission are said to be substantially in accord with the views of their American associates.

The Commission is reported to have taken the attitude that their first task was to stabilize exchange, and that the matter of paying for munitions, which was said recently to have become a question of considerable variance of opinion, is to be subordinated to this.

## Admiralty Says Submarines In Areas Where Liner Sank

London, Sept. 21.—With respect to the German denial of responsibility for the sinking of the Allan line steamer Hesperian, the British official press bureau has issued the following statement: According to information to the press a semi-official statement has been issued in Berlin which says, was practically impossible that a German submarine could have sunk the Hesperian, since according to war plans no German submarine was, on September the 4th, in the locality where the Hesperian was sunk, also because, according to a description from English sources the explosion was of such kind that it must be inferred that it was caused by a mine, rather than torpedo. Undoubted proof exists that a German submarine was actually in the locality where the Hesperian was attacked. Ships were sunk both North and South of this spot on September 4 and 5. The explosion was caused by a torpedo. This is conclusively proved by a fair sized fragment of a torpedo now in possession of the Admiralty, which was picked up on board the ship before she sank.

## Germany Sure Hesperian Destroyed By Floating Mine

Berlin, Sept. 21.—The German Admiralty is now absolutely certain that the Allan Line steamer Hesperian was not destroyed by a German submarine. All underwater boats which were out at the time of the disaster have now returned to their bases.

The associated press, authoritatively informed, stated that none of them torpedoed the steamer. On the contrary, said the Admiralty is convinced that the disaster was due to a floating non-German mine. As confirmation of the Admiralty belief, it is pointed out that a mine painted green, which it was declared was not a German mine, was driven ashore a few days ago on the coast of Ireland in the same vicinity where the Hesperian was blown up.

## Russians Miss Leadership Of Grand Duke

London, Sept. 21.—Commenting on Field-Marshal von Hindenburg's latest coup, the military correspondent of the Times suggests that recent changes in the Russian higher command and the wise strategy of Grand Duke Nicholas seems to have lost favor and instead of continuing their orderly retreat the Russians held on too long. This gave the German commander an opportunity of which he availed himself fully.

It was a great coup, the correspondent says, for German cavalry to reach Vileika and the railway junction at Molodachina, which must have been the main artery for supplies, not only for the Vilna army, but for all the Russian troops fighting on the Vilna-Slonim front. It was a bad business for the Russians to lose this point even temporarily.

## Bale of Hay Causes a Panic

Paris, Sept. 21.—The Channel service between Boulogne and Folkestone, which was stopped on Friday because of a false alarm regarding submarine activity, was again suspended yesterday.

Officials were unable to give a reason. According to Boulogne advices Friday, a trawler reported sighting a submarine and floating mine. Port defences were mobilized, but nothing was seen of the submarine, and the mine proved a bale of hay.

## Russians Capture Seventy Thousand

London, Sept. 21.—Seventy thousand prisoners of war were taken by the Russians on the front south of Polesie in the last days of August and the beginning of September already have been registered and expected this number will be increased when the final reports are received, says a Petrograd despatch.

This statement issued at the Russian capital is the official reply to the Vigna report, denying the Russian claims to large captures.

## LOCAL ITEMS

Mr. R. Templeton who had been North on the S.S. Susu arrived here by that ship this morning.

The tug Ingraham which has been doing the Fortune Bay mail service the past six weeks, left Hr. Britain at 10 a.m. yesterday coming here. The Susu sails to-morrow to resume the service.

Miss Isabella Gamber, stenographer at Job Bros. & Co's office, who spent a very enjoyable holiday at Cape Broyle, returned here Monday and is looking fine after her sojourn on the Southern Shore.

Some stupid "mutt," a healer whose trains are all in his boots, and whose corns we trod on yesterday, gets after the Advocate in last night's Herald about the rotten spare ribs seized by Inspector O'Brien. Well, what about them? The Inspector saw that they were as rotten as the Government which allowed them to be held, and he rightly buried them as deep as the tainted graballs will be in 1917.

## Very Ill At Cairo

In answer to a message sent last week as to his brother's condition, Mr. H. Ebsary of the Monroe Export Co., had the following to-day from the Canadian Hospital at Cairo:

"Regret private Ebsary is dangerously ill of meningitis." This shows that no improvement has taken place since receipt of the last message.

## Looking For Local Laborers

Yesterday agents were over from Bell Island securing laborers to work at Point Riche lime store quarries, near Sydney. They are offering \$1.50 per day and the N.S.S. Co. will send them along in their ore ships free of charge.

## Another Diphtheria Case Reported

Yesterday a girl aged 12, a resident of Monroe Street, developed diphtheria and was removed to hospital. The disease is of a very light type.

## Sir W. Laurier Will Go South

Ottawa, Sept. 15.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier is now apparently past the hazard of consequences from his operation. He will leave the hospital within a few days for his home. It is expected that when able to travel comfortably Sir Wilfrid will leave for the south to rest and regain the strength which months of pain and his operation deprived him of to a serious extent.

It is stated that Sir Wilfrid has begun to eat with relish, and the presence of appetite so soon leads the physicians to expect a speedy recovery of strength and vigor.

## Tax Upon Movie Films Is Urged In Britain

London, Sept. 15.—German-American film companies are threatening to dismiss their British agents should the latter handle or recommend British films in this country, while the export of British or French films to the United States is forbidden.

Britain is now taking 20 million feet of film per week from these companies, and an agitation has begun here to tax them half a penny per foot, which would yield an annual revenue of two million pounds.

## Fire In Colliery Entombs Many Miners

Nuneaton, England, Sept. 21.—Several hundred miners are entombed in Exhall colliery as the result of a fire. Rescuers have already sent up ten bodies.

Florida and Georgia together contributed 97 per cent of the quantity and value of fuller's earth marketed in 1913.