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# THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. III. No. 320.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1916.

Price: 1 Cent.

## Asquith Will Retain Leadership Liberal Party

Liberal Reform Club ex-Premier Reviews the Circumstances Which Led up to His Resignation—His Colleagues Acted According to Their Own Dictates and Were Not Persuaded by His Action

### WILL HELP NEW GOVT. IN ANY WAY

Asquith Says There Was a Carefully Engineered Campaign Against Him but he Acquitted Lloyd George of Having Any Part Therein—Trouble Arose Over the War Council—Asquith Intends to Sit in the Front Opposition Bench—Ex-Premier Refuses Honors Offered Him by King George

LONDON, Dec. 8.—Ex-Premier Asquith was the only speaker at a meeting of the Liberal Reform Club this afternoon. He said his colleagues acted according to their own dictates and in no way were they persuaded by the action he had taken in resigning. The ex-Premier emphasized the necessity and importance of giving strenuous adhesion to whatever government that was in power for the purpose of bringing about what all desired,—the winning of the war. Asquith declared that although he had resigned the Premiership, he had not given up the leadership of the Liberal Party. The former Premier, who looked remarkably well, said there had been a carefully engineered campaign against him, but he acquitted Lloyd George and his other associates in the retiring Government of complicity therein. On Friday of last week, he said, he had received Lloyd George's proposal for a smaller war council. The same day he replied that the Prime Minister must preside over such a body. Lloyd George did not agree to this. On Sunday the Unionist members intimating they had a meeting, at which they decided they could not remain in the Government if he did that. If he did not resign, they would. He saw what I can to facilitate the task which

## TEUTONIC GAINS NOT SO GREAT AS FIRST THOUGHT

Their Recent Success in Roumania Has Very Definite Limitations—Main Bulk of Roumanian Army is Intact and Nearing a Terrain Where Resistance Can be More Effective

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The Roumanian Government still withholds an announcement regarding the latest events, and the only news available respecting the Roumanian situation comes from Roumania's enemies. Pending further information the London papers this morning print a second thought on the Central Powers' successes by the military critics and editorial writers. The gist of these opinions is that while it would be useless to seek to attenuate the moral advantage and considerable accession of useful supplies obtained by the Central Powers, it would be easy to exaggerate the evil consequence for the Entente. Expressions of certain German newspapers quoted show that the informed people of Germany realize that their triumph in Roumania has very definite limitations. Among these things, which it is contended, here, merely qualify the successes of the Central Powers, is the fact that Bucharest voluntarily surrendered. The main bulk of the Roumanian army so far as is known is intact and nearing a terrain where resistance can be more effective. The losses the Germans inevitably suffered from the stubborn resistance of the Roumanians, it is pointed out, can be ill-spared.

## U.S. Protests Against Deportation of Belgians

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The note to Germany protesting against the deportation of Belgians for forced labor as contrary to all precedents of human principles and international practices was made public to-night. The State Department note was cabled to Charge d'Affairs Grew, at Berlin, November 29th the day Ambassador Gerard discussed the subject with President Wilson. The state department announced the interview had taken place but said nothing about the results.

## Belgians Protest

HAVRE, Dec. 8.—Twenty Belgian Senators and 23 Belgian Deputies now living in Brussels, have taken the personal risk of sending a signed protest to Gen. Von Bissing, against the deportation of senators and deputies. At the same time they sent copies of their protest to the American and Spanish Ministers at Brussels and the diplomatic representatives of other countries. Copies of the protest and a letter from a neutral minister has been received by the Belgian government.

## In Wallachia

PETROGRAD, Dec. 8.—The Roumanian and Russian troops in Wallachia are continuing the retirement begun at the time of the occupation of Bucharest, the War Office announced to-day. The Teutonic forces have attacked the Moldavian front in Oltuz Valley, but have been unable to break the line.

has fallen into other hands."

Viscount Grey made the announcement then that Balfour would be Foreign Secretary, and Lord Robert Cecil would remain as Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs. There was much applause when Grey said that at the beginning of the war he was much struck with the resolute courage of three men, Asquith, Lloyd George and Lord Kitchener. Lloyd George, he said, was a man of great courage, who never inched, who had borne his burden, which was heavy, all through with great fortitude. Having passed a resolution of appreciation of Asquith's services, recognizing him as leader, and offering hearty support to the new Government, the meeting took up the discussion whether the Liberals should occupy seats with the Opposition in the Commons. Asquith said he intended to be in the front Opposition bench, but that others could please themselves.

## Liberal Weekly Hands Out Some Hot Ones to David Lloyd George

In a Leading Article Entitled "A Leak in the Dark" the War Says the Article Which Has Changed the Work Has Brought About the Innovation of a Government Which Seems to Have Been Derived From the Practice of France Under the Early Jacobins

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The chief Liberal weekly, "The Nation," reprints a leading article on the Cabinet situation entitled "A Leak in the Dark." The war, says the article, which has changed the world, has brought about the innovation of a Government which seems to have been derived from the practice of France under the early Jacobins. When one of these gentlemen desired power of office with which the State had omitted to endow him, he occasionally nominated himself for positions. To this French precedent Lloyd George added an English example last week. He proposed to divide the Cabinet into two parts, the first, the unimportant part, to consist of the Prime Minister and his colleagues, the second, and the vital part, to consist of himself and three inconspicuous civil associates, which were to be charged with the sole direction of the war. The article then adds that Lloyd George's bristly appointment was made after it had vigor and adroitness have impressed themselves on the popular mind in contrast to Lord Northcliffe's hourly and daily presentation of his colleagues as a mass of senility and incompetence. In declaring the new Ministry has

## Lloyd George Wins Strong Support from Labor Party

Having Granted Sweeping Concessions to Laborites New Premier is Able to Win Over Their Support—Political Correspondents in London Papers Say Lloyd George Was Prepared to Adopt a Sweeping Measure of State Control, Embracing all Industries and Means of Transportation on Land or Sea—Also Extension of Tax on War Profits

LONDON, Dec. 8.—Political writers in the morning papers generally emphasize the importance of Lloyd George's success with the laborites. His offers to them during the prolonged conferences are stated to have included, in addition to five or six Ministerial posts the establishment of a Labor Ministry, the inclusion of a Labor Delegate at the eventual peace conference and a promise that Labor should have a voice in all matters relating to peace. It is said in certain quarters that some of these concessions were demanded as part of the price and adhesion and that the Labor-

## SITUATION CRITICAL IN ATHENS

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The "Chronicle" has the following from George Renwick, dated Pireaus, via the Island of Syria, December 5:—

"I spent the greater part of to-day in Athens and can only state that the situation is critical in the extreme. Royalist mobilization is proceeding rapidly and strong forces are being sent north towards Larissa. Every possible wartime preparation is being made under the personal supervision of General Dausmanis, and it is extremely unlikely that peaceful counsels will prevail with military clique, whose ardour is enflamed by German reports of Balkan victories and lavish impossible promises from Potsdam. All Allied troops having been withdrawn the Greeks occupy all points of vantage near Athens and Pireaus. Trenches are being made everywhere and guns mounted on surrounding heights. Strenuous efforts are being made to place a strong army in Larissa region, with the object of falling

## German Raider Loose In North Atlantic

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The Admiralty announced tonight that a report had been received that a disguised armed German vessel of mercantile type had been sighted in the North Atlantic on Dec. 4th. No further information had been received concerning the vessel's whereabouts the admiralty adds.

## Teutons Still in Pursuit of Retiring Roumanians

Von Mackensen Continues His Pursuit of Retreating Russo-Roumanian Forces in Eastern Wallachia but How Far He Has Succeeded is Not Clear in Late Official Statements—Berlin Claims 16,000 Prisoners

### CALM IN DOBRUDJA AND ALONG DANUBE

Berlin Says Russian Offensive in the Carpathians Can be Said to be a Failure—Also Claims the Repulse of Russian Attack on Dvina Front Below Riga—Both Paris and Berlin Claim Success Southeast of St. Mihiel—Heavy Fighting Around Savra East of Monastir in Which Serbs Check Three Attacks by Bulgarian Forces

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The pursuit of the retiring Russian and Roumanian forces in eastern Wallachia, by Field Marshal Von Mackensen, continues, but how far the Teuton advance has progressed is not clear in the latest official statements. Berlin chronicles a continuation of the advance along the whole front, with the capture of 16,000 prisoners. Petrograd says the Russians and Roumanians have been repulsed since the evacuation of the Roumanian capital and, seemingly, the retiring defenders of Roumanian near Trhova, west of Monastir, was soil are offering little resistance, repulsed, Berlin states. Snow in the Trentine region and line of the Buzen River before the Austro-Germans can break through fantry actions on the Austro-Italian Melavan frontier and get in front their rear, or the Bulgarians and Germans can cross the Danube around Tchernovoda and outflank them. However, there has been little activity either on the Transylvanian-Melavan front or in the Dobrudja. The Germans have repulsed a Russian attack in the Tretus Valley and the Russians report a checking of an offensive movement in the Oltuz Valley. Petrograd says all has been calm in the Dobrudja and along the Danube. In the advance on Bucharest the troops of Von Mackensen have captured 18,000 prisoners and twenty-six guns. The Roumanian troops isolated in western Wallachia, numbering 8,000 have been taken, as well as 10,000 of the forces operating around the Predeal and Atashanz Passes. It is undecided apparently with the Carpathians whether the Russians will again be able to take the initiative there. Berlin states the present Russian offensive in the Carpathians can be said to be a failure and declares only local attacks occurred in that region. The repulse of a Russian attack on the Dvina front, below Riga, is also recorded by Berlin. Hill 304, in the Verdun region, and in the forest of Aprement, southeast of St. Mihiel, have been the scenes of the only reported activity on the western front. Paris claims the Germans were objected from the section of trenches on Hill 304, but Berlin asserts the troops of the Crown Prince repulsed French attempts to retake the trenches. The Germans, Paris records, succeeded in gaining a foothold in French trenches in the Forest of Aprement, but later were ejected by a counter-attack. Heavy fighting around Savra, east of Monastir, on the Macedonian front, is recorded by Paris, which says the Serbs checked three attacks by the Roumanian and, seemingly, German-Bulgarian troops. A Serb attack the retiring defenders of Roumanian near Trhova, west of Monastir, was repulsed, Berlin states. Snow in the Trentine region and line of the Buzen River before the Austro-Germans can break through fantry actions on the Austro-Italian Melavan frontier and get in front their rear, or the Bulgarians and Germans can cross the Danube around Tchernovoda and outflank them. However, there has been little activity either on the Transylvanian-Melavan front or in the Dobrudja. The Germans have repulsed a Russian attack in the Tretus Valley and the Russians report a checking of an offensive movement in the Oltuz Valley. Petrograd says all has been calm in the Dobrudja and along the Danube. In the advance on Bucharest the troops of Von Mackensen have captured

## Casino Theatre!

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TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, December 12th, 13th, 14th.

## "THE LIARS."

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- Archibald Coke . . . . . MR. W. R. WARREN
- Walter at "The Star and Garter" . . . . . MR. L. E. EMERSON
- Cadogan footman at Cadogan Gardens . . . . . MR. JACK PATERSON
- Taplin, Sir Christopher's Servant . . . . . MR. A. HAYWARD
- Verria, Lady Jessica's Maid . . . . . MISS FRANCES GOSLING
- Mrs. Crespin . . . . . MISS EMILE MARE
- Beatrice Ebernoe . . . . . MISS MARGARET DOYLE
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## NOTICE!

The Annual Meeting of the Bay Roberts Local Council will be held in the F.P.U. Hall, Bay Roberts, on MONDAY night, December 11th. All members are respectfully requested to attend.

By order,  
S. E. MERCER,  
Chairman.

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