

BULGARIANS REPORTED ON GREEK TERRITORY; MORE IMPORTANT CHANGES IN BRITISH ARMY STAFF

Berlin Paper Announces Beginning of Invasion — Confine Operations to Seizing Saloniki Railway Unless Attacked by Greek Troops — Capture of Varna Prelude to New Effort for Constantinople — French Success in Vosges Brilliant and Opportune Stroke.

Copenhagen, Dec. 22, via London, Dec. 23. — The Deutsch Tages Zeitung of Berlin, a copy of which has been received here, says that Bulgarian troops are entering Greek territory, but that if they are not attacked by Greek troops they will confine their operations to seizing the Saloniki railway.

CREATES FAVORABLE IMPRESSION IN ATHENS.

London, Dec. 23.—An Athens despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company, dated Tuesday evening says: "News of the landing of Russian forces (at Varna) has created a favorable impression and as correcting as erroneous ideas of the Entente leniency towards Bulgaria."

London, Dec. 22.—The second American note to Austria shared the leading positions in the late London newspapers with the reports of the Russian success at Varna, Bulgaria's chief sea port. The number of the note appeared here too late for extended editorial comment, but the headlines reflected the opinion—"note couched in sharper tones." All discussion about details swept aside.

Up to a late hour there was no official confirmation of the report of the Russian occupation of Varna, if true, is, according to the London editors, "one of the greatest moves of the present war." The same critics believe that the Russian assault on Varna is the prelude to a new effort for Constantinople, which is less than 150 miles distant.

On the western front the success of the French at Hartmann-Wellerkopf, in the Vosges, is regarded in the Allied capitals as not only a brilliant, but a useful, operation at a point where the situation has been most difficult for many months. The number of prisoners is the largest on the west front since the great Champagne losses offensive.

The English public takes much pride in the manner in which Australia has taken the withdrawal from Gallipoli. This attitude is summed up by an Australian newspaper in the words of Lincoln's Gettysburg speech: "We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

The most important developments of the evening in Great Britain were an appeal by the leading bankers to the nation to unite in the task of meeting the war's financial requirements, and a speech by David Lloyd George, the minister of munitions, at Newcastle, in which he demanded in his speech in parliament a few days ago.

The reports of the Reichstag discussions have aroused some interest in the Entente capitals, where the Socialist attitude is being closely followed, many believing that some sections of the Socialist group in Germany may prove to be the ultimate channel of peace negotiations. A Copenhagen despatch declares that the Socialist party in Germany is now completely divided, twenty-one members having seceded and formed a new party, with an independent organization.

Forty Warships in Bombardment of Varna.

London, Dec. 23.—There is still no confirmation of the reported Russian landing at Varna. A Bucharest despatch to the Times, dated December 21, says:

"A Russian fleet of about forty vessels appeared yesterday morning (Monday) off Cape Kallikra, and proceeded in the direction of Varna, whence a violent bombardment was heard. Nothing was visible owing to the fog."

"According to official reports, four large warships and two torpedo boats engaged in the bombardment with heavy guns. The shore batteries replied. The firing lasted from eight to ten o'clock in the morning, then ceased, apparently owing to the fog, and the squadron returned to Kallikra about noon."

"Simultaneously with the bombardment two Russian gunboats opened fire on the Bulgarian frontier near Ekrene."

On the Italian Front.

Rome, via London, Dec. 22.—The general headquarters today reads as follows:

"In Giudicaria Valley on Monday night, our artillery and air craft effectively bombarded Fort Por, of the Ladaro group."

"Two enemy aeroplanes, which were attacked and forced to retreat."

"In the Terragnole Valley detachments of the enemy's artillery which attempted to approach our positions were counter-attacked and repulsed, leaving some prisoners."

"In the Suzana Valley our artillery fired on the railway station at Ledico, where movements of troops were reported. On the Asiago Plateau Tuesday, an enemy aeroplane offered a mark for our artillery and was forced to land by reason of damage done to its engines. The pilot was captured."

GERMAN REPLY NOT FOR THE PUBLIC YET

Because of Possible Bearing Upon Issues Involved in Lusitania and Ancona Cases State Department Withholds Reply on Frye Case.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Because of its possible bearing upon the open issues involved in the Lusitania and Ancona cases, the State Department will not make public the details of Germany's reply to the last American note regarding the sinking of the American ship William P. Frye.

A cabled outline of the German reply indicated that it was not completely responsive, and left in doubt the attitude of the German government towards the American suggestion that the requirements of the Declaration of London, that "before the vessel is destroyed all persons on board must be placed in safety," was not satisfied by merely giving an opportunity for escape in lifeboats on the open sea.

The full text of the German note now has been received through the mails from Ambassador Gerard. It was admitted today at the State Department, but officials declined to say what response was made to this important suggestion. It was intimated in some quarters that as to agree to the American view at this time might seem to prejudice the Austrian case in regard to the Ancona, in addition to having a bearing upon the Lusitania negotiations, the German government probably had not conceded the point.

So far as the Frye case is concerned, this point is not directly involved, as the crew of the Frye was taken aboard the German commerce destroyer which sank the ship. Therefore, it is thought that the subject may be discussed as a separate question, or perhaps in connection with the practice of submarine warfare, as involved in the Lusitania case.

An Important Stroke

Paris, Dec. 22.—The successful action of the French at Hartmann-Wellerkopf was made for the purpose of bringing to an end a situation which the French regarded as intolerable. On the summit of this mountain there had been incessant firing by both sides. The trenches were separated by only a very small distance. The result of this fighting was an appreciable loss of men each day.

The French success resulted from careful artillery preparation and the dash on onslaught of the troops. The Germans have been forced back some distance on the eastern slopes of the mountain.

A despatch to Reuters Telegram Company from Port Said, received early this morning says:

"The Yassaka Maru sank in 45 minutes. Perfect discipline prevailed among the passengers and crew, and all lives were saved."

The Yassaka Maru was a vessel of 5,879 tons net.

Austrian Report.

Vienna, via London, Dec. 22.—The following official communication was issued today:

"Russian theatre: At some points there have been artillery encounters and skirmishes."

"Italian theatre: The activity of the Italian artillery against the Tyrol southern front continues. On the other fronts there have been some isolated artillery combats. An attack of one enemy company near Dolje, on the Tolmino bridgehead, collapsed before our fire."

"Southeastern theatre: Near Ipek."

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Allotment of the

LIEUT.-GEN. SIR ARCHIBALD MURRAY TO COMMAND BRITISH AT DARDANELLES

London, Dec. 22.—Lieut. Gen. Sir Archibald Murray has been appointed to succeed Sir Charles Monro as British commander at the Dardanelles, says an official statement issued this afternoon.

Sir Charles Monro has been appointed in command of the first British army in France, in succession to Sir Douglas Haig.

The official announcement follows: "General Sir Douglas Haig having assumed supreme command of the British forces in France and Flanders, Gen. Sir Charles Monro will succeed him in command of the first army."

"Lieut. Gen. Sir Archibald Murray, chief of the imperial general staff, will succeed Sir Charles Monro."

"Lieut. Gen. Sir William Robertson, now chief of the general staff in France, will become chief officer of the imperial general staff, with the temporary rank of general, with Major General W. Whigham, as his deputy."

"Major General L. Kiggell, now assistant to the chief of the imperial general staff, will become chief of the general staff of Sir Douglas Haig."

Canada Will Shirk No Sacrifice to Help Bring Victory, Sir Robert Says

Premier Borden Guest of Honor at 110th Dinner of New England Society in New York, Gives Stirring Address on Canada's Part in the War.

New York, Dec. 22.—Canada, while hoping that events of the next twelve months will lead to an abiding peace, is fully determined to spare no effort and shirk no sacrifice to make triumphant the cause of the Allies—the freedom of the world," declared Sir Robert Laird Borden, the Canadian premier, in an address tonight at the 110th dinner of the New England Society in New York. Recounting what sacrifices Canada has already made, Premier Borden said it stood ready to make still more, "firm in the conviction that humanity's struggle against the enslavement of force above right will not be in vain."

Premier Borden was cheered enthusiastically throughout his address, which was the first formal speech delivered by him in the United States since the outbreak of the war. The banquet hall was decorated with American and British flags, while the orchestra played the national airs of America and Great Britain.

After a toast to President Wilson, was drunk, amid cheering, President Francis Lynde Steiwer introduced Premier Borden.

After reverting to his own intimate associations with New England life, Premier Borden told how Canada had redeemed the pledge made to the United Kingdom at the outbreak of the present war.

"We take part in this struggle because the destiny of the world-wide British commonwealth is our destiny," said the premier, "because as one of its greatest nations we are determined to preserve its power and its influence; and because we conceive that, as one of those nations, there is for us the highest opportunity to advance the cause of humanity and civilization, to do our part worthily in the world's work."

The premier declared that the Canadian people were determined, with the mother country, "to carry on the struggle to a successful conclusion."

Sir Robert first referred to his qualifications for membership in the New England Club. He believed himself eligible under the requirements, as he was a son of a New Englander, and a quarter had lived in New England. Chiefly of New England ancestry, he said, were those who colonized eastern Nova Scotia, and the influence of that ancestry is still unmistakable. Their ideals of self-government prevailed in the Annapolis Valley from the time the colonists "settled down in the last half of the eighteenth century" until 1878.

"Between the Maritime Provinces of Eastern Canada and the New England States," Sir Robert said, "there has been, during the past fifty years, a very close relation. Many Maritime Province young people," he said, "came to the eastern states to find employment, and many Nova Scotians came to Harvard or Yale for an education."

one hundred million dollar war loan is now complete. All subscribers have been allotted their subscriptions in full, with the exception of the chartered banks, who have been out down to about eighty per cent of their subscription of twenty-five millions.

"In the Riga district our artillery successfully cannonaded German aeroplanes and captive balloons. Near Shlok, on the island of Dalen, an artillery duel resulted in our favor."

CHANDLER REPORT CASTS NO SHADOW ON GOVT

Result of Investigation Into Gloucester County Public Works Shows Paltry Character of Mr. Veniot's Charges—Small Sums of Money Involved and in Most Cases Province Sustained No Loss Whatever—Tangle due to Ignorance and Incapacity of few Minor Officials.

Attorney-General Baxter, last night, handed The Standard a copy of the report of W. B. Chandler, K. C., who was appointed by the Provincial Government as a commissioner to investigate certain charges made by Peter J. Veniot, and having to do with public work in Gloucester county. The report is published in full on pages 10 and 11 of this issue.

The Commissioner dealt with eleven cases, and submitted a detailed report in each case. In his introduction he says:

"At the outset of my investigation I made some enquiries into the operations of the Departments of Public Works, of Lands and Mines, of Agriculture and of the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer of the Province of New Brunswick, and into the operations of the said Departments, but I could not find any instances of inefficiency, incapacity, irregularity, dishonesty or wrong-doing on the part of any inside official or employee of the said Departments, or in the administration of these branches of the public service, with this possible exception."

"Soon after my appointment as Commissioner I took the evidence of Thomas G. Loggie, Esquire, Deputy Minister of Lands and Mines, and he called my attention to the fact that steps might, in his judgment, be taken which would promote the efficiency of the Departments of Lands and Mines. Mr. Loggie also told me that he had reported with respect to these matters to the Hon. Mr. Clarke, the head of the Department, and that some of his suggestions had been carried out and that others were being considered by the head of the Department."

"Under these circumstances I do not think it necessary for me to go into details as to the suggestions made by Mr. Loggie."

"Mr. Loggie's suggestions dealt with the improvement of the efficiency of the staff of the Department, and he stated that no cases of actual dishonesty or wrong-doing on the part of the Staff had come under his notice."

The first matter required into was a charge made by E. S. Carter regarding the payment of \$2,903.32 by the Dalhousie Lumber Company, Ltd., in the year 1912. Several witnesses were examined and the evidence developed that the cheque for the amount, which was for stumpage due, was made payable to the Miramichi Lumber Company to liquidate a rebate due that company from the Department of Lands and Mines.

The arrangement was made by W. H. Berry, then chief scaler and the Commissioner found that while the turning over of the cheque from the Dalhousie Company to the Miramichi Company was irregular, the province lost no money by the transaction.

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LLOYD GEORGE NO TIME TO INTERVENE

Inopportune for Swiss Government to Offer Good Offices for Peace Negotiations, Member of Parliament Declares.

Paris, Dec. 22.—The Swiss federal council believes that this is not the proper time to offer its good offices to belligerents for the negotiations of an armistice, or preparations for peace negotiations, according to a declaration made in the Swiss parliament today by M. Hoffman, head of the political department of the federal council, as quoted in a Havas despatch from Berne.

M. Hoffman's declaration was made in reply to an interpellation by M. Greulich, representing the Socialist group, who said he was satisfied with the answer of the federal council, adds the despatch, and there was no debate.

"We will be glad," his quoted remarks continue, "if, moved by sympathy for the belligerents, and faithful to its traditions of neutrality, our little country, can, if only in a small measure, contribute with complete disinterestedness to the re-establishment of a durable peace, so much desired. As long, however, as the belligerents themselves have not expressed a desire for peace all intervention on the part of strangers will not only be sterile, but inopportune, and considered unfriendly interference. A peace proposal could thus prejudice the cause of peace."

Great damage was done to the town, the newspaper adds.

Later advices from Amsterdam state that according to accounts received there, 300 of the 600 women employed in the Muenster Powder Mill were killed.

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ALLOTMENT OF WAR LOAN COMPLETE

Chartered Banks Cut Down to About Eighty Per Cent. of Their Subscriptions.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Allotment of the