

1916

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PROBS—Strong winds from southeast and south mild, with occasional rain.

NEW CABINET FORMED

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SERBIANS LOSE GROUND TO BULGARIAN ATTACKS

Foe in Balkans Retaks Part of Heights Captured North of Sokol

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

Paris, Dec. 7.—According to the French official communication on the progress of the Serbian campaign, the Serbs have lost some of the ground which they had gained in their last attacks north of Sokol, to a counter-attack of the enemy. The French communication follows: "Army of the east. On Dec. 6 the enemy bombarded our positions around Monastir. A new counter-attack against the Serbian positions on the slopes north of Sokol resulted only in the capture of Turkish heights recently conquered. South of Sereva a Turkish trench was cleared by British troops, who brought back prisoners."

COST OF NECESSARIES REDUCED AT OTTAWA

Inquiries Instituted by Crofters Are Already Having Some Effect

By a Staff Reporter.

Ottawa, Dec. 7.—Inquiries under the cost of living regulations regarding potatoes are being sent out by the labor department today and are being addressed to about seven hundred merchants throughout Canada who deal in potatoes. Replies regarding coal will begin to come in next week. Questions were addressed to about four hundred coal merchants.

The immediate effect of the regulations, so far as Ottawa is concerned, is that the upward trend of prices of necessities of life has stopped and in some cases prices have begun to descend.

NEW CABINET FORMED

CRISIS NOW IS PASSED

ANOTHER PHOTOGRAPH PICKED UP BY A SOLDIER IN NO MAN'S LAND



This snapshot is another that was picked up in France and sent to The Toronto World in an effort to find its owner or the girl whose picture it is. It was sent by Mrs. Tom Eastworth with the following note: "Find enclosed a snapshot which my brother picked up in No Man's Land in France after the Canadians had raided a section of the German trenches. As he didn't know who the owner of the snap was he sent it to me, and I am sending it to you."

Lloyd George Today Will Announce Names of New Ministers, Who Will Represent All Parties and Comprise Strong Business Element.

London, Dec. 7.—David Lloyd George at Buckingham Palace tonight formally kissed the King's hands on his acceptance of the offices of prime minister and first lord of the treasury. This indicates that in an unexpectedly short time the new premier sees his way to the formation of an administration, and he was probably able to submit to the King a preliminary draft list of the principal proposed ministers.

Doubtless much remains to be done in the way of the allocation of the new posts, and so far as the public is concerned the personnel of the ministry is a matter of pure speculation. But the premier still has plenty of time before he has to meet parliament, on Tuesday, to complete the details, and he will doubtless be in a position to present to the house of commons his new national ministry, representing all parties with the possible exception of the Nationalists, and if common report is to be trusted, comprising a strong business element.

Little reliance can be placed upon the numerous rumors circulated during the day, but it seems certain that his field of choice is much wider than was hastily assumed last night, when the admittedly difficult task confronting him was uppermost in the public mind and provoked misgivings regarding his chances of securing any continued support in parliament. These misgivings to a large extent have disappeared, mainly owing to the fact that he has been able to gain the support of the Labor party by an offer of two ministerial posts and three under-secretaryships.

Will Command Majority. With the vote of the Laborites, together with the bulk of the Unionists and a large section of the Liberals demanding more energetic prosecution of the war, Mr. Lloyd George will probably command a working majority in the house of commons while a further asset will be the benevolent neutrality even of the supporters of the late cabinet in the national interests.

Possibly many ministerial traditions will be jettisoned, but Mr. Lloyd George has a reputation for courage and boldness, and is not a great stickler for tradition. Therefore, some surprises may appear in the distribution of the new offices. What already is apparent, however, is that the new ministry will, not as was at first assumed, be a mere glorified war council of only a few members, but a ministry on the old lines, much smaller than the Asquith administration.

An Unsolved Problem. How Mr. Lloyd George proposes to get over the difficulty of his own making, when he declared that the premier was too occupied to be able to preside over the war council, is still one of the problems unsolved.

It appears that Mr. Lloyd George's plans were only secured by a narrow majority in the meeting of the Labor party, and there may be some restiveness on the part of a section of the party, but this is not likely to interfere with the completion of the cabinet. It is stated that feeling has been aroused in the party that the new policy of "thoro" adopted by the new government may include the nationalization of railways, shipping and mines.

The greatest interest centres in the personality of the new foreign secretary. Two names are mentioned—Mr. Lloyd George himself and Lord Curzon. It is generally assumed that the latter will be the favorite for the post, he having had great experience abroad, and he commands public confidence to an exceptional degree.

Until late in the evening, however, those in Mr. Lloyd George's confidence believed that, following the precedent of the Salisbury administration, Mr.

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FARMERS PREPARE TO CONTEST SEATS

Various Organizations in the West Calling Meetings to Consider Platform.

Winnipeg, Dec. 7.—With a view of having men of their own type and from their own community elected at the next general election, the farmers of the west have commenced preparations, and various organizations are calling meetings at which a platform adopted by the Canadian Council of Agriculture will be discussed, and farmers urged to support only those candidates who stand for this platform.

Already four representative farmers are members of the cabinet, and the Dominion constituency in Manitoba. These are: R. C. Henderson, president Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, nominated to contest Macdonald, the seat now held by Alexander Morrison, Conservative; R. L. Brown, who will be in Lisgar on the farmers' platform (constituency unrepresented since W. R. Sharpe resigned to run for Manitoba Legislative Assembly as Sir James Aikins' lieutenant); Mr. Beveridge, who is nominated for the constituency of Souris, seat held by H. L. Schaffner, Conservative; and Mr. Broadfoot, who will run in Dauphin.

It is expected that shortly after the annual meeting of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association in January, the farmers in Brandon, Marquette and Portage la Prairie constituencies will endorse candidates who will represent their views. The first-named seat has no sitting member, Lieut.-Governor Sir James Aikins having resigned when he accepted the leadership of the Conservatives at the last provincial election; Marquette is represented by Hon. Dr. Roche, minister of the interior, and the latter by Hon. Arthur Meighen, solicitor-general.

BIG BUSINESS MEN TO ENTER CABINET

Lloyd George Nearly Completes Government—Leaves Out Churchill.

Andrew Bonar Law Will Be Chancellor of Exchequer.

London, Dec. 7.—The Daily Mail, which for obvious reasons may be supposed to have inside information, says Mr. Lloyd George has nearly completed his government, which will contain some eminent business men who are not politicians, notably Sir Albert Henderson, managing director of Metropolitan District, Central London and other street railways, who, The Daily Mail asserts, will almost certainly be made president of the board of trade. Andrew Bonar Law, according to The Daily Mail, is expected to be the chancellor of the exchequer, and Earl of Derby war minister. It adds that a ministry of labor is to be established and that one of the Labor representatives will be minister of labor. Arthur Henderson and the Right Hon. George Nicoll Barnes or John Hodge are expected to be among the Labor members of the government.

To Keep Churchill Out. Dr. Christopher Addison, under secretary of munitions, The Daily Mail asserts, is likely to be appointed minister of munitions, and S. H. Lever, an accountant, who reduced the cost of the war, will be in the ministry. The Daily Mail denies that Lord Robert Cecil and Austen Chamberlain are antagonistic to Mr. Lloyd George. The newspaper says both of them visited Mr. Lloyd George Thursday and did Lord George of Kestelton. It has nothing to say regarding the portfolio of foreign minister.

"The fears that have been expressed that Colonel Winston Churchill will be a member of the new administration are unfounded," is a noteworthy statement in The Daily Mail. "He will not be included in it," the newspaper adds. "Confident," Lloyd George, the distinguished post of prime minister, a meeting of the British Empire Union to condemn false peace negotiators has sent the following telegram to Mr. Lloyd George:

"The world has already recognized your value in the great war we have gone thru. With confidence we look to you to carry on the great fight for the success of British arms, and we are with you. On behalf of the citizens of Merthyr."

C. B. Stanton, Labor member of parliament for Merthyr Tydvil, who proposed the telegram, made a speech denouncing those who are urging peace negotiations, and declared that the enemies of the allies can only be defeated by force.

RUMANIANS TO RESIST FOE ON SHORTER LINES

ALLIES EVACUATE BUCHAREST WITHOUT OFFERING RESISTANCE

GERMANS MARCH IN ENEMY FAILS TO FIND MUCH SPOILS OF WAR—CLAIMS PRISONERS

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

London, Dec. 7.—The retreat of the Rumanian troops from Bucharest upon shorter lines to the east is being conducted without serious losses, and as the German army enters the capital at noon yesterday, the last of the Rumanian army departed. Its retreat was covered by the Russians.

Berlin announces the occupation of Campina and Slamku, north of Bucharest, and the claim is made that more than 800 Rumanians were taken prisoner. It is also claimed by the Germans that in this campaign they took 100,000 Rumanian prisoners.

It is said in allied military quarters that the Germans are counting civilians as prisoners, and that the losses of the Rumanian armies were not heavy.

The Kaiser exchanged telegrams of congratulation with the Sultan of Turkey and with Ferdinand of Bulgaria. It was on the whole tame for the Germans and they did not obtain the spoils counted upon, for the Rumanians wrecked the oil plants at Ploesch, and they destroyed the greater part of the grain.

Rearguard Action. Rearguard actions are being fought by the Rumanians, as they are retreating. Field Marshal von Mackensen says he is in command of the rearguard in his despatch on the operations. It is described as "clear-sighted."

The Teutons are following up the retreating Rumanians. It is uncertain whether they will attempt to break thru the new Rumanian lines at present, or whether they will direct their energies to fighting other engagements.

Reuters' Amsterdam correspondent sends the following telegram which describes the fall of Bucharest:

"At 10.30 o'clock Tuesday morning Captain Lange of the general staff was in a parlementaire to the commandant at Bucharest, bearing a letter from Field Marshal von Mackensen demanding the surrender of the city. The commandant, who notified the commandant that the city would be opened unless the parlementaire returned within 24 hours."

Retreat Delayed. "Captain Lange returned before the expiration of the limit, the commander-in-chief of the Rumanian Danube army having refused to accept Field Marshal von Mackensen's letter on the ground that Bucharest was not a fortress, but an open town. He declared that there existed neither armed forces nor troops destined for its defence, and there was neither a governor nor a commandant. Captain Lange pointed out the character of Bucharest as a fortress and said that such an evasion would not hinder the German operations."

"In the course of Wednesday morning portions of Gen. Schmittow's cavalry corps took possession of a fort on the north front and portions of the 54th Army Corps pushed on and took the line of the forts from Chisina, on the west, to Odalje, on the north. The enemy infantry offered resistance, which was quickly overcome."

"From the south portions of the Danube army pressed into the city thru the girdle of forts, meeting with no resistance."

"The troops entering the town were received enthusiastically and decorated with flowers. Field Marshal von Mackensen drove in a motor car to the royal castle, where he was greeted with bouquets of flowers."

HALIFAX AS PORT FOR SHIPS WITH BIG GUNS

Policy of Arming British Merchantships Heavily Likely to Divert Much Shipping From New York to Canadian Port.

New York, Dec. 8.—The New York Tribune this morning publishes the following from Arthur Draper, its London correspondent:

London, Dec. 7.—In the effort to suppress the submarine menace, I hear many British merchant ships are being armed with guns of high calibre, so that the odds against them shall be lessened. In this connection it is recalled that the agitation for sterner war measures that led to the downfall of the Asquith ministry called for adequate measures to curb the U-boats.

If the American Government holds that the increased armament of merchant ships in the class of war vessels Halifax will become the chief American port for transatlantic shipping during the war, Britain is able to use her fleet to keep this port clear. Such a change is bound to have a big effect on the port of New York.

The arming of merchant ships is a difficult problem, since the mounting of big guns means alterations in structure, figures show that only one out of five victims of submarines is an armed ship.

The Liverpool Express reports that the government may assume control of all shipping concerns. It is said that Lloyd George in his conference with the Labor leaders today promised merchant ships in the class of war vessels

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

AS King Constantine and his adherents at Athens have begun to act in a manner to arouse the apprehension of the allies, the ministers of Britain, France, Italy and Russia yesterday made another demand on the Greek Government for an explanation. Gen. Sarraïl, at Salonica, is reported to have said that he preferred the open hostility of Greece to the present unsettled situation. The diplomats obtained no satisfactory reply to their request for knowledge and they see no prospects of making any arrangement with the Greek Government. In fear of future complications the allies' colonies are leaving Athens. The Russian colony departs today and the Italian colony is the only one remaining. It is said among the friends of the king that if the allies blockade Greece, enough provisions is on hand to last twenty days. The Greek foreign minister, in reply to the protest of neutral diplomats against the treatment dealt out to friends of Venizelos, is one of studied insolence in its reference towards the allies.

In the view of Major-Gen. Maurice, director of British military operations, the Rumanians were compelled to retreat from western Wallachia to shorten their front. They were forced to shorten their front because they lacked heavy guns and their railways and equipment were unorganized in a military manner. They will probably make their stand on a line drawn between the Danube River and the Carpathians, where they will have secure flanks. The occupation of Bucharest is not an event of great military importance and before abandoning the oil fields the Rumanians wrecked the machinery. Practically all the food supplies in the country were removed before the advance of the enemy. Neither were the Rumanian losses heavy, and the 100,000 prisoners claimed to have been taken by the foe

To Comb Munition Plants To Get Men Into Trenches

London, Dec. 7.—The release for military service of all possible unskilled and skilled men who are now engaged in the manufacture of munitions has been agreed upon by the admiralty, the minister of munitions and the army council.

DINEEN'S ENGLISH CHRISTYS.

The hats are being called in rapidly, and those getting into the new winter styles find plenty of style variety. The new shipments have all arrived, and Dineen's hats are as complete a stock as it is possible to bring together in these times. The English Christy Importations are as varied as usual, and the quality and style are well up to the English hatmaker's best product. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

Bremen's Loss Due to Storm On Atlantic is German View

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 7.—From a statement made by Alfred Lohmann, president of the board of directors of the German Ocean Navigation Co., in which he declined to say anything about the German merchant submarine Bremen, except that the vessel was neither torpedoed nor captured. The Cologne Gazette infers that the Bremen was lost during a storm in the Atlantic.

Danish, Norwegian and Spanish Vessels Sunk by Submarines

London, Dec. 7.—The Danish steamer Halldan, 1807 tons, the Norwegian steamer Ellis and the Danish schooner Marie have been sunk by submarines. The crews were landed. The Spanish steamer Gerona, 463 tons, is reported to have been sunk.

Conduct of War Approved By the French Parliament

Paris, Dec. 7.—The chamber of deputies by a vote of 24 to 160 tonight passed a resolution expressing confidence in the government in its conduct of the war.

BIG SNOWFALL BLOCKS INTERNATIONAL TUNNEL

Many Avalanches in Alps—No Loss of Life Reported Yet.

Geneva, via Paris, Dec. 7.—A huge snowfall has cut communications between Italy, Switzerland and France, by way of the Simplon tunnel. Last night the Milan-Paris express was snowbound and has not yet been located, as telegraph and telephone wires are down on both sides of the tunnel. At Brigue and Domodossola the depth of the snow is about four feet, while on Simplon Pass it is nearly double. Many avalanches are reported. Forty Swiss soldiers have been imprisoned in the Simplon Hospices during the last 48 hours. So far no loss of life is reported, but international communication has been suspended.

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