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War News.

Messages Received Previous to 9 A.M.

OFFICIAL.

LONDON, Dec. 9. Lord Kitchener and Sir E. Grey went to Paris yesterday for a conference with the French Government. Fighting continues in Champagne where the enemy succeeded in entering an advanced trench. Elsewhere were artillery actions. A heavy Russian battery brought down a German airship. The vessel is believed to have been destroyed. East of Peteano a strong enemy detachment has been captured by the Italians with 150 prisoners.

The Press Bureau announces that on the 6th the Bulgarians attacked our troops west of Lake Doiran. Small parties entered our trenches but were driven out with the bayonet. On the 7th the Bulgarians by weight of superior numbers drove our troops from their position. Under cover of darkness our troops withdrew to a new line. The casualties are not yet reported. On the 8th we successfully repulsed all attacks, withdrawing at night to a new position conforming to general alignment.

ENTENTE PLANS NOT KNOWN.

LONDON, Dec. 9. German troops are reported at the Greek border. With the Anglo-French lines reforming almost within Greek territory it is believed here Greece cannot postpone much longer a definite decision. The Entente expects to take should the area of hostilities be transferred to her soil. Colonel Phallos, of the Greek army, is now conferring with Entente commanders, but a Paris press despatch expresses the fear that he is not authorized to take the final steps necessary to safeguard the interests of the Anglo-French troops. The plans of the French and British troops in the Balkans are still a mystery. The continued landing of reinforcements lends color to the theory that an aggressive campaign is contemplated, at the same time the steady withdrawal of the troops from their advanced positions leads to the belief that for the present the occupation of Salonika as a base for operations at a later time forms the extent of their determination.

FRENCH WAR OFFICE REPORT.

PARIS, Dec. 9. The French War Office this afternoon gave out a report on the progress of hostilities on the Gallipoli Peninsula, which reads as follows: On 5th December an attack, made by the enemy, was completely checked by French fire. Dec. 6th was characterized by an effective fire from our trench guns, which caused a breach in the lines of the enemy and caused the explosion of a depot of munitions. The enemy responded by a violent bombardment which, however, caused no damage. On the 7th a German submarine was torpedoed and sent to the bottom by the Turkish torpedo boat destroyer Yarbissat. Two officers of the vessel and forty men were taken prisoners.

ITALIAN AND RUSSIAN MINISTERS VISIT GREEK PREMIER.

PARIS, Dec. 9. The Havas correspondent at Athens reports that Premier Skoufoulis today received the Italian and Russian Ministers. It is supposed these Ministers visited the Premier for the purpose of indicating to the Greek Government that Italy and Russia adhere to the demands of the British and French for guarantees of freedom of action for the expeditionary forces which have landed at Salonika.

TRIPS ADVANCE ON ADEN.

LONDON, Dec. 9. Advance of Turks on Aden in Southern Arabia, near the entrance to the Red Sea, through which the Suez Canal traffic passes, is announced in a Turkish official statement, as received in Amsterdam and forwarded by the Central News correspondent there.

RUSSIAN SCOUTS MAKE BIG CAPTURE.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 9. The entire staff of the 2nd German army division has been captured by Russian mounted scouts and brought as prisoners into the Russian lines as the result of a daring night raid recently.

HOLWEG IN THE REICHSTAG.

LONDON, Dec. 9. A Reuter despatch from Amster-

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dam transmits a Berlin message.

Quoting from the speeches of Chancellor Von Bethmann Holweg to the Reichstag regarding the progress of the war since the Reichstag adjourned last August, the Chancellor said Bulgaria had intervened in the war. Since the beginning of the war the Entente Powers had made increasing efforts to draw King Ferdinand to their side. Austro-Hungarian and Turkish territory had most liberally been promised. Not only enemy and neutral territory was given away, but even allied Serbia, for whose menaced integrity Russia had unchained the war, and for whose liberation the Entente pretends to fight now was not spared.

GERMAN MUNITION DEPOT BLOWN UP.

PARIS, Dec. 9.

In the Champagne district French artillery caused the explosion of a German depot of munitions at a point near St. Souplet, according to an announcement made this afternoon by the French War Office. French counter attacks near Souvain continue to drive the Germans back. Germans here hold only a portion of advance trenches.

HOT TIME IN THE REICHSTAG.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.

After Chancellor Von Bethmann Holweg had made his reply to the Socialist interpellation regarding peace, to-day, the other parties made a joint declaration approving the Chancellor's utterances and endorsing the view that in the conditions of peace made after war, there must be guarantees for Germany's safety, even if these imply the annexation of territory. After a declaration regarding the peace terms had been made there was a tumultuous scene in the chamber, brought on by a misunderstanding in regard to the order of business. This, however, was soon adjusted. Then Herr Landsberg, Socialist member, made a protest against French and British misrepresentations of the present situation. He added, amid applause, that every German of every class, beginning with the working man, is resolved that whoever dares to attempt to cut even the smallest slice from the body of the German empire will meet with general German resistance until it is taken out of his hands. Herr Landsberg declared that he and his party

were violently opposed to any French intention to annex Alsace and Lorraine. He stated that Dr. Karl Liebknecht, whose questions at previous sessions of the Reichstag regarding peace had aroused much discussion, was in no way authorized to speak for the Socialist party or the German nation. Several times during the Chancellor's speech, Liebknecht attempted to interrupt him. Liebknecht made a motion to hold a session of the Reichstag to-morrow, but his motion was voted down unanimously by all the parties. All parts of the Chamber were crowded. At to-day's session the members of the diplomatic corps were present.

THE POPE'S CONSISTORY.

ROME, Dec. 9.

In the presence of thousands of people a public consistory was held by Pope Benedict to-day at Sala Regia. Owing to the war the large gathering of foreigners which generally attends these gatherings, was lacking.

NEWS DAILY FROM WESTERN FRONT.

LONDON, Dec. 9.

The British military authorities have arranged to issue a daily communication from the Western front in France commencing next week. The British War Department thus comes into line with the army headquarters of other countries.

ECONOMY.

LONDON, Dec. 9.

The reduction of salaries of the law officers of the Crown has been arranged. In the Commons to-day, Premier Asquith made this announcement which it is hoped will give an impetus to the campaign for thrift on the part of the public. The Premier declined to disclose the extent of the sacrifice exacted from these. Members of the Government believed that the reduction is only a preliminary to the renunciation of at least one-third of its salaries by other members of the Government and Commons, as an example to others of the measures of economy necessary to enable the country to meet the expenditures of the war.

DURATION OF PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, Dec. 9.

A bill to continue the present Parliament beyond the five year period, and to postpone the general election during the war, was introduced in the Commons to-day by Sir John Simon, Secretary of State for Home Affairs. The bill makes the life of the present Parliament six instead of five years, extending it to January 31, 1917, and treats the year 1918 for the purposes of active Parliament as if it followed immediately on 1915. This legal action providing that the sessions of 1914 and 1915 shall be regarded as successive sessions keeps alive the plural voting bill buried with other controversial matters on account of the war. The plural voting bill is one of the pet measures of the Liberals, introduced under the Parliamentary Act, which declares that a bill which has thrice passed the Commons in successive sessions shall become law despite the opposition of the House of Lords. The bill has already passed the Commons.

SUCCESSFUL RETIREMENT.

LONDON, Dec. 9.

Two successful retirements by the British forces in the Balkans were officially announced to-night. On Dec. 7th the troops were withdrawn to the new line. On Dec. 8th they retired to another line.

RECOGNIZES CARRANZA.

LONDON, Dec. 9.

Lord Robert Cecil, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, announced in the Commons this afternoon that Britain had formally recognized the Carranza Government of Mexico.

GRENFELL FOR FRANCE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.

Dr. Grenfell, famous for his work among the Labrador fisherfolk, has accepted an invitation to take charge of the Division Hospital Unit that has been sent to France by the Harvard University, and will leave this country about Dec. 14th returning in the spring to resume work at Labrador. The announcement of the foregoing was made officially to-day by the Grenfell Association of America, which also announced that recently, while in Boston, the American College of Surgeons had conferred upon Dr. Grenfell an Honorary Fellowship.

ADVANCE ON ADEN CAUSE NO ALARM.

LONDON, Dec. 9.

The announcement of the Turkish Government that an advance on Aden was in progress, was news to London, but caused no alarm. The port and coaling station of Aden is regarded as impregnable. Strong fortifications face the whole narrow neck of land connecting Aden with the mainland. The previous Turkish advance against this British possession was made last July unsuccessfully.

BULGARIAN ATTACKS MORE SERIOUS.

LONDON, Dec. 9.

A despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company from the British headquarters in Macedonia, sent under date of Dec. 6th, says that the Bulgarian attacks during the past two or three days have been more serious than were originally reported. The Bulgarians, show constantly increasing strength, being well supplied with artillery, which keeps up constant fire. Like the Germans, the Bulgarians de-

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THE NICKEL WEEK-END PROGRAMME "The Return of Richard Neal." A beautiful 3-part social drama featuring Francis X. Bushman, Nell Craig, Bryant Washburn. "THE WAYWARD BROTHER."—Norma Talmadge in a powerful two-act Vitagraph melodrama. "HAZARDS OF HELEN."—See Helen in still another most thrilling feat. "IN THE PARK." An Essanay Charlie Chaplin comedy riot—Laugh—Laugh—Laugh. Don't let the Children miss the Great Big Bumper Matinee Saturday. COMING: "WHO PAYS." A series of Twelve splendid 3-part dramas, each dealing with some vital question of modern life.

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luge their objective with shell fire before attacking with infantry. Since Sunday the British lines have engaged the principal share of their attention. Before superior strength of the enemy our outposts gradually fell back to the main position, and some hand to hand fighting occurred. The few Bulgarian prisoners taken, declare that they have no wish to fight against the Entente Allies, but are anxious to meet the Greeks and wipe out old scores. As the lines of the Entente Allies contract upon the Greek frontier, the problem of the attitude of the Greek government becomes more and more acute. The French withdrawal to Demir Capu was most orderly, and they brought away even their stores of hay and forage. The official statement was as follows: On Dec. 6th the Bulgarians, after a heavy bombardment, attacked our troops to the west of Lake Doiran. Our advanced trenches were entered by small parties of Bulgarians, who were immediately driven out with the bayonet. On the morning of Dec. 7th the Bulgarians attacked again, and by weight of superior numbers drove our troops out of their positions.

Lungs of a Battleship. One of the most difficult problems in building a modern battleship is to secure satisfactory ventilation. She is such a complicated creature, made up of so many steel boxes, large and small, for the accommodation of officers, men, coal, ammunition and stores; dotted here and there with so many steel ladders, automatic lifts, steel bulkheads, and water-tight doors, varied here and there by miles of electric wires belonging to lights, telephones, bells, and motors, to say nothing of the endless mileage of pipes for flooding, draining, pumping, fresh water, fresh air or compressed air, and speaking tubes. First in importance comes the ventilating of the boiler and engine-rooms. When you begin to think of gangs of coal-black demons working away in the bowels of the ship at a temperature of 120 degrees; when, too, you commence to realize that unless the furnaces receive their required draught the speed of the battleship drops to below that of her sisters in the squadron, you appreciate the importance of the steam-driven fans to the furnaces and boiler-rooms. The supply of air comes down through large water-tight tanks which are continued right up to the weather-deck, armoured gratings being provided at the protective deck. For ventilating engine-rooms, large electric fans are employed. So, too, the coal bunkers have to be ventilated, owing to the gas which the coal gives off. This gas when mixed with air forms an explosive; so, in order to prevent the possibility of injury to men or ship, a supply and an exhaust pipe are fitted in such a manner as to cause a current of air. RESUMED VOYAGE—The S.S. Nascant, which came here Wednesday night short of coal, while enroute to London from New York, has resumed her voyage, having had her bunkers replenished at A. Harvey & Co's premises. A very few waists so far fasten in the back.

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