

ATROCITIES ON BRITISH PRISONERS IN MANY CASES UNRELATEABLE

Punishment For Abuse of Captives Will Be One of Terms of Armistice; British Prisoners Must Be Released At Once

London, Oct. 30.—That the immediate release of all British prisoners will be insisted upon by the Government as part of the armistice terms is confidently expected here. Sir George Cave, the Home Secretary, announced in the House of Commons yesterday that the same conditions imposed on Bulgaria in this matter would be insisted upon in any truce with Germany or Austria, and General Allenby had been instructed to follow the same policy in dealing with the Turks.

There is plenty of evidence that British prisoners have received worse treatment throughout the war than

the others, except the Russians. Such a demand will be a very important factor, and it is not likely that the other allies will show less regard for their nationals who are suffering in German camps. Events since the German peace overtures were launched have not tended to instill any spirit of conciliation, forgiveness or leniency toward the enemy in British breasts.

Stories of Barbarities.

The sinking of the *Lestor* followed close on the German note. The evacuation of Belgian and French towns, for years under German rule, has opened what has been

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tofore been largely a sealed book of rumors, and a source of grief to the faithful people of German barbarities toward the inhabitants have been flooding out.

Finally, yesterday's discussions in the House of Commons of the treatment of British prisoners appeared to have been about the last straw breaking the back of British patience—the point at which the country generally seems now to think has been carried much too far.

The Germans have only themselves to blame that these revelations came at a time so unfortunate for Germany.

The topic was forced upon the House by a strong public demand for light upon the circumstances of what is termed German blackmail in refusing to ratify an agreement drawn up for an equitable exchange of prisoners unless the British consented to go outside that subject and give guarantees against the deportation of Germans from China.

Related Experiences.

Capt. Craig, a member of the House, and a hinged prisoner, told with emotion of his experiences and the sights he had seen in the prison camps.

Sir George Cave, the Home Secretary, gave a graphic detail of the sale deaths of British soldiers, kept ragged, starving and verminous and compelled to work long hours in salt mines and under fire at the front, contrary to the rules of the Hague convention, beaten and tortured and shot for petty or no offenses.

Old Parliamentary reporters say that they have never seen such a bitter and strong feeling pervade the House of Commons. And the same feeling has infected the whole country. The only group of members who held aloof was a handful of pacifists, who appear to object to any unpleasant words about Germany more than they object to the war.

Systematically Ill-used.

Sir George Cave in the course of his remarks, said it was proved that the Germans systematically underfed, overworked, robbed and cruelly mistreated, beat and even tortured our prisoners. The condition of some camps were unspeakable and continued so to-day. No words could too strongly characterize the dastardly treatment of men working in salt mines and factories, etc. Prisoners were still employed under fire despite two pledges. Cruelties and ill-treatment and insults were even prevalent in the hospitals, both doctors and nurses being guilty. Germany had a debt to pay and ought to be made to pay it. As regards reprisals he suggested that one means was through the German great regard for the position, dignity and comfort of their officers and wealthier civilians.

Too Bad to Be Read.

The speaker said that he held reports which could not be read to the House because of the character of the atrocities. In one camp since November, 1914, more than 2,000 prisoners of all nations had died.

Sir George said nine men purposely drove picks into their feet in order to get away from a mining camp. In a salt mine a prisoner was beaten unconscious, and when he regained his senses he was beaten unconscious again. The names of the officers and superintendents who carried out the outrages against the prisoners were known. Reports of what had happened in factories, the speaker continued, could not be read without something more than anger.

Regarding the treatment of British prisoners behind the firing line, Sir George said, it was as bad as anything that could be found. Although Gen. Ludendorff had promised redress, his promise had not been fulfilled. Men were being marched up and put to work within range of the British shells. They had to carry munitions of war and do other work which prisoners should not be put to. It was necessary for these facts to be made known, the speaker declared. Germany had a debt to pay and Germany ought to be made to pay it.

Sir George said that in the bad treatment of prisoners Turkey had proved herself a fit ally to Germany. Bulgaria also had treated prisoners very badly, but happily the suffering of the captives there was over and the men were being brought out of the country.

Surrender of Fleet.

The general manner of the military guarantees which the allies will require has been outlined as the occupation of strategic German bases, as well as the retirement of the German army to its own soil. Maritime guarantees are considered equally important to Great Britain. Their nature thus far is only speculative, but the retirement of the German submarines, if not the surrender of the whole fleet appears to be the minimum terms which would satisfy the British people. The next is as important as the land to this island nation, and the only detail in President Wilson's fourteen points on which there is constant questioning is what the President means by "freedom of the seas."



FOCH'S HUNDRED DAYS
Shaded—Territory Liberated between July 15th and Sept. 26th
Solid Black—Territory Liberated since Sept. 26th.

Suspicion is the word which still summarizes the public attitude toward the Central powers' manoeuvres. Some of the most important papers believe that Germany and Austria, or what remains of the Austrian Government, are working together. They interpret Austria's rush toward a separate peace as part of a plan—now that Austrian military power is dissolving—to place Austrian territory as neutral ground between Germany and the allied armies, which may soon be able and ready to march through Austria.

Turkey's Position.

Turkey's position is not yet clear. The Committee of Union and Progress apparently is still in the saddle at Constantinople. The fact that David Pasha, Minister of Finance, is perhaps the most influential man in the Cabinet seems to show that Talaat Pasha, the former Grand Vizier, is still strong behind the

scenes, and that the Young Turks and Germany yet hold the power. The one and greatest hope of the Old Guard in Germany, judging from the German papers, appears to be to drive a wedge between President Wilson and the allies, the President to play the part of mediator instead of belligerent.

The Frankfurt Zeitung says, "If the allies insist upon such disarmament terms as to make further German resistance impossible, not only Germany but he (President Wilson) himself would disappear from among the factors which are decisive for the conclusion of peace."

"His own position as world arbiter depends solely on whether Germany's military power at least is worth so much that it cannot be forced to surrender without the help of the American forces."

The article concludes by cleverly trying to make it appear that the President's role is now linked with

that of Germany, by saying that in such a position as outlined "his role would be played out if he did not commence war against the allies."

COURIER COMICS

Misunderstood Her
Fusilier (to inquisitive Scotsman, who is pointing to badge on his cap): "Don't you know what that is, mum? Why, that's a turnip o' course, Scotsman—Ah wisna axin' about yer heid!"

The Language of the Road
A former railroad brakeman, now serving in France, was bringing in a bunch of prisoners.
"What have you there?" inquired an officer whom he met back of the lines.
"Just a string of empties, sir," was his prompt reply.

A Tragic Sound
"I shall hear his footstep, walk just as the sergeant!"
"You don't mean it?"
"I do; and furthermore, he will never set on this sofa three nights a week and call me pet names, as he has been doing for two years."
"I am astonished."
"And to-night I am going to burn all the old love letters in my chest of drawers."
"B—but why? Are you going to discard him?"
"Discard him! Why, you goose, I am going to marry him!"—Rehearsal Sunday Herald.

Pleasing Indeed
Edith—That young lieutenant you introduced to me is a fellow of very pleasing address.
Betty—I should say so. His address is Kismet, Fla.

Out of Hours
A reprobate was taken in charge by an astute police officer and

brought before the magistrate.
"What is the charge against this man?" asked the magistrate.
"Opening a public house at 5 o'clock in the morning, your honor."
"Oh, indeed? And where is his house situated? What licensed premises does he keep?"
"He don't keep none, your worship. He was opening some one else's with a jimmy."

Sartorial
This airy fancy let us add
To others was-dime humors—
Fit garb for patriotic girls
Would be red, white and bloomers

To Pay for It
"I've a bill for a frock you bought some months ago."
"That was the one, I wore the night you proposed."
"It'll be pretty strong when a poor fish has to pay for his bait and hook."—Sydney Bulletin.

RETURNED SOLDIER HUNT.

By Courier Leased Wire
Frederickton, N.B., Oct. 30.—Private Slackvale of the original fighting 26th, an inmate of a military hospital here, who had been lost since October 25, was found in the woods bruised and helpless last night by a searching party. Slackvale, who was 15 months in a German prison camp, lost one leg war. He left the city October 22 to drive to Minto. On a lonely, not much frequented road, he was thrown from his carriage and the horse ran away. Being without crutches and helpless because of a fracture to his remaining leg received by being thrown from the carriage he was unable to move. He lay in the bushes just a week, subsisting on roots which he could dig up with his hands.

He was brought back to the military hospital here, where it is feared the other leg will have to be amputated as blood poison has developed from the fracture received.

HEIR APPARENT DEAD

By Courier Leased Wire
Barcelona, Oct. 31.—Announcement is made here that Erza Bin Abass, heir apparent of Ahmed Pasha, khedive of Egypt, died of influenza on Monday.

Insure our Industries—Buy Victory Bonds.

ESSAY COMPETITION THE VICTORY LOAN

1918

School Prizes for Collegiate Institute

- (1) Silver and Bronze Medal—First and Second Prizes for the Upper School.
- (2) Silver and Bronze Medal—First and Second Prizes for the Middle School.
- (3) Silver and Bronze Medal—First and Second Prizes for the Lower School.

Subject—"Victory Bonds; Why Canadians Should Buy Them."

All students of the Collegiate Institute will be required to write an essay on the above subject previous to November 18th. Information for the essay will be given by the different teachers of composition. This information is taken from the pamphlet issued by the Central Publicity Committee, entitled: "The Victory Loan and What It Means."

In addition to the above prizes, three Provincial prizes will be given for the best essays in the Province. Three essays will be sent from the local Collegiate Institute to the Central Headquarters.

These prizes consist of a \$25 Dominion War Savings Certificate, and a \$10 Dominion War Savings Certificate.

The booklet entitled "The Victory Loan and What It Means," may be secured before the re-opening of school any time this week from the Principal, at 65 Brant Ave.

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If this boy were your boy

If you had a boy in France to-day, you would make your purchase of Victory Bonds large enough to represent a real personal sacrifice.

You would be thinking of that lad—out in the hell on earth that is No Man's Land—cheerfully offering his life for Freedom's cause.

And you would do your best to save that life.

You would help—with all your might—to provide the money that will shorten the war and reduce the cost of Victory in human lives.

You would buy all the Victory Bonds you could possibly find the money for—and you would find it by stinting yourself down to the barest necessities of life.

Come—share in the glory of those whose lads are in France to-day. Dig deep into your income—as the kin of soldiers dig into theirs—to buy the Victory Bonds that will carry our armies on to Victory, and give us back our boys.

Issued by Canada's Victory Loan Committee in co-operation with the Minister of Finance of the Dominion of Canada.