

# ASQUITH BELIEVES CONSCRIPTION WILL NOT BE NEEDED TO KEEP UP THE BRITISH ARMIES

### Premier in Long-Expected Review of Conduct of War Shows That Navy Has Made Possible Carrying Overseas Nearly 3 Million Troops with Loss of Life Considerably Less Than 1-10th of One Per Cent.—Dardanelles Operations Undertaken to Aid Russia, Strike Blow at Heart of Turkey and Influence Balkans—Sir Edward Grey Denies England Not Fulfilling Promise to Serbia to Best of Ability.

London, Nov. 2.—In the House of Commons today Premier Asquith delivered his long awaited address on the conduct of the war.

Mr. Asquith said he was confident as ever that the Allies were going to carry their righteous cause to a triumphant issue; and he was not going to shift the burden from his shoulders until satisfied he was unable to bear it. He would not surrender the task so long as he enjoyed health and the confidence of the King and the country.

In regard to the western front, Mr. Asquith said he had nothing to add to the despatches from Field Marshal French except to say that since last April the Germans had not gained a single foot of ground.

"That, indeed, is an understatement of the case," he added. Referring to the eastern war theatre, the premier paid a warm tribute to the fighting qualities of the Russians, and expressed confidence in their ability "before long to roll back the enemy."

"As to Mesopotamia, Mr. Asquith remarked, the British object was to preserve the neutrality of the Arabs, safeguard British interests in the Persian Gulf and uphold the authority of the Union Jack in the east.

"Victorious forces are now within measurable distance of Bagdad," he continued. "No operations have been conducted with greater brilliancy or with better prospects of final success."

Dardanelles Campaign Approved Before Begun

"Turning to the operations in the Dardanelles for the launching of which Winston Churchill, then first lord of the admiralty, was attacked so strongly in many quarters, Mr. Asquith said:

"From the moment Turkey declared war it was impossible to concentrate attention solely on the western front. The Turks threatened our Russian ally and Egypt. The advent of Turkey in the war had great effect on the Balkan States not altogether strategic.

"In a great war like this you cannot always determine the policy altogether by naval and military positions. Sometimes it is not only expedient but necessary to risks which were naval or military considerations would have warned you against. In January we had no military forces available in the east to more than cope with the Turkish attack on Egypt which was defeated. The question of a naval attack in the Dardanelles was then considered and after full consultation with naval experts, including the admiral on the spot—notwithstanding some doubts in the mind of Baron Fisher (then first sea lord)—the government felt justified in sanctioning that attack.

"The proposed attack was carefully considered. It was approved by the French and enthusiastically received by the Grand Duke. The matter came again before the war council.

"Before a shot was fired it was communicated to the cabinet. It was decided at first to make the attempt with the navy, and the navy alone. I take my full share of the responsibility and deprecate attempts to shift the responsibility to one minister or another."

The announcement was made by Premier Asquith that former Premier Venizelos of Greece whose advocacy of intervention in the war on the side of the Entente Allies led to his resignation, asked France and Great Britain on Sept. 21, for 150,000 men, with the express understanding that Greece would mobilize.

Telling of the objects of the attack on the Dardanelles, the Premier remarked:

"The view was that it would influence the Balkan situation, and open the way for supplies for the Russians and strike a blow at the heart of the Turkish Empire.

"Naval operations continued systematically for a month, and until they culminated in the attack on the Narrows, which resulted in a setback. It was then suggested that by aid of an adequate force the attack could be driven home with success.

"General Sir Ian Hamilton was sent out, and reported he was in agreement with the suggestion that a point naval and military attack was necessary. In the whole course of the war I have never sustained a keener disappointment than in the failure of these operations."

Mr. Asquith pointed that if the efforts to force the Dardanelles had been successful they would have been (Continued on page 2)

## GREECE BEGINS TO FEAR ANGLO-FRENCH TROOPS HAVE COME TO STAY

Berlin, Nov. 2, via wireless to Tuckerton.—A correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt in Greece is quoted by the Overseas News Agency today as declaring that prominent Greeks are exercised over the possibility that the Entente Allies intend to occupy Kavala and that the Greeks are increasingly resentful regarding the attitude of the British and French in Saloniki which is declared to be masterful, causing a belief that the stay of the

## SUFFRAGETTES SWAMPED IN THREE STATES

New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Defeat Proposition to Give Women the Vote.

New York, Nov. 3.—New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania defeated the proposition of granting suffrage to women by overwhelming majorities in yesterday's election.

## ANOTHER OF THE 26TH AMONG THE KILLED

Ottawa, Nov. 2.—The following were included in the midnight list of casualties:

Twenty-Sixth Battalion, Wounded, now on duty—Cyprus Allen, Port Elgin, N. B.

Killed in action—Generoso Secchia, Brazil.

## PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT MEETING IN FREDERICKTON

Special to The Standard.

Fredrickton, Nov. 2.—The provincial government session opened here this evening with all the members of the executive in attendance. Routine matters on schedule engaged the attention of the government tonight.

The Board of Education will meet tomorrow afternoon.

## PAVING WAY FOR SETTLEMENT OF LUSITANIA CASE

Berlin, Nov. 2, via wireless to Tuckerton.—The Tagblatt declares that excitement in the Greek army over conditions at Saloniki is increasing, and also reports that there has been a new incident on the Serbian front indicating the tension between the Greek and foreign forces. It being declared that Greek troops fired on a French contingent that was retreating to Greek territory before a Bulgarian attack.

## TURKS CAPTURE FRENCH U-BOAT SUPPOSED SUNK

Berlin, Nov. 2, via wireless to Sayville.—According to the Overseas News Agency the Turks captured the French submarine Turquoise nearly intact, and probably will utilize the vessel themselves.

## AN AUSTRIAN REPORT

Berlin, Nov. 2, via wireless to Sayville.—The Overseas News Agency today made public the following communication from the Austro-Hungarian headquarters dated Nov. 2:

## GERMANS WERE READY TO GIVE UP SECOND LINE

Two Hours More and French Are Wounded or Medically Unfit for Service.

## SIR FREDERICK SMITH SUCCEEDS CARSON

Copenhagen, via London, Nov. 2.—The Rbe Stifts Tidende the leading newspaper on the German frontier, publishes a letter from a German officer who was present during the French offensive in Champagne, from Sept. 25 to 27. The officer writes that the Germans came within an ace of total disaster and had fully prepared to leave their second line.

Their artillery had been prepared

## SERBIAN ARMY MAY REACH MOUNTAIN DEFENCE INTACT AND HOLD INVADER 'TIL HELP COMES

London, Nov. 2.—Premier Asquith's speech in the House of Commons today on the policy and plans of Great Britain, concerning which he did not disclose much more than already was known, monopolizes the attention of Europe tonight, and the fighting, although it has been severe on some of the fronts, is receiving little thought.

## BEST TRADITIONS OF BRITISH ARMY HAVE BEEN SUSTAINED, SAYS KING

London, Nov. 2.—A despatch from Reuters correspondent at British headquarters in France contains a special order of the day to the British army, issued by King George before his departure for England. The order says:

## VON BUELOW'S VISIT TO SWITZERLAND RENEWS PEACE TALK

Geneva, Nov. 2, via Paris. The Swiss press is commenting extensively on the visit of Prince Von Buelow in Switzerland. Although it is stated that the prince has come to Switzerland merely for a holiday, the Basle Nachrichten asserts he is accompanied by two high officials of the German foreign office.

## DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR DEMOBILIZATION OF NETHERLANDS FORCES

London, Nov. 2.—A despatch to Reuters Telegram Company from The Hague says:

## DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR DEMOBILIZATION OF NETHERLANDS FORCES

Major Gen. C. J. Snijders, commander-in-chief of the Netherlands land and sea forces, attended a council of ministers today, from which fact it is deduced that he discussed the proposals for the eventual demobilization of the Netherlands forces, as contained in the report of the committee of the second chamber on the budget for 1916."