

HALDANE ON GENERAL STAFF

British Staff Hurt by War, as Many Valuable Officers Went to the Front.

WORKS OUT ADVICE IN EVERY DETAIL

Country Must be Educated to Fit It For Tremendous Competition After War.

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, Nov. 4.—Viscount Haldane, former lord high chancellor in delivering the presidential address in the London school of economics last night devoted most of it to the general staff.

"Between 1906 and the outbreak of the war," said Viscount Haldane, "our general staff had grown into a valuable organization, but with the outbreak of the war, many of the officers went to the front and the staff accordingly suffered. But the nucleus remains and many distinguished staff officers are still available."

It would be prudent, Viscount Haldane continued, "to study the German procedure. To study the German staff strength into the general staff work and only a good general staff could hope to play chess successfully against such a staff as the Germans possessed."

He said he believed the almost entire direction of the campaign had been guided in Germany by the general staff. Their staff had made blunders, but it also had obviously given the Germans the advantage of having the best and most precise advice worked out in every detail. The military situation surveyed as a whole, showed that the German command had worked out such advice and that the German ministry appeared to have worked it up. Great Britain could not afford to be behind hand in this matter.

Viscount Haldane said he believed much of the outcry against civilian cabinet committees would cease if it were known they had constantly before them detailed advice from the general staff. This was a vital necessity which he said he was glad to see our difficulties in the future could have been got rid of. Our staff officers were a match for the Germans in quality, but we wanted more."

In conclusion, Viscount Haldane dwelt on the necessity of doing the utmost in the direction of improving education to fit the country for the tremendous competition that would arise in the commercial or industrial fields after the war. The present system of easy-going would not serve in the coming struggle, he said.

ENVELOPING MOVEMENT TO SURROUND SERBIAN FORCES

Bulgarians Closing Up Avenue of Retreat Into Montenegro, and are Threatening Nish and Monastir—Fighting Very Desperate.

London, Nov. 5.—The gradual enveloping movement whereby the Austro-Germans and Bulgarians hope to surround the retreating Serbian army and cut its line of retreat into Montenegro, is brought into clearer view by despatches printed in the morning papers. If Berlin telegrams received by way of Amsterdam are correct, the Bulgarians now are threatening Pristina, which provides an opening into Montenegro, probably less than seventy miles wide for the Serbian retreat.

At the other end of their long, crescent-shaped front the Bulgarians are within sight of Nish from the top of the watershed between the Svrlijak and Nishava rivers, twelve miles from Nish. On Plesh Mountain they are within gunshot of the Nish electric works at Svetapetka, in the valley below. Heavy fighting is reported near Bela Palanka, a little further east.

In the center of the crescent the threatened Bulgarian advance from Velez towards Monastir has been arrested by the timely arrival of Allied reinforcements, but news of a Bulgarian column creeping around by way of Kalkandelen and Krushevo to take Monastir in the rear has thrown the inhabitants of that city in a fresh panic.

The most important feature of the Austro-German advance is considered to be the strengthening of their hold on Western Moravia by the capture of Uzice on the railroad which is the chief trans-Serbian line. Uzice and Pristina may be regarded as the northern and southern points of the pincers, which the enemy is endeavoring to close on the Serbian army.

AUSTRIANS NOT ABLE TO REGAIN LOST GROUND

Italians Get Hold on Village of Ostavia, West of Gorizia.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Rome, Nov. 4.—Austrian counter-attacks undertaken with augmented forces in an effort to re-take positions lost by them have failed, according to an official statement issued today at the headquarters of the Italian general staff. The text of the communication follows:

"The enemy, hastily reinforced, attempted by repeated counter-attacks to check our offensive and recapture important positions taken by us. The attacks, mostly made at night and most violent, broke against the solid resistance of our troops and have now slackened our offensive."

"Such actions were fought on the night of the 2nd and the following morning, first on the Sextenstein, at the head of the Rienz; second on the Meizli, in the Morkoren section; third at Zagora in the Piava section; fourth along the slopes of Monte San Michele on the Carso plateau. Everywhere the enemy was repulsed with heavy losses."

"Our offensive yesterday gave us further successes. At Zagora, we began to occupy houses in the upper part of the village and took 72 prisoners. On a height west of Gorizia, fierce fighting developed in the outskirts of the village of Ostavia. Three hundred and seventeen prisoners, four of whom were officers, together with arms and munitions, the quantity of which has not yet been fixed, fell into our hands."

"On the Carso, our infantry, well supported by artillery, succeeded after a hard struggle, in capturing a considerable number of the trenches which cover the rugged plateau. We took a score of prisoners, two machine guns and abundant material."

"Notwithstanding bad weather conditions, our aeroplanes continue their raids, escaping the fire of numerous anti-aircraft batteries. They have bombed enemy camps, trenches and railroad stations."

KITCHENER WAS ASKED TO ENLIST

Newcastle, Eng., Nov. 4.—Lord Derby in a speech here today declared that Lord Kitchener had by mistake been asked with a copy of an appeal to enlist.

New Commander Arrived. Rotterdam, via London, Nov. 4.—Lieutenant General Sir Charles Munro, Great Britain's new commander-in-chief on the Gallipoli peninsula, has arrived at his post, according to The Vossische Zeitung's Sofia correspondent, and made great preparations for the landing of troops.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN FIGHT. London, Nov. 4.—Fighting in Serbia has been far more desperate than telegrams from the Bulgarian front received at Budapest by way of Sofia, and forwarded by the correspondent of The Post, M. Montchilov, president of the Sobranje, who has just returned from the front, is quoted as saying:

"In all Serbian towns and even in the trenches our soldiers found women, children and old men who had been trained as bomb-throwers and who were generally quite expert. The civil population is taking a large share in the fighting and is even more desperate than the soldiers."

"There was not one Serbian village which Bulgarian soldiers entered—except in Macedonia, where they were not received with bombs and hand grenades from the hands of the civil population. Great numbers of bombs were found in almost every Serbian house. In many cases the Bulgarians were obliged to annihilate whole villages, the residents of which after having surrendered threw bombs into the streets at the entering soldiers. Even Serbian officers after being taken prisoner frequently hurled bombs into the faces of their captors. In Macedonia the civil population has not taken any part in the fighting."

Another British member of parliament has lost his life in the war. Eighteen lives were lost when a steamer grounded on the Pacific coast.

PREMIER OF GREECE DEFEATED IN VOTE TAKEN ON FOREIGN POLITICS

A Discussion of Proposed Military Laws Raised a Question Between Minister of War and Venizelos, and on This Question the Premier Asked Vote of Confidence and Was Beaten—Greek Minister in London Admits It is Serious—Zaimis May Resign.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, Nov. 4, 12:25 p.m.—The Zaimis Government was defeated in a discussion on foreign politics in parliament to-day and is expected to resign, says a Havas despatch from Athens.

A discussion of proposed military laws, the correspondent says, raised a question between the Minister of War, General Yanakitsas, and the majority party of former premier, Venizelos. On this issue Premier Zaimis decided to ask a vote of confidence.

The discussion then turned to the foreign policy of the government, M. Venizelos declared it was impossible for his party longer to sustain the government whose policy he considered harmful to the interests of the country.

All the party leaders engaged in the discussion. The final vote was 147 against the government to 114.

RUSSIA PREPARING TO INVADE BULGARIA

London, Nov. 4.—From Bucharest comes a report that the Russians are concentrating great forces at the Port of Reni, in Bessarabia, from which place they are expected to make a direct landing on Bulgarian territory if Roumania gives an ultimatum of the internationalization of the River Danube friendly to Russia, by which men and munitions may be conveyed by the river into Bulgaria.

BRITISH AND TURKS RACING FOR BAGDAD

London, Nov. 4.—A Central News despatch from Amsterdam quotes The Cologne Gazette Berlin correspondent with regard to the progress of the British forces in Mesopotamia, the gist of his comment being that with the aid of gunboats on the Euphrates River, the British have been able to get close to Bagdad with a relatively small display of force.

The newspaper adds, however, that it is too soon to say whether the British will be able to occupy the city before the great Turkish army, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, despairing of the capture of Riga and Dvinsk, is preparing winter quarters near his present position along the frontier.

LIBERAL PRESS ROUSED OVER LORDS' STAND

Use Very Abusive Phrases Describing Beresford, Milner and Northcliffe.

London, Nov. 4.—Cabinet responsibility, the conduct of the war and the censorship were discussed, criticized and defended at a short sitting of the House of Lords last evening. The session proved a somewhat tame affair after the great debate in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

Baron St. Davids, who has gained a reputation for outspokenness since he became member of the Upper Chamber, started the discussion by demanding that a full meeting of the Privy Council, which is composed of some hundreds of members from all parts of the Empire, should be called to discuss the present position of affairs. Unlike most of the critics of the Government, he believed that the war would have been better conducted by the late Liberal Government than by the present coalition.

SCHEME IS TOO PATCHY FOR UTILITY

Details of Plans to Requisition Ships in Emergency Not Well Received.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, Nov. 4.—Additional details of the government's plans for requisitioning merchant shipping in case of emergency are published today but the morning papers complain they are still too patchy for a comprehensive scheme to deal with the problem. The establishment is urged of a central board of management for shipping with experienced businessmen in charge.

The Board of Trade announced an arrangement whereby vessels loading wheat in America for England before December 15, will be exempt from requisition upon their arrival here and will be free to begin another voyage which need not be a north Atlantic journey. This presumably will mean that the burden of supplying the government's tonnage requirements will fall to a greater extent on liners engaged in regular service elsewhere.

As another measure, it is proposed to prohibit by an order in council the carrying of all cargoes between ports of foreign countries except where special circumstances may require the issuance of special permits. H. J. Whitney, chairman of the ways and means committee of the House of Commons, it is announced, will be chairman of the committee to deal with the requisitioning of tonnage for carrying food stuffs to the United Kingdom.

GREECE SEEMS TO BE COMING AROUND

By Special Wire to the Courier. SALONIKI, Nov. 3, via Paris.—According to information secured in Greek sources believed to be reliable, King Constantine has assured the French minister at Athens that should Roumania join the Entente allies, or should the situation of Serbia be appreciably ameliorated by an Anglo-French offensive movement, Greece will not be unprepared to change her present attitude. The reports that Russian troops are landing at Varna has made a deep impression here.

SOLDIERS ARRIVE HERE SATURDAY

The latest statement with regard to the 84th Battalion is that they are likely to take train from Hamilton to Brantford and arrive here on Saturday. Lt. Matthews of the Army Service Corps, was in the city today seeing that all arrangements are completed.

LANDING OF FRENCH TROOPS CONTINUES AT SALONIKI

German Military Man Advises Serbia to Give in to Teutons—British Troops are at Guegeli—Gen. Sarraill Made Hasty Inspection.

By Special Wire to the Courier. Paris, Nov. 4.—The first British contingent arrived Friday at Guegeli in the Serbian theatre, according to a Havas despatch filed Saturday at Saloniki, but delayed. The British force will act as a separate unit, but in collaboration with the French troops. Guegeli is just across the Greek border, 40 miles northwest of Saloniki.

General M. P. E. Sarraill, commander of the allies expeditionary forces in Serbia returned Friday from a hasty inspection of the French front from Guegeli to Krivolak. He was favorably impressed with the French positions which are strongly held on the heights of Babrovo, Gradak, Domir and Kapou.

The French forces advancing northwest from the Greek frontier, have not yet effected a junction with the hard pressed Serbian army in the vicinity of Velez. The fighting in this district has been desperate and the Serbs once recaptured Velez after it had fallen to the Bulgarians, only to lose it again on October 31. This town, 23 miles southeast of Uskub, is on the railroad to Saloniki.

SHOULD MAKE TERMS. Amsterdam, via London, Nov. 4.—Major Morah, military expert of The Tages Zeitung, after lengthily reviewing the Serbian situation, advances an argument for Serbia in her own interest to make terms with the German allies. Major Morah admits that one line of retreat is still open to the Serbian main army, namely through the Sanjak of Novipazar into Montenegro, but he expresses the belief that the Bulgarian army, which he says has less than forty miles to go to take up the battle, will succeed in cutting off even this escape.

NOT TRYING TO GET PEACE

Von Buelow Says in Lucerne Germany Will Fight to the Very Last.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Geneva, via Paris, Nov. 4.—The Journal de Geneve says it is able formally to deny that Prince Von Buelow has met former Premier Giolitti Monsignor Marchetti or any other Italian of governmental or diplomatic standing.

The Journal adds that it is generally believed in Berne and Geneva that Prince Von Buelow is at Lucerne not to treat for a general peace, but to discuss with the delegate of the vatican, questions, such as that of Poland. The newspaper adds that Prince Von Buelow is not accompanied by any diplomatic or military personage, but is travelling alone with the Princess Von Buelow and their personal attendants.

FIGHT TO FINISH. Lucerne Switzerland, Nov. 4.—via Paris—Prince Von Buelow, former German Chancellor, informed the association in the press to-day that he had not come to Switzerland on a peace mission.

He declared that Germany was resolved to continue the war to a conclusion by arms.

The prince made it clear that he is not going to Washington to see President Wilson, or to Madrid to see King Alfonso in relation to terms on which Germany might be willing to discuss peace. Nor is the prince engaged in such discussions with a papal delegate or anyone else. In addition to disposing of these reports, Prince Von Buelow said to the correspondents to-day:

"The war must be fought out." At another time during the conversation he said: "Germany is united and possesses every resource in material, and above all, in unity and resolve to continue the war to its conclusion by arms."

The Prince talked of various aspects of the war with considerable freedom, although stipulating that his views on these points must not be made public.

"For I am as a private person," he explained, "and will not talk politics." The only allusion on his part to American affairs was an expression of regret at the death of Herman Ridder of New York.

STILL LANDING

By Special Wire to the Courier. Paris, Nov. 4.—The landing of French troops at Saloniki continues without incident, according to announcement made this afternoon by the French war office on the operations in the east.

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