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THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

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INFORMATION IS WITHHELD OWING TO ASQUITH'S ILLNESS

Enlightenment Which Commons Expected on Balkan Crisis, Carson's Resignation, Dardanelles and Recruiting Question Not Forthcoming

CONSCRIPTIONISTS TO HELP DERBY'S PLAN FAIR TRIAL

Sir John French in Report Denies Berlin Reports of British Defeat and Describes the Front Now Occupied

LONDON, Oct. 20.—Owing to the illness of Premier Asquith, the delicate negotiations which are proceeding between the Allies, the enlightenment of which to-day's meeting of Commons was expected to throw on the Balkan situation, ever which Carson is believed to have resigned from the cabinet, and the substitution of General Munro for General Sir Ian Hamilton, commanding at the Dardanelles, was not forthcoming. There were more than a hundred questions on the orders of the day, dealing with Near Eastern affairs, the Dardanelles and the method of raising men for the army, and while Ministers answered many of them, in no wise was the information which the public were awaiting supplied.

It is generally agreed that for the moment the controversy over recruiting is silenced, for Conscriptivists, or the majority of them, have decided to give Lord Derby's new scheme a fair trial and assist him in every way to get men in increased numbers to fill the gaps in the army. It is understood that the Voluntary System is receiving its best trial despite the opposition throughout the country. Those favoring National Service for all will endeavor to force its adoption should Lord Derby fail in his efforts. So far as the Dardanelles and the Balkans are concerned, a good deal of the pessimism which reigned a week ago has disappeared.

FIELD MARSHAL FRENCH REPORTS.

LONDON, Oct. 20.—Field-Marshal French sends the following report from the 14th:—

"Artillery on both sides have been very active on our front. South of the Labasse Canal, the enemy has made a number of bombing attacks, all of which have been repulsed. Reports in the German communiques of the repulse of British attacks north-east of Vermelles have no foundation, in fact the positions where fighting was mentioned above has taken place would be more correctly described as south-west of Anchy les Labasse, from which it is about fifteen hundred yards distant. It lies about 2000 yards N.E. of Vermelles.

Our new front leaves our old line at a point about 1,200 yards S. W. of the southern edge of Anchy les Labasse and runs thence through the main trench in the Hohenzollern Redoubt and in an eastern direction 400 yards south of the southern bulge at Fossee, No. 8 to southwestern corner of the quarries, our trenches

All Health Forces Asquith to Retire For Short Time

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Premier Asquith has suddenly become ill. His state of health will require his withdrawal from public activities for at least a few days.

Before 1 o'clock the following bulletin was issued at Downing Street: "The Premier is suffering from an attack of gastro-intestinal catarrh, which will necessitate a few days of complete rest." Earlier in the day Asquith attended meetings of the war committee and Cabinet, both of them held in his official residence.

British Submarine Gets Two More Hun Steamers in the Baltic

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 19.—The German steamer Pernambuco, 4,788 tons and the Scoederhamm, 1,499 tons were torpedoed last night by a British submarine in the Baltic off the coast of Sweden. Both vessels were bound for Germany with cargoes.

Lloyd George Acting Leader

LONDON, Oct. 19.—In Premier Asquith's absence, Lloyd George led in the Commons this afternoon. He steered off all propounders of what the Government considered awkward questions. "It is impossible," was his reply to urgent requests for statements regarding the situation in the Dardanelles, and as to Italian co-operation in Serbia. Lloyd George was only able to say that methods whereby Italy can most effectively cooperate in helping Serbia in the common cause were under discussion among the Allies.

Sir Edward Carson, whose resignation as Attorney-General was announced yesterday, did not put in an appearance. No explanation was made of his retirement.

The House was crowded, owing to expectation of developments in the political arena, and excitement over the expected refusal of the Government to reply to the flow of more or less hostile questions. No incidents of this nature occurred, and the House proceeded to a peaceful discussion of finances.

running thence south-east parallel to and four hundred yards from the south-western edge of the site of St. Ello to a point five hundred yards west of the north edge of Hullock. The line then runs along the line of the Labasse road to a chalk pit, fifteen hundred yards north of the highest point at Hill 70 and then runs south-east of the north-west slope of Hill 70 and runs along the western slope of the hill, bending south-west at a point 1,200 yards south of Loos Church, whence it runs due west.

Large Number Allied Troops For Serbia

ATHENS, Oct. 19.—British and French troops continue to disembark at Salonika. The number of those troops is so large that it is impossible to forward them all properly by rail to Serbia. Some troops are making forced marches through Greek territory in the direction of Serbia.

'Caught With the Goods'

GEFLE, Sweden, Oct. 19.—The "Nordlands Pastar" states that the Swedish Legation at Petrograd has informed the Foreign Office at Stockholm that the Swedish steamer Nike has been captured by a British submarine.

The Nike was on her way from a Swedish port for Stettin, Germany with ore and was taken by the submarine into the Russian port of Revel.

British Subs. Again Active

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 20.—Four German steamers have been torpedoed in the Baltic Sea, off Oxeloesund, south of Stockholm, by a British submarine. Two were sunk and two are still afloat. The cargoes of all four steamers have been saved.

'Remember the Marne' Was Joffre's Order

PARIS, Oct. 6.—Here is the text of General Joffre's order to the French army announcing a general offensive:

"Soldiers of the Republic: The general offensive has begun, the artillery opens; the infantry will follow then will come the cavalry. The offensive will be kept up day and night. Remember the Marne! Officers: all is ready in arms and ammunition. The general offensive has been decided upon. Inform your men, for whoever dies for his country has the right to know where we lead him."

Another Air Raider Goes To Scrap Heap

LONDON, Oct. 19.—A London firm of glass manufacturers, which has a plant at Maubeuge, in France, received the following cable message to-day:

"The chimney of our Maubeuge works has been destroyed by a Zeppelin dashing into it. All the occupants of the Zeppelin were killed."

Bold Rise of Captain British Submarine

LONDON, Oct. 16.—The adventures of Kipling's hero, Judson, with his flat-bottomed gunboat on the Zambesi were supposed to be the last word in British naval impudence, but a new claimant for the impudent championship is an unnamed British submarine in an unnamed port in the North Sea.

The submarine was a new one and on her first trip. When uncomfortably close to the German coast the engines broke down and she became practically a derelict. The commander cheerfully told his crew:

"We have only one chance; that is to fall in with some neutral ship and then blow the bally submarine up or sink her," the reason being that this particular submarine was supposed to embody new and wonderful features which must on no account become known to the enemy.

Shortly afterwards a steamship flying a neutral flag came along. The submarine limped toward her and the commander went on board. With supreme impudence he demanded to see the ship's papers. Lo! it was a German ship masquerading under a neutral flag. The language the commander used is supposed to be classical. He said they deserved the fate of pirates, but he would spare their lives and make them prisoners. He then took command of the steamer, taking in tow the disabled submarine and brought prize, prisoners and derelict safely into port.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

OFFICIAL BRITISH

(To The Governor of Newfoundland.) LONDON, Oct. 19.—France reports enemy attacks near Souchee frustratements.

Russia reports the enemy driven across the River Aa, near Riga. In the southern area were Russian successes at various points. Over three thousand men and many machine guns were captured.

General Sir C. Munro has been appointed Commander of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, in succession to General Hamilton. General Birdwood will command temporarily, pending General Munro's arrival.

BONAR LAW.

FRENCH

PARIS, Oct. 19.—Three German attacks with hand grenades last night to the north-east of Souchee, were completely repulsed by French forces, according to a French official statement given out to-day.

BULGARIAN.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The capture by the Bulgarian troops of Vranja, on the Serbian railroad, between Nish and Salonika, Greece, is reported officially to-day by the Bulgarian Legation here. Occupation of the railroad at Vranja cuts off all rail communication between the Serbian capital and the source of supplies south.

According to the Legation's advice four forces of troops are operating against Serbia, and with Vranja occupied and the railroad northward to Nish in operation, the officials of the Legation were of opinion that a large army would be before the capital within three days.

Britain Worried Over Cabinet Crisis

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Britain is waiting anxiously whether the Cabinet Ministers will be able to compose their differences and continue government work by swapping horses in midstream. The military difficulties which confront the Allies have taken a position of secondary importance for the time being. The Cabinet has been holding long and frequent meetings since the Balkan crisis developed. Both newspapers and politicians agree that vital difference of opinion have arisen over the Conscription issue and the Near East question.

In the meantime, newspapers are carrying on a bitter debate and exchanging accusations of lack of patriotism and the placing of party and private interests above those of the country.

Two More Spies Are Sentenced

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Two prisoners, charged with espionage, and tried by court martial in London, were both found guilty. One was sentenced to death, and the other to five years' penal servitude, the Press Bureau of the War Office announced to-day.

The prisoner sentenced to death was executed this morning.

Bulgars Have Jumped Too Quick Says French Minister

PARIS, Oct. 15.—That the Russian retreat, skillfully exploited by German agents, was the immediate cause of turning against the Allies the sentiment of the Bulgarian people, who are intensely practical, was the assertion made by A. de Panaieu, French Minister at Sofia, to the correspondent of the Journal, at Firaux.

"The event coincided," he said, "with the visit of the Duke of Mecklenburg, who found a ready tool in King Ferdinand, a blind believer in Germany's victory.

"The Campaign success came too late to restore the balance. The Bulgarian people understood nothing of diplomatic calculations. They see only Macedonia to be conquered. Certainly, if the Russian flag appeared at Varna or Burgas, it might arouse memories in their inmost souls, but in most cases it is sure south, cent."

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Franco-Serbian Troops Badly Rout Bulgars

PARIS, Oct. 18.—Heavy losses for the Bulgarians in the fighting which preceded the capture by the Allies of Strumitza is reported in a despatch from Salonika to Milan.

It is asserted that the entire balance of Bulgarians were annihilated by the Franco-Serbian forces. British as well as French troops, the despatch says, took part in this important engagement.

North-west of Derran, near the Vardar River and at al'Novovo, in the north-easter sector of the latter point the Bulgarians made a counter attack, but subsequently fled across the frontier, pursued by the Serbians.

Colonel Vickers Dead

LONDON, Oct. 20.—Colonel Vickers, the pioneer of the British armament industry, died to-day.

25 Thousand British Prisoners In Germany

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Twenty-five thousand was the official answer in the Commons to-day to a request for information as to the total number of British prisoners of war in Germany.

5000 Civilians In Belgium Shot By Germans

PARIS, Oct. 15.—A Havas despatch from Havre says: "Over five thousand civilians have been shot in Belgium by order of the German military authorities, according to authentic reports received by the Belgian government. The figure is approximate and unofficial because no local authorities, who fear reprisals, would dare draw up official reports.

Italian Squadron Now on its Way To Bulgar Coast

PARIS, Oct. 20.—An Italian squadron has left for the Near East under sealed orders, supposedly to participate in the blockade of the Bulgarian coast, according to despatches received here this evening, but which was delayed in transmission.

State of Famine Now in Hungary

BUDAPEST, October 15.—A despatch to the London Morning Post says:

"It is no exaggeration to say that there is practically a state of famine in Hungary at present, especially in Budapest, and the civil population is on the brink of starvation. Prices are rising by leaps and bounds, so much so that the last four weeks show an increase from 40 to 70 per cent., and even with this rise one cannot get certain necessities. Newspapers, even subsidized by the Government organs, like the rest, are openly accusing the Government of gross neglect, and most despairing articles appear on the subject.

Two meatless days a week are seven meatless days now, for only very well-to-do people can afford to have meat five times a week. Butter costs only in one's dreams, one kilo costing six to seven shillings, chickens £1 each. Bread is three times as dear as in Germany, where Hungarian flour is used in making it. It is surprising that under such circumstances the fury of an outraged people does not drag Count Tjeza and his accomplices from their well-guarded palaces to a fate which will sooner or later reach them.

Chicken £1 Each—Meat Scarce—Butter Exists Only in Dreams—Bread Soars in Price

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LORD DERBY OUTLINES PLAN FOR SECURING NECESSARY RECRUITS

Allied Fleet Have Bombarded Dedeaghat

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—A new agency despatch from London, published here this afternoon, says that it is officially announced here to-day that Dedeaghat, the strongly fortified Bulgarian port on the Aegean Sea, was being bombarded by the Allied fleet, twelve miles across the open gulf from Enos, and that if the bombardment is being staged by the Allied fleet, it is probable that a movement to take the city by land has been started by the Anglo-French forces which landed at Enos yesterday.

Austro General Committed Suicide

LONDON, Oct. 20.—General Pickler, of the Austro-Hungarian army, committed suicide to-day by shooting, according to a despatch from Vienna by way of Amsterdam, to Reuters Telegram Co. The officer, feared, the despatch adds, that an operation, which he was about to undergo, would not bring him relief.

How Long Will He Last?

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Formal recognition by the States of a de facto government in Mexico, with General Carranza as chief of the executive, was accomplished at noon to-day, by the delivery to General Carranza's representative, Eliseo Arredondo, at the Mexican embassy, of a letter from Secretary of State Lansing.

Kaiser Cried As He Condemned France To Death

BUDAPEST, Oct. 16.—The newspapers here relate a story of Emperor William which comes, they say, from a Socialist member of the Reichstag. In the course of a conversation the Emperor, with tears in his eyes, is alleged to have said that France was the greatest disappointment of his life and that he was sincerely sorry for that country, which, thought, was destined to ruin. The Emperor is also quoted as saying: "The French method of warfare is one of a terrifying nature, brutal and inhuman, the details of which will only be known after the war."

The Deputy says that the Emperor actually cried when he said that France was condemned to death.

"The aim of this war," added the Emperor, "is that Germany, in its great unity, should become the heart of Europe, and lead in the work of civilization and humanity."

The Hungarian papers give great prominence to the interview.

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Says Every Man Should Recognize That the State Has a Right to Call For His Services

BACHELORS WOULD BE CALLED FIRST.

Believes Voluntary System Can be Made a Success But There is no Time to Lose

LONDON, Oct. 20.—Lord Derby, whom the Government entrusted with the recruiting problem, addressing a mass meeting at the Mansion House, this afternoon, gave the gist of a plan by which he hopes to meet the situation. "I suggest," he said "that every man who recognizes that the State has a right to call his services for protection, should enlist at once; all those found physically fit, wishing to join the colors, could go, so that the remainder could continue their usual vocations, subject to call when needed.

Unmarried and married men, he explained, would be put into respective groups. Bachelors would be called first and married men would be called later, according to age. By such a system, he pointed out, there would be no sudden unmanageable number of recruits, but a steady supply needed by Kitchener.

Some one had asked the speaker, he said, why recruiting was urgent and necessary and he replied "Look at the map of Europe.

Lord Derby said a fortnight would be allowed men who were called, to adjust their private affairs, and he hoped that with a proper response, it would be necessary to call the older married men.

In any event, those older men would, so far as practicable, be placed in medical transport units. This is an honest attempt, he declared, to give every man a chance to do his duty and is a last effort on behalf of voluntary service.

"I believe," he said "that the Voluntary System can be made an unqualified success, but there is no time to lose."

Would Ask King George To Assume Command

LONDON, Oct. 20.—Robert Beresford, former army officer, addressing a street meeting in London to-day suggested that King George dissolve Parliament and assume command of the armies in the field. His suggestion was put in the form of a resolution, which was adopted at the meeting. Thus far it has not been ascertained under what auspices the meeting was held, or what its purpose was.

Will Wait For Wilson

LONDON, Oct. 20.—The British Government has made no move towards recognizing the Carranza Government in Mexico, but according to diplomatic circles, the British recognition will likely follow the recognition of the United States.

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Under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor, His Grace the Archbishop of St. John's, and His Lordship the Bishop of Newfoundland. GRAND PATRIOTIC CONCERT Methodist College Hall, Trafalgar Night, Thursday, Oct. 21st, 1915. IN AID OF OUR WOUNDED SOLDIERS AND SAILORS. ADDRESSES BY HIS GRACE AND THE LORD BISHOP. Conductor: Messrs. Hutton and King. Performers:—Mrs. King, Misses Johnson, Mare, Ryan, Strang, Harris and Morris; Messrs. Geo. Shea, Ruggles, O'Neil, Hutton and King. The C.L.B. and the C.C.C. Bands. Doors open at 7 o'clock. Concert at 8.15. Admission: Numbered Reserved Seats (Plan at Atlantic Bookstore), \$1.00. Reserved Seats, 50c. Programmes for sale at the Hall, price 10 cents.