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THE NEW ARMY IS LARGEST EVER RAISED BY GREAT BRITAIN

Tennant Places Some Interesting Facts Before House on Army Regiments Caused by Modern Warfare—Regretted he Could Not Anticipate Premier's Statement Regarding Result of Earl Derby's Recruiting Scheme, Report of Which Will be Tabled After Holiday Recess

LONDON, Dec. 23rd.—The Commons today passed the Bills prolonging the life of the present Parliament to eight months and increase of the strength of the British army to 4,000,000. Both Bills were passed without division. The Army Bill was passed by a Committee of the Whole in last night's session after a 14 hours' sitting. The debate on this Bill to-day, prior to its final passage, was brief without any feature from its opponents, all having sufficiently aired their views during the Committee stage.

The newly authorized army, H. J. Tennant, Under Secretary of the War Office, stated in the House to-night, is the largest army ever raised in the country. Tennant gave some interesting figures on the large reserve requirements of the army under modern war conditions, saying, that it was necessary to have at home in reserve 1/2 of the men for every soldier in the field. This estimate was based on the monthly wastage of 15, which was the experience of the first year of the war. Thus, an army of 2,500,000, which figures were given by Premier Asquith yesterday as the present British force abroad, required 2,500,000 reserves training at home or a total force of 3,500,000 necessary for the prosecution of the war on the present basis for one year.

Tennant regretted he was unable in any way to anticipate the Premier's statement as to the numbers enrolled under Lord Derby's scheme. He said he could only share the hope of other members that the young unmarried men who failed to enroll, was a negligible quantity, but added, "I believe that a great many members of Parliament, as well as people in the country, are prepared to support whatever is recommended by the Government, and if it is found necessary to resort to compulsion, the Government will have the great bulk of the country behind it." The Premier announced earlier in the day that the report on Derby's scheme will be made known in Parliament immediately after the holiday recess.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

LONDON, Dec. 22.—General Sir Archibald Murray has been appointed to succeed Sir Charles Monro, as British Commander at the Dardanelles. Sir Charles Monro has been appointed in command of the First British Army in France, in succession to Sir Douglas Haig (now Commander-in-Chief in France and Flanders). Lieut. General Sir William Robertson, now Chief of the General Staff in France, will become Chief of the Imperial General Staff, with the temporary rank of General, and with Major General W. W. Highman as his deputy. Major General L. Riggall, now assistant chief of the Imperial General Staff, will become chief of the General Staff of Sir Douglas Haig.

Lloyd George and Kitchenner Differ?

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The speech in the House of Commons on Monday by David Lloyd George is characterized by "Truth" as the last word in the keen struggle of the preceding months between him and Kitchenner. The newspaper continues:

"It obviously provokes or discloses the Ministerial situation. It is not easy to see how, after this speech, Lloyd George and Kitchenner can remain in the same cabinet."

"Truth" holds that Lloyd George's references to shortage in machine guns and explosives are implied reflections on Secretary Kitchenner, but adds that this does not exonerate the Cabinet. It continues:

"From more than six months before June, Lloyd George himself served on the Munitions Committee, and if he did not know about machine guns, he ought to have known."

WILL MAKE KNOWN FIGURES ON JAN. 1

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Apparently there is no prospect of the results of Earl Derby's recruiting campaign becoming known until Parliament reassembles on January the 4th. Derby's report was under consideration by the Cabinet to-day, but Premier Asquith told the House that he would be unable to make a statement regarding it before adjournment to-morrow, adding that the information would first be given to Parliament.

MEOSOTAMIA CASUALTIES

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Comparatively heavy losses have been inflicted on the British Army in Mesopotamia, in the severe fighting near Kut-elamara, following the retreat of the British to that point.

The Secretary of India announced in the House of Commons to-day that the total casualties of General Townshend's forces, since the return to Kut-elamara, was 1,127, including 200 deaths.

PARLIAMENT BILL PASSED AMENDMENT DEFEATED

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The Commons to-day passed a bill prolonging the life of the present Parliament. An attempt was made to introduce an amendment, the effect of which would be to bury the plurality bill, but on the plea of Bonar Law, the motion was withdrawn and the bill passed without division.

FROZEN PRODUCE IS REQUISITIONED

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Under an Order in Council issued to-day the Government requisitioned for transportation all frozen produce and all refrigerating compartments on steamships registered in the United Kingdom.

300 EMPLOYEES KILLED

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The Westphalia explosion resulted in three hundred employees being killed.

OFFICIAL BRITISH

The Governor, Newfoundland: LONDON, Dec. 22.—British Headquarters report hostile shelling of Loos and Ypres. The enemy made determined attempts to occupy the craters, opposite Armentieres, after stubborn bombing contests. They were repulsed, losing heavily.

General Monro succeeds General Haig in command of the first Army. Elsewhere in France, bombardments were successful.

At Hartmannswillerkopf the French attacked and captured a considerable portion of the enemy's works, with 1200 prisoners, including 21 officers.

Unofficial reports says that Russian warships with sixteen transports have bombarded Varna.

The Russians have captured Kum, the rebel centre in Persia.

BONAR LAW.

HAVE NOT RECRUITED OUR LIMIT

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Replying to an enquiry from Sir Alfred Meritt Mond as to whether the whole three million men previously authorized, had been recruited, Harold J. Tennant, Parliamentary Under Secretary of War, said on behalf of the Government in the House of Commons to-day that he believed the Government was still on the safe side, that is we have not yet broken the law by recruiting beyond the authorized limit.

"I state this as my belief," he added, "although I would not really like to swear to it." Tennant was also asked how great a reserve was necessary to keep the army in the field up to its proper strength.

He replied, "For every man we keep abroad we ought to have at home a reserve of 1.8, this being the year's supply of men at a monthly wastage of fifteen per cent."

Turks Put One Over on Berlin

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The withdrawal of the British forces from Gallipoli Peninsula has evoked great enthusiasm in Berlin, and is being used as a lever to force Greece and Roumania to join the Central Powers, according to the Rotterdam correspondent of the Telegraph.

Berlin's seizure of the opportunity to influence neutral Balkan States is indicated, says the correspondent, by a semi-official German agency statement which announces that the victory of the Turkish forces made a colossal impression in Greece and Roumania and an immediate clearing of the Balkan situation is to be expected.

All, doubtless, have been converted, the statement says, and have reached the conviction that to join the Central Powers can only be to their advantage.

At Berlin it is looked upon as settled that after this fiasco of the Entente Powers and after the victory of Gournaris in the Greek elections, the Greek military power will not suffer any longer a foreign policy of adventure with Greek territory at Greece's cost.

Wounded Nflders Arrive at Halifax

HALIFAX, N.S., Dec. 22.—The distinguished gallantry which marked the fighting of the 1st Newfoundland Regiment at the Dardanelles, and the circumstances attending the death of Capt. Wighton and the wounding of Adj. and Lieut. Rendell, all of Newfoundland, was told this morning upon the arrival of the steamer Carthaginian with four wounded Newfoundland men.

The steamer is from Glasgow, and included in her passenger list of forty-two, were the following invalided Newfoundland soldiers: Phillip Grouchy, leg wound; Ralph Gough, wounded in foot; Charles Magamman leg wound; Robert Hackett, wounded in several places.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

CONFESSES MURDER OF SOLDIER

Lieut. Coderie Says "He Murdered Sergt. Ozanne as he Was Only Man Who Saw Him Murder Another Man"—Coderie's Defense Will be Insanity

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The Hampshire County police are now investigating the mysterious disappearance of a Canadian soldier from Bramshot Camp. It is possible that the case may have an intimate connection with the murder of Sergt. Ozanne with which Lieut. George Coderie, of Sherbrooke, is charged.

At the Ozanne inquest orderly Keller testified that Coderie used these words: "Don't speak Joe, I have just killed a man. I killed that man because there was only him that saw me kill another man; I was afraid to pass a court martial."

This statement, rendered in Quebec French, at the inquest, puzzled the interpreter, but was ultimately interpreted as an admission on Coderie's part to Keller that he had killed Ozanne because the latter saw him kill another man. The name of the missing man for whom the police are searching has not been divulged, but it is understood he was connected with the same canteen as the dead sergeant.

As supporting a possible plea of insanity, Coderie's defence has learned he was in a motor accident at Valcartier, when his injuries were such as to unbalance his mind for two days.

FRENCH ONSLAUGHT SUCCESSFUL

PARIS, Dec. 23.—The successful action of the French at Hartmannswillerkopf was made for the purpose of bringing to an end a situation which the French regarded as intolerable. On the summit of this mountain there had been incessant firing by both sides. The trenches were separated by only a very small distance. The result of this fighting was an appreciable loss of men each day.

The French success resulted from a careful artillery preparation and a dashing onslaught of troops. The Germans were forced back some distance on the eastern slopes of the mountain.

Will Not Argue With Austria

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The United States will not argue with Austria any of the points involved in the sinking of the Ancona. In the second American Note to Vienna, was made public to-day by the State Department when it was delivered to the Austrian Foreign Minister in Vienna. In this the Government states that it must "renew the definite, but respectful, demands made in its communication of the 6th of December."

This second Note is extremely brief, is friendly in tone, but leaves no doubt as to the determination that Austria shall make full reparation for the American lives lost, and the punishment of the Austrian submarine commander, whose culpability is, in any case, established, and whose act, details of which were given in the Austrian admiralty statement, is held to be a wilful violation of the rules of international law and the principles of humanity.

WERE HELPED BY TREASURY

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The British Treasury advanced £200,000,000 to British firms to enable them to meet their obligations during the early days of the war.

In giving this information in the House of Commons to-day, Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer, added that 82 per cent. of these advances had already been repaid only £35,000,000 being outstanding on November 30th last.

OFFICIAL CASUALTY LIST

FIRST NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT

DECEMBER 23d., 1915.

857 Sergt. William Edward Barnes, 193 LeMarchant Road; wounded, no date given.

636 Private Ed. Charles Caldwell, Brigus; wounded, no date given.

637 Private Joseph Michelin, Hamilton Inlet, Labrador; wounded (slightly), no date given.

529 James William Moore, 31 Duckworth Street; gunshot wound in thigh, severe, no date given.

JOHN R. BENNETT, Colonial Secretary.

CANADA'S UNSHAKEN FAITH

Premier Borden at New York Dinner Says Canada is Determined to Spare no Effort to Make Allies Cause Triumphant

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—"Canada, while hoping the events of the next twelve months will lead to an abiding peace, is fully determined to spare no effort or shrink from no sacrifice to make triumphant the cause of the Allies and the freedom of the world," declared Sir Robert Laird Borden, the Canadian Premier, in an address to-night at the 110th dinner of the New England Society of New York.

Recounting what sacrifices Canada had already made, Premier Borden said Canada stood ready to make still more, so that the firm conviction of humanity's struggle against the enthronement of force above right will not be in vain.

Premier Borden was cheered enthusiastically throughout the address, which was the first formal speech delivered by him in the United States since the outbreak of the war.

The banquet hall was decorated with American and British flags, while the orchestra played the national airs of America and Great Britain. A joint toast to the President of the United States and the King of Great Britain was drunk.

Will be Allowed Reach Berlin

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The British and French Government have consented to give safe conducts to Captains Boy-Ed and Von Pappen, the German attaches recalled from the United States, "in deference to the expressed wish of the United States Government," Lord Robert Cecil stated in the House of Commons to-day. The Under Secretary's statement was in reply to a question implying condemnation of granting safe conducts, the questioner suggesting that by this the attaches would be enabled to "direct their energies towards injuring this country nearer home."

To a suggestion that the "release of Colonel Napier and Captain Arthur Stanley Wilson, taken off a Greek steamer in the Mediterranean, Lord Robert announced it was not a question of the release of Germans, but whether they would do more harm in the United States, than in their own country.

CANADIAN SOLDIERS TO HAVE HIS XMAS DINNER

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—The Minister of Militia announced an extra allowance of 25c. per man for every soldier of Canada serving abroad this Christmas, the money to be expended to provide a Christmas dinner for every soldier.

SOCIALIST PARTY SPLIT

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 23rd.—A despatch here declared that the Socialist Party in Germany is now completely divided, 21 members having seceded, formed a new party with an independent organization.

CAPTURE OF VARNA MAY MEAN NEW EFFORT FOR CONSTANTINOPLE

"Blind" Papers Raise the Curtain

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Miss Helen Keller and other persons in the United States are obtaining uncensored news from the capitals of belligerent nations in newspapers published for the blind in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna.

According to Miss Keller these newspapers are not censored because they are printed in shorthand Braille type, used for the blind which the censors are unable to read.

Through the medium of these journals what is probably the most authoritative article on Germany's lack of food has reached this country for the first time. It is revealed that every man, woman and child in Germany is living on slender rations, doled out by weight determined on after a conference of chemists, scientists and physicians in Berlin.

These uncensored accounts of the conditions in warring countries tell the true sentiment among the working people and the intolerable conditions that surround them, said Miss Keller; their hearts are almost at the breaking point.

Would Buy Up U. S. Congress

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A carefully worked out plan on the part of Germans to bribe enough members of Congress to insure the enactment of legislation prohibiting the exportation of war supplies for the Allies is under investigation by the Federal authorities here and in Washington. That an American college graduate was hired at \$1,000 a week to undertake work and that he had unlimited funds at his disposal, spending almost \$1,000,000 before he was called off, are the facts said now to be in possession of the Department of Justice. It is hinted that the man who served as the agent for German interests and who became involved in their affairs in many ways, is now ready to tell his story, and in fact it was asserted here to-day that this man already had visited the United States District Attorney Marshall.

OFF FOR EUROPE ON SECRET MISSION?

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The announcement by Col. E. M. House, of New York, President Wilson's close personal friend and adviser, that he would go to Europe at the request of the President and Secretary of State caused a great interest in official and diplomatic circles here to-day. Secretary Lansing confirmed the announcement but declined to add anything to it. Col. House's statement declared that the sole object of his mission would be to take to the American Ambassador at the capitals of the warring nations certain information regarding the Washington Government's attitude on international questions. It was denied that he would go on a peace mission.

VON HENDENBURG FORCED TO RETIRE

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A Herald despatch from London says the correspondent of the Daily Express telegraphs from Geneva that the German offensive on the Riga-Dvinsk front has completely failed. Von Hindenberg has been forced to retire before Russian counter-attacks, a ter burying his cannon and abandoning enormous amounts of material. The Germans, unable to cross the Dvinsk, have suffered very heavily.

Five German divisions have retreated on Takum, against which the Russians are advancing. A sanguinary battle is in progress near Uxkuil.

BUST

PITTSBURG, Dec. 22.—The Bank of Savings, one of the best known institutions in this city failed to open for business to-day.

While Report of Russian Capture of Bulgar Sea Port is Not Officially Confirmed Some Critics Seem to Think it Means a New Effort for Constantinople Which is Less Than 150 Miles Distant

FRENCH MAKE LARGE CAPTURE OF PRISONERS

British Public Delighted With Manner in Which Australians Took Withdrawal of Troops From Gallipoli—Lloyd George Appeals for 80,000 Skilled Workers—Socialists Again Active in Germany

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The second American Note to Austria shared the leading position in the late London papers with reports of the Russian success at Varna, Bulgaria's chief seaport. The Note appeared here too late for extended editorial comment, but the headlines reflected opinions that the Note ought to have been sharper in tone.

Up to a late hour there was no official confirmation of the reported Russian occupation of Varna, which if true, is according to London editors, one of the greatest moves of the present war. Some critics believe the Russian assault on Varna is but a prelude to a new effort for Constantinople, which is less than 150 miles distant.

On the Western front the success of the French at Hartmannswillerkopf, in the Vosges, is regarded in the Allies' capitals as not only a brilliant, but a useful operation, at a point where the situation has been most difficult for many months. The number of prisoners taken is the largest on the Western front since the great Loos offensive.

The British public takes much pride in the manner in which Australia has taken the withdrawal from Gallipoli. This attitude is summed up in the words of Lincoln's Gettysburg speech. "We here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain; that the nation shall, under God have a new birth of freedom." Most important developments last evening in Britain were the appeals by the leading Bankers of the nation to unite the task of meeting the war's financial requirements, and a speech by David Lloyd-George, Minister of Munitions, at New Castle, to the Trade Union Officials of the country, appealing to them for the assistance to obtain eighty thousand skilled workers which he demanded in his speech in Parliament a few days ago.

Reports that Reichstag discussions aroused some interest in the Entente Capitals, where Socialist attitude is being closely followed, many believing that some sections of the Socialist Group in Germany may prove to be ultimate channel peace negotiations.

TURNING THE TABLES

LONDON, Dec. 22.—According to advices from the Amsterdam Telegraph, forwarded by Reuter's correspondent, a powder factory and several munition depots at Muenster, Westphalia, have been blown up.

Great damage was done to the town, the newspaper adds.

FORD IS 'TICKLED TO DEATH'

CHRISTIANIA, Dec. 22.—Henry Ford, who is greatly improved from his indisposition, said to-day that the peace expedition will depart for Stockholm on Thursday morning.

Mr. Ford says he was much gratified with the reception of his plan in Norway.

PEACE PARTY IS NOW ONE-LESS

CHRISTIANIA, Dec. 22.—Lloyd Bingham, a member of the Ford peace party, died today of pneumonia. He was the husband of Amelia Bingham, the American actress.

LADIES, ATTENTION! A GIFT TO YOUR GENTLEMAN FRIENDS A GREAT BIG XMAS OFFER. FOR the next Ten Days we will give to every Purchaser of a tin V.C. Smoking Mixture, price \$1.25, a handsome covered Tobacco Pouch, price 50c. The regular price of these two articles being \$1.75. Our price for Ten Days only, \$1.50. To be had only at the ROYAL CIGAR STORE, Bank Square Water Street.