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PROBS— Increasing southeast and south winds; fair and mild.

THURSDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 25 1915

VOL. XXXV.—No. 12,797

BRITISH TROOPS ONLY 18 MILES FROM BAGDAD

GREAT SERB-BULGAR STRUGGLE BEGINS ON KOSSOVO PLAIN

COUNCIL FAILS TO NAME CHIEF WITH TIE VOTE

By Eleven to Eleven Decide Smith Will Be Neither Chief Nor Head.

FARCE STILL GOES ON

McBride Calls Council Cheap Comedians and Dunn Retorts Such Vaudeville.

William Smith, acting chief of the Toronto Fire Department, the nominee of the board of control for the position of head of the department, will not be chief, head or commissioner. The recommendation was defeated at a special meeting of the city council yesterday afternoon by a tie vote, 11 to 11.

As a fire fighter nothing was said against him, but the eleven who successfully put him out of the running declared that his training as a fireman did not qualify him to reorganize the department, and they maintained that a thero reorganization is absolutely necessary.

A scathing denunciation of the principles upon which it was stated Controller Foster works was the club with which Ald. McBride sought to fight the resolution. On more than one occasion the alderman was reprimanded for engaging in personalities, which, it was claimed, had no bearing on the issue. But he plugged ahead ripping, tearing and tongue-thrashing the object of his scorn.

Mayor Church, Controllers Foster and Thompson, Aldermen Ball, Wiggins, Maguire and others spoke strongly in support of Mr. Smith, while their opponents were chiefly Aldermen Ramsden, Roden, McBride, Cowan, Wickett and others. The entire session from 2.30 until 10 min-

(Continued on Page 3, Column 3).

TWO TORONTO AVIATORS CRASH INTO BUILDING

Flight Lieuts. Burden and Delamere Met With Mishap at Hendon.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

LONDON, Nov. 26. — Two young flight lieutenants in the naval service from Toronto, named Burden and Delamere met with an accident on the flying ground at Hendon. They ascended together, Delamere being pilot, and carrying Burden as a passenger and got lost in a cloud. In descending, they crashed into the side of a building. Burden is still in hospital, but he is not seriously hurt. Delamere has returned to duty.

HUGHES TO LOOK INTO RIOTS AT LONDON, ONT.

Drastic Shake-Up Among Officers of Regiment May Result.

By a Staff Reporter.

OTTAWA, Nov. 24.—Major-General Sir Sam Hughes left for London, Ont., to inquire into the military riots that have been occurring there. He has expressed the opinion that a shake-up among officers and non-coms of the regiment is needed.

BRITAIN KEEPS HOLD ON COTTON AND IRON

Exportation is Prohibited by an Order in Council.

LONDON, Nov. 24. — The exportation of cotton wadding, cotton wool and iron ore of all descriptions is prohibited to all destinations by an order-in-council, published tonight.

EARL OF ANTRIM'S SON WAS KILLED

LONDON, Nov. 25.—Sir Schomberg Kerr McDonnell, son of the Earl of Antrim, died last night from wounds received while fighting in the trenches Sunday.

SURPRISES IN BALKANS SOON

Serbian War Minister Says Britain and France Are Preparing Them.

RUSSIA AWAITS CUE

Her Action Will Follow Concentration of Allied Armies in Balkans.

ATHENS, via London, Nov. 25, 1.43 a.m.—The newspaper Hestia publishes an interview with the Serbian war minister, who is at Saloniki, in which the minster said:

"Altho we have lost 35,000 killed or wounded and 20,000 taken prisoner, the operations are anything but ended. Our forces now numbering 200,000, are still intact. We are only deficient in heavy artillery. The morale of the troops is unimpaired. The commissariat is working splendidly, thanks to the French organizers.

"Nevertheless, the situation is difficult, tho not hopeless, from a strategic standpoint, and as regards munitions we shall remain on the defensive, holding the passes and wearing down the enemy until the Anglo-French forces are sufficiently strong to enable us to resume the offensive.

Italy's Difficulties.

"The participation of Italy meets with difficulties owing to the divergence of views regarding Albania. Russia's intervention will be effected after the concentration of the allied armies in the Balkans, and it is expected that this will produce a change in Roumania's attitude.

"I can assure you that France and England are preparing surprises in the Balkans."

ROUMANIANS TO JOIN ALLIES IN NATIONAL WAR

Revival of Old Policy Soon, Intimated by Take Jonescu.

RUSSIAN FORCE NEAR

Aid Will Be Furnished Her Against Germany and Austria.

GENEVA, via Paris, Nov. 24.—The Bucharest correspondent of The Geneva Tribune sends a despatch in which Take Jonescu, a former member of the Roumanian Cabinet, and leader of the Liberal party in Roumania, is quoted as expressing the belief that the Roumanian Government is desirous of following the national policy, and soon will intervene in the war on the side of the entente allies.

M. Jonescu, according to this despatch, also said he had learned from Petrograd that a strong Russian force was ready near the Roumanian frontier to aid Roumania against Austria and Bulgaria.

The Roumanian premier, M. Bratiano, in a conversation regarding the relations between Roumania and Russia, is also quoted as saying: "They are better than ever before."

A Central News despatch from Berlin states that the Roumanian Cabinet is being reformed by Premier Bratiano.

JAPAN TO SEND ARMY TO EUROPE IF NEEDED

She Does Not Intend to Risk Check, Says Foreign Minister.

PARIS, Nov. 24.—Japan is willing to send a strong army to Europe if the need arises, The Petit Parisien says. A statement to this effect is credited to Baron Ishii, Japanese Foreign Minister, by G. Lechartier, Tokio correspondent of this paper. He quotes Baron Ishii as follows:

"Thus far we have not considered the eventuality of sending an army to Europe, but if there is occasion therefor Japan will immediately send in one expedition a very strong army. Japan does not intend to risk a check."

GOVERNMENT TO CONTROL AMERICAN SECURITIES

LONDON, Nov. 24.—The chancellor of the exchequer, Reginald McKenna, gave in the house of commons today the first official confirmation of reports that the government had begun negotiations with large holders of American securities for the purpose of obtaining control of these holdings.

The negotiations, Mr. McKenna said, were confidential, for the prossent, but he promised to make a full statement on the project before the general public was invited to join the movement.

HAD MUCH DIFFICULTY TO OBTAIN PASSPORT

Victoria, B.C., Merchant Had to Bring Identification Evidence Forward.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

LONDON, Nov. 24.—The difficulties in obtaining passports now being raised here were exemplified when John Douglas, well known comercially in Victoria, B.C., asked a West London magistrate to sign his application for a passport. The magistrate said that he had to certify that the statements of the applicant were true. How could he know if they were true? Counsel for the applicant then brought forward a well known London solicitor, who said that he knew the applicant for years, and that he had only come here a short time on business. The magistrate, in consenting to sign the application, said that the case was very different from some which had come forward recently.

AUSTRALIA TO RAISE ADDITIONAL FORCES

MELBOURNE, Australia (via London), Nov. 24.—The Commonwealth Government has decided to raise an additional 50,000 men. This will bring up the Australian contingent for the war to 300,000.

ENEMY FORCED FURTHER BACK

Germans Repulsed by Russians West of Lake Kanger, Near Riga.

FIGHTING FOR DALEN

Teuton Surprise Attack on Island Ends in Check.

PETROGRAD, Nov. 24.—German troops have been further pressed back by the Russians on the Riga front, in the region west of Lake Kanger and they were driven out of the Borzmeunde farm, which is situated before the southern extremity of Dalen Island in the Dwina, by Russian reserves which were hurried up as soon as the enemy had seized the position. The Russian war office takes note of the impetuous courage of one of the newly formed Lithuanian Regiments which distinguished itself in an impetuous charge in this fighting.

The Russians occupied the Janopol farm on the left bank of the Dwina, north of Illoukst, after fighting a successful engagement. An artillery duel took place on the front below Dwinsk and a German counter-attack on the trenches which the Russians had taken north of Lake Swenton was repulsed by rifle and artillery fire.

Fierce skirmishes are reported for the left bank of the Styr and an engagement is being fought for the Village of Koslinitchi.

KOSSOVO PLAIN IS ENTERED BY FOE'S COLUMNS

Serbian Army in North is Apparently in Precarious Situation.

RUSSIAN AID COMING?

Large Army Reported Ready for Operations in the Balkans.

LONDON, Nov. 24.—In the Balkans, especially so far as the Serbian northern army is concerned, the situation has grown graver. Austro-German and Bulgarian troops, operating in three separate columns, have entered Kossovo Plain, where the Serbians were expected to make their last stand, and have occupied Mitrovitza, the latest Serbian capital, as well as Pristina, and at one point at least have driven the Serbians across the Sitnica River, which drains the valley.

Altho the Serbians might make a stand between the valley and the Albanian and Montenegrin frontiers, they will be at a great disdvantage owing to their inability to get munitions and supplies, while their opponents will have virtually everything they require.

The Serbians on the Katchanik front and also in the southwest corner of their country continue to hold back the invaders, as do the Anglo-French forces in the southeast. The Russians are reported to have prepared an army of 350,000 for operations i nthe Balkans, but the point at which they will strike has not been indicated.

Victory in Southern Serbia.

Defeat of the Bulgarians all along the front in the extreme south of Serbia and the retreat of their forces at every point there is announced in a Serbian official statement received at Paris today.

As far north as Veles the Bulgars are reported falling back upon Istip and Veles itself is said to be in imminent danger of recapture from them.

A Saloniki despatch appearing in The Paris Temps today expresses the opinion that the main Serbian army is massed on Kossovo Plain and that the Serbian war minister, General Bokovitch, will be able to throw 90,000 men against 120,000 Bulgarians guarding the defiles of Katchanik and Kortchovi.

Reinforcements at Monastir.

The Serbian army at Monastir is being reinforced by troops from Govdar, Krushevo, Dibra and Ochrida, according to a despatch from the Serbian front dated Monday and transmitted by the Havas correspondent at Saloniki Tuesday. Guns and munitions are being sent from Saloniki.

The Serbs occupy positions southwest of Prilep, at Pribilc, Krushevo and Brdo.

Mitrovitza's Fall Confirmed.

An official statement from Berlin today says:

Mitrovitza has been taken by Austro-Hungarian troops. Pristina has been taken by German (other accounts say Bulgarian) troops. The Serbians hve been drivn over the Simica River, west of Pristina.

WHAT BERLIN IS TOLD

Berlin, Nov. 24.—(By wireless to Sayville.)—Luciano Magrini, the widely-know Italian war correspondent, telegraphing from Monastir, recommends that the quadruple alliance give up its Balkan campaign as lost, says the Overseas News Agency today. "The Serbian tragedy," he declares, "is nearing its end amid the universal indignation of the Serbians against the entente powers."

GORIZIA'S FALL NEAR RIVA SOON TO FOLLOW

Roverto May Have Been Already Evacuated by the Austrians.

LONDON, Nov. 24.—While Gorizia has not yet fallen to the Italians, it has been rendered untenable, a fate which likewise appears to be awaiting Riva, in the Trentino. The station at Rivs has come within range of the Italian guns.

This latter information, contained in the Vienna official communication, gives some confirmation to the rumors that Roverto has been evacuated by the Austrians.

A YONGE STREET WINDOW.

At the corner of Temperance was the focal point for a large crowd of people yesterday. The W. & D. Dineen Company, Limited, 140 Yonge street, are showing a magnificent collection of sumptuous mink furs. A beautiful coat that was priced at $2000, is now $1230. Another Paris model mink coat that was $1650, is now $825—charming Christmas gifts for two lucky ladies. The fur sets, muffs, stoles, capes, victorines, ties and throws. Every piece the latest dictate of fashion and at amazingly low prices. Do not miss the window, which is only a slight indication of the good things in the display rooms inside.

VON BUELOW BIDDING FOR VATICAN'S SUPPORT

Conference With Archbishop and Dr. Von Muehlberg is Significant.

ZURICH, via London, Nov. 24.—Reports of a movement for peace were revived today by a conference here of Prince Von Buelow, former German chancellor, with the cardinal archbishop of Cologne and Dr. Von Muehlberg, Prussian minister to the Vatican. Prince Von Buelow, whose presence in Switzerland for several weeks has given rise to various peace rumors, arrived in Zurich from Lucerne this morning. The conference is regarded as of great importance owing to the fact that the cardinal is on his way to Rome to attend the forthcoming conclave of the college of cardinals.

ANOTHER ARMENIAN MASSACRE REPORTED

Five Hundred Refugees Fell Victims to Bloodthirsty Kurds.

LONDON, Nov. 25, 3.20 a.m.—News of further Armenian massacres has reached those in charge of the Lord Mayor's Armenian Refugee Fund. It tells of the massacre of 500 refugees by Kurds. The refugees succeeded in reaching Russian trans-Caucasia, but nearly 200,000 refugees were already there and the 500 tried to return to that part of Armenia in Russian occupation. They were massacred on the road to Van.

PERSIA EXCITED BY FALSE NEWS

Germans Circulated Reports of War With Britain and Russia.

INTRIGUES CONTINUE

Major O'Cononr, British Consul at Shiraz, and Others Taken to Interior.

PETROGRAD, via London, Nov. 24.—Advices received here from Teheran say:

"Communication with Kum was restored yesterday. Major Helstroem, instructor of the gendarmerie, which was responsible for the bloodshed at Hamadan, has resigned. He explains that the conduct of the gendarmerie was due to false news received of anarchy at Teheran, which was reported to have been taken and burned by the Russians, of fighting between Russians and the gendarmerie and Persian Cossacks and also to the failure of telegraphic communication with Teheran, declaring that they acted under orders from Teheran, issued owing to a reported outbreak of war between Persia and Great Britain and Russia.

"Major W. T. T. O'Connor, the British consul at Shiraz, and five other Englishmen and ten Sepoys have been taken by the gendarmerie into the mountains.

"The Turks and Germans are continuing their intrigues, announcing the departure of the shah with the diplomats of the central powers from Teheran."

STATION AT ARRAS HIT BY GERMAN SHELLS

Asphyxiating Bombardment in Woevre by Enemy Gains No Results.

PARIS, Nov. 24, 11.10 p.m.—The following official communication was issued by the French war office tonight:

"The morning was calm on the whole front save in the Woevre at the Bois Brule, where the enemy employed asphyxiating shells without attaining results.

"The afternoon was marked by artillery activity, quite violent in Artois, where the Arras railway station was hit by about 50 shells and in the region of Loos and Souchez; to a lesser degree on the side toward Soissons and in Champagne, and rather spirited in the sectors of Flirey and Reillon and in the Vosges at La Tete de Faux and Hartmans-Weilerkopf. Everywhere our batteries replied successfully and kept the advantage.

"The Belgian communication reads: 'The night was calm. During the day there was great artillery activity on both sides. Our batteries dispersed pioneers and bombarded the trenches and observation posts of the enemy. There was energetic action against the enemy batteries, which bombarded practically the sector between Dixmude and Nieuport, as well as the sector between Noordschoote and Steenstraete.'"

FURTHER GAIN BY BRITISH IN BAGDAD DRIVE

Turkish Position Eighteen Miles From City Taken After Hard Fight.

LOSSES TWO THOUSAND

British Fell Back Later Because of Lack of Water.

LONDON, Nov. 24, 9.45 p.m.—After the capture of Ctesiphon, eighteen miles from Bagdad, and the repulse of a Turkish counter-attack, the British forces under Gen. Townshend were compelled to retire three or four miles in order to secure water, according to an official communication issued tonight. The British losses in the fighting for Zeur, which also was taken, and Ctesiphon are calculated at 2000 men killed or wounded.

Hard Fighting.

The communication says:

"After a night march from Zeur, which had been occupied on the 19th, Gen. Townshend's division attacked the Turkish position at Ctesiphon, 18 miles from Bagdad, on the 22nd.

"After severe fighting all day the position was captured, together with about 300 prisoners and large quantities of arms and equipment; our own losses being calculated at 2000 killed or wounded.

"Gen. Townshend's force, and the general headquarters by vacated in the captured position that night. On the night of the 23rd-24th heavy counter attacks by the Turks were successfully repulsed, but on the 24th want of water necessitated the retirement of our forces to the river three or four miles below the captured position."

MORE FRENCH YOUTHS ARE CALLED TO COLORS

Four Hundred Thousand Will Undergo Training in Garrisons.

PARIS, Nov. 24.—After hearing General Gallieni, minister of war, today, the army committee of the chamber of deputies decided upon a call to the colors on Dec. 15 of the young conscripts of the class of 1917. They will be sent to garrisons, then trained and incorporated in various regiments and services.

The class of 1917 comprises a contingent of 400,000 young men, who in peace times would begin military service in 1917. The members of this contingent are 18 and 19 years of age. The calling of this contingent was forecast in a memorandum by M. Millerand, then minister of war, in September, noting that the 1916 contingent had completed its training and that it appeared to be necessary to anticipate the time of calling the 1917 contingent so that its services might be available if the need arose, in the spring of 1916, the minimum time of training being five months.

Hammer and Tongs

John: I noo I'd get yur gote, Preacher, an' I got it.

The Preach: It wasn' yo that ran aff wi' th' beastie. It was Billy Sunday an' Joey Atkinson that pit the grease on til th' road that I gaed along in me wee Fordy, an' I fell oot on me pate.

John: Go an' jine Billy Sunday's troop an' print anuther book in th' States. Preacher Taf' wants yuh to do his bit-postin.

The Preach: Stinkin' fish, John.

John: Sir Wilf'll be glad when he hears th' noos that yuh got the mit, Preach. Th' Tory party's los' its cheef asset!

The Preach: I'm stairtin' up in th' jitney line, th' morrow, John, an' I'll nae hae ye as a passengair at ony cost, ye auld landmark o' Satan!

NOTE OF ALLIES TO GREECE HAS CLEARED AIR FURTHER

Greek Premier Gives Verbal Promise That Troops Will Not Be Interfered With and Written Guarantee is Awaited.

LONDON, Nov. 24, 10 p.m.—There has been a distinct improvement in the diplomatic relations between Greece and the entente powers, following on the presentation of a collective note by the representatives of the allies. The Greek premier is reported to have stated that while Greece put forward theoretical objections to allied troops entering Greek territory and using it as a victualling base she would not raise a finger against them.

All that the allies are now waiting for is a guarantee that Greece will carry out this assurance.

Early Reply Urged.

A Paris despatch tonight says:

"The collective note of the allies to the Greek Government is expressed in friendly spirit and is general in character. It requests the Greek Government, according to an Athens despatch to the Havas Agency, to confirm the assurances already given relative to the position of the allies' forces on Greek soil. The note asks for the earliest reply possible under the circumstances.

"Prior to the presentation of this note, the questions it deals with were discussed at the luncheon given by King Constantine in honor of Denys Cochin, member of the French cabinet. M Cochin's views were favorably received by the king, and no doubt appears to exist, the despatch adds, that the Greek Government will supply all the guarantees requested."

SERBIAN GOVERNMENT SHIFTS FROM PRISREND TO SCUTARI

LONDON, Nov. 24.—The Serbian legation at Paris announced today that the Serbian Government, which had been located at Prisrend, is departing today to Scutari, Albania.

Berlin reports that a despatch to The Berliner Zeitung from Sofia carries the report that King Peter of Serbia has accepted an invitation from King Nicholas of Montenegro to come to Cettinje and rule his country from the Montenegrin capital. The report adds that the Serbian ministers will accompany King Peter from Saloniki.

Kings, Kaisers, Princes and Prin cesses All!

The more the war and its nefariousness is studied, the more is one convinced that the kaiser is behind it all, and that he has been planning it for years from the inside of his kaisership and royalty, by means of intrigue centred in courts or palaces. It has been the policy of the kaiser to use royal intrigue to undermine public rights thruout Europe, and even to assail the democratic institutions of America. He sent his brother to the States some time ago to hypnotize what are now known as German-Americans, as well as the people of the United States. He tried to get Colonel Roosevelt by naming one of his yachts after the then president's daughter, and he showed great attention to the colonel when he was in Europe on his return from Africa. He and the kaiser presented Biblcs to all the Lutheran churches thruout the United States, containing the royal monogram and arms, and insinuating the all-greatness, the all-goodness and all-powerfulness of the kaiser and his family.

But it is in Europe where this royal court conspiracy against the rights of nations and governments has been most steadily pursued. German princes were planted wherever they could be in any petty kingdom thruout Europe; and in England the German court, by its agents and intrigue, was steadily at work attempting to undermine the policy of the British Government. People of high station, and women in fashionable life, those who were more or less on the inside of court circles, were at times his tools. The aristocracy in all countries was more or less courted by the kaiser, and he went out of his way to make himself agreeable in all the big houses of Great Britain. It is now known that our whole diplomacy at Europe for years back has been corrupted by this royal and court intrigue, directed from Berlin and reflected in all the petty courts or circles dominated by the kaiser or his representatives.

Public opinion can reach public men when they are engaged in diplomacy as between nations and governments, but it seldom, or never, can get to a royal or court intrigue which has its centre in palaces and the houses of aristocracy. Not that we have a single complaint to pass at the moment on the high patriotism of the aristocracy of England in this crisis; but nevertheless the intrigue of the kaiser and the German princes and princesses has been diametrically opposed to the rights of nations, to democratic government, to progressive legislation.

Why British statesmen and the British Parliament have stood for so much of it we do not care to say at this moment, but we are convinced that it is absolutely in the interest of civilization and democracy that an end be put to all this royal conspiracy which centres in Germany, and is directed against the public welfare. The Hohenzollerns must go, and so must the petty German princes on the thrones of Europe; and Germany as a state must find a way to become a democratic government, or at least a kingdom under a constitutional monarch.

Someone might say why should a country like Canada concern itself with the question of these conspiracies of royal persons in Europe? We know now why we should be concerned, because of what it has cost us in blood and treasure and the dislocation of our business. Americans, too, know in the same way, and the time has come when the democracy of America must put in a protest and a protest that must end in the disappearance of all German royalty and its methods.

This war is being fought on issues raised by these unworthy kings, emperors, and princelings, rather than as it directed against races and nations and their governments, and the surprising thing is that it has taken sixteen months of the war to find out by the events in Athens where the royal plot originated, and who were the main actors in it. The Balkan peoples are only finding out what bedevilled them as the Greeks are finding out what the kaiser's sister has been able to do in their country as his chief agent.