

THE COURIER

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Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1915.

The Situation.

It begins to look as if a big Balkan battle is likely to take place right on Greek territory. The British and French forces in that region are preparing to make a stand at Saloniki, so that King Constantine will have fighting on his soil willing or unwilling. Large reinforcements are stated to be arriving at the port named. Up to date the allied forces do not seem to have suffered any very serious harm during their retreat.

There would seem to be a big fight now raging in the Dardanelles. In the other sections there are no developments of importance.

In the British House Bonar Law talked out very plainly to the men—they are to be found everywhere—who continue to carp and criticize with reference to the conduct of the war. He gave the needed warning that for his part he will resign from the Ministry unless such continual nagging cease.

The Money Expenditure in the War.

A United States statistician points out that a glance over the outstanding features of the war expenditure is enough to make anyone wonder how it was possible to amass such fabulous sums. Premier Asquith, in one of his speeches, remarked that the war against Napoleon cost the English nation about \$5,000,000 per week. The present war required \$105,000,000. In reckoning the expenses of the war, no consideration is made of the destruction of cities and villages, the laying waste of fields and above all the elimination of capital in the districts where battles have taken place. On the other hand, the wealth of Europe and the accumulation of capital in the last forty years of peace are such that many statisticians conclude that Europe will be able to stand the war's depredations for years.

England can prosecute the war for six and a half years at the same cost as in the first year, before she will expend the same portion of her financial resources that Americans did in the four years of Civil War. This means that John Bull is still very far from bankruptcy. Almost the same applies to France, the next richest country in the world. France's outlay is proportionately somewhat smaller than England's. Following are statistics of the national wealth of the belligerent powers:

To each Englishman \$1,777; to each Frenchman, \$1,625; to each German, \$923; to each Italian, \$588; to each Austrian, \$500; to each Russian, \$250. This table is highly significant, not only in times of peace, but also during war. England's national wealth is as large as Germany's and Austria's combined. If the two Central Empires were able to continue this war another five years, England and France, the two richest countries in the world, certainly can, and if "silver bullets" are really the deciding factor of the war, as is universally believed, the Entente Allies must be victorious. Proportionately, Italy is a wealthier nation than Austria, and as to Russia, we must consider that the peasant who contribute the great majority of soldiers, can exist by strict economy, on very little. For Russia the cost of waging war is considerably lower than that of any other of the belligerent nations. England and France, who may be called the bankers of the world, can in any event maintain financially all the Russian armies. Their resources when we take into account the natural opulence of their colonies, can be truly said to be inexhaustible.

Victoria Won.

Vancouver, Dec. 15.—The match played here last night between Victoria and the local club was won by Victoria by a score of 7 to 5. This was the first meeting this season of these two clubs, and the old time rivalry was shown by the players. The game was one of the best played here in some time and was witnessed by a good sized crowd.

Everywhere throughout the Dominion the Australians have been given a most enthusiastic reception and the indications are that their visit to the Telephone City will not be the least interesting of their visits to Canada. It might be appropriately mentioned here that during their three months' tour of the Dominion they have turned over between eleven and twelve thousand dollars to Patriotic funds.

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AUSTRALIAN BOYS

Will be Guests of the City—Concert on the Night of Jan. 5th.

A joint meeting was held on Monday evening at the Y. M. C. A. of representatives of the City Council, and Board of Trade, in reference to the reception to be extended to the well-known Australian Cadets, who have been meeting with such enthusiastic reception throughout Canada, also in New York and other cities in the United States. Owing to the absence of the Mayor at a recruiting meeting, Ald. J. S. Dowling occupied the chair.

It was unanimously decided on behalf of the City Council and the Board of Trade to extend the privileges of the city to the manager, Lt. J. J. Simons and his Cadets, on the occasion of their visit here next month, January 4th and 5th. Mr. Duft T. Williamson, chief Scout of the Brant Avenue Boy Scouts, was elected chairman of the Reception committee.

The following is the official programme of this really noteworthy event: Tuesday, January 4th—Cadets will arrive in the city via G. T. R. International Limited from Quebec at 7:30 p.m. They will be met by His Worship, the Mayor, the Mayor-Elect, and members of the City Council and representatives of the Board of Trade, escorted by the military band, Collegiate and Public School Cadets, Mohawk Cadets, Boy Scouts, and Boy Knights.

Wednesday morning, January 5th—At 9 o'clock the Cadets will assemble at the Y. M. C. A. where the Brantford Board of Trade will give the visitors from the Antipodes, a drive around the city, showing them the various historical points of interest and the principal factories engaged in the Australian trade, and will be the guests of the Board of Trade at luncheon at one o'clock at the Tea Pot Inn.

At 3 p.m. the Cadets will give one of their celebrated Patriotic entertainments at the Grand Opera House, including the musical extravaganza, "Called to the Front."

This will be under the auspices of the various Brantford Chapters of the Daughters of the Empire. A special invitation at popular prices will be extended to the school children of the city to attend the matinee.

At 8:15 in the evening the Cadets will again present one of their unique performances. They have their own brass band of 29 pieces and will give demonstrations of physical drill gymnastic numbers, vocal, instrumental, elocutionary and other attractive selections.

While in the city the Australian Cadets will be the guests at the homes of several prominent citizens. The proceeds of the two entertainments will be devoted 50 per cent to the Cadets, 50 per cent to the patriotic funds of the Patriotic Chapters, Daughters of the Empire.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

What would be more suitable for Xmas than a good club bag for brother or sister? Coles Shoe Co., 122 Colborne Street.

BONAR LAW

(Continued from Page 1)

use to the government. If my party lost confidence in me I would not dream for a moment of continuing in the government.

"A general election at the present time might do a great deal of harm. It would, in any event, introduce an element of discord and be futile."

THE DUTY OF SILENCE

Premier Asquith also participated in the debate. He declared, regarding the criticism of the government's secrecy, that it was no gratification for the government to sit silent day after day under imputations and suggestions which could easily be refuted and blown into the air if it were not their bounden duty as the trustees of the nation to maintain reticence.

Dealing with the bill, the Premier declared that a general election at the present time would be a national calamity, but, he added, the government was not inflexibly wedded to the precise period of postponement named in the bill, and would be prepared to consider reasonable suggestions for an alteration of the term suggested.

After a short debate, the bill was given a second reading. THORNE SILENCES LIBERAL

In the course of the debate Mr. W. H. Cowan (Liberal M.P. for Aberdeenshire) denounced the government's conduct of the war as a hopeless failure.

The Speaker interrupted Mr. Cowan several times, declaring his remarks irrelevant, which finally led Will Thorne, the Labor leader, to interject: "You'd better turn it up, old sport."

The remark upset the dignity of the House, and restored the much-needed good humor.

BIG BATTLE

(Continued from Page 1)

orderly. Bulgarian attacks against our rearward detachments were repulsed.

"All our contingents are now assembled within the Greek border, which frontier has not yet been crossed by a single Bulgarian."

GERMANY WARNS GRECE. Greece's situation diplomatically has been complicated by the request of Germany to know whether the Athens Cabinet does not look upon the use of Greek territory by the Entente allies as a breach of her neutrality, and this inquiry is considered to foreshadow German participation in the pursuit. However, it is not believed here that the Germans have many troops in that part of the Balkans, their main force having been diverted to Rostchuk when the Russian threat of an invasion of Bulgaria seemed likely of fulfillment, and that, therefore, the Entente troops for the present only have to fear the Bulgarians, as the Austrians are still being occupied in Montenegro and Albania, where the Montenegrins and Serbians are keeping up a stubborn resistance. It has again been reported that the Italians have landed an army on the Albanian coast to go to the assistance of the Serbs, and Montenegro.

ALLIES SLIGHTLY HARMED. Reviewing the past week's operations, Reuter's correspondent at Saloniki says the fighting during the week did no serious harm to the allied forces, the Bulgarians having shown no desire to come to close quarters since last week, Monday.

"The British casualties on that day," says the correspondent "although severe, totalled less than a thousand, but during the rest of the week a few dozen would sum up the Franco-British front."

"During the week the allies retired about fourteen miles by gradual stages, removing all their own stores and absolutely denuding the country of everything valuable to the enemy. An unusual sight that was witnessed was herds of cattle and sheep being driven ahead by allied soldiers, who greatly enjoyed this novel fatigue duty. On Saturday the rearward of the allies was only two miles from the Greek frontier, and the town of Doiran had been completely stripped. The British recognized numerous German uniforms among the Bulgarians."

"Meanwhile reinforcements continue to pour into Saloniki, including several Scottish regiments, and on the semicircle of hills surrounding the town the fortifications are rapidly nearing completion. The soldiers are confident, and many of them express the hope that they will soon be able to test the strength of these works against the enemy."

Million-Dollar Fund For Returned Soldiers

Toronto, Dec. 15.—"We need every dollar we can get to carry on the work of the Red Cross," said the President of the Canadian branch of that association, Lieut.-Col. Noel Marshall, speaking at a concert held under the auspices of the McEroy Manufacturing Company, which was held in the Technical School auditorium last night.

The speaker, after giving a brief outline of the work carried on by the Red Cross, made an urgent appeal for funds.

"We aim to have a surplus of a million dollars at the end of the war," he said, "to take care of the returned soldiers—and we will need every cent of it."

A miscellaneous program was provided by some of the talented employees of the company giving the concert. About one thousand people were present.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—Major LeGrand Reed of the Recruiting Depot suggested to the Police Commissioners that a census be taken of the city by the police to obtain the names of all men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five that recruiting officers might make a direct appeal to ascertain the reason why many have not enlisted.

The Chief Constable was told by the Commissioners to inform Major Reed that the suggestion had met with their approval, and that it had been left to him as to the plan to be adopted.

When the Commissioners have learned the identity of the individuals on the committee of the Suffragists war association committee and the nature of their work, they will give their decision upon the request of Mrs. L. A. Hamilton regarding the association's collection in aid of Serbian children.

FRENCH COST OF WAR.

Paris, Dec. 14.—The appropriations committee of the chamber of deputies, reporting to-day upon the requirements of the Government for the first quarter of 1916, summarizes the cost of the war thus: The total expenses of the government from August 1, 1914, to December 31, 1915, were 31,024,000,000 francs (\$6,204,800,000) of which the parliamentary expenditures were 24,347,000,000 francs. While the average expenses of the government during the first five months of the war were 1,780,000,000 francs, the estimates for the first quarter of the new year average 2,505,000,000 francs monthly. The committee reported that it had rejected the request of the minister of finance that the income tax of July, 1914, should be applied to January 1, 1917.

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COLLUSION

Is Alleged in the French Chamber of Deputies.

By Special Wire to the Courier. Paris, Dec. 14.—In the course of a debate in the Chamber of Deputies to-day, severe criticism was made of relations between the War Ministry and certain individuals who are selling supplies to the government. It was asserted the ministry had dealt with persons whose sole occupation, hitherto, had consisted in frequenting pleasure resorts at night and there picking up customers. These persons, it was said, were regarded as worthy to furnish shoes, clothing and cannon.

Deputy Julien-Antoine Simyan said this was scandalous and even criminal, and that a government official, Paris, being informed of the facts, declined to strike the guilty persons because an accomplice.

The French ambassador at London, M. Simyan continued, had made a report on the activities of certain persons who were endeavoring to obtain illegal profits from the government.

The ambassador's report, he said, concluded with the statement, saying advice from the minister at Paris established the fact that he was compelled to submit to the actions of these persons, without profiting therefrom.

In the purchase of horses alone, M. Simyan declared that commissions amounting to several million francs had been paid. He characterized this as scandalous, and said Inspector Gaillard of the army had demanded a searching investigation. An inquiry was ordered, he continued, but the commission which controls government purchases took the ground that if the facts were known they would cause a public protest. The secretary of Alexandre Millerand, then minister of war, was of the same opinion, the speaker declared, and M. Millerand approved his secretary's view.

This assertion brought M. Millerand to his feet. He protested that M. Simyan was mistaken. He attempted to speak further, but the confusion was so great that his remarks could not be heard.

When quiet was restored, M. Simyan reiterated his assertion. In conclusion he turned to General Galleni, minister of war and said: "Say little, write less, but strike hard." The entire chamber applauded as M. Simyan concluded.

"Further discussion of the interpellation in regard to the contracts was postponed until Thursday."

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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INDEPENDENCE Every sensible person desires to be independent. The surest way to become so is to save your money. The Royal Loan & Savings Company accepts deposits of One Dollar and upwards. 38 - 40 Market Street

LA SALETTE Appeal. Shanghai, Dec. 14.—China's appeal to the foreign powers to preserve peace in portions of the Republic beyond Chinese jurisdiction is being what justified by conditions in Shanghai. This city is a refuge for criminals and outlaws from various parts of China and many of them are desperate enough to undertake any criminal commission. The municipal jail contained more than twelve hundred convicts late in September, a record for this season. Chinese crooks enjoy life in the Shanghai jail. It affords a pleasant home in winter, and offers better food than Chinese coolies are accustomed to. There is considerable agitation here for the restoration of flogging in an effort to discourage loafers from seeking jail sentences. No other part of China is as lenient to criminals as Shanghai. Under Chinese law, they are flogged for small offences and executed for serious ones. Here in Shanghai, jail sentences and comfortable lodging make law-breaking very attractive. Recently there have been many cases of Chinese actually assaulting policemen for the sole purpose of getting locked up during the winter. CHILDREN CRY FOR FLETCHER'S CASTOR OIL SUITABLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS For good useful gifts for Christmas, come to Coles Shoe Co., first. We can fit every member of the family.

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LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL A meeting of the County Council was held on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1915, at the Court House. INTERIOR ECONOMY Captain E. Tramp, Lieutenant Wilkes visited quarters of the 125th Battalion this morning for the purpose of justifying the administration economy of the Battalion. SUPERVISION, difficulties straightened out. LAST SHIPMENT The Women's Patriotic Society wishes to notify those officers having work out to do it possible by Saturday shipment for 1915 goes next week. ENJOYABLE TIME The Women's Institute view entertained their friends right royally in view School last evening. Refreshments were the unavoidable absence of Mrs. A. McWebb took the W. H. Hammond and Mr. Solos were given by Mrs. C. McWebb, Miss E. Marjorie Hammond and (instrumental). At the vote of thanks to those on part was moved by BOXING AND WRESTLING Great interest has been shown in a wrestling bout which took place in the Opera House (Thursday) night. Mr. Hamilton telephoned for a block of one hour to be reserved. There were large attendances from both indications are excellent. MISSIONARY MEETING At the monthly meeting in Colborne St. League, Struthers acted as chairman. Miss Nellie Bedford gave an address on the Methodist work amongst the Italians. There are about twelve Italians in Toronto at the present time. Three Italian Missions, is toward the uplift of the

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