

PROF. GILBERT MURRAY TELLS OF OBJECTORS

The Government Lenient to Those With Conscientious Scruples—Explains Case of Hon. Bertrand Russell—Almost a Pacifist Himself Early in War

NEW YORK, July 24.—England's treatment of her "conscientious objectors"—as exemplified in the dropping of the Hon. Bertrand Russell, one of the leaders in the movement to resist military service, from the Faculty of Trinity College, Cambridge—was defended by Prof. Gilbert Murray, of Oxford, himself a relative of Russell, and, like the latter, one of a group of British "intellectuals," who oppose both war and conscription in principle.

"Everybody in England detests the persecution of conscientious objectors," said Professor Murray. "In the beginning there undoubtedly were many cases of persecution of objectors who came before pig-headed tribunals or fell into the hands of those military authorities who believe in bullying every one into submission. But that is no longer true, and we have now reached a point where objectors, to be punished, must almost insist on it."

Not only is the Government more lenient towards objectors, according to Professor Murray, but many of the objectors themselves are becoming more tractable. This is shown by the fact that an increasing number of those who refused from the first to join the army or perform any service in the present war have accepted the non-combatant and "civil" alternatives offered under the Conscription Act and are now rendering valuable service to the Government in Northern France as well as at home.

Do Non-Combatant Work.
"There are more than 500 men in

men who can, but won't fight. Prof. Murray says that number is greatly exaggerated, and that Government estimates place the figure at about one-tenth of what is claimed. The object of the N. C. F. was to organize all the objectors, including the Society of Friends, and others whose principles or religious beliefs were opposed to the war. Although the N. C. F. never had any definite plan of campaign, Prof. Murray says it set out to conduct a propaganda among enlisted men and elsewhere against service in the army.

"As soon as the Conscription Act was passed," explained Prof. Murray, "this sort of activity became unlawful. It was all right to preach against war, but not to urge men not to enlist."

A number of persons were arrested for distributing leaflets of the N.C.F. among people. One of these leaflets had been written by the Hon. Bertrand Russell. Professor Russell promptly announced that if it was a crime to distribute his pamphlet, it must have been a crime to write it, and that, therefore, he too, deserved punishment. He was convicted under the Defence of the Realm Act, and fined \$500. The action of the Council of Trinity College in removing him followed.

"I am sorry for Bertie Russell," remarked Professor Murray, "for I believed him to be perfectly honest in his convictions. This action of the College council, however, should not be misunderstood. It is a mild sort of punishment. Russell had a special post at Trinity, a fellowship created just for him, in which he gave lectures in philosophy outside of the regular course. It was necessary to renew the fellowship every so often, and I presume the authorities have simply decided not to renew it."

Professor Murray went on to explain that something like a sp4 had occurred among the English "intellectuals" when the war came.

Nearly a Pacifist.
"It was a tremendous shock to us all," he said. "Some of us said, 'This is intolerable, impossible, the end of all reason, the abomination of desolation. It is a sin and all those concerned in it are sinners. We will have nothing of it. We will do nothing.' That was how it affected Russell and not a few others."

"Others, like myself, felt the shock, the horror and the utter desolation of it all, but argued, 'We must keep our heads.' In my own case, I was almost a pacifist. My feelings and my reason were all opposed to war. I detested conscription. Before making up my mind I read the English White papers and compared these with what Russell was writing. There seemed to be but one clear thing to do, to uphold the Government."

The majority of the "intellectuals" came to the same conclusion. Professor Murray said, in regard to conscription, he explained that, much as he detested it in principle, he decided to accept it as a necessity of the moment. Mr. Asquith, Mr. Balfour and others of the Government decided it was necessary.

"As a matter of fact," he added, "England raised practically her entire army through voluntary enlistment. We got our 5,040,000 men through voluntary enlistment and an additional 1,000,000 for home service before conscription came. Conscription added only about 200,000 men."

"Summing up" he went on, "I think the Government has done all it could to meet those who have conscientious objections. The Act specifically provides for them and grants them exemption. But the public opposition has been rather fierce, and the military opposition extremely fierce. Also the objectors themselves have shown few signs of sweet reasonableness."

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JAPAN WILL HAVE BIG SHIP

It is Said That 15 Inch Guns Will Be Put on its New Dreadnought

TOKIO, July 22.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—It is reported that guns of 15-inch calibre may be mounted on a super-dreadnought which has been ordered by the navy department, and will be laid down in the Japanese naval yard at Kure. This ship was authorized at the last session of the Diet, and she will be the largest battleship in the Japanese navy. She will be called the Nagato, after one of the provinces in Southern Japan.

Although the official figures have not been announced, it is said the warship will have a displacement of 32,000 tons, and a speed of 24 knots. The displacement exceeds by 1,400 tons that of the dreadnought Yamashiro last November. The Yamashiro is about the same size as the United States super-dreadnought Pennsylvania.

If the announced figures prove exact, the Nagato will be bigger than the celebrated Queen Elizabeth of the British navy; more speedy than the Yamashiro by two knots and faster than the Pennsylvania by three knots, although she could be outdistanced by the Queen Elizabeth. A feature of the proposed ship will be improved equipment for defense against torpedoes.

The question of main armament seems not yet decided. It is understood that the navy favors 15-inch guns, but guns of this size have never been made in Japan, and it is likely that they could have to be imported from England. It is doubtful if England could turn them out during the war.

The department has likewise arranged for the construction of two second class cruisers, each of 3,500 tons to be called Tenryu and Tatsuta. One will be laid down at Yokosuka and the other at Sascho. A large type destroyer of 1,100 tons will be built at Maizuru.

The latest addition to the Japanese navy is a new and powerful submarine boat which was built in France and which recently arrived at the Kure naval station. Submerged, the boat can reach a speed of over eighteen knots. Her displacement is 600 tons, and she is the largest submarine in the Japanese navy.

The order placed with the French navy yard in 1914 called for two boats of the same type and dimensions, but one of them was sold to France at the outbreak of the war in compliance with the special request of the French navy. The submarine was brought here on board a French steamer.

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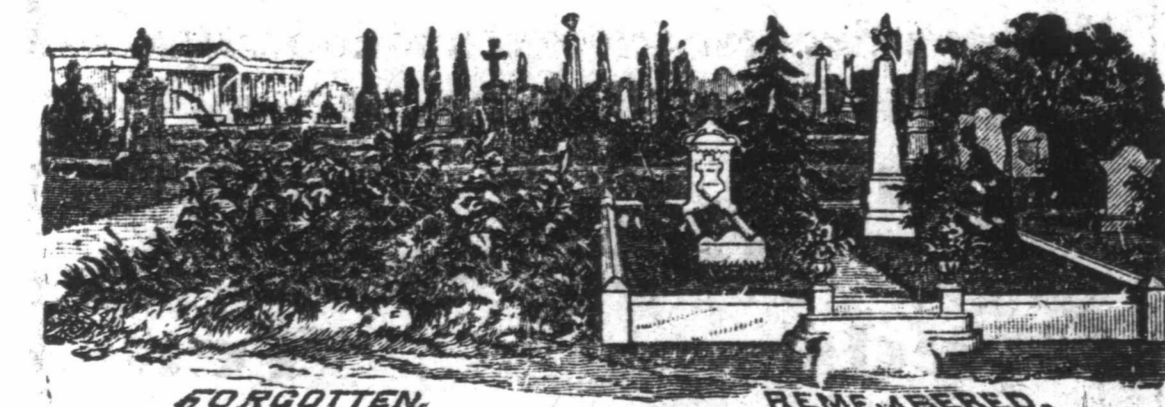
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Australia and America

NEW YORK, July 18.—Thomas J. Ryan, Premier of Queensland, who has just arrived at New York on his way home to the Antipodes, said that during his stay in England he had had opportunities of seeing the fleet, and the Australians at the western front, where he addressed his countrymen while the shells whistled overhead.

"One of the warships I saw," Mr. Ryan continued, "was the battle cruiser Warspite, which the Germans claim to have sunk. She was battle-scarred, but ready for another action with the enemy."

"I am greatly interested in developing trade between Australia and America. After the war there should be a great increase in exports of wool and meat from Queensland. At present there is no direct steamship line between San Francisco and Brisbane, the principal port, but if the Oceanic Steamship Company will make it a port of call, a fine trade will be developed."

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Canada's Revenue is Increasing

Ottawa, July 14.—Canada's revenue is increasing. For the first three months of the fiscal year, April, May and June, customs, war and other forms of taxation yield \$56,000,000. Last year during the same months, the revenue was \$34,000,000. Ordinary expenditures for that period this year have been \$27,000,000, a slight decrease from last year.

The credit Canada has extended to the British government now totals \$150,000,000; munition orders to this amount have been placed in Canada by the Imperial Government.

The satisfactory state of Canada's finances, public and private, assures Finance Minister White that the domestic loan he proposes to offer Canadians in September will be a success. Canadian deposits on savings account total \$700,000,000, having increased little over \$1,000,000 during the twenty months of the war.



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