

YOU'LL BE SURE TO FIND IT IN "The MAIL and ADVOCATE"

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THOUSANDS OF LIVES DEPEND ON LABOUR SAYS LLOYD GEORGE

We Want Skilled and Unskilled Men For New Factories—Labor Holds the Answer as to Whether We Are Going to Bring This War to an End in a Year or Linger Along in its Bloodstained Path—Patriotism the One and Only Appeal

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, gave an account of his stewardship in the House of Commons to-night, beginning with the oft-repeated story of the insufficiency of munitions in the early days of the war, and the history of the establishment of his Department to remedy this situation. The Minister gradually warmed to his subject and reached a climax with the declaration that the success of the Allies in the war depends upon the attitude of organized labor, whether it will allow the Government to recruit sufficient numbers of skilled men for factories which the Munitions Department has brought into being. We want eighty thousand skilled men and from two to three hundred thousand unskilled men for these new factories. He said we must reduce the proportion of our orders which go abroad and develop our home resources. "Upon our supply of labour depends, I think, our success in this war," said Lloyd George. "Upon this also depends whether we can reduce the cost of the war by scores of millions of pounds, and likewise depends whether we can supply our troops with the right sort of guns, to enable them to make next year's campaign a success; here only can organized labor help us. We have done our best to get skilled labor by a system of munitions volunteers. It is no use going into the question why we got only five or six thousand men, although that story may be told later. The whole question depends upon organized labor; unless it allows us to put unskilled workers on work which hitherto has been the monopoly

Various War Fronts Reported Quiet

The Rumor of Greek-Bulgar Encounter Has Been Cleared up—No Enemy Troops Yet Crossed the Greek Frontier—Greeks Don't Expect Them to

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A fair degree of quiet continued on the war fronts during the past twenty-four hours, and none of the oft-repeated threats of a big offensive in France, Northern Russia, Galicia, or the Balkans has yet actually materialized. The persistent reports of a Graeco-Bulgarian encounter, resulting from a Bulgarian surprise attack, have been cleared up by a Greek statement. The encounter took place in Albanian territory; no one was killed and few were wounded. It is announced from Paris that no enemy detachment has yet crossed the Greek frontier. Meanwhile the work on the defensive lines around Salonika is being actively pushed on. Greek villages in the neighbourhood of the lines are being evacuated by their populations. Greek military circles declare they are convinced the forces opposing the Allies will not attempt to cross the frontier—the Bulgars, because they realize the danger of provoking Greece, the Germans, because they are grateful for Greek neutrality and they realize the tremendous cost which the enterprise would entail.

of skilled labour, we cannot perform this task. There can be only one appeal, namely patriotism; victory depends upon this, hundreds of thousands of precious lives depends on Labour's answer. It is a question whether we are going to bring this war to an end in a year or linger along in its bloodstained path. Labour has the answer."

GOV'T WILL TAKE PARL'T INTO ITS CONFIDENCE ON PEACE TERMS

Premier Asquith Again Discusses Question Asked by Member for North Salford—When Proposals for Peace are Put Forward and not Until Such Contingency Arises Could Premier Give any Further Pledge

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Premier Asquith declined to be drawn into any discussion on the subject of peace this afternoon in the Commons, when Sir William Byles, Member for North Salford, in a question suggested that recent debates in the Reichstag indicated a disposition to transfer the issues of war from the battlefield to the Council Chamber. Sir William was anxious to know if the Government could see its way to suggest any form of response to that disposition.

The Premier told his questioner that the latter was quite as competent as the Government to draw inferences from the Reichstag debates.

but intimated that the Government's position was unchanged on the matter of peace. "I can only refer to the public statement I have made," added the Premier, "and particularly to the answer I gave on December 8th." Asquith's statement on Dec. 8th was made in reply to a request from a Socialist member, for a pledge that no proposals for peace negotiations, based on the evacuation of conquered territory should be subjected by the British Parliament without the knowledge of Parliament. If proposals of a serious character for general peace are put forward by enemy Governments, either directly or through a neutral power, said the Premier in reply, they will first be discussed with the Allied Governments. "Until this contingency arises I cannot give any further pledge. As soon as proposals for peace are put forward it will be the desire of the Government to take Parliament into its confidence at the earliest possible moment."

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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.

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BRITISH TOO QUICK FOR TURKS

The Withdrawal Was Effected Without Knowledge of the Turks—Sir Chas. Munro Gives Great Credit for Skillful Conducted Transfer of Forces

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Operations in other sectors on the front on Gallipoli Peninsula than those from which troops were announced to-day to have been withdrawn, are continued, it is intimated in an official statement issued to-night. The withdrawal was effected without knowledge of the movement on the part of the Turks, it is declared.

Further details of the evacuation of Anzac and Suvla zones have been received, says the official statement. Without the Turks being aware of the movement, the great army has been withdrawn from one of the areas occupied on the Gallipoli Peninsula, although in closest contact with the enemy. By this contraction of the front, operations at other points of the line will be more effectively carried out.

Sir Charles Munro gives great credit for this skillful conducted transfer of forces to Admiral commanding the Royal Navy.

Reported Greek Bulgar Clash

PARIS, Dec. 21.—Fighting between small detachments of Greek and Bulgar troops is reported in a despatch from Brindisi, Italy, which said that several Greek officers and soldiers have been killed or wounded. The Greek Government is hastily forwarding reinforcements to the scene of the fighting.

TRANSFER TROOPS FROM GALLIPOLI WAS SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT

"Thank God, They Are Safely out of There Without Serious Loss" Was Expression Heard on all Sides Regarding Transfer of Troops From Suvla and Anzac Zones—War Office Does Not Say Where This Force Estimated 100,000 Has Been Transferred

LONDON, Dec. 20.—"Thank God, they are safely out of there without serious loss," is an expression frequently heard to-day in connection with the transfer of troops from Suvla and Anzac zones to another sphere of operations, although this is coupled with regrets that it should have been regarded as necessary to evacuate hard won footholds on the Peninsula obtained at such heavy cost in casualties.

The toe of Gallipoli Peninsula with Sudd-el-Bahr, commanding the entrance of the Dardanelles, apparently still is held as no mention is made of the transfer of troops from this region.

The War Office statement leaves the public to draw its own conclusions as to the destination of the British forces, which must be well over 100,000 strong, but it is widely conjectured that any southward sweep of Teutonic or Bulgar armies in the Balkans, whether from the north, west or east will sooner or later come into contact with them, and the transfer is connected with the determination on the part of the Entente Powers not to remain on the defensive near the Eastern theatre of war longer than is requisite to assure the success of a forward march.

In giving the Commons information as to the withdrawal of the Suvla and Anzac forces, Premier Asquith added that the transfer had been made in pursuance of a decision reached by the Cabinet some time ago.

The operations were so successfully carried out, said the Premier, as to reflect the utmost credit upon the General on the spot, upon the Admiralty, and the Staff, and all ranks both of the Army and Navy.

GALLIPOLI PROBABLY ABANDONED

Official Statement Says all Troops and Stores There Have Been Successfully Transferred to Another Sphere—Troops May Have Been Sent to Saloniki?

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The following official statement was issued here to-day:—

"All troops at Suvla and Anzac, together with guns and stores, have been successfully transferred, with insignificant losses, to another sphere. The Suvla Bay and Anzac Cove positions are on the north coast of Gallipoli Peninsula. Anzac Cove is about sixteen miles from the top and Suvla Bay is five miles further on.

As no mention is made in the British announcement of the Allied position in the Sudd-el-Bahr position, at the top of the Peninsula, it is not clear whether the withdrawal of the troops indicates an intention to abandon efforts to force the Dardanelles, or means merely a readjustment of the Allied forces. There had been no previous hint of such a movement, although the question had been raised in Great Britain, whether, in view of the failure of the Allies to make appreciable headway at the Dardanelles, and the urgent need for additional troops at Salonika, the Dardanelles forces would be withdrawn. Official Turkish communications received yesterday, spoke of heavy firing from land and sea by the Allies, but mentioned no movements out of the ordinary, although this bombardment may have been conducted to cover the withdrawal.

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Paris Greet Sir John French

Long Before he Reached the Palace Elysee Crowds Gathered to Greet Him—Pres. Poincare Tendered Him Thanks of French People For His Services

PARIS, Dec. 21.—Field Marshal Sir John French, who recently succeeded by Sir Douglas Haig, commander-in-chief of the British forces in France and Belgium, was received this afternoon by President Poincare. Long before the arrival of the Field Marshal at the Palace Elysee crowds gathered to greet him. When his auto entered the court yard there were cheers for the distinguished British soldier, for King George and Great Britain. Manifestations of regard for the Field Marshal were repeated as he left the Palace.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—Field Marshal French, accompanied by several British officers were presented today to President Poincare. In conversation with the Field Marshal, President Poincare took the opportunity to thank him for the services he had rendered on behalf of the Allies.

Earlier in the day, General Joffre, the French Commander-in-Chief, conferred the War Cross on Field-Marshal French.

PARIS Dec 21.—The full of the Macedonian campaign is explained by the Temps correspondent at Salonika as being due not only to political considerations, but to the fact that it is extremely difficult for the Germans and their Allies to move forward their heavy artillery.

The French and British, on retreating, destroyed the railroad along the Vardar River, blowing up bridges and tunnels and removing the rails. The railroad from Seres was also rendered useless by the British, who retreated from Doiran. For the present, the correspondent says, the probable efforts of the Austrians is being directed toward the Adriatic with the object of rounding up the Serb troops in Albania.

There were 44 combats in the air. Two of the enemy's aeroplanes fell within their own lines, others were driven down in a damaged condition. One of our machines is missing.

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Difficult Task to Move Artillery

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GAS ATTACK COMPLETE FAILURE

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Rotterdam correspondent to the Daily Mail telegraphs: "The Germans got a bad beating in their gas attack near Ypres yesterday. Their death-roll was very heavy and their men were dismayed by the terrific British artillery and machine gun fire.

The German attack on the British lines at Ypres, which is officially declared to have been a complete failure, is believed to have been the beginning of a general German offensive in the West. It has been expected for some weeks and is strongly indicated by the regrouping and reinforcing of the German lines.

AMERICA PROTESTS TO BRITAIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The United States protested to Great Britain against interference with parcel post shipments between this country and Sweden, Secretary Lansing announced to-day. Lansing said the Swedish Minister had complained to the State Department that parcel post shipments had been held up by British ships on the high seas. Besides filing the protest, the State Department asked Great Britain for an explanation, Mr. Lansing said.

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SUVLA BAY CAMPAIGN ENDS MORE FAVORABLE THAN WAS EXPECTED

Japanese Fleet at Suez Canal?

Former Minister of Interior in Egypt Says This Has Been Done—Minister Also Thinks a Rebellion is Likely to Break Out in Egypt

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—Japan has entered the European theatre with a powerful fleet, which has been sent to the Suez Canal, according to A. M. Papajian, former Minister of the Interior in Egypt, who is at present in Los Angeles.

Great Britain realizes that she cannot lose the Canal, which is a vital element in her life as united Empire, declared Papajian Bey, for this reason the Canal has been remarkably fortified, and the Japanese fleet is on hand ready for business.

"Every effort has been made to keep the news of the presence of the Japanese Fleet from spreading at the Canal, and I have heard nothing of the fleet in this country. They are there, nevertheless."

In speaking of conditions in Egypt to-day, Papajian Bey said a rebellion, may, and probably will, break out any day in Egypt. However, it will not be successful. There are about 60,000 British troops there, and some 50,000 Egyptian troops. In the interior there are several Regiments of Blacks, who are fine fighters, and who will fight for the Empire.

Papajian Bey scoffs at the idea of a German invasion of Egypt. Early in January and February, at least are not months when it is possible for an army to cross the desert sands between Turkey and Egypt, he asserted, then the Red Sea forms a natural barrier, as effective as an army. Many ships and transports would be needed, and Germany could not procure them.

LLOYD GEORGE REVIEWS WORK DONE BY MINISTER OF MUNITIONS

Minister of Munitions in Speech in Commons Reviews the Munition Question and Said "English Military Opinion Was Wedded to Shrapnel but we Suddenly Found Out that High Explosive Was the Thing—The Superiority of Central Powers in this Respect Will Soon Cease

LONDON, Dec. 20.—"The successes that the Germans have been having is due almost entirely to the mechanical preponderance they achieved at the beginning of the war," said David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, to-day. "Their advances east, west and south alike were due to this mechanical superiority. Our failure to drive them back west or check their advance east was due to the tardiness with which the Allies developed their mechanical resources. But the superiority of the Central Powers in this respect will be brought to an end at the earliest possible moment."

Referring to the lessons learned from the prodigal use of machine guns by the Germans, Lloyd George said here was the place where, if we stinted material, we squandered life. In one direction, he added, the Allies had superiority on the mechanical side. Our command of the sea is due not to the excellence of our sailors, but to our overwhelming superiority in machinery. Lloyd George's statements were made in the Commons.

He explained the work of the Ministry of Munitions, which now control more than 2,000 munition factories, employing about 1,000,000 workers. In May when the Germans were turning out a quarter of a million high explosives daily, we were producing only 1,500 and 13,000 shrapnel.

The House listened with closest attention as Lloyd George took up the shortage in munitions for the Allies in the early stages of the war. Our troops knew it, he said, the enemy knew it, but neither knew how short

Thousands of Lives Were Sacrificed in Gaining These Positions and Thousands More in Holding Them—Irish Troops Suffer Most on Peninsula Says Redmond—Arrangements Lacked Many Things Especially Water

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The withdrawal of British troops from Suvla Bay and the Anzac zones, ends more successfully than most military men thought, the possible unfavorable chapter of British armies in this war. Thousands of lives were sacrificed in gaining these positions, other thousands in holding them.

The question has been constantly discussed why the Generals commanding the Dardanelles expedition did not try to make a landing near the centre of the Peninsula at the beginning, and cut off the Turks' troops on the lower end. When an attempt was finally made to secure a foothold higher up the Peninsula, the Turks were fully prepared to meet it. Moreover, the British arrangements lacked several essential features, particularly the supply of drinking water.

On landing, soldiers found barbed wire entanglements stretching far out under the water when they jumped from their small boats. To add to their sufferings, the supply of drinking water was very short. John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, said in a speech in the House of Commons that the sufferings of the Irish troops on Gallipoli were the worst known in the present war.

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