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PROBS—FAIR

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## BRITISH AND FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES AT IMPORTANT WAR COUNCIL HELD AT CALAIS

Premier Asquith, Kitchener, Balfour, with Naval and Military Advisers, Represent Britain—Appointment of a Commander-in-Chief of Allied Armies on French Front Again Suggested Unofficially—Entente Ministers Confer with Greek Premier After which Cabinet Meeting Held—Athens Report Claims New Proposals were Made and That Entente Ministers Have Been Informed Greek Reply Will be Found Satisfactory.

Paris, Dec. 5.—Official announcement was made here today of the meeting at Calais yesterday of representatives of France and Great Britain. The statement issued by the foreign office follows:

"An important Franco-British conference was held yesterday at Calais. It was attended by the British Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith; the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Balfour; the War Secretary, Earl Kitchener; the chief of the Imperial Staff at army headquarters in London, Lieut. General Sir Archibald Murray; the French Premier, M. Briand; the director of political affairs of the French foreign office, M. Margari; the French War Minister, General Gallieni, with Gen. Grazioli, chief of staff; the French Minister of Marine, Admiral Lacaze, with Admiral DeJouquet, chief of the naval staff, and Gen. Joffre, with Gen. Pello.

"After lunching together, the conference began at 2.30 and lasted until six, during which time the principal questions uppermost at present were discussed.

"The English delegates returned to London during the night. The French representatives returned to Paris."

### BRITISH REPRESENTATIVES RETURN HOME.

London, Dec. 4.—The British Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, the War Secretary, Lord Kitchener, and the First Lord of the Admiralty, Arthur J. Balfour accompanied by their naval and military advisers, conferred at Calais today with the French Premier, M. Briand, and the Ministers of War and Marine. They returned to England this evening.

### ENTENTE MINISTERS AND GREEK PREMIER CONFER.

Paris, Dec. 5.—The ministers of the quadruple entente in Athens had a conversation with M. Skoufoulidis, the Greek Premier, at one o'clock Saturday afternoon, according to a news despatch from the Greek capital. A long consultation of the cabinet occurred soon after, and then the Premier called on the King.

Circles which are informed, continue the message state that the Entente representatives have received assurance that the Greek reply to their representation have received the assurance that the Greek reply to their representation will be found satisfactory.

London, Dec. 5.—An Athens despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that after Premier Skoufoulidis had conferred with the French and British ministers yesterday he called a meeting of the cabinet and then visited King Constantine. It is reported in Athens, the message says that the subject under consideration by the cabinet was a fresh proposal made by the Entente Powers.

### Italy Sends a Delegate.

Paris, Dec. 4.—General Porro, second in command of the Italian army, arrived in Paris today to take part in the war council of the Quadruple Entente Powers. Lieut. Gen. Count Cadorna, chief of staff of the Italian army, was unable to leave the front, owing to the importance of the Italian-Austrian actions now in progress.

FEW DAYS MORE TO TEST SCHEME OF EARL DERBY

Labor Member of Parliament Says Plan Has Not Been as Successful as Was Anticipated.

London, Dec. 6.—The recruiting scheme of the Earl of Derby, director of recruiting, has not been as successful as had been hoped for, said James Henry Thomas, Labor member of parliament, addressing a meeting of railway workers at Long Eaton tonight. Mr. Thomas said he had discussed the matter with the Earl of Derby Saturday, and that the earl had expressed the opinion that his plan had not been as successful as he had anticipated, or had a right to expect. Therefore, the earl declared that the supreme effort must be made in the next few days, and was opposed to conscription.

### FIRE AT SYDNEY

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 5.—Fire broke out at midday Saturday in Senator MacDonald's block at Grace Bay and although the firemen had it out in fifteen minutes the damage to the building and the stock of the various occupants was considerable. The building was occupied by W. S. Rice & Company, men's furnishings; D. L. MacDonald, drug store; Maritime Dental Parlors; H. Samuels, meat market; Dr. E. O. MacDonald's office and the

POPE WILL URGE JUST AND DURABLE PEACE

Pontiff to Deliver Allocution at Consistory Today — Archbishop Ireland Mentioned as Possible Cardinal.

Rome, Dec. 5.—At the Consistory which will be held tomorrow the Pope will deliver an allocution, deploring the horrors of the war, and commiserating the Armenians. The Pontiff will urge the quick conclusion of peace, which should be just and durable, favoring neither of the belligerents.

Attention will be called to the fact that, despite the good will of those in authority in the various belligerent countries, the war has made more evident the abnormal conditions prevailing at the Holy See. Six cardinals are to be created, whose names have already been made public, and a report was current in Vatican circles today that the Pope may, in addition, appoint a new cardinal, whose name will be reserved "in petto," that is whose name will be withheld until the Pope chooses to reveal it.

Several names are mentioned in this connection, including that of Archbishop John Ireland, of St. Paul.

The Pope will also announce in the consistory the appointment of the Right Rev. Joseph F. Busch, Bishop of Lead, South Dakota, as Bishop of St. Cloud, Minnesota.

## FORD AND HIS PEACE EXPEDITION SAIL ON UNIQUE MISSION



New York, Dec. 4.—With the bands playing and hundreds on shore shouting and cheering, the peace ship Oscar II, bearing Henry Ford and his peace delegates to Europe, swung out from her pier at Hoboken this afternoon and headed down the bay. With the departure of the liner, one of the most unique peace missions in Europe was under way.

The "Oscar II." will stop at Christiania and Copenhagen where delegates are expected to join the peace party. The journey will then continue to The Hague where Ford plans to establish the peace tribunal which will endeavor to bring about the end of the European war. One of the last persons Ford saw before sailing was W. J. Bryan, the former secretary of state, who boarded the "Oscar II." about half an hour before the liner's departure.

The final official passenger list issued by the steamship company after the liner sailed gave 148 as the number of persons in the Ford party. The names of four or five persons who arrived only a few minutes before the liner sailed did not appear on the list. These belated pilgrims were booked by the purser in the few minutes that preceded the lowering of the gang planks. One of the tardy peace advocates was Frederick Bruce Davis, of California. He went, it was announced, as the delegate representing Wm. J. Bryan.

3,000 Peace Advocates On Pier  
The departure of the peace ship was attended by one of the most picturesque, as well as noisy, demonstrations ever witnessed in New York harbor. On the liner the Ford pilgrims lined the rails and cheered and shouted, and sang, while on the pier more than 3,000 peace advocates and curiosity seekers joined in the general jubilation that began at noon, and did not stop until the Oscar II. was in the river and headed for the Hook and "war-torn Europe."

Wm. J. Bryan, who on Friday compared the pilgrimage to the ancient voyage of Noah's Ark, stood bareheaded on the pier, lifted his hat again and again to the pilgrims who shouted their farewells to those who stood at home.

## THE AGREEMENT WHICH BINDS THE ALLIES NOT TO MAKE SEPARATE PEACE

London, Dec. 5.—The text of the declaration signed last week by the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey, and the French, Italian, Japanese and Russian ambassadors at London, engaging each of the five nations not to conclude a separate peace, is as follows:

"The Italian government, having decided to accede to the declaration between the British, French and Russian governments, signed in London, Sept. 5, 1914, which declaration was acceded to by the Japanese government on October 19, 1915, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto by their respective governments, hereby declare as follows:

"The British, French, Italian, Japanese and Russian governments mutually engaged not to conclude peace separately during the present war.

"The five governments agree that when terms of peace come to be discussed none of the Allies will demand conditions of peace without previous agreement of each of the other Allies."

## TO PROBE WHOLE TEUTON CONSUL SYSTEM IN U.S.

Suspicious Regarding Diplomats and Officials Will Occupy Attention of U. S. Authorities this Week.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Captain Franz Von Papen, military attaché of the German embassy, came here from New York today, and with Captain Karl Boy-Ed, consular official, Secretary of State Lansing, so far, has come to no decision in the case of Alexander Von Nuber, Austro-Hungarian consul general in New York, which has been under consideration for some time.

It is probable that the two attaches, whose immediate withdrawal has been requested by the state department, on account of objectionable activities, will remain in Washington for several days. Some announcement concerning them is expected at any time.

Request for safe conduct for the officers from the German government had not reached Secretary of State Lansing today. It is taken for granted that the withdrawals will be ordered in due time, officials pointing out that it is the right of any government to determine when foreign diplomatic officials accredited to it become undesirable.

There were indications that the state department would devote considerable time next week to evidence and suspicious regarding Teutonic diplomats and consular officials. Secretary of State Lansing, so far, has come to no decision in the case of Alexander Von Nuber, Austro-Hungarian consul general in New York, which has been under consideration for some time.

## MORE THAN 100 PERSONS HURT IN COLLISION

Passenger Trains on Illinois Central Road Strike Head-on—At Least One Life Lost.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 5.—One person was killed today and more than a hundred passengers are said to have been injured, many seriously, in a head-on collision between two Illinois Central passenger trains, at Daneseburg, Ill., 25 miles south of here.

## MORE ENERGETIC CAMPAIGN IN BALKANS TO HALT GERMAN ADVANCE TO CONSTANTINOPLE

South Africa Has Raised Necessary Troops For Expedition to East Africa and is Recruiting More Men.

Demand for Stern Action Against Greece Becoming Insistent — Believe Roumania Will Get in Line When Allied Situation Looks More Hopeful — Check of British Expedition in Mesopotamia a Keen Disappointment

London, Dec. 5.—The Athens correspondent of Reuters Telegram Company sends the following:

"The conviction prevails here that the Balkan campaign will continue more energetically in order to check the German advance to Constantinople. From French sources it is reported that the reinforcement of the entire line from the Cerna river to Krivolak continues. The positions east of the Vardar river gradually have been rendered secure, with a view to extending the zone for the protection of the railway."

### South Africa's Prompt Response.

Cape Town, via London, Dec. 5.—Gen. Jan Christian Smuts, minister of defence in the Union of South Africa, announced today at a public meeting that the entire force asked for, for the East African expedition, has been recruited and that the imperial government had been informed that the Union was increasing its forces to provide for contingencies.

Explaining the decision of South Africa to send an expedition to East Africa, Gen. Smuts said this action was taken because of the danger arising from the arming of natives by the Germans, and the preaching of a holy war against Christians, to which he declared the Germans were lending their assistance.

### Greece Still Fencing.

London, Dec. 5.—The negotiations between Greece and the Allied powers still drag on at Athens, now hitches seemingly arising as the old ones are smoothed out. One day it is reported a settlement has been reached, only to be followed the next by denial or accounts of fresh difficulties confronting the diplomats.

The people of the Allied countries, particularly those of France and Italy, are becoming impatient over the continual delays, and the press is demanding that stern action be taken to demonstrate to King Constantine and his ministers the determination of the Quadruple Entente to secure the assurance demanded. New proposals are said to have been made by France and Great Britain, in the hope of reaching an agreement.

The attitude of Roumania also remains undecided. Since the despatch announcing the closing of Roumanian ports to foreign trade was received, silence has descended upon Bucharest, and Europe is awaiting anxiously the next move which will give a meaning to this order. The general belief here is that the Roumanian government is waiting for the concentration of a sufficient Russian force in Bessarabia, and a large enough Anglo-French army in Southern Serbia to make victory certain before joining the Allies.

Meanwhile the Austro-Germans and Bulgarians continue rounding up the few Serbian troops remaining in Serbia, and are also prosecuting with their usual energy the campaign against Montenegro.

### Calm on Various Fronts.

Unusual calm prevails on the various battlefronts, even the Italians apparently slackening their offensive, probably in preparation for the next phase, which they hope will place Gorizia in their hands, with other commanding positions on which the Austrian hold has weakened during the past weeks of heavy fighting.

The check suffered by Gen. Townshend in Mesopotamia is a severe disappointment to the British public, which had looked upon this expedition as the brightest spot thus far in the

war, with the possible exception of Gen. Botha's conquest of German Southwest Africa. Nothing has been heard from Gen. Townshend since he reached Kut-el-Amara, where it is likely he will make a stand, as the position is a very strong one, where he could hold out until reinforcements reached him. It is not only the military failure, but the effect the retirement will have on the British possessions in the east, which makes the result so unfortunate from the British point of view.

### Two British Gunboats Captured by Turks?

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 5.—A message from Constantinople claims a fresh success for the Turkish army in Mesopotamia, stating that it has captured two additional British gunboats equipped with 15 centimetre guns. A Turkish official statement received here Saturday, by way of Berlin, mentioned the capture of two British supply ships and two gunboats. Whether the above refers to these vessels, already reported, or to others, is not clear.

Constantinople, via Berlin and London, Dec. 4.—Immediately after the re-opening of railway communication with Berlin, which is expected before the middle of December according to officials the Anatolian railroad will receive from Germany a large number of locomotives and freight cars. These will be used in moving stocks of foodstuffs and raw materials stored at various stations in Asia Minor awaiting shipment.

### Retreating Serbs Overtaken, Berlin Says.

Berlin, Dec. 5, via wireless to Sayville.—Retreating Serbian troops have been overtaken and defeated near the Albanian border by the Bulgarians, the war office announced today. More than 100 cannon were taken, the occupation of Monastir by Germans and Bulgarians is officially confirmed.

### Road Open Between Nish and Sofia.

Sofia, Dec. 5, via London.—Official announcement was made here today of the re-establishment of railway communication between Nish and Sofia.

### No Bulgarian Troops Entered Monastir.

London, Dec. 5.—It is officially announced that only German, Austrian and Bulgarian officers have entered Monastir, no troops accompanying them, says a Reuter despatch from Athens. The flags of the three nations represented by the officers who entered the city were raised over the government house, the despatch adds.

### Another Libelous Report Refuted.

London, Dec. 5, 2.40 p. m.—The British government made a statement today relative to the assertion in various recent despatches from Berlin that the British hospital ships are being used improperly. The statement follows:

"In view of the allegations in German wireless despatches that British hospital ships are being put to improper use, the hospital ship Mauretania has been examined at Naples by the American, Danish and Swiss consuls, who jointly issued a declaration that there were neither combatants nor warlike stores aboard."

### One Command for Allied Armies.

Paris, Dec. 5.—The decree increasing the powers of General Joffre and giving him command in all theatres of operations suggests again the question whether there will be designated a new commander-in-chief of the armies on the French front," the Temps says.

## CASUALTIES

The Ottawa casualty list issued last night includes the following 26th Battalion casualties:

Wounded—Wm. P. Tingley, St. John, N. B.; Wm. H. Linsley, St. John, N. B.