

Weather Forecast:
Snow Flurries

The London Advertiser

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CENTRAL POWERS OFFER ARMED HELP TO GREECE SERBS REPULSE THE TEUTONS---FRENCH BATTLESHIP LOST ASQUITH LINES UP LIBERALS BEHIND LLOYD GEORGE

**GIVE SUPPORT
TO NEW GOVT.
MR. ASQUITH
ADVISES LIBS.**

Reform Club Comes Out Solidly
Behind Lloyd George.

BALFOUR IN GREY'S PLACE?

Suffragette Mob Abuses Ex-
Ministers Outside Reform
Club.

London, Dec. 8.—(2:15 p.m.)—At a cabinet meeting of Liberals today it was stated that A. J. Balfour would be foreign secretary in the new cabinet and that Lord Robert Cecil would remain parliamentary under-secretary of foreign affairs.

A prominent Liberal who attended the Reform Club meeting said: "We are going to give wholehearted support to the new government. Mr. Asquith, our leader, advises that."

The Reform Club today passed a resolution expressing confidence in Mr. Asquith and also the determination of the organization to support the new government and whatever steps it may take to prosecute the war vigorously.

Suffragettes Busy.
A small party of suffragettes left yesterday for the Reform Club at noon today for a meeting of the Liberal party to decide its attitude towards the Lloyd George government. The women greeted the earlier arrivals with the cry: "Another war and see."

The suffragettes became more aggressive when Mr. Asquith drove up, and on being forced into the roadway by the police, they contained themselves with saying: "Traitor!" and other abusive terms. Lord Haldane was greeted with "Kaiser Haldane."

Escort for Grey.
When Viscount Grey arrived the anti-traitor crowd, such a disturbance that the police had to escort him into the ship.

All the prominent Liberals in the House of Commons and the House of Lords attended the meeting. The crowd, with the exception of the women, gave a hearty reception to Mr. Asquith and his colleagues.

The disturbance that occurred outside the Reform Club was caused by women who belong to the section of the "Women's Social and Political Union" which has been protesting against the alleged failure of the Entente diplomacy in the Balkans and complaining of other shortcomings on the part of the late government.

ASQUITH SPEAKS.
London, Dec. 8.—(2:30 p.m.)—Mr. Asquith was the only speaker at the meeting of the Liberal party. He said the colleagues had acted according to their own discretion. In no way were they persuaded by the action he had taken in resigning.

The ex-premier emphasized the necessity and importance of giving strenuous support to whatever government was in power for the purpose of bringing about what all desired—the winning of the war.

NEWS AGAINST BALFOUR.
London, Dec. 8.—The Evening News, one of the strongest supporters of Premier Lloyd George, published today a sensational article published by a "secretary" for foreign affairs. It says: "The great enthusiasm with which the formation of a new government is received everywhere is dampened by the moment by the persistent rumor, on apparently good authority, that Mr. Balfour is to go to the foreign office with Lord Robert Cecil. Lord Robert's record in the foreign office is well known. It would be nothing short of disastrous if the man who persistently adopted a policy leading to the weakening of our blockade and the consequent feeding of the Germans should again be placed in command."

HOSPITAL CARS FOR
RETURNED WOUNDED

Moncton, N. B., Dec. 8.—At the request of the Military Hospital Commission several pullman cars are being converted into hospital cars, to be used in transporting returned wounded soldiers from the port of landing in Canada to interior points.

SEAPLANES RAIDED
THE PORT OF TRIEST

Rome, via Paris, Dec. 8.—Two Italian seaplanes raided Triest on Thursday, according to an official statement issued by the Admiralty. The statement says that the raiders dropped five bombs on naval sheds and returned unharmed, although subjected to a heavy fire from the Austrian anti-aircraft guns.

**NEW PREMIER WANTS
QUICK SETTLEMENT
OF IRISH QUESTION**

Manchester Guardian Says Lloyd George Will Call Imperial Conference To Dispose of Hibernian Problem—
New Head of Government Cheered by
Crowds in Street.

London, Dec. 8, 11:46 a.m.—The Manchester Guardian says that the report that Premier Lloyd George will attempt an immediate solution of the Irish question by means of an imperial conference is not unlikely.

**"WE WANT PEACE,"
SAYS VORWAERTS**

London, Dec. 8.—An Amsterdam dispatch to Reuters quotes the Berlin Vorwaerts as saying in reference to the salutes and bell ringings in celebration of the fall of Bucharest:

"Let us hope that all German newspaper writers will not regard themselves as either guns or bells. Even if justified in feeling proud we should remain moderate. The victory in Rumania is a victory of defense, and does not open the prospect of dividing the world among us and our allies. Our enemies may suffer still greater defeat, but will remain strong and can still, without appearing ridiculous, say that although beaten they are not conquered. They recognize defeat, but believe they must be eventually victorious. For this reason Sturmer was replaced by Trepoff, and Asquith by Lloyd George. We yearn to see and hear it, must shout it in the ears of the nations, that we desire peace."

CHEERS FOR LLOYD GEORGE.
London, Dec. 8.—For eight hours yesterday a dense crowd waited patiently outside the war office to catch a glimpse of David Lloyd George, the man upon whom the eyes of the whole Empire are turned.

Only those who got to Whitehall before 9:15 a.m. were able to see him, for he reached the war office at that hour, and did not emerge until long after dark. It was a day of ceaseless conferences, during which Lloyd George hardly left the desk of his office.

Getting on the Job.
While some word reached the crowd in the street as to the trend of events, the feeling seemed to prevail that Lloyd George was going to be able to accomplish the work he had undertaken, if only for the time being. Everywhere one might hear some misgivings as to his ability to organize a cabinet that would stick to the end of the war, but the important thing, according to the sentiment expressed in the street, was that Lloyd George was "getting on with the job." It was later on his way to the hotel lobby and those who were riding in the car of December on the top of a bus.

Cheered by Crowd.
Lloyd George wore a dark grey suit, a heavy overcoat, and a slouch hat, as he stepped from his motor car at the new task. The car, a four-wheeled one, was being driven by a chauffeur, and was surrounded by a crowd of people. Lloyd George stepped from his car. He looked in the pink of health, and a half-smile flitted across his face as he gave a salute in response to the welcome of the crowd. His step was firm as he went briskly up the steps, disappearing into the depths of the war office.

Along Comes Law.
Half an hour after Lloyd George reached his office, Bonar Law drove up in a car, alighted quickly, and five minutes later was closeted with the cabinet-minister. Law wore a plain face, and seemed quite content with the way things were going. If down in his heart he had any misgivings, he did not show them in his looks. Lloyd George and Law (Continued on Page 3, Column 6.)

**MILITIA SYSTEM
NO GOOD, SAYS
U.S. COMMANDER**

General Scott Comes Out Flat-
Footed For Universal
Training.

PATRIOTISM DECLINES
Head of the American Army
Scores the Pacifist
Propaganda.

Washington, Dec. 8.—In a sharp contrast to the report of Secretary of War Baker, Major General Hugh Scott in his annual report as chief of staff, issued yesterday, pronounced the militia system a failure, and declared that for universal military training.

The report reviews the military history of the United States, and draws the conclusion that as a result of the present military system and the pacifist propaganda, the spirit of patriotism is declining. The fact that recruiting for the National Guard dropped to nothing at the height of the recent emergency is cited in support of this view.

General Scott not only states his belief that in no other way than by universal training can adequate defense be secured, but he condemns the Hay militia system as unduly expensive without producing results.

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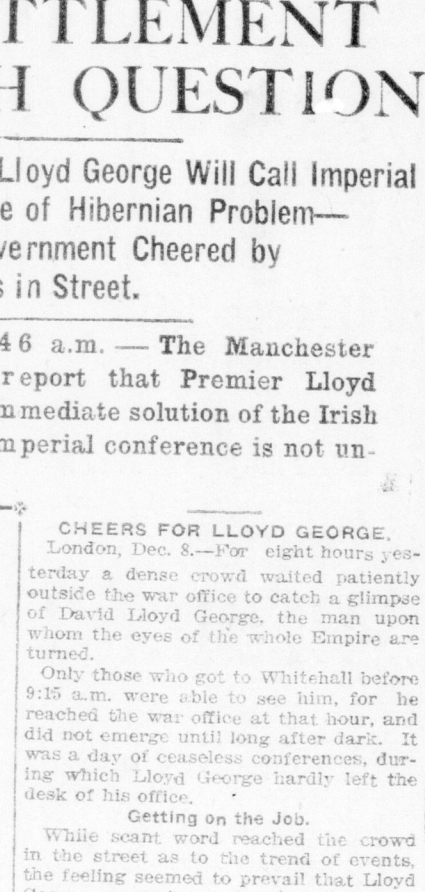
**SERBS THROW BACK
THREE ATTACKS OF
HUNS AND BULGARS**

Heavy Fighting in Progress
On the Macedonian
Front.

Paris, Dec. 8.—Heavy fighting is in progress on the Macedonian front. Three successive counter-attacks on the Serbians have been made by German and Bulgarian troops in the region of Stravina. The war office announces that these attacks were repulsed.

STEAMER ARRIVALS.
New York, Dec. 8.—Arrived: Steamship Finland, from Liverpool. Belfast, Dec. 8.—Arrived: Steamship Inishowen Head, from Montreal.

TOMMIES READY FOR THE ATTACK



This is a remarkable battle photograph, issued by the British Official Press Bureau. It shows British infantry in the first line trenches in France awaiting the signal to advance on Morval.

**FRENCHMEN STUNG BY BLOW
OF RUMANIAN DEFEAT SET
TEETH FOR WAR TO FINISH**

Recent Victory of Germany in Balkans Only Spurs France
To Greater Efforts To Crush the Teutons.

New York, Dec. 8.—A New York Times cable from Paris says: "If Germany hopes that her recent Rumanian victory has been a sufficiently crushing blow to the Allies to make peace overtures, a perusal of French newspapers will show her that she is gravely mistaken. While there is no attempt to belittle the importance of Germany's success, the immediate effect on public opinion has been that of a stinging blow, which electrifies every energy and stiffens every muscle for a counter."

The Gauls invoke the example of England. "The cradle and rampart of all parliamentary liberty, which does not hesitate to face the eventualities of a war council of a few members acting outside parliament."

Gustave Hervé sounds his trumpet call for leaders more loudly than ever. He draws up a catechism of all the shortcomings and abuses existing, and for each gives the corresponding remedy—leaders.

Gustave Tery publishes an open letter to Mr. Asquith, congratulating him for his patriotic action in retiring from power to make room for a triumvirate to conduct the war.

France Not Weary.
"Let us look back to the day when, in the face," says Alfred Capus in L'Espresso, "Why should Germany turn toward us? Because, with her usual lack of penetration, she believes that after two years of war there may occur a moment of weariness in France favorable to the advocates of a pacifist peace. She compares her peace terms she would like to offer now with what she intended imposing on us in 1914, and finds them acceptable, without realizing that if she dared offer them there would not be a single Frenchman who would not immediately feel their shame and humiliation."

A Fight to Finish.
"A fight to a finish has ever appeared more inevitable than in the present circumstance. The French government and Parliament will, in their turn, ring at Germany the implacable resolution of our country."

Henry Bruegel, in the Paris Midi, rounds the same note.

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**TEUTONS TO AID GREECE
IF LATTER DECLARES WAR
ON ALLIES; BLOCKADE ON**



Austria and Germany Have Told Constantine Land Communication Will Be Kept Open If Athens Decides To War On Entente—Crowds Jeered Venezelist Prisoners On Streets of Athens.

London, Dec. 8.—A dispatch from Switzerland, as forwarded from Rome to the Wireless Press, says Germany and Austria have offered their services to Greece in opening land communications if Greece declares war on the Entente.

**BATTLESHIP OF
FRENCH FLEETS
BELIEVED LOST**

Suffern Probably Gone Down,
With Loss of All
Aboard.

SAILED NOVEMBER 24
Vessel Took Part in Dardanelles Campaign and Was Damaged.

Paris, Dec. 8.—2 p.m.—The battleship Suffern, which left port on November 24, has not been heard from since, and the minister of marine considers the vessel lost, with all on board.

The French battleship Suffern displaced 12,750 tons. Her normal complement was 700 men. She was 410 feet long and 70 feet of beam, and was laid down in 1895. She was armed with four 12-inch, ten 6.4-inch and eight 4-inch guns, twenty-two 3-pounders and four torpedo tubes.

Last year the Suffern took part in the bombardment of the Turkish forts at the Dardanelles. She entered the straits to attack Turkish batteries, and according to an official Turkish announcement, was damaged seriously and withdrew in flames. She was sent back to Toulon for repairs.

ANCHOR LINGER GONE.
London, Dec. 8.—(4:20 p.m.)—The Anchor Line steamer, Caledonia, of 3,223 tons gross, is believed to have been sunk, says an announcement made today at Lloyd's Shipping Agency.

The Caledonia has, for some time, been in the service of the British Government. The vessel was 500 feet long, 58 feet beam and 33 feet deep. She was built at Glasgow in 1904.

NORWAY'S HEAVY LOSSES.
London, Dec. 8.—A Reuter dispatch from Christiania says it is announced by the Norwegian ministry of commerce that in November nineteen Norwegian vessels, with a total tonnage of 32,982, were lost.

The sinking of the Greek steamship Piroe, 1,894 tons gross, by a German submarine, is reported in a Reuter dispatch from Las Palmas, Canary Islands.

Reuter's correspondent at Stavanger, Norway, says the Norwegian steamship Stettin, 412 tons gross, has been sunk by a German submarine.

**FRENCH CHASE Foe
FROM GROUND TAKEN
IN VERDUN FIGHT**

Germans Held Trenches on
Hill 304 For One
Day.

Paris, Dec. 8, 11:45 a.m.—The Germans were driven out of the trenches which they had captured on the eastern side of Hill 304, on the Verdun front, it is announced officially.

JUST SHELLING.
London, Dec. 8.—(12:35 p.m.)—"Except for reciprocal intermittent shelling, there is nothing to report," says today's official announcement respecting the Franco-Belgian front.

**WANT TAX LEVIED
FOR PATRIOTIC FUND**

Gananoque, Ont., Dec. 8.—The Gananoque Board of Trade, at a meeting last night, decided to memorialize the Dominion Government to levy a tax for the maintenance of the patriotic fund to replace the present voluntary system.

**QUEBEC BATTALIONS
SAFE IN ENGLAND**

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—It is officially announced through the chief press censor's office that the following troops have arrived safely in England: 16th French Canadian Battalion from Bordeaux; 6th Pioneer Battalion Montreal; artillery drafts and naval details.

**ASQUITH TURNS
DOWN EARLDOM**

London, Dec. 8.—According to the Chronicle, yesterday King George wrote to former Premier Asquith offering him an earldom and the Order of the Garter. It is understood that Mr. Asquith asked permission to decline both honors.

**U. S. LEARNS MARINA
WAS NOT TRANSPORT
WHEN SUNK BY SUB**

But Germany Will Pay For
Americans Lost.

PROBING ARABIA CASE
Washington Asks Great Britain To Inform as to Status.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—Official information to the state department establishes that the British ship Marina, sunk by a German submarine with the loss of six Americans, was in no sense a transport, and was entitled to the immunity of a peaceful merchantman. Germany has announced her willingness to offer amends for the destruction in such a case.

THE ARABIA CASE.
Washington, Dec. 8.—Great Britain has been asked by the state department for information of the status of the P. and O. liner Arabia, sunk by a German submarine without warning. Germany in a note yesterday cites circumstances which she contends justified the submarine commander in taking the Arabia for an armed transport. The state department's information is that the ship was a passenger-carrying liner, not subject to attack without warning.

The next step in the situation, admittedly the most serious since the Sussex case, will not be taken until all the information has been gathered.

**KING CONSTANTINE
REPORTED VERY ILL**

Paris, Dec. 8.—The health of King Constantine is again causing anxiety according to news from German sources, says a Zurich dispatch to the Matin. The old wound in the king's side continues to bother him, the dispatch says, and has led to constant open. The king's condition is held to be very weak.

**WILLIAM GRAY HAS
CONSCIOUS TIMES
IN EARLY MORNING**

But No Other Improvement in
His Condition Is
Noticed.

Intervals at which he appeared more conscious than at any time yesterday were the only changes in the condition of William Gray, M. P., who was removed to Victoria Hospital on Wednesday evening in a critical condition.

He showed but slight improvement otherwise, and the gravest concern is felt as to his illness.

He regained consciousness at an early hour today and for a few minutes appeared quite rational, but later lapsed again into a semi-conscious state.

Due to the insidious nature of the malady with which he is afflicted, his physician stated that no prediction as to the outcome could be made.

At 2:30 o'clock today his condition was unchanged.

**GERMAN MARK DROPS
ON SWISS BOURSE**

Geneva, Dec. 8.—The Paris—The German hundred-mark bill has dropped at other points and a quarter on the Geneva bourse and a point and three-quarters on the Zurich bourse. It is now quoted at 79 francs and 18 centimes 25 centimes respectively. The fall is attributed to the establishment of the mass levy in Germany, which it is feared will result in the partial suspension of the economic life of the country.

THE WEATHER
LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 35; lowest, 27.

The official temperatures for the 32 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 45; lowest, 25.

TOMORROW—SNOW FLURRIES.
Forecasts.
Today—Strong southeast and south winds; mild, with occasional rain.

Saturday—Strong winds or gales from the northwest, becoming colder, with local snowfalls or drizzles.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Station. High. Low. Weather.
Victoria. 45. 25. Cloudy.
Canary. 44. 24. Fair.
Windsor. 43. 23. Cloudy.
Port Arthur. 42. 22. Cloudy.
Perry Sound. 41. 21. Cloudy.
Port Stanley. 40. 20. Cloudy.
Buffalo. 39. 19. Cloudy.
Toronto. 38. 18. Cloudy.
Quebec. 37. 17. Cloudy.
Ottawa. 36. 16. Cloudy.
Montreal. 35. 15. Cloudy.
Quebec. 34. 14. Cloudy.
Father Point. 33. 13. Cloudy.

A disturbance which was approaching yesterday from the westward is now centered near Lake Superior, causing strong winds and showery weather in the region of the Great Lakes.

Rain is also occurring in the Maritime Provinces, while in the West the weather has been mostly fair.

TRADE WILL BE BRISKER THAN EVER! DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY