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AUSTRIA WILL DEFEY THE UNITED STATES

Stands by the Commander of the Sub that Sank the Ancona Declaring that had he done otherwise he would have Failed of his Duty.

VIENNA, Dec. 15.—The Austrian admiralty approves of the submarine commander's conduct fully and declares that he would have been considered as having failed to perform his duty if he had allowed the Ancona to escape. The reply to the American note, it is understood, will be delivered soon, possibly Wednesday. The correspondent of the Associated Press has not been able to secure a forecast of the terms of the reply, but all indications are that a pessimistic view of the situation is justified. The admiralty today stated its case and the attitude of the naval authorities as follows:—

"So far as the commander is concerned, his course is clear. The admiralty has received his report, and sees no reason to find any fault with his course of action. It appears clearly from his report that his ship was in danger; indeed, in double danger, first from the fact that an enemy boat was approaching on a line that threatened to cut off his retreat, and the enemy ship, the Ancona, could have established his radius of action and could have set a torpedo boat flotilla on him, and second, there was danger of the Ancona escaping, which, according to his instructions, was to be prevented, in all circumstances. Hence, the conduct of the commander, much as the loss of innocent lives must be regretted and deplored, cannot be disapproved.

"On the contrary, if he had departed without destroying the Ancona, it would have been failure to do his duty, since the Ancona could have notified other ships of his whereabouts. The loss of American lives is regrettable, as well as that Americans used a vessel belonging to a nation at war with Austria-Hungary."

BULGARIANS LOST 5,000 KILLED AND 15,000 WOUNDED DURING LAST FEW DAYS

PARIS, Dec. 15.—(Delayed)—"Not more than 20,000 Germans are co-operating with the Bulgarian army that has been attacking the Allies, according to intelligence gathered from prisoners," says a Havas despatch from Athens dated December 13.

"The Bulgarians are estimated to have killed 5,000 and 15,000 wounded during the last few days."

SERIES OF RECRUITING MEETINGS HELD LAST NIGHT IN PRINCE COUNTY

59 Recruits Secured.

A series of patriotic meetings was held last night from Abram's Village, Wellington to Tignish, a special train having left Charlottetown at one o'clock in the afternoon, conveying a large number of passengers to various places along the line. The following is a list of the meeting places and the speakers:

Tignish.—Senator Murphy, Rev. D. Macdonald, A. J. MacFadyen, Hon. C. Dalton, Judge W. S. Stewart, Lieut. Trainor, Major C. Light, Rev. A. J. McDougall. Eight recruits were secured.

Palmer Road, St. Louis.—Rev. P. C. Gauthier, Mr. J. Johnston, K. C. Lieut.-Col. S. R. Jenkins, Lieut. MacInnes, Lieut. Moore. Six recruits.

Alberton.—Rev. T. Campbell, Rev. Dr. Fullerton, Lieut.-Col. Allan, Capt. MacNutt. Eleven recruits.

Lot 7, Bloomfield.—Rev. Stephen Macdonald, Rev. G. C. Taylor, Sergt. Crockett, Capt. Cook. One recruit.

Oklaery.—Rev. P. X. Gallant, St. Dawson. Twenty recruits.

Ellerslie.—Canon Simpson, Rev. Mr. Bamford, Lieut. Tannahill. One recruit.

Grand River, Richmond.—Rev. John Macdonald, Rev. E. White, Lieut.-Col. Campbell, Rev. Methersall. Four recruits.

Abram's Village, Wellington.—Rev. S. F. Boudreau, Rev. P. P. Arsenault, Mt. Carmel, Capt. Dorsey, Lieut. Stanway, Rev. Mr. Littlejohns. Eight recruits.

Sixteen soldiers of the 105th Battalion and quite a number of visitors, including ladies, went by the special. The party arrived in Charlottetown at 4 o'clock this morning. A fuller report will be given to-morrow.

COMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, ETC.

ONE CENT per word each insertion for advertising in this column. Cash must accompany orders. Minimum charges, twenty-five cents.

*Methodist Church, Cornwall Annual Christmas Concert Wednesday evening, December 22nd. Admission 10 cents. If weather unfavorable first fine evening following. 5967-12-17M1pd.

*The Annual Meeting of the Cornwall Farmer's Institute will be held on Saturday, December 18th in Cornwall Hall at 7.30 p. m. by order Lemuel H. Drake, Secy. 5932-12-16M31.

*Just received a nice assortment of handsome gift clocks in the newest designs, these are good time keepers and wonderful value at the price asked. E. W. Taylor, Jeweler, 142 Richmond St. 5947-12-16M21.

*Special sale of art needle work on Thursday and Friday of this week in her rooms at 88 Great George Street, Miss Bradbury purposes holding a special sale of finished work, a number of pieces to be sold at cost of material. 5923-12-16M31.

*INSTITUTE MEETING.—The regular monthly meeting of the Kingsboro Women's Institute was held on Tuesday, Dec. 7, almost all the members being present. Seventeen pairs of mitts were finished and forwarded to the Red Cross Society, Charlottetown. It was decided to continue the knitting and forward socks to Major Ings' regiment. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. S. S. Robertson, on Tuesday, Jan. 10. 5959-12-17ME11.

Minard's Liniment cures Neuralgia.

STAGNATION LIKELY IN BALKAN ZONE

LONDON, Dec. 16.—A Reuter despatch from British headquarters in Macedonia says:—

"The situation here threatens to enter on a period of comparative stagnation, pending clearer relations, of the Austrian, German and Bulgarian intentions with regard to the invasion of Greek territory.

"Now that the Allies have completely evacuated Serbian soil, the question of subsequent developments must for the time being lie with the enemy. A Bulgarian officer, captured the other day, said that Bulgaria had completed the task she had set for herself, and no one in Bulgaria wished to fight the Allies.

"This sentiment has been universally expressed by prisoners and deserters.

TURKS HAVE 650,000 MEN IN THE FIELD.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Replying to a question in the House of Commons to-day, Harold J. Tennant, Parliam. Under-Secretary of War, said that it was calculated that Turkey had 650,000 men in the field, and that this force, under certain circumstances, might be increased to a million.

TAKE CENSUS OF ALL MEN OF MILITARY AGE

TORONTO, Dec. 15.—The Police Commissioners endorsed the plan proposed by Major Legrand Reed, of the Recruiting Depot, to have a census taken in Toronto of all men of military age. The major will confer with the Chief of Police as to the procedure.

MORE HOPEFUL FEELING OVER BALKAN SITUATION

Italians have Landed Troops in Albania and Entente Allies at Saloniki are Reinforced and Ready for Offensive.

(Special to the Guardian.) LONDON, Dec. 16.—There is a more hopeful feeling in London with regard to Balkan operations now that it is definitely announced the Italians have effected a landing on the Albanian coast and the Anglo-French force, which has fallen back towards Saloniki, has been strongly reinforced with men and guns and naval weapons. It is not stated how large a force of Italians will go to the assistance of the Serbians and Montenegrins, but the fact that the official account intimates that landings have been made at more than one point is taken to mean that an army of considerable proportions is to be sent across the Adriatic. This with the Montenegrins and Serbians who escaped into Albania, will be a serious threat to the Central Powers' right flank, while they can never look on in idleness to the concentration of the army at Saloniki, which at a chosen moment will undertake an offensive, and on the gathering of Russians in Bessarabia. It is anticipated therefore that the Germans will strike at Saloniki before the Anglo-French forces grow strong, as it is believed with that end in view they are now negotiating with the Greek government. If their plans include the participation of Bulgarians in the attack they are likely to meet opposition from Greece, as Greece is strongly adverse to any Bulgarians crossing the frontier. This applies also to some extent to the Austrians, whose ambitions always have been for

a port on the Aegean Sea, preferably Saloniki. "On the whole there is no doubt here that the Greeks would prefer to see the Entente remain there until the end of the war. In fact Lord Robert Cecil, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said in the House of Commons to-day that the Anglo-French plan was to keep the Central Powers from that city in accordance with the wishes of Greece. Reports that the Germans are preparing for an offensive in the west persist, but thus far there has been little but artillery engagements and aerial fights and raids.

General Townshend commanding the British forces in Mesopotamia reports the repulse of another attack at Kut-el-Amara. Since then the Turks have been quiet.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The next move in the Balkan theatre of war occupies the attention of the Athens and Saloniki correspondents of the British press. There are 200,000 Entente troops at Saloniki, according to the Daily Mail, whose Saloniki correspondent says that the retreat of the Allies was so brilliantly carried out that the large forces of Bulgarians were unable at any point to overtake and defeat them.

In fact the Bulgarians were so deceived by the majority of the manoeuvres and the precision of the movements of the Entente troops that they lost much time in bombarding certain positions near Strumitza, which the French forces had abandoned on the preceding day.

According to the correspondent of the Times, and the Morning Post, the Entente forces will halt on the line from Karasuli, in northern Greece, on the Vardar River, to Kilindir, Greece, which they will try to hold until the Saloniki positions are fortified. This line already is fortified and there is a strong British force made up mostly of cavalry, to the north and north-east of

200,000 ALLIED TROOPS NOW AT SALONIKI

Future Position Hinges on Whether Bulgarians Invade Greece. Every Greek a Patriot and with or without King's Consent would Resist.

Kilindir on the Doiran railway. The correspondent of the Morning Post adds the interesting statement, on the authority of the Bulgarian minister at Athens, as quoted in a published interview, that Glegovt and Doiran, southern Serbia, both of which are in the hands of the Teutonic Allies will be surrendered to Greece. He says nothing about Monastir, however. The Athens correspondent of the Times says he believes the whole future position will turn on whether the Bulgarians invade Greece. He asserts that he is very doubtful whether Greece would sit still under such a move, even though the King and the government should consent to it, which he declines to believe would be done. He says the Greek government could be trusted to run no unnecessary risks.

Caution is its policy and neutrality its aim, but the Greek government consists of Greeks and every Greek is at heart a patriot, says the correspondent. He adds that only events that united the sovereign, the people and the government will force Greece to abandon her neutrality.

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CHINESE SAID TO BE GETTING TOO FRIENDLY WITH GERMAN AGENTS

Russia Suggests that Entente Allies Seize German Concessions in China. Chinese are Becoming Uneasy.

(Special to the Guardian.) PEKIN, Dec. 16.—China is disturbed over rumours of uprisings in India. All telegrams concerning Indian troubles indicate the result of German activities. English newspapers charge Chinese officials with negligence in not preventing the Germans from export-

ing arms and ammunition and intimate that the Chinese are too friendly with German agents.

Despatches from Russia indicating that Russian officials feel the activities of German agents in China should be checked, and the suggestion that the Entente Allies seize German conces-

sions in China, have been disconcerting to the Chinese. Wherever they turn, Chinese officials are met with veiled threats. Europeans on both sides of the great war constantly remind the Chinese of what will happen after the war in case of favouritism during the struggle.

GERMANS ANXIOUS TO HAVE THE WAR STOPPED

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—(via Sayville wireless)—In the course of his address before the Reichstag yesterday, Dr. Karl Helfferich, Secretary of the Treasury, said: "Responsibility for the blood which will flow from now on, for the misery which comes upon the world, for the danger to which civilization is exposed, falls not upon Germany but upon those who cannot resolve to draw the conclusion from Germany's military successes which no one can dispute any longer. The responsibility falls upon those who in their foolish and criminal illusion still speak of annihilation and partition of Germany and a war of exhaustion.

"We stand like rocks in the soil of home country and on the columns of the British Empire are written in glowing letters the same words as were written on the walls of Belshazzar's palace—Mene, mene, tekel u-harsin."

TURKO-GERMAN PREPARATIONS FOR ATTACK ON EGYPT

ROME, Dec. 15.—(Delayed)—The Turko-German threat against Egypt is becoming more grave daily, in the belief of military men here. The construction of the railway line from Damascus to the Egyptian frontier, has been pushed with extraordinary speed, it is stated, and it is expected to be finished by the first of February, there being only fifty miles more of track to lay, before the Sinai Peninsula is reached. This railway, which has double tracks, is considered by military men, to permit of concentration of half a million men in one month, together with the necessary supplies and ammunition at the Egyptian frontier. About 300,000 Ottoman troops, commanded and drilled by German officers, already have been concentrated between Alessandretta, Aleppo and Homs, it is stated. Army engineers are laying miles of tubes for carrying drinking water across the desert, and also are providing material for the construction of bridges, with which to cross the Suez Canal. Turko-German emissaries are said to be urging the Senousi, to attack Egypt from the West, while an attempt also is being made to induce the Abyssinians to march into Sudan.

German officers are reported to be acting as propagandists, organizers and military instructors.

The Rome newspapers ask if, after the lesson of the Balkans, the Entente Powers are going to allow themselves to be taken by surprise in Egypt.

WINSTON CHURCHILL HAD CLOSE CALL

(Special to the Guardian.) LONDON, Dec. 16.—Winston Spencer Churchill, who resigned his portfolio as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in order to join his regiment at the front, had a narrow escape his dugout being hit by a German shell.

FOUR HUNDRED TURKS LOST WHEN SHIP SINKS

ROME, Dec. 16.—A despatch from Athens says that more than 400 soldiers were drowned when the Turkish transport Rehid Pasha was sunk in the Sea of Marmora by a French submarine.

ARAB BAND ROUTED BY BRITISH PARTY

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The defeat of an Arab band in an engagement with a British reconnoitering party on the Sinai Peninsula is announced in an official statement issued in Cairo, Egypt, says a Reuter despatch from that city Monday which transmits the statement as follows:—

"A bank of 300 hostile Arabs was routed on Saturday by a British reconnoitering force in the vicinity of Matab, on the Sinai Peninsula. The Arabs, 35 of whom were killed and seven captured, were driven eastward. The British casualties were 16 killed and three officers and 15 men wounded."

THE GERMAN SOCIALISTS WANT PEACE.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The Leipzig Volks Zeitung publishes the names of 34 Socialists who, following the lead of Hugo Haase (a Socialist leader in the Reichstag), have signed a declaration expressing dissatisfaction with the results of the peace discussion in the Reichstag, says the Amsterdam correspondent of Reuters Telegram Company.

"According to the Volks Zeitung, the coming deliberations in the Reichstag will give the minority bent on peace the necessary opportunity for independent action.

Minard's Liniment cures Rheumatism

THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

(Special to the Guardian.) TORONTO, Dec. 17.—Maritime: North-west and north winds, fresh to strong during the day, fair and moderately cold.

THE WEATHER.—Yesterday was fair with cold winds.

The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 23 degrees above zero. At nine o'clock yesterday morning it registered 16 degrees above zero; at nine last night 28 degrees above. The coldest the previous night was 15 degrees above zero.

The tide will be high this morning at 7.47 and tomorrow at 7.48; it will be high tonight at 7.21 and tomorrow at 8.02.

The sun sets this afternoon and tomorrow at 4.15; it rises tomorrow morning at 7.37 and Sunday at 7.37.

The first quarter of the moon was on Monday, Dec. 13th at 7.28 a. m.

The moon will be full on Tuesday, Dec. 21st at 8.50 a. m.

The length of day will be eight hours and thirty-nine minutes.

Minard's Liniment cures Diphtheria

BIG SNOW STORM AT MONTREAL

MONTREAL, Dec. 14.—Montreal experienced the first big snowstorm of the season last night and this morning, and the official register showed slightly more than six inches of snow had fallen at noon. Communication with New York was cut off for a time last night, but to-day conditions were reported normal by telegraph, telephone and railway officials. About three thousand men were given employment this morning by the city street cleaning department, but as the city has only 37,000 at its disposal for street cleaning purposes, this amount will be wiped out to-night. There is much conjecture as to what will be done in the future to provide for street work.

Minard's Liniment cures garget in cows

THE NEW COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE

General Sir Douglas Haig.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Field Marshal Sir John French, who, at his own request, has been relieved of the command of the British forces in France and Flanders, has been succeeded by General Sir Douglas Haig. Since the landing of the expeditionary force, Sir Douglas Haig has commanded the first army, and has been repeatedly mentioned in despatches by his chief, whose place he now takes.

The change had been expected for some time, and it was announced in the House of Commons yesterday (Wednesday) that a statement would be published immediately.

Sir John French becomes commander in chief of the armies in the United Kingdom, and for his sixteen months services at the front has been created Viscount of the United Kingdom.

Although many names had been mentioned as the possible successor of Field Marshal French, including that of the Duke of Connaught, the appointment, it is said, was anticipated in the best informed circles.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—General Sir Douglas Haig, who in November 1914 was raised from the rank of lieutenant general to general for distinguished service in the field, is to be the commander in chief of the British forces in France and Belgium. Announcement was made to-night that General Haig had been appointed to succeed Field Marshal Sir John French, who has headed the expeditionary forces on the continent since the war began. That there might be a change in the supreme British command on the western front had been hinted for some time. These hints increased, with the recent appointment of General Joffre as commander in chief of the French army.

That the elevation of General Joffre had no bearing on the substitution of General Haig for Field Marshal French, however, was announced to-day in the House of Commons by Premier Asquith. He brought up the matter by saying:—"Some changes are in the course of being made, and will be announced almost immediately. They have no connection of any kind with the changes made by the French government with regard to General Joffre's functions."

Sir Douglas Haig, who is 54 years old, began his military career with the Seventh Hussars in 1885, and served in the Sudan and South African campaigns, in both of which he won distinguished honours and promotions. At the outbreak of the present war he was general officer commanding Aldershot, and afterwards was made commander of the first army.

Several times during the war General Haig has come in for high praise in the despatches of the general he is now succeeding. At the battle of the Aisne his conduct was described by Field Marshal Sir John French as "bold, skilful and decisive." In November of last year, Sir Douglas, then lieutenant-general, was promoted to the rank of general for distinguished service in the field.

Field Marshal French, in his despatch to the British War Office, describing the famous retreat from Mons, credited Sir Douglas with having exercised his corps from a difficult position at Landreocques.

"I sent urgent messages to the com-

mander of the two French reserve divisions on my right to come up to the assistance of the First Corps, which they eventually did," said the Field Marshal's despatch. "Partly owing to this assistance, but mainly to the skilful manner in which Sir Douglas Haig extracted his corps from an exceptionally difficult position in the darkness of the night, they were able, at dawn, to resume their march south towards Wassigny on Guise."

General Haig is a Scotsman. He won his first honour under General Kitchener in the Sudan, where he was promoted to a brevet major on the field for gallantry at Atbara and before Khartoum.

Field Marshal Sir John French had been in charge of the British forces on the continent since the outbreak of the war. He is one of the best known of the British soldiers, and always has had the reputation of being a skilful and dashing leader of men. Sir John was born in 1852. He served four years in the navy, but not liking the sea, he joined the militia, and through it entered the army. He has seen wide service.

During the famous Ulster movement in March, 1914, Field Marshal French, then chief of staff of the British army, resigned his commission. He was one of the signatories of the memorandum to Field Marshal French, giving guarantees to the army officers that they would not be ordered to fight the Ulster unionists, and regarded the repudiation of the document by the government as a slight on himself, he resigned. Sir Douglas Haig then became chief of staff, but at the outbreak of the war, Field Marshal French was appointed to command the expeditionary army.

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CONDENSED ADS. TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

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TO LET.—A LARGE BRIGHT BED-room on ground floor suitable for sitting-room. Apply 84 Hillsboro St. 4066-11-25mt

LOST—LAST SATURDAY A PURSE containing small sum of money. Finder please leave at Guardian. 5970-12-17M31.

LIVE GEESSE WANTED—WILL take 5 to 10, also 3 live turkeys. F. J. F. Holman & Co., Ltd. 5965-12-17M11.

TRY OUR HOME-MADE POTED meat, ham, bacon, lard, and the famous Sauces—Sausages, Sauces, Newsom & Co., Market Building. 5734-12-16m11.

THE DELICIOUS FLAVOR OF PAQUET'S fresh fish is conceded by all. See his display to-day at City Market and store, Cor. Richmond and Hillsboro Sts. 5971-12-17M11.