

GREECE REJECTS ALLIES' DEMANDS FOR RAILROADS

Government Also Refuses to Withdraw Troops From Florina and Kavala

WANTS CORINTH STRAITS

Occupation, Dispatch Says, Would Disturb Relations. Clash With French

BERLIN, March 14.—New demands made upon Greece by the Entente Powers have been rejected by the Athens Government, the Overseas News Agency announced today. The demands were presented by representatives of the Allies to Premier Skouloudis, who submitted them to the entire Cabinet, which declined to accept them.

Premier Skouloudis then transmitted to the Allied Ministers, the following reply: "The Greek Government is not disposed to transfer to the Entente the administration of railroads in northern Greece and Macedonia. Further, the Government doesn't consider it convenient to withdraw Greek troops from Florina and Kavala. Further, the Government must oppose the military occupation by the Entente troops of Corinth Straits, advising the Entente at the same time that such attempts would disturb the present relations between Greece and the Entente. Likewise Greece opposes the establishment of radio stations.

Greek and French soldiers clashed on the Island of Mytilene and one French soldier was killed and another seriously wounded, according to Athens dispatches today. The French were reinforced and imprisoned the Greek soldiers. The Greek Government has protested against the arrest. It was said.

ROME, March 14.—Rumanian forces are concentrating on the Danube front, where 30,000 laborers are co-operating with the troops in digging trenches. Simultaneously Hungarian forces have massed at Orsova and Verchiorova and are erecting entanglements protected by high power electric current. Frontier incidents with the Bulgarians are frequent. Several Rumanian soldiers have been arrested, but they were immediately released. The Bulgarians surrounded a Rumanian outpost and killed eight soldiers.

While these events are occurring on the border, Russia is openly supplying to Rumania war materials and ammunition. An unconfirmed report says that negotiations for the cession of part of Bessarabia have been successfully concluded.

GENEVA, March 14.—The correspondent of the Berne Bund at Austrian headquarters in Albania telegraphs that the Austrians have advanced far southward since their capture of Durazzo, the Italians and Albanians retiring on Avlona, blowing up bridges behind them. Only slight skirmishes have taken place, the correspondent says, but a pitched battle is expected soon near Avlona.

FRENCH REPULSE FOE'S ATTACKS IN WOEVRE

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front. It is believed they have been brought up for a terrific assault scheduled to follow the unprecedented artillery bombardment of the Verdun works now under way.

The reinforcements include the Imperial Guard, the corps d'elite of the German army, as well as boys of 20 of the classes of 1916.

Under the eyes of the Kaiser, who has rejoined the Crown Prince, the great effort against the fortress is expected within the next 48 hours. Thousands of guns are engaged on the 66-mile curving front around Verdun in a dual so terrific that the deep reverberations are heard almost in the environs of Paris itself.

Every available German howitzer is being brought to bear against the great fortress against which for 23 days the Germans have been launching the full strength of their armies. The French, supplied with mountains of shells, are replying gun for gun.

New infantry attacks are looked for, and the fact that for the first time since the battle began the German artillery was directed simultaneously and continuously from all three sides gives rise to the expectation that for the first time the Crown Prince will attempt to strike simultaneous blows with his infantry in a frontal and two flank attacks.

BERLIN, March 14.—Aerial activities took up the greater part of the official report issued by the German War Office today.

The only infantry fighting mentioned occurred in west Flanders, where, it was said, the British were driven back north-east of Ypres.

No fighting, not even artillery dueling, was reported from the Verdun region. The following is the official text of the report:

There is no change in the general situation. In the sector of Wleltje, northeast of Ypres, the English were driven back.

Two English aeroplanes have been shot down, one near Arras and the other near Haupenne. The occupants of both were killed.

Two more French aeroplanes have been brought down by us, one at Marre and the other near Malancourt. An English biplane was compelled by our fire to land at Cambrai. The occupants were made prisoners.

Girls Hired to Load Fuses

WILMINGTON, Del., March 14.—Agents of the Ball Grain Explosives Company have hired 59 girls to work in a fuse-loading plant at Granogue, and it is expected that more hands will be taken on in a short time. It is understood that the company will load artillery fuses.

May Call Spanish War "Vets"

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Representative Dyer, national commander of the Spanish War veterans, sent a request today to all State commanders to notify him how many men are available for service in Mexico if the President called for volunteers. Dyer thinks he can raise 50,000 men.



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ITALIAN GUNS PAVE WAY FOR NEW OFFENSIVE

Rome Tightens Censorship—Austrian Defense Weakens

LONDON, March 14.—Intense Italian artillery firing along the Isonzo front is apparently a prelude to an important action, the Rome correspondent of the Times reported today.

The Italian gunners have blasted away enemy entanglements, the dispatches said, and the Austrian artillery is relying less vigorously. The Italian censorship prevents the sending of more details, the correspondent added.

ARMY OF 4,000,000 MEN ASKED IN BRITISH BILL

Daily Cost of Munitions Placed at \$15,000,000 in Measure Before Commons

LONDON, March 14.—The army estimates bill, providing for a British army of 4,000,000 men, was introduced in the House of Commons today by H. J. Tennant, Secretary of State for War.

The estimated cost of the munitions for the proposed army (including that necessary for the navy) is placed at \$15,000,000 daily by the War Office.

Debate on the bill, the chief feature of which is the proposal to establish pensions for the families of married volunteers, will last until Friday.

Premier Asquith, upon whom has fallen the burden of defending the policies in the House of Commons, was unable to be present at today's session owing to an attack of bronchial catarrh.

The parliamentary correspondent of the Chronicle in reviewing the situation brought about by the army estimates writes:

"The problems of a moratorium for the liabilities of married men called to the colors is an extremely difficult one, but a solution will have to be found before married men are embodied in the army plans. In political circles gloomy fears were expressed as to the imminence of a serious ministerial crisis."

SCANDINAVIAN NATIONS TO UNITE FOR DEFENSE

Ministers of Three Countries in Accord as to Future Course

COPENHAGEN, March 14.—It now seems fairly settled that the recent conference of Scandinavian Ministers of State was called not because of any pending situation affecting Scandinavia as a whole, but anticipatory of problems expected to arise in the near future. It was considered desirable, especially by Sweden, that the outlook be discussed and the agreement be renewed for joint action on questions affecting the three countries alike.

This does not necessarily mean that these nations will take up jointly any dispute of a single country, but that they will be sure to act vigorously together where the principle involved applies to all.

No immediate action is expected as the result of the conference, as neither Denmark nor Norway is excited or alarmed because of the British examination of parcel post and relations are not regarded as seriously impaired.

The Ministers who attended the conference, however, made an attempt to disguise the grave apprehension of all of the Scandinavian countries concerning the future. There was a wholesale agreement that it was necessary to have complete and thorough understanding of the situation and a continued effort to place the neutrality of Scandinavia on such a high plane that it would be bound to be recognized as impartial by the belligerent countries. In this respect the Ministers were in complete accord.

The coming spring and summer are regarded as crucial to the northern countries because of the possible naval activities in the Baltic Sea and the attempts by both sides to give effect to their respective blockades. Scandinavia depends upon export and import trade, and their stoppage would cause genuine disaster.

As the situation develops during the spring there probably will be other conferences. Many who are well informed believe that, should the worst fears be realized, America might be asked to use her good offices, as the greatest neutral Power, in favor of smaller States, although such action is not contemplated at present.

Plant Closed by Labor Troubles
CHICAGO, March 14.—The plant of the Corn Products Company at Argo has been closed because of labor troubles.

PROMOTE FOR MERIT, NAVY CAPTAIN URGES

Sims Says Seniority System Now in Force Is All Wrong

By a Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, March 14.—Advocating a system of promotion in the Navy by selection instead of by seniority, Captain W. S. Sims, commanding the U. S. S. Nevada, told the House Naval Affairs Committee today that such a policy "would leave behind the man who is living in the navy, instead of working for it."

"Under the present system," he said, "the fellow who rides with the girl in the automobile gets promoted as rapidly as the fellow who works. Promotion by seniority is all wrong, but as a social organization, and a soft snap, it is a peach."

Captain Sims' attention was called to the fact that many officers in the Navy have protested against promotion by selection.

"If you are going to wait for some officer to approve, you will never get it," he said. "It is a good deal like asking the bad boy in school whether he wants a longer, stronger and heavier rod to be whipped with."

RUSSIAN AIR FLEET BEST, EXPERT SAYS

Dominates All Turkish Ports on Black Sea, Curtiss, European Representative, Asserts

NEW YORK, March 14.—Russia now has the finest air fleet of all the belligerent countries, according to Anthony Jannus, European representative of the Curtiss Aeroplane Company, who arrived from Europe today on the American liner St. Paul.

"All the Turkish ports on the Black Sea are now nominally by Russian hydro-aeroplanes," said Mr. Jannus. "On one occasion I saw a Turkish submarine try to destroy a 'mother' ship which was being used as the base for a dozen hydro-aeroplanes in the Black Sea. A torpedo was launched, but, instead of striking the ship, it struck a hydro-aeroplane which had just come to rest beside the vessel. One of the wings was torn off, but the torpedo failed to explode, and later it was lashed and taken on board."

The Russian air fleet has bombarded and destroyed many Turkish towns on the Black Sea coast.

Mr. Jannus said that Petrograd now has

HIGHWAY INSPECTORS OUT

Five Dropped From Payroll Because There Is No Work for Them

Five special highway inspectors today were dropped from the city service on the ground that there is no work at this time for them to do. The orders were issued by Director Datesman, of the Department of Public Works, and it said that others may be dropped at the end of the month.

The inspectors who are affected by the order are Leo W. Schrader, 3223 Benner street; Felix Hurwitz, 2514 North 16th street; R. B. Ferris, 2218 Mt. Vernon street; Frank A. Myers, 740 North 63d street, and C. S. Bird, 5119 Regent street. The positions carried a salary of \$1000 each.

MARSHALL 62 YEARS OLD

President Sends Him Letter of Congratulation on Birthday

WASHINGTON, March 14.—President Wilson last night wrote a letter to Vice President Marshall, congratulating him on his 62d birthday, which Mr. Marshall is celebrating today. The Vice President called at the White

House yesterday and said he felt sure Wilson would be re-elected.

Marie Eschenbach, Author, Dies
VIENNA, March 14.—The famous Austrian writer, Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach, is dead at the age of 88 years.

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