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TWO CENTS.

EARL KITCHENER LOST AT SEA

Cruiser Hampshire with British War Secretary and Staff on Board Was Sunk Last Night Off Orkney Islands—Slight Hope That Any on Vessel Were Saved

ENGLAND'S FOREMOST SOLDIER WAS ON HIS WAY TO RUSSIA

Disaster to Cruiser Due to Either Mine or Torpedo—News First Reaches London in Despatch from Admiral Jellicoe—British War Council Holds an Immediate Conference

LONDON, June 6.—Admiral Jellicoe, commander of the British grand fleet, has reported to the admiralty that the British cruiser Hampshire with Earl Kitchener and his staff aboard has been lost off the West Orkneys.

Four boats were seen to leave the Hampshire but a heavy sea was running. Only a capsized boat and some bodies have been found.

Earl Kitchener was on his way to Russia. Admiral Jellicoe reports there is little hope that there were any survivors.

Admiral Jellicoe reported to the admiralty as follows: "I have to report with deep regret that his majesty's ship, Hampshire, Capt. Herbert J. Seavill, R. N., with Lord Kitchener and his staff on board was sunk last night at about 8 p. m., to the west of the Orkneys either by a mine or a torpedo. Four boats were seen by observers on shore to leave the ship. The wind was north, northwest and heavy seas were running. Patrol vessels and destroyers at once proceeded to the spot and a party was sent along the coast to search, but only some bodies and a capsized boat have been found up to the present. As the whole shore has been searched from the seaward I greatly fear that there is little hope of there being any survivors. No report has yet been received from the search party on shore. H. M. S. Hampshire was on her way to Russia."

Accompanying Earl Kitchener and his staff were Hugh James O'Leary, former counsellor of the British embassy at Petrograd and former minister at Sofia; O. A. Fitzgerald, Earl Kitchener's private military secretary; Brig. Gen. Ellershaw and Sir Frederick Donaldson.

When the news of the sinking of the cruiser Hampshire with Earl Kitchener and his staff on board was received in London a meeting of the British war council was immediately called.

Sir William Robertson, chief of the Imperial staff, who probably will become head of the war office; Sir Edward Grey, secretary of foreign affairs; Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, and David Lloyd George, minister of munitions, were present at the council.

KITCHENER, ENGLAND'S MOST NOTED SOLDIER

Greatest Achievement That of Raising Mammoth British Volunteer Army.

Of several things that entitle Earl Kitchener to a place in world history, the most notable is that he organized the largest volunteer army the world has ever seen, in the greatest war of all times.

Within a year from the sudden outbreak of the European war in August the ranks of British fighting men were quadrupled by an increase from less than one million to nearly 4,000,000.

All other Great Powers that entered the war had huge standing armies and

compulsory military service. Great Britain alone faced the issue with confidence that its people would readily respond to the call of King and Country without compulsion, and the precipitous developments that led to the war found both the people and the government unanimous in the verdict that Kitchener of Khartum was the man to lead in the recruiting and organization of the necessary army.

After dispatching a few hundred regulars to France and Belgium to help check the onrushing Germans, the war secretary began recruiting and organizing his army of millions. The British Isles were covered with signs and posters urging young men to join the colors. Kitchener went through the country superintending the drilling of the army. From time to time there were reports indicating his failure to get the number of men he wanted, but within a year after the war opened Premier Asquith officially announced in Parliament that about 3,000,000 men had enlisted in the United Kingdom alone, and almost another million in the overseas dominions.

Without his crowning achievements as the great organizer of the British campaign in the European war, Kitchener had already won wide and lasting fame by his many campaigns in Egypt, South Africa and India.

He was born June 24, 1850, in County Kerry, Ireland, a fact that gave rise to a general belief that he was of Irish blood, but his parents were of French and English descent. His father was a soldier, but of no very high rank. He had managed to climb to the lieutenant-colonelcy of a dragoon regiment, when he retired to the estate in Ireland where Horatio Herbert Kitchener, the distinguished son, was born.

Young Kitchener received his fundamental military education at Woolwich, where he displayed only ordinary brilliancy, with the exception of his liking for mathematics. On graduating he received a commission in the Royal Engineers, but when not 21 years of age he attached himself to a French army in the Franco-Prussian war. He had in the service only a short time when he contracted pneumonia during a balloon flight, and had such a prolonged and serious illness that he had to give up further service for France. Kitchener's experience in European warfare—prior to his direction of the great war of 1914—therefore, had been limited only to a few balloon flights in France.

In 1874 when a British expedition was sent into Western Palestine, Kitchener was one of the enthusiastic volunteers accepted for this service.

In 1882, while in Sudan, he took his first step on the path that was to lead him eventually to Khartum. Trouble was already brewing in the Sudan. Hearing that the Egyptian army was being organized by Sir Evelyn Wood, young Kitchener saw his opportunity with invading Sudan, and lost no time in offering his services. The military authorities, recognizing at once his insight into the native character, put him in the intelligence department, and from the very outset of his Egyptian career negotiations of the utmost importance were entrusted to him and carried out with invariable success. As an intelligence officer Kitchener accompanied Sir Herbert Stewart's despatch column on that heroic but disastrous enterprise known as the Gordon Relief Expedition—the relief of General Gordon from Khartum where he had been entangled during the evacuation of the Sudan. Kitchener deeply took to heart the lessons of this fiasco, with its failure of transport and intelligence departments, and avoided these troubles in the expedition which he himself led some years later. In the meantime Kitchener was employed in innumerable fights and raids against the dervishes or Mahdists of Southern Egypt. In 1886 he became governor of the Red Sea territories and set in motion a series of raids on the notorious Osman Digna, the dervish leader. In one of these raids Kitchener's men were flanked and put to flight, during which he received a bullet which broke his jaw.

(Continued on Page 8.)

CHINA LOSES PRESIDENT

Yuan Shi-Koi Died in Peking Today After Illness of Few Days

DEATH HELPS SOLVE POLITICAL CRISIS

Had Been Most Conspicuous Figure in the Orient in Recent Years—Held High Post at Soen When Only 26 Years Old—Helped Reorganize Army.

PEKIN, China, June 6.—Yuan Shi-kai, president of the Chinese republic, died today. Prince Tuan Chi-Jui immediately advised Li Yuan-Hung, the vice president, of his succession to the presidency. Yuan Shi-kai had been ill several days with stomach trouble which was followed by a nervous breakdown.

Quiet prevails today in the capital, the death of the president apparently solving the Peking political crisis.

In recent years Yuan Shi-kai had become the most conspicuous personality of the Orient through his efforts to bring his 40,000,000 fellow yellow men into line as citizens of the new Republic of China. The task of turning this most ancient and backward of kingdoms into a republic within whose confines there was a fifth of the world's inhabitants—a republic four times as large as the United States—was obviously no easy one and the man who attempted it did not escape storms of criticism from those who held that he was a dictator, virtually founding a new dynasty. But among foreigners generally Yuan Shi-kai was given credit for as able an administration as could be expected under the circumstances.

Long before Yuan Shi-kai was widely known abroad he had been accepted by the Manchus, the Chinese, and the foreigners in China as a coming man.

Born in 1859, the son of a district governor in the province of Honan, Yuan Shi-kai aspired to an official position, but the rule was that official life was open only to those who passed in ancient classics. Yuan utterly failed in one of those government tests at which thousands of aspirants are closeted for three days undergoing examination.

He went into Korea as a secretary with the army, and there rose rapidly through his display of military and diplomatic ability. The famous Grand Chamberlain Li Hung-chang recognized in him a man of action and appointed him Chinese resident at Seoul. This was the highest post in the empire, and Yuan held it when he was only 26 years old. When the Japanese drove the Chinese out of Korea, he was one of the few to return to Peking still in the favor of the court.

He rose to great prominence through his effective re-organization of the army after the war with Japan had shown its weaknesses. It is generally held that he assisted the Empress Dowager in effecting a coup d'etat in 1898 by which she wrested the throne from the Emperor Kuang Shu, and he was popularly accused of betraying the emperor. The dowager appointed him governor of Shantung where, during the Boxer rebellion, he displayed his astuteness.

With the death of the Empress Dowager and the Emperor Kuang Hsu, almost coincidentally, and possibly each by poison at the hands of the other, the child emperor Yuan Tsung, came to the throne under the regency of Prince Chun. Yuan, presumably because he had gained such a control of the army, was dismissed in disgrace, although nominally on pretext of "curing a sore leg."

When the anti-Manchu rebellion broke out in October 1911, the Manchu regency, in despair, urged Yuan to return. The latter replied that his leg was not yet well, but when given authority as supreme commander of all forces of the North, he accepted. He also became the first premier of the "responsible cabinet" which the regency offered the rebels as a concession of peace. But neither the rebels nor Yuan were satisfied. The abdication of the Manchu rulers was forced, and the boy emperor, at the dictation of Yuan Shi-kai authorized the premier to organize with the rebel leaders at Nanking a Republican form of government.

Sun Yat-sen, the provisional president of the southern rebels, was forced to retire and Yuan Shi-kai was elected provisional president of the Chinese Republic at Nanking on February 15, 1912. He took the oath of office at Peking the following month.

BIG IMPROVEMENT ON WESTERN AVENUE

Ledge on North Side, Near Highland Avenue, Blasted Away in Connection with State Work.

The work of laying the new stretch of state road on Western avenue from Highland avenue to Spruce street is progressing. The rock bottom has been placed a part of the way and preparations for laying the cement road are being made.

A very big improvement which is under way is the blasting away of the ledge on the north side of the avenue from Highland avenue west where a cement sidewalk will be laid at the proper grade. This is being done with the aid of a steam drill and dynamite.

INVENTORY AT FENTON'S

Understood That Business May Be Sold to Goodnow Syndicate

STORE HAS BEEN CLOSED ALL DAY

Expected that if Deal Goes Through Goodnow, Pearson & Hunt Will Move There and Enlarge Business, Perhaps by Women's Garments.

E. J. Fenton & Co.'s clothing and department store in the American building is closed today and an inventory of the stock of goods is being made by representatives of that firm and of the Goodnow syndicate of which W. H. Goodnow of Keene, N. H., is the head and which owns a chain of stores, including the Goodnow, Pearson & Hunt store of Brattleboro.

While no official statement is made as to what the plans are, it is understood that the Goodnow syndicate contemplates buying out Fenton & Co. with a view to moving the Goodnow, Pearson & Hunt store there from its present location in the north part of the O. J. Pratt building. That building recently was bought by the F. W. Woolworth Co. of New York, which firm has notified Goodnow, Pearson & Hunt that it desires to have the north store vacated.

In the event that the deal goes through it would not be surprising to see Goodnow, Pearson & Hunt put in a department for women's garments, although the firm will not say that it has any such plans.

For some time it has been understood that Fenton & Co. have an option on the store vacated by W. E. Root's pharmacy, but whether the present move alters their plans remains to be determined.

TO VERGENNES FOR SKIPPING SCHOOL

Alfred Wood, 9, Missed About 50 Sessions in Year—Sentenced to One Year by Judge Barber.

Alfred Wood, 9, son of Mrs. Lillian Wood of 182 Vernon street, was sentenced this morning by Judge Frank E. Barber in the municipal court to the industrial school at Vergennes for not less than one year nor more than one year and a half. He was charged with truancy. A married sister, Mrs. LaBelle, of Worcester, Mass., asked the court to let her take the boy with her to Worcester, but the court decided that the industrial school was the proper place for the youngster.

In a hearing before Judge Barber yesterday afternoon State's Attorney O. B. Hughes called on Truancy Officer George Morris for a statement relative to the boy. From Mr. Morris' report it appeared that the lad had given the school authorities no end of trouble, having missed some 50 sessions the past year. The boy's mother said he was not well and was at home on some occasions when he was credited with being on the street, and at other times when he was on the street she supposed he was in school.

WEST RIVER TRAIN SCHEDULE UNCHANGED

Central Vermont Accedes to Wishes of Patrons—No Sunday Trains Unless There Is Demand.

C. C. Pitts has received a letter from J. W. Hanley, Vermont passenger agent of the Central Vermont railroad, notifying him that as proposed changes in the summer time table of the West River branch of the Central Vermont railroad would be unsatisfactory to patrons the schedule will be continued as it is. Nothing has been done by the railroad regarding Sunday trains during the summer on the branch and no arrangements will be made for them unless there is a demand.

Slight changes will be made in the running times of two trains on the Central Vermont between Brattleboro and New London, Conn. Train No. 1 will leave New London at 5:30 o'clock p. m. weekdays and at 6 o'clock, p. m., Sundays instead of at 3 o'clock, p. m., reaching Brattleboro at 10:15 o'clock weekdays and at 10:30 Sundays. Train No. 7 will reach Brattleboro at 1 o'clock instead of 1:10 p. m.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Taken at 40 High Street, Elevation 333 Feet, for May.

Maximum temperature 82 (29th); minimum temperature 31 (10th); mean temperature, 53.6; mean maximum temperature, 64.7; mean minimum temperature, 41.7; maximum barometer, 30.29 (14th); minimum barometer, 29.31 (17th); clear days, 5; partly cloudy, 19; cloudy, 7; prevailing wind, south; precipitation, 2.96 inches; precipitation in May last year, .80 inch; precipitation to June 1 this year, 16.57 inches; precipitation to June 1 last year, 13.52 inches; excess this year, 3.19 inches; thunder, 7th, 8th and 24th. F. R. Vaughan observer.

OFFICIALS TO GET TOGETHER

Village Chiefs to Meet Commissioners Monthly Hereafter

SPECIAL VILLAGE MEETING CALLED

Will Be Held in Festival Hall Friday Night, June 16, to Act on Proposed Traffic Regulations—Important Change in One Rule.

The village commissioners will hold a special meeting this evening, at which several matters will be considered, and appointments of special officers may be made to fill the places originally assigned to Capt. W. T. Haigh and Pearl T. Clapp, both of whom declined the appointments.

The regular monthly meeting will be held Friday evening. In order that the commissioners may keep in touch with the various departments of the village it has been decided to have the chief of police, the chief of the fire department and the building inspector attend each regular meeting of the commissioners for the purpose of making reports and discussing the affairs of their several departments.

The call for the special village meeting to be held Friday, June 16, in Festival hall at 8 o'clock p. m., to consider the proposed traffic regulations, was issued today.

There are three articles in the warrant, the first being to elect a moderator. Article 2 is to see if the village will vote to adopt additional by-laws and ordinances, which proposed by-laws and ordinances, are printed in the warrant. These are identical with those published in The Reformer last Saturday, except 9 and 11. No. 9 as published was as follows:

9.—No vehicle shall be allowed to stand on the north side of Elliot street from the Vermont National bank corner to the Richardson block, so called, or in front of the fire engine house, or in such a position as to interfere with the movements of any of the fire apparatus and equipment.

No. 11 as printed Saturday reads: "No person operating a motor vehicle shall be allowed to use a muffler cut-out." This section as printed in the warrant is the same except that the words "within the village limits" are added.

Article 3 is to see if the village will vote to adopt any one of the foregoing, and article 4 is to see if the village will vote to adopt any other by-law or ordinance. Article 5 is to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

TELEPHONE LINES SUFFER FROM STORMS

Local Wires Affected by Lightning, While Trees Break All Trunk Lines to Greenfield.

Yesterday's thunder storms were inconsiderate of the wires of the New England Telephone & Telegraph Co. in this locality, putting many lines out of commission. The forenoon storm put out 25 lines and the afternoon storm disabled 10 more besides doing other damage. During last night a large tree fell across the trunk lines about a mile north of Vernon, breaking down all the trunk lines between here and Greenfield and delaying toll service, which had to be routed around through Bellows Falls and Keene. Repair work was begun as quickly as possible and the service restored about noon today.

Also yesterday afternoon the lightning burned a hole through the cable at West Brattleboro, burning out eight lines in that section. Service on some of these lines probably will not be furnished before tomorrow.

The storm put the Twin State Gas & Electric Co.'s Hinsdale line out of commission about two hours yesterday afternoon, but no damage was done.

HUNDREDS OF MEN IN CAMP.

Every State in Union Represented at Plattsburg Post.

PLATTSBURG, N. Y., June 6.—Every state in the Union is represented among the 1,700 men who have already arrived at the first Plattsburg camp of military instruction, which opened here yesterday.

Automobile parties from as far west as Chicago and from various sections in the East preceded the first influx yesterday, when the New York delegation, 510 strong, arrived in 29 pullman sleepers. Several hundred men sat down to breakfast in the mess tents, and at noon the number of student soldiers on the grounds had increased to nearly 1,700, which included the Boston delegation of about 400.

After receiving the uniforms and being assigned to companies the men were set at work arranging their tents. Capt. Halstead Dorey of Gen. Wood's staff, commander of last summer's camp, has arrived and Gen. Wood is expected to reach here today.

HUGHES' STRENGTH PUZZLES LEADERS

Trying to Determine Whether Justice Has Been Strengthened or Weakened by Temporary Concentration of Forces Upon Him to Eliminate Roosevelt—Perkins Issues Statement

SENATOR LODGE MENTIONED AS COMPROMISE CANDIDATE

Question of What Progressives Will Do Tomorrow Almost Overshadows Republican Interest—Movement for the Immediate Nomination of Roosevelt Evident Among Bull Moose Delegates

CHICAGO, June 6.—Immediately before he went into a conference with Republican leaders George W. Perkins, leader of Roosevelt adherents, today gave out a statement declaring that Col. Roosevelt had not said that he would refuse to support Justice Hughes or any other man, and assailed Hughes' supporters for making capital of his "preparedness" speech in Washington last night.

Political leaders who profess to be willing to accept any man for the presidential nomination who is able to command the support of both Republicans and Progressives are trying today to determine whether Justice Hughes has been strengthened or weakened by the temporary concentration of all forces upon him with the avowed purpose of eliminating Col. Roosevelt as a Republican possibility. Unquestionably the effect of the Hughes drive has been to play the whole field of candidates against him.

The two latest elements to be brought into consideration today were Justice Hughes' speech in Washington upon Americanism and the discussion of Senator Lodge of Massachusetts as a compromise candidate for the Republican nomination likely to command the support of Col. Roosevelt.

Justice Hughes' supporters pointed to his speech as a substantial declaration on the question of Americanism and contended that it cleared up the only issue on which the Justice had not previously announced his attitude. They contended that his public utterances before he went on the supreme court bench made clear his position on all other paramount issues and that inasmuch as the question of Americanism has arisen since he went into the seclusion of the court a statement on that subject was the only thing to be desired.

Those opposed to the Justice characterized his speech as "only a list of platitudes" and charged that the speech was carefully timed for the present occasion. The practical politicians, on the other hand, almost unanimously held to the view that the speech was without significance in the present situation. They said it was the sort of a speech expected from a scholarly man on such an occasion.

Almost overshadowing the maneuvering among Republicans today is the question of what the Progressive convention will do when it assembles tomorrow. The Republican leaders regard it as charged with possibilities of the most potent sort. On every hand they expect a tremendous demonstration for Col. Roosevelt despite efforts to hold back a nomination until the Republicans have indicated their purpose.

The movement for the immediate nomination of Col. Roosevelt began to show itself early today. Roosevelt boosters were abroad early cheering, shouting and stirring up demonstrations for the Colonel. At the outset the regular Republicans were inclined to offer the entire list of candidates now in the field as proof that they are not trying to force any particular man upon the Progressives and to point out that the Progressives on the other hand have but one candidate, Col. Roosevelt, and that harmony is far off until the Progressives show a willingness to consider other names.

The suggestion of Senator Lodge which came last night was believed to have been the result of this broad criticism of the Progressive course. Some of the Republican leaders said openly that the senator's name was offered because the Progressives believed it would be impossible for the Republicans to unite in his support.

Convinced that Col. Roosevelt cannot be nominated by the Republican convention the defensive combination of "favorite"

sons' candidates which is said to control about 550 votes today exerted its full influence to eliminate Hughes if they can. In this effort they received the enthusiastic and united support of all elements of the Progressive party leaders. The day's developments disclosed a spectacular drive of the field against Hughes, but despite this his friends expressed confidence that he would be named in the early hours of the balloting.

The plan of organization is to have nominating speeches Friday, take two ballots and adjourn in hope of effecting a compromise on someone agreeable to the Roosevelt forces.

"Col. Roosevelt has not said he was for nor against any man," George W. Perkins said today. "When he does speak it will be over his own signature." "I am amazed," he continued, "that persons are taking advantage of Justice Hughes' speech before a girls' college to get him a nomination for president. It was not a statement. It was just a little address. It is a gross injustice to him. It is unbelievable that he should do this for such a purpose. Whoever tries to use this statement for the purpose of getting him the nomination places him in an insincere position and does him a gross injustice."

Mr. Perkins said that thus far there were no developments in his negotiations with the Republican leaders. Later Mr. Perkins issued a statement to Progressive delegates in which he said: "Let me remind you that we are not here for the avowed purpose of being against anybody. We are for somebody and that somebody is Theodore Roosevelt. I urge you to bear this in mind in all your conversation with whomsoever you talk while in Chicago. The process of tearing down men and things in this country and in the world should stop. It is time to be for somebody, for some thing, and to build up."

CAR PLUNGES INTO DUMMERSTON BROOK

Several Passengers from Brookline, Mass., Hurt, but Not Seriously, in Murder Hollow.

(Special to The Reformer.)
PUTNEY, June 6.

A. M. Holbrook of Brookline, Mass., a traveling salesman, his sister, Miss Gladys Holbrook; his mother, Mrs. E. Holbrook, and Mrs. W. H. Wightman and her 10-year-old son, all were plunged into the brook in Murder hollow south of this place, in the town of Dummerston this morning and considerably injured when the big Oakland car in which Mr. Holbrook was driving left the road and plunged over the bank.

The members of the party were brought to the office of D. L. H. Bogue in this village, where their injuries were dressed. Mrs. Holbrook appeared to be the most seriously injured, having possibly cracked ribs and many bruises. She is suffering from shock. Mrs. Wightman's son was thrown through the windshield and sustained numerous scalp wounds and cuts on his head and nose, but none of a serious nature. The others escaped with bruises. All started for their homes in Brookline on the train leaving Putney shortly after 1 o'clock with the exception of Mr. Holbrook, who returned to the scene of the accident to take pictures.

Mr. Holbrook said that he was driving slowly down the hill because it was muddy and got out of a rut the car swerved to the opposite side of the road and before he could regain control it plunged down the bank into the brook. The car was considerably damaged.