

BRITISH WAR HEADS CONFER WITH FRENCH

Official Announcement Made To-day That Premier Asquith, Foreign Secretary Gray, Lloyd George and Balfour Have Gone to France

FOR CONSULTATION WITH THEIR ALLY

British Staff in France Criticized Sharply in House of Lords and Called Incompetent and Neglectful by Baron St. Davids Last Evening

The attitude of the Greek government toward the entente allies remains the chief point of interest in the Balkan situation. A late development is the reported desire of King Constantine, told of by the Athens correspondent of a London news agency, to see Earl Kitchener, the British war secretary, and discuss the military situation with him.

With regard to the course Greece should take in case the allied forces in Serbia are forced back into Greek territory the attitude of Athens is becoming less uncompromising.

In connection with the internal situation as regards Greece, there have been recent reports of anti-dynastic demonstrations at Patras. M. Stratos, the former Greek minister of marine, is reported by Rome newspapers to be on the way to Switzerland, supposedly on a special mission.

A belated dispatch from Bucharest credits former Premier Carp with the statement that Rumania will enter the war on the side of Germany in December.

An important conference is taking place in Paris, where the members of the new British war council have gone for consultation with the French government.

Only artillery actions are reported by Paris for the Franco-Belgian frontier. Rome reports the repulse of violent attacks by Austrians near Monte San Michele and the enlarging and strengthening of Italian positions in the Adige valley.

The attempt of the Serbians to check the Austro-German drive again failed, the German war office announced to-day. More than 2,000 Serbians were captured.

POSITION OF ALLIES IN SERBIA SERIOUS

Serbian Army is Also in Danger of Being Outflanked, as Bulgarians Have Taken Krusevo and May Have Forced Babuna Pass

London, Nov. 17.—The fate of the Serbian army may be only a matter of hours. Monastir, in the southwest portion of Serbia, is in such peril that consular officials have departed from the city.

From various conflicting reports reaching the public the following appear to be the facts: Bulgarians have taken Krusevo and are six miles west of Perlepe. Thus the southern Serbian army and the Franco-British allies are confronted with imminent peril of an outflanking movement.

Tetovo is in the hands of the Bulgarians. The fate of the Serbians holding the Babuna pass is more obscure. One report says the pass has been forced and it seems certain that the defenders are at least threatened so seriously that their position may soon be untenable. With Krusevo and Babuna in the hands of the invaders, the fate of Perlepe would be sealed and the road to Monastir opened.

CHARGED WITH NEGLIGENCE

British Staff in France Also Accused of Incompetence

London, Nov. 17.—Charges of incompetency and neglect of their work were brought against the British staff in France by Baron St. Davids in the House of Lords last evening, when he asked the government whether its attention had been called to the reports alleging that during the recent fighting there had been many complaints as to failures in the staff work.

Lord St. Davids asserted that "none had been added to the staff for so military reasons which ought to be in the trenches and that he had been told that the British headquarters staff was five or six times as large as that of General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief. It had been stated, he continued, that women visited headquarters in France and asked whether the government defended their presence there.

got early to their offices because they were up late playing bridge. "It is about time," said Lord St. Davids, "that the men were given a fair chance. . . . More than once the troops have broken the German lines, but owing to bad staff work the whole whole thing fell through. Many lives have been sacrificed owing to muddling in high places."

"The marquis of Crewe, lord privy seal, replied that the allegations that success at Loos had been missed owing to the failure to bring up reserves at the right time was the subject of an inquiry between the highest authorities that could be invoked.

Baron Newton, who said he was unable to disclose the number of the British staff, defended it, as did also Viscount Haldane, the former secretary for war.

DEPLORES U. S. ACTION

Britisher Thinks We Should Not Try to Match His Own Country's Navy

London, Nov. 17.—"I know nothing more disheartening than the announcement recently made that the United States—the one great country left in the world free from the hideous, bloody burdens of war—is about to embark upon the building of a huge armada destined to be equal or second to our own," said Lord Rosebery, presiding at the Rhodes lecture in the University of London last night.

"It means," he added, "that the burden will continue upon the other nations and be increased exactly in the proportion to the fleet of the United States. I confess that it is a disheartening prospect that the United States, so remote from the European conflict, should voluntarily in these days take up the burden, which, after this war, will be found to have broken or almost broken our backs."

WAS READY FOR PEACE

Austria is Said to Have Made Overtures to Italy Before Latter's Recent Drive

Rome, via London, Nov. 17.—Proposals for separate peace were made to Italy by Austria at the time the recent Italian offensive was begun, according to the newspaper Popolo Italia. The paper declares that Austrian territorial concessions were offered Italy, but the Salandra cabinet refused to consider them.

ASKS INFORMATION OF AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

United States Wants to Know All the Circumstances in Sinking of Steamship Ancona—Austria Assumed Responsibility for Sinking

Washington, D. C., Nov. 17.—Ambassador Penfield at Vienna was instructed by cable yesterday to ask the Austro-Hungarian foreign office for a statement in detail of the circumstances of the torpedoing of the Italian liner Ancona in the Mediterranean last week, with a loss of several American lives.

This action was taken upon the presentation by the Austrian embassy here to Secretary Lansing of a communication from the Vienna admiralty, stating that an Austrian submarine sunk the Ancona and asserting that ample time for the passengers and crew to escape had been afforded. Until responsibility for the action of the submarine, which it had been reported was of German nationality, was thus officially assumed, the American government withheld formal inquiry at Vienna. Ambassador Penfield was sent what is known as an informal instruction to discuss the case formally with the Austrian officials. The undetermined points on which the American government now seeks information are:

Did the submarine fire a warning shot? Did the submarine cease firing when the Ancona came to a stop? How much time was given passengers and crew to get into the lifeboats? What were the activities of the submarine while the ship was unloading its passengers? Was a torpedo fired while any of the passengers were aboard? The fact that the Austrian government assumes responsibility for the action of the submarine disposes, it is believed, of the reports that the undersea boat flew a German flag, but officials are anxious to be satisfied on this point as well. It is considered possible here that the submarine may have been an Austrian vessel with some German officers on board, but until the facts are established there will be no inquiry by Ambassador Gerard at Berlin. Press reports from Berlin have stated that the German government disclaimed any connection with the incident.

NO CONNECTION

Between Kentucky's Arrival and Searching of the Zealandia

Washington, Nov. 17.—Naval officials yesterday disclaimed any connection between the arrival of the battleship Kentucky at Annapolis and the searching of the steamer Zealandia at a Mexican port by a party from a British cruiser.

Investigation to determine whether the Zealandia was within the three-mile limit still is under way. British officials contend she was not.

SNOW HELD UP TRAIN

Five-Back Blacked Fell in Northern New York Last Night

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 17.—Five inches of snow fell here last night. The only trace of white and foggy clouds today to railway traffic between here and Niagara Falls.

WAR SUPPLY PLANT FIRED

The Cause of Destruction at East Providence To-day Is Unknown

1,000 BALES COTTON LOST IN FLAMES

Company Has Contract to Supply Allies with Specially Prepared Cotton

Providence, R. I., Nov. 17.—Fire in the warehouse to-day destroyed a thousand and a half bales of cotton owned by the River Spinning company of East Providence, which has the contract to supply the allies with a specially prepared cotton used in making gun cotton.

The cause of the fire is not known. There is no heating plant in the building and the electric light power was turned off. The loss on the building and its contents is \$50,000.

FRENCH AGENTS CAN'T PLACE ORDER

They are in Pittsburg Negotiating for Purchase of 9,000,000 Hand Grenades—Pittsburg Flooded with Other Orders

Pittsburg, Nov. 17.—Agents of the French government who have been trying for several days to place an order here for 9,000,000 hand grenades have met with little success, steel men said to-day, manufacturers who have never made that sort of thing not caring to experiment.

More foreign agents are now in Pittsburg, trying to buy steel products, than ever before in the city's history. Shipments to China have been unusually large during the past few weeks.

PTOMAINES IN SANDWICHES

Three Taken Ill After Luncheon Served to Scientists in Chicago

New York, Nov. 17.—Chemists of the board of health last night began analyzing chicken sandwiches served at a luncheon given at the American Museum of Natural history at which, it is said, three of the many guests who came from universities all over the country contracted ptomaine poisoning.

John A. Kingsbury, commissioner of charities, his wife, and Dr. Ira S. Wile of the board of education of New York, became ill yesterday, physicians say, as a result of eating the chicken sandwiches served at the luncheon given Monday. Their illness, though not serious, caused the board of health to investigate.

Scientists from Princeton, Harvard, the University of Chicago, and the University of California, were present at the luncheon.

So far as the local authorities learned the three cases were the only ones that had developed.

DEERING WIRELESS UNDER SUSPICION

British Embassy at Washington Asks the Government Officials at Washington to Direct Attention to Work of the Station in Portland's Suburb

Washington, D. C., Nov. 17.—The British embassy to-day directed the attention of the state department to a private wireless station at Deering, Me., a suburb of Portland, which is said to have been communicating with vessels at sea. Whether trans-Atlantic communication has been attempted is not known.

The Tuckerton station, now under supervision of naval censors, recently picked up messages which excited some attention, although their origin has not been traced. Some time ago, when the Deering station was being built, officials of the navy department and department of commerce watched the progress closely.

KILLED BY TROLLEY CAR

Henry Belivess Hurled 30 Feet Near Hooksett, N. H.

Hooksett, N. H., Nov. 17.—The 30-foot trolley car of Concord last night struck and hurled Henry Belivess of this place, at Hooksett, N. H., into the street. The trolley was in charge of Conductor Ranford and when near Hooksett's crossing struck the man. It is said that he staggered into the path of the car. He was hurled 30 feet, striking on his face and causing almost instant death.

He was attended by Dr. L. C. Torgue of this town, but was beyond the aid of medical treatment. The body was removed to the Morse undertaking rooms at Suncook. Mr. Belivess was well known here, was married and survived, besides his wife, by three children.

HAD MUCH PROPERTY

Young Man Arrested at St. Albans and Held for Larceny

St. Albans, Nov. 17.—Steven Galloway, a young foreigner, is in the Franklin county jail awaiting hearing on the charge of larceny. It is alleged that Galloway, who is only 19 years old, ransacked the house of John Leasu of Nason street, where he boarded. He claimed that he was sick and unable to work. Later in the morning when Leasu missed several articles of jewelry and a large sum of money, Galloway was missing also.

Officers were notified and in the early afternoon Chief of Police J. F. McMahon got word that a young man answering to the description of Galloway had been seen near the Bronson road south of this city. Mahoney located his man at the East Georgia station about 3:30 o'clock and placed him under arrest.

When the man was brought to the jail and searched, there were found on his person and in a suit case which he carried, a gold watch chain, a diamond ring, signet ring, two wedding rings, one other ring, several gold pins, a chain and locket, a gold Elgin watch, two Waltham watches, one gold and the other silver, two suits and \$133 in money. Galloway claimed \$15 and two watches. At a preliminary hearing in St. Albans city court to-day Galloway pleaded not guilty.

PRISONER ADVISED TO QUIT EVIL WAY

Judge Miles Handed Out Counsel to Edward Omalley Whom He Sentenced to Five Months for Burglary

Burlington, Nov. 17.—Edward Omalley of Albany, N. Y., who pleaded guilty to burglary at Turk's clothing store and who pointed a loaded revolver at an officer when caught, was sentenced by Judge Miles in Chittenden county court to-day to not less than five and not more than seven months in the state prison at Windsor. Judge Miles advised Omalley to be a man and not a criminal.

BOUND TO HAVE HUGHES

Justice May Ask Court to Hold Up Presidency Boom

Washington, Nov. 17.—Justice Hughes undoubtedly will take some action in this matter. What it will be is not yet ready to announce.

This was the only information which would be vouchsafed at the home of Justice Charles E. Hughes of the supreme court, who, according to dispatches from Lincoln, Neb., must either run for the presidency, secure an injunction to prevent his name going on the primary ballot in that state, or induce his devoted admirers to take his name off the ballot.

His name was filed with the secretary of state of Nebraska by several hundred Nebraskaans. Their leader, Senator Earl D. Malley, declares, it is said, that he will not withdraw Justice Hughes' name. The justice has said absolutely he will not run for the office. This leaves him only the loophole of a court proceeding to withdraw from the dilemma. H. L. Owen, secretary to the justice, secured by wire a copy of the petition, the date of filing and other information Monday, and this was laid before the justice yesterday.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS DROP

Estimate for Fiscal Year is About \$195,000,000

Washington, Nov. 17.—Treasury officials stated yesterday that estimated customs receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, would be \$195,000,000, although remarking that it is virtually impossible to make an estimate accurately. In the last year of the Payne tariff law customs yielded \$318,000,000 against \$220,000,000 for the first year of the Underwood-Simons law. Receipts for the first four and one-half months of the present fiscal year have been about \$72,500,000 against about \$81,700,000 for the same period in 1914. Comparison of customs receipts by full months during the present fiscal year may be made from the following table:

Table with 3 columns: Months, 1914, 1915. Rows: July, August, September, October.

It is likely that in addition to retaining the present sugar duties, applying the income tax to incomes in excess of \$2,000 and increasing the tax to two per cent upon incomes in excess of \$10,000, Congress will impose an excise tax upon munitions of war.

THREE MYSTERIOUS FIRES

Broke Out Near Corral of 500 Horses for the Allies

New York, Nov. 17.—The authorities are investigating three separate fires which were started last night in two strings of freight cars in the Erie railroad yards at Weehawken, N. J., about 100 feet away from a corral containing 600 horses waiting shipment to Europe. Watchmen saw three men fleeing from the yards and fired several revolver shots but the fugitives escaped. The firemen who extinguished the flames discovered that waste from the journals of the cars had been soaked in oil, placed in the corners of empty cars and ignited. The damage was slight.

CONFERENCE WAS HELD

Between U. S. Investigators and Austrian Making Charges

New York, Nov. 17.—A Bruce Blackall, chief of the investigators of the department of justice, and one from the Washington late yesterday held a conference with Dr. Joseph Goran, the former Austro-Hungarian consul, who recently made a series of charges against German and Austrian diplomats and consuls in this country.

CASE CLOSED, ARGUMENTS ON

State's Attorney Gleason Tried to Prove Manslaughter by Neglectful Driving

IN RABIDOU CASE OF AUTO FATALITY

Miss Plastridge, a Passenger in Car, Was on Stand

Introduction of evidence was completed this morning in the case of State vs. J. P. Rabidou of Northfield, charged with manslaughter in the death of Carl N. French by automobile, the trial of which commenced a week ago yesterday in county court, and State's Attorney Fred E. Gleason commenced the opening argument at 9:30 o'clock. The case will undoubtedly be given to the jury this afternoon.

Preparatory to giving a review of the evidence, the state's attorney touched upon the fact that the case was unusual and briefly defined manslaughter as he interpreted the law. Manslaughter, stated the prosecuting officer, might be the result of an unlawful killing of a person as the result of an affray due to sudden passions or might follow the death of a person as the result of an unlawful act, and he placed the present case in the last classification. The jury was informed that a lawful act, negligently performed, is unlawful according to the statutes and when performed through dangerous agencies.

The Vermont statutes provide that if the speed limit for automobiles is exceeded, then the person driving the vehicle is, on the face of it, driving negligently.

Following State's Attorney Gleason's argument, J. Ward Carver of Barre spoke in behalf of the respondent. He said that the evidence tended to show that Rabidou was not driving his automobile at a reckless speed when the collision occurred, and that the speed of the car had been slackened somewhat by reason of the fact that the driver slowed down for a team just before coming upon the two pedestrians. He said that the trip was not a joy ride, but that Rabidou was out on business. He also said that it must be proven beyond a doubt that the car was being driven at a reckless speed, and he maintained that had not been proven.

Attorney Carver concluded at 11:45, and court took a recess until this afternoon, when Frank Plumley of Northfield took up the case of the defense. He will be followed by Attorney-General H. G. Barber of Brattleboro, who will close the case for the state.

FINAL TESTIMONY PRESENTED

James French, brother of the man killed when they were struck by the automobile driven by Mr. Rabidou on April 24 and who escaped with a fractured leg and bruises, was recalled to the stand this morning for the purpose of giving his opinion as to the rate of speed they were walking at the time they were struck. He ventured the opinion that they were covering ground at the rate of about two miles an hour.

Miss Mary Plastridge, who was on the stand for over an hour yesterday afternoon, also testified for a few minutes this morning. She told yesterday of going to Montpelier from Northfield to visit her friend, Miss Beatrice Holton, for the week-end on April 24 and of, later in the evening, meeting Mr. Rabidou and Harry Park and Arthur Ellis in the Ellis office. Unexpectedly, the girls were invited to take a ride to Barre and accepted, leaving for Miss Holton's rooms to obtain warmer wraps. She told of going to the State House grounds and of there getting into the Rabidou car, then occupied by Mr. Rabidou and Mr. Park. She said that near the Green Mount cemetery she changed seats with Mr. Park, getting in the front seat with Mr. Rabidou.

They went as far as the three-mile bridge and turned around and started for Montpelier. As they arrived near the Central Vermont station it began to sprinkle and the auto was driven into the Taylor street bridge, where the top was raised.

They then proceeded up Winslowki avenue, Berlin street and River street in the direction of Barre. The machine was driven slowly, but when the Consolidated lighting plant was reached at the Pioneer the highest speed attained that evening was between 20 and 25 miles an hour.

Her story of the accident was much the same as related by the respondent, who proceeded her on the stand, and she agreed with the respondent that after leaving the team the automobile struck the men almost instantly. When the machine stopped near the southern end of the corral, she and Miss Holton alighted and walked up the road toward Barre. They waited there briefly and then started to walk back toward the automobile, changed their minds and went toward Barre as far as a crossroad, crossed the bridge and returned to Montpelier on the other side of the river. She did not see the two men again that night, but talked with Mr. Rabidou about the accident Monday morning at Northfield. On cross-examination, Miss Plastridge said the reason they fled from the car was because they were excited and frightened and they were forced to walk home because of the lack of money on their persons, but she was a graduate of Montpelier seminary and had worked as stenographer and bookkeeper for Mr. Rabidou for over three years. During that period she had been to ride with the respondent at different times, alone and with others, on pleasure and business. The witness was remarkably well-poised until the last of her examination, when she commenced to give way to her emotions. The jury retired at 11:30.

Prley William, a chauffeur who was years experience, was the third witness produced by the state during the afternoon.

He testified that she was a graduate of Montpelier seminary and had worked as stenographer and bookkeeper for Mr. Rabidou for over three years. During that period she had been to ride with the respondent at different times, alone and with others, on pleasure and business. The witness was remarkably well-poised until the last of her examination, when she commenced to give way to her emotions. The jury retired at 11:30.

TWO FINGERS SHOT OFF

Henry Morse of Morrisville Slipped While Carrying Gun

Morrisville, Nov. 17.—Henry Morse, who lives in the west part of the town, met with a serious accident Monday while hunting deer. While walking in the woods he slipped and discharged his gun as some way which one hand was severed. Two fingers were blown off and another badly lacerated. Mr. Morse was taken immediately to the Fanny Allen hospital in Winslowki.

CITY AFFAIRS UNDER DEBATE

Council Voted Permit to Several Churches to Hold a Meeting in a House

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

CITY AFFAIRS UNDER DEBATE

Council Voted Permit to Several Churches to Hold a Meeting in a House

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE

Park Street Woman Called Firemen Who Found \$50 Blaze

AWAKENED BY SMOKE