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### HUNS FAILED IN PLOTS TO SPLIT ALLIES

#### Premier Asquith Says Entente, United, Will Go On to a Finish.

### PRaises ROUMANIA

#### Looks to See Greece With Us—Enemy Channel Raid a Failure.

London Cable.—The banquet of the new Lord Mayor of London, Sir William Henry Dunn, was given at the Guildhall last night, and was attended by Cabinet Ministers, members of the diplomatic corps, and men prominent in the military and naval world, among them Lord Fisher, chairman of the Invention Board; Arthur J. Balfour, First Lord of the Admiralty; and Sir William R. Robertson, chief of the Imperial Staff at Army Headquarters.

The leading speech of the evening was delivered by Premier Asquith, who, in alluding to peace, declared that nobody had greater reason than Great Britain to desire peace but that it was desired on only one condition—that the sacrifices of the war should not have been in vain. A feature of the speeches was the warm tribute of admiration on the stand made by Rumania and the expression of the opinion that, although the attack on Rumania had not yet been defeated, it had been successfully stayed.

Mr. Asquith began his speech with a reference to Turkey, which country he described as a subservient agent of German interests and ambition, as was indicated, he said, by the fact that by lifting a finger Germany might have arrested the Armenian horrors, but instead, looked on unmoved, acquiescent, and possibly even complacent.

"The attack," said the Premier, "is a significant example of what a continuance of the rule of German Turkey in Europe will mean."

Mr. Asquith said he would refrain from any detailed review of the naval and military details, but he would, however, on the continued Entente allied success, and said the British navy was ready, and more than ready, whenever opportunity was offered to it.

With regard to the Greek situation, Mr. Asquith said he wished he could speak with as much confidence as he did. The Entente allies went to Saloniki as friends of both Greece and Serbia, he said. His sole desire was to prevent Greece from becoming enmeshed in the Germanic net, and to save her from internal strife.

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waste, its sacrifices, its untold sufferings, its glorious and undying example of courage and unselfishness shall not have been in vain.

There should be a question of separate peace. And peace, when it comes, be it soon or late—and I will not disguise from you for a moment my conviction that the struggle will tax our resources and cur whole stock of patience and resolve—the peace must be such as will build up on sure and stable foundations the security of the weak, the liberties of Europe and a free future for the world.

### GREEK-GERMAN SECRET PACT

#### Allies Said to Have Proof of the Plans.

#### Royalist Armies to Encircle Entente Forces.

Athens, Cable.—For a long time statements have been current regarding a secret treaty between the Central Empires and Greece. Its terms are declared to be dependent on the success of the German submarine campaign in the Mediterranean Sea and the Aegean. In that case Greece was, in return for naval and military help afforded our enemies, to receive Cyprus, a strip of Asia Minor opposite Mitylene, the lip of Albania, and the Doiran-Gheveli enclave in return for cession to Bulgaria of the Kavalla region. Some further ground for belief in these rumors is afforded by a long article in "The Echo" of Typos, which has been well-informed regarding recent events.

The document stipulates, he says, that in certain circumstances, all Greek naval and military forces are to cooperate with the Central Powers.

The officer goes on to say that the Allies have in their possession orders sent by the Greek General Staff in November last ordering the Greek forces at Saloniki to surround the Allied army in that town.

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THE desolation and hardships of war, and the worst of winter weather, cannot damp the spirits of our Canadians when the Christmas boxes arrive from "home". As you plan the parcel for HIM who is dear to you, don't forget that Gillette shaving equipment is just as keenly appreciated on active service as are sweaters, mitts and "cats". If he already has a

### Gillette Safety Razor

send him a generous supply of Gillette Blades, for probably he is sharing the razor with his pals who are not so fortunate.

Clean shaving is in high favor among our troops—because it is sanitary—because it makes the dressing of face wounds easier—but most of all because of its bracing effect. The Gillette is best for the job—and the man who has one is most popular in his platoon.

Whatever else you put in his Christmas box, be sure there's a Gillette Safety Razor or a supply of Blades. You can buy from your Hardware Dealer, Druggist, Jeweler or Men's Wear Dealer—"Bulldogs" and Standard Sets at \$5.00—Pocket Editions at \$5.00 and \$6.00—Combination Sets at \$6.50 up.

Gillette Safety Razor Co. of Canada, Limited Office and Factory—THE GILLETTE BLDG., MONTREAL.

### ACCUSES GREAT BRITAIN OF CAUSING GREAT WAR

#### "Important Announcement" by German Chancellor is Limit For Gall

#### Enemy's Attitude on Proposed International Union For Peace.

Berlin Cable.—The attitude of Germany in regard to the proposal for an international union to enforce peace was made known before the main committee of the Reichstag today by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg. The semi-official Overseas News Agency gave out the following account of the Chancellor's address:

"The Chancellor made today before the Reichstag main committee a most important speech about the question of an international union for peace, and connected with it the problem as to the origin of the present war. In doing so the Chancellor replied to the speech made by Lord Grey (British Foreign Secretary) to foreign newspapermen, in which he said that the origin of the present war must influence peace conditions, and that Germany would be entitled to ask for guarantees against future attacks if the present war really were forced upon Germany.

The Chancellor recalled the fact that on Thursday, July 29, 1914, the Lokai Anzeiger early in the afternoon issued a special edition with the untidy report that the German Emperor had ordered mobilization. The Chancellor added that everyone in the Reichstag Committee knew that the sale of this special edition was prohibited immediately by the police, and that the Secretary for Foreign Affairs immediately informed the Russian Ambassador by telephone that this news was untrue.

The Chancellor stated that Lord Grey by giving these explanations, now holds the same opinion as Germany always has held in regard to the importance of the origin of the war. For both these reasons the Chancellor declared it was necessary once more to discuss the question of the origin of the war.

A Declaration of War. "The action which made the war unavoidable," he said, "was the Russian mobilization ordered on the night of July 29-31 (1914). Russia, England, France, the whole world knew that this step made it impossible for us to wait any longer, and that this step was synonymous with a declaration of war. The whole world—even England, too—now begins to comprehend the fatal importance of the Russian mobilization. Truth makes headway. An English scholar of world fame recently said: 'Many people would think differently about the end of the war if they were better informed about its origin, especially about the facts of Russian mobilization.' It is no wonder, therefore, if Lord Grey could not leave the Russian mobilization unmentioned."

The Chancellor said Lord Grey admitted that the Russian mobilization preceded the German and Austro-Hungarian mobilizations. But, since he desired to clear the Entente of guilt, Lord Grey could not help referring to the Russian mobilization as Germany's work. Lord Grey said that Russia mobilized its army only after it re-

at about the same time. He continued: "At all events the incorrect report had been set right before the Russian Government ordered a general mobilization."

"Gentlemen, we do not fear any tribunal I can state further that this new version has been brought forward entirely by Lord Grey. To the Russian Government itself, which ought to be the best informed about the cause of mobilization, it never occurred that it could refer to a special edition of the Lokai Anzeiger as an explanation of its fateful step."

MOBILIZATION OF TROOPS. The Chancellor then recalled that the Russian Emperor's resistance to the Austro-Hungarian mobilization could be no excuse for a general Russian mobilization, since Austria-Hungary then had mobilized only eight army corps against Serbia, to which Russia had mobilized 13 army corps. Only after the general Russian mobilization did Austria-Hungary, on the morning of July 31 order a general mobilization.

ENCOURAGEMENT BY BRITAIN. Russia gave no answer. England remained silent to Russia. France, through her Prime Minister, on the evening of July 31, merely declared to the German Ambassador that Russia had not mobilized, and ordered its own mobilization some hours before Germany did. The Chancellor continued:

"As to the so-called defensive character of the Russian general mobilization, I may state here, in the most explicit fashion, that the outbreak of the war in 1914 there was still valid a general order of the Russian Government, issued in the year 1912, in which was the following paragraph, verbatim:

From the highest place it is ordered that a proclamation of mobilization is at the same time a proclamation of war against Germany. Against Germany, gentlemen, against Germany."

### QUIET ALONG SOMME FRONT

#### British Used Gas On Huns Near Armentieres.

#### The Enemy Violently Shell French Near Vaux.

London Cable.—Concerning military operations on the battlefield in northern France, the British official statement issued this evening says: "This morning we discharged gas east of Armentieres and bombed the enemy's trench line. Elsewhere there was nothing to report."

The text of the French statement tonight reads: "On the Somme front there were no important operations. There were artillery duels and minor infantry engagements near Sully-Basilly and south of Presoire, in which we cleared several positions and captured prisoners. Prisoners confirm that the enemy suffered heavy losses at Sully-Basilly."

"The enemy artillery violently bombarded the Doullens-Vaux sector; our artillery replied, and the remainder of the night nothing occurred."

The German official statement referring to the fighting on the western front issued today reads: "Army Group of Prince Rupprecht—British and French attempts to attack near Le Bars and Boisvignes, as well as to the south of the Somme near Presoire, were almost without exception stifled by our certain fire at their inception."

### CANADIANS BIG FIND

London Cable.—Twenty-two tons of explosives were found in a German dugout captured by Canadian forces, the War Office announced today. Continued bad weather has prevented active operations, although there has been the usual artillery exchange.

### HUNS RETIRE ON FULL FRONT IN DOBRUDJA

#### Mackensen's Bulgars Are Burning Towns as They Retire.

### MORE ALLY GAINS

#### In Transylvania Also the Rumanians Are Progressing.

London Cable.—Continuing their offensive in Dobrudja, the Russo-Rumanians have driven back advanced detachments of Field Marshal von Mackensen's Turco-Bulgar-German forces and progressed southward. The town of Hirsova, on the Danube, 45 miles north of Tchernavoda, has been reoccupied, although the place was partially destroyed, the enemy having set fire to the houses before retreating. According to Bucarest semi-official advice, the Bulgarian forces are retreating along their whole front. As the Bulgarians withdraw, the statement says, they are systematically burning the Rumanian villages.

To-day's Rumanian statement shows that the Dobrudja has not ceased to be an avenue for Russian help to reach Rumania because of the loss of Constantza and the Carol Bridge at Cernavoda. The Russians are now sending to Jullina, at the mouth of the middle estuary of the Danube, supplies which go thence through the Sulina Canal and the Danube to Galatz and are distributed over Rumania by railroad. The route is longer and slower than the all-rail route of which von Mackensen deprived Rumania.

The text of the Bucharest War Office report follows: "Dobrudja; Hirsova has been reoccupied with the assistance of Danube naval forces. Before retiring the enemy set fire to Hirsova, and also to the village of Topal (12 miles south of Hirsova)."

The German report puts it this way: "Front of Field Marshal von Mackensen. Advanced reconnoitering detachments avoided an engagement with hostile infantry, as they had been ordered to do."

PUSHED BACK IN TRANSYLVANIA. As a result of the new invasion of Transylvania in the Carpathian region by troops of Gen. Lemnitzky reported yesterday, the Teutons have been pushed out of positions in the Bistricza Valley from Beldor to Holo, the Russian War Office announces. The German and Austrian statements today admit that the Teutons have been unable to stop the Russian drive.

At Beldor and Holo the Russians are only 10 miles east of the Maros River, the principal strategic river of Transylvania. Along it runs one of the railroads that supply the Teuton armies and enable them to move reinforcements to threatened points. From Holo to Olah Toplitza, on the railroad, is rather less than 10 miles. If the Russians can take it, cutting the railroad, an important advantage will have been gained.

In Transylvania the Rumanians have pushed back the German forces in the region east of Buzeu Valley, says the Russian official announcement which reads: "Transylvanian front: East of the Buzeu Valley the Rumanians pushed back the Germans, capturing one machine gun and 100 prisoners. The Rumanian War Office report reads: "The Rumanian War Office report reads: "Northern and North-western fronts: In the Trencs Valley an enemy attack four miles north of Galacs was repulsed."

"At Table Darzi, Bratec and Predols and in the Padulova Valley fighting continues. In the region of Dragoceni an enemy attack on the left bank of the Alt was repulsed. The combat continues east of Tard and Bredova. On the right bank of the front there was nothing to report."

"Southern front: There was great enemy artillery activity, especially about the Danube River."

A Model Battleground. London Cable.—The first today is a personally conducted tour of the trenches at Kristiansburg. The annex to the Academy of Arts exhibition. Of all the attractions, advertising in trenches which are no "tasteful imitations" of modern warfare, but the real thing, fashioned by men of the Great War under the personal supervision of officers from the front, perhaps the most valuable to the public. Realism is the keynote of the whole show. The trenches consist of a first and a second line, connected by a communication trench and the "company headquarters." There are a staff officer's dug-out, a dug-out and a soldier's dug-out, a company captain's "barracks," furnished and decorated according to the very latest Flanders fashion. All—or nearly all—the world conjuring tricks which form part and parcel of this amazing war scene to be seen here, from the business-like trench, the trench-tossing bombs and grenades, the sight of which carries one back to the days of the siege of Jerusalem, to the modern terror of the machine gun and the demoralizing "whizz bang."