

THE

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GEORGIAN MAIL

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The Batoum Question.

General Milne's Declaration.

General Sir George Milne, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army of the Black Sea, has issued the following declaration:

"In view of the occupation of the Batoum region by British forces, and aiming to maintain law and order until the question about territorial frontiers is solved by the Peace Conference, I have installed a military governorship in the region and have appointed a military governor. A permanent military court of law has also been established. It will assemble in Batoum and will also go out of town if necessary.

"The military governor will form according to his perception a civil and judicial institution.

"As a supplement to the military forces a gendarmerie of the local population will be formed in order to be employed in the district and to form a town police.

"The military governor is to collect taxes, import and export duties, and port customs and is to appoint new taxes for the maintenance of roads and telegraphs and also for the keeping up of law and order in the district. The expenses of the town administration regarding sanitary, hospital and school matters, light, water supply, etc. will be paid by taxes and customs, the receipt of which will be under the control of the military governor whose representative will take part in the sittings of the town council.

"In view of the above I call upon the inhabitants of the town and district to secure full order, proceeding on their usual business. Every disobedience in this respect to the claims of the authorities in occupation is to be punished exemplarily. Everyone having committed or intending to commit an act hostile or harmful to the interests of the British occupation or directed against the representatives of the British troops, as well as everyone who damages railways, bridges, telegraphs and telephones, military stores, aqueducts, and so on, or injures those to whom they belong, and also everyone guilty of disobedience to the present declaration will be punished by death or by a lesser punishment in view of his crime".

In the U.S. To-day.

Sir John Foster Fraser, who is now in U.S. acting as special correspondent for the *Evening Standard* sends the following review of conditions there:

"I have remarked a great waning of the old bitterness of antipath / against Germany. There never was such fury in England against Germany as I remember in existence in the U.S. a year ago. No German music was allowed to be played; the sweeping of German-born members out of clubs was more drastic than in England; public opinion was infuriated, and patriotic demonstrations were marked with more anti-German sentiment than anything I had noticed in Britain, France, or Russia. The general view was that the extermination of the entire German race would be a good thing.

"All that is now changed. Of course, it was right that Germany should be whipped and Kaiserism laid low; but I now never hear the old vituperation. Commercial relationships are being renewed with Germany; German affairs are publicly discussed without passion; not a few of the American soldiers are returning from Coblenz saying the Germans are rather nice people, and some of them have brought German wives with them.

"The war has been a great instructor to the American people in geography. They are much interested in the higher politics of other countries. They want the U.S. to play a big part in world affairs, and therefore the majority are wholeheartedly in favour of the League of Nations; but there is more than a little nervousness that, as Americans are novices in the matter of diplomacy, they may be committed to engagements which they will afterwards regret. There is a great regard for British diplomacy, and just a little suspicion.

"The heart of America responds to the spirit of international good fellowship which is the basis of the League.

"I would like to say that the present attitude of the best Americans in regard to the war is one of modesty and a frank recognition that, valuable though the service was rendered by the American boys, the chief work had been done by other countries. The best newspapers and magazines record Britain's part. The grim stubbornness of the British soldier, with much done and little said, is recognised. Mr. Lloyd

George is regarded as a hero, with an occasional smiling inquiry whether 'he didn't put it over our President?'

"The British scheme of reconstruction and the British method of dealing with Labour problems are being appreciatively studied.

"Indeed, as one who has known the United States for many years, I would add that we were never held in more genuine esteem by the American people than we are to-day—an attitude which I trust is reciprocated. Even the antagonists to the League of Nations declare: "If there is an alliance between America and Britain, that is all that is really necessary for maintaining the peace of the world".

New Turkish Government's Proclamation.

The new Turkish Government has issued a manifesto to the Nation outlining its domestic and foreign policy. The proclamation begins by saying that the new Government, while entirely homogeneous, is composed of perfectly independent members having no relations whatever with any of the existing parties. It traces back the present anomalous situation in Anatolia to "the unjustifiable occupation of Smyrna, the tragic events which followed it and the rumours regarding the eastern provinces". It declares that the Government shares the solicitude of the "national movement" for the safeguarding of Ottoman rights and the preservation of the Ottoman frontiers and says that this fact is a sufficient guarantee for the eventual removal of existing misunderstandings.

After thus associating itself with the "national movement", the Government proceeds to promise a speedy General Election, respect for the personal and civic rights of all citizens and the maintenance of social order. It points out the need of presenting a united front at the Peace Conference where all that it is possible to do to ensure the independence of the State on the basis of President Wilson's principles will be done. The proclamation ends with a reassuring reference to the equity of the Great Powers and the moderation of public opinion in Europe and in America, and promises that efforts will be made for a speedy conclusion of peace.

THE STATE OF RUSSIA

A Letter from Prince Kropotkin.

Prince Kropotkin, one of the oldest leaders of the Liberal and Revolutionary movement in Russia, about whose arrest and execution so many legends have been circulating, has at last broken the silence which he has maintained throughout more than two years of Bolshevik rule.

In a remarkable letter to his old friend Georges Brandes, the Swedish Socialist leader, which *L'Humanité* publishes, Kropotkin draws a desolate picture of Russia to-day. Without attempting to defend or condemn Bolshevism, he explains and tries to justify Russia's present position as being analogous to that of France during certain moments of its own revolution when it was seeking the light. "Russia to-day is in a vast social revolution seeking an outlet", he writes.

"The Bolsheviks", he adds, "aimed at introducing a new order by the dictatorship of the soil, industry, and commerce. The change they are seeking to bring about is a fundamental principle itself of Socialism. Unhappily their methods are terribly wrong. A State so essentially destructive of the constructive labour of the people renders success impossible and prepares the way for a period of furious ugly reaction".

War Supplies for N. W. Russian Army.

A message from Stockholm says that General Rodzianko and Baron von Wolf, in an order of the day to the North West Russian army state that large quantities of war supplies have been received including bread from America, boots, guns, rifles, aeroplanes and tanks from England. The order adds that the enemy has been driven into the marshy districts where he must either perish or surrender. It also says that Petrograd, Gatchina and Tsarskoelselo are expected to be set free soon.

Koltchak's Big Advance.

New details showing the importance of the victories gained by Koltchak's troops are communicated. The Siberian Army realised in September an average advance of 150 kilometres all along the front, and recaptured the towns of Kourgan and Tobolsk. In the organisation of Koltchak's Army great improvements have been carried out. The troops are better armed and well fed, and the Army Service Corps works properly. The advance will probably be methodically pursued.

EDITORIAL.

Georgia and Italy.

A few weeks ago we announced that a Georgian Mission had set out from Tiflis for Italy under the leadership of Mr. Constantine Sabaktarashvili. In connection with this Colonel Gabba, head of the Italian Mission in the Caucasus, has just received a telegram asking him to convey to the Georgian Government the thanks of the Italian Government for having sent this special mission. The telegram also refers to the great importance of the Georgian delegation's visit.

The Mountaineers.

Many and varied rumours have circulated recently regarding the participation of Georgia and Azerbaïdjan in the present struggle going on between the Mountaineers and the Volunteer Army. In this matter the following note to the Governments of Azerbaïdjan and Georgia is interesting. "The Allied *Medgelis* of the Mountaineers of the Caucasus", it says, "have many times addressed a request to the Government of Azerbaïdjan for assistance for the Mountaineers who at the present time are struggling severely with the troops of General Denikin, defending not only their own liberty and state independence, but also protecting the people of Trans-Caucasia from the invasion of their territory by the Volunteer Army, thus giving these people a guarantee for peaceful creative work in order to establish their own national states.

No Help Given.

"Having in view the fact that all our requests to the Governments of Trans-Caucasia concerning the above and our appeals for immediate active interference in the Mountaineers' fight with the reactionary forces of Russia or for technical and financial assistance, have up to now had no results, we do not think we have the right to conceal from our people that in future as in the past they will remain alone in the unequal fight. In consequence of this, the Allied *Medgelis* are obliged to ask your excellencies duly to transfer this declaration to your governments for discussion and for the clearing up of the question in what form and to what degree they are ready to support the Mountain People who have now even risked their physical existence".

Further Train Wreck.

On October 15 a band of about seventy robbers wrecked the Ba-

toum-Tiflis train near Kobulety by removing part of the permanent way. The Georgian train guard killed two of the leaders and scattered the others so that no robbery took place. Unfortunately the guard was not allowed to pursue the bandits as it had not the right to leave the train between Notanebi and Batoum. The Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has now requested General Cook-Collis, the governor-general of Batoum, to permit the Georgian train guard to have armed men at all stations from Notanebi to Batoum and also to issue orders allowing the Georgian train guards to leave the trains in this region should it be necessary to pursue any robbers who make future attempts at train robbery.

General Brough.

A few days ago Mr. Tchitchinadze, director of the department of Ways and Communications, visited General Brough, head of the British Railway Mission in the Caucasus, and handed him as a souvenir of the Georgian railways a very original inkstand made in the railway works. General Brough asked him to thank the railway officials warmly for the gift, and pointed out with pleasure the extraordinary work that the Georgian railways are performing.

"Englishmen and Armenians".

Under the above heading, "Obnovlenie" publishes what it refers to as "Scotland Liddell's Letter". We would like to point out that this is no letter of ours at all but simply a few paragraphs taken from our editorial of a recent date in the "Georgian Mail". We have no objection to other newspapers publishing our articles (provided they acknowledge the "Georgian Mail") but we do seriously beg of them that they either publish them in full or make it clear that it is only a few extracts that are given. To call them "Letters" is entirely misleading.

Ghambashidze, U. S. A.

We have just heard that Mr. David Ghambashidze has been appointed Georgian representative in the United States, and we hasten to congratulate both him and New York (to say nothing about Washington). We confess, however, to a little jealousy. Mr. Ghambashidze was the Georgian representative in London and we had hoped that when his duties here were over he would return to that city. And now he is going to desert his first love. However, we predict great success for him

in America and we certainly will so far forget our jealousy as to wish him this success.

In Baku.

Writing about Mr. Ghambashidze reminds us that we saw him on the way to Baku last week. We left Tiflis at three o'clock in the afternoon. Several hours from Baku our train stopped in order to let a special train go by. This was a train containing the American Military Mission on its way to Baku for a lightning visit. Suddenly we saw Mr. Ghambashidze and in two minutes we had left our train and were already on our way in the other. We arrived in Baku and found the town as calm and as orderly as on our previous visit. But there was the usual batch of rumours going their usual rounds. The chief one—and this was even published in the press as a fact—was that the British troops were returning immediately to Baku and that already several of the largest buildings in Baku had been requisitioned for their use.

Smuggling.

On each of our visits to Baku we have been asked by train passengers to help them to smuggle cigarettes across the frontier. Our easiest reply was to shake our heads as if we did not understand a word of the request. These smugglers were very naive, for we heard them openly asking other travellers if they would help them to smuggle the contraband. On our return from Baku a few days ago we were asked at the frontier if we had any carpets. As the only thing we had in excess of legitimate baggage was malarial fever (we were still helpless in bed when the officials entered our coupé) we simply groaned.

Prejudice.

This, too, reminds us of an incident that happened on a previous visit to Baku. We met there a foreign officer (neither British nor American) who cursed the Tartars and the Georgians to the best of his ability. He called both peoples all manner of wicked things, so we asked him to tell us the real truth. "What do you mean?" he asked. "What has happened really?" we asked. After a time we got him to confess that he had bought nearly 200,000 roubles worth of carpets and that he could not take them abroad without paying an export tax. As this affected his own pocket and his own greed he was annoyed. This story is significant. It only shows how difficult it is to avoid stupid misrepresentation of the real situation. We pride ourselves

that we were able to alter this man's views on the matter, thus avoiding the injustice his own selfishness might have made him do.

The Russian Situation.

As we write, we have before us an unconfirmed report that Petrograd has fallen and that the Bolsheviks have been thrown out of that city. This is good news, if true, but unfortunately the report of the loss of Kiev is also to hand. Denikin is nearing Moscow. We are afraid, however, that the Russian situation will not be cleared up this year. The winter is at hand. In a few weeks serious fighting will be almost impossible. We know this from our own experience during three winters on the Russian front. We are afraid that the dreadful civil war in Russia will not end until the spring. But we feel certain that Bolshevism is on its last legs and that we will see the end of it before another year has passed.

S. L.

Clemenceau to Retire.

M. Clemenceau has announced his intention of resigning office immediately after the general elections. It was his firm resolve to retire from power as soon as the new Chamber assembled.

The *Daily Telegraph*, commenting on M. Clemenceau's decision to retire, says: "He has fulfilled the supreme task to which he consecrated his life. It may be said of him that he was a statesman who in a time of war saved his country". The paper goes on to review M. Clemenceau's political career and says that since he came to power, he has only "made one single promise to his countrymen, which he has fulfilled in entirety. Rarely was a similar promise (namely, to defend his country) realised in similar circumstances by a statesman. The culmination of his career and the final completion of his work took place last year when the man who in 1871 refused to vote for the cession of Alsace—Lorraine to Germany saw the French flag flying over Metz and Strasburg, and was acclaimed by the whole of France as the "Father of Victory".

The Shah's Visit to England.

The official visit of the Shah to England has been fixed for Oct. 31. In an interview granted in Paris, Prince Ferouz, Persian Foreign Minister, regretted that the Persian delegates had not been heard by the Peace Conference. According to his views, if unrest remained in Persia there could be no order in the East.



British Tribute to Wilson.

The *Westminster Gazette* says that President Wilson's collapse is the direct consequence of his sacrifice of himself for democracy, justice and peace. The objects he has pursued through the difficult years of determined military endeavours and then the months spent in Europe after the armistice, during which he strove for a permanent and well-founded peace, have been too much of a strain on him. He has had many disappointments in Europe and many difficulties at home. He has the satisfaction of knowing that if the treaty is not all that he had desired it to be, his influence upon it has been of incalculable importance. That only means that humanity still needs his cooperation all the more. It is wonderful that he or any human being who had undergone such a continued strain, did not break down long ago. All the sister peoples of the British Empire will share the sorrow and anxiety President Wilson's illness entails.

In the long appreciation of his million services the *Times* says: "We cannot sign for his domestic politics. It is as the champion of the fundamental convictions and sentiments of Americanism, and not of this or that school or party, that he has fired the hearts of the British masses as no foreigner has ever done".

Big British Cargo for Constantinople.

British exports are steadily, if slowly, increasing.

A very considerable cargo to Constantinople includes:

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| Clothes. | Mattresses. |
| Blacking. | Medicines. |
| Polishes. | Bedsteads. |
| Books. | Copper goods. |
| Boots and shoes. | Musical instruments. |
| Candles. | Linseed oil. |
| Chemicals. | Paint. |
| China and earthenware. | Playing cards. |
| Cotton goods. | Perfumery. |
| Lace. | Pickles. |
| Crucibles. | Photo goods. |
| Druggists' sundries. | Silks. |
| Engine packing. | Soap. |
| Furniture. | Starch. |
| Hardware. | Stationery. |
| Fitted cases. | Toys and games. |
| Linen. | Woollen cloth. |

Tobacco, opium, gum, caviar, cop per ingots, raisins, nuts, cottonseed, hare skins, mohair and camery seed have been entered at Liverpool from Turkey.

There is a great demand for ships, especially by rich Dutch, Greek, and other merchants eager to enter the carrying trade. A leading member of the Greek trading community mentioned yesterday a purchase of nine ships by one Greek concern within the past few weeks. Some remarkable profits in ships are reported.

President Poincaré will visit England on November 10.

BRITISH CABINET CHANGES.

Curzon Foreign Minister: Beatty at Admiralty. New Post for Winston.

Mr. Lloyd Georg is credited with the intention of appearing before Parliament on Oct. 22 with a reconstructed Cabinet.

It is stated in political circles that certain changes have already been decided upon and that the Premier is only awaiting the return of the King, who is at Balmoral, to obtain His Majesty's approval and carry them out.

The chief change will be the retirement of Mr. Balfour from the Foreign Ministry, to be succeeded by Lord Curzon. Many other changes are in the air, not the least important being the replacement of Mr. Walter Long by Admiral Beatty at the Admiralty, and the transfer to other posts of Mr. Winston Churchill, Minister of War, and Mr. Ian Macpherson, Secretary of State for Ireland.

League of Nations Council to Meet at Once.

Full League Meeting in Washington or London.

As soon as the Versailles treaty comes into force, the Council of the League of Nations is to be summoned to meet in Paris. This Council is composed of Great Britain, France, U. S. A., Italy, Japan, together with representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Greece and Spain.

The Council will, by the terms of the treaty, have to intervene at once in a number of urgent questions—e.g. the fixing of the Saar frontier, the designation of the High Commissioner for Dantzig etc.

The summons for the first meeting of the Council will be issued by President Wilson as soon as he has been notified that the third Allied Great Power has ratified the Versailles treaty.

This summons will be separate from the summons for a full meeting of the League which will include the Assembly of the League as well as the Council. The latter summons the President, it is stated here, will also issue as soon as the treaty is effective, but the meeting will be held at Washington if the United States Senate has adopted the Covenant.

M. Clemenceau has already addressed a letter asking President Wilson to call the full League of Nations meeting for November. It is stated that if the U. S. Senate rejects the Covenant of the League, the meeting will not be held at Washington as originally planned, but that in this case London may be the place chosen.

The Polish Army's Opinion of Bolshevik Fighting.

General Pilsudski, head of the Polish Army, has made the following statement to a representative of the Havas Agency:—"You can say that we do not fear the Bolshevik Army and that we are sure to defeat them in every encounter. The Bolsheviks are badly commanded and entirely ignorant of military evolutions. Though we are inferior to the Bolsheviks in some ways, we defeat them on every occasion owing to our military experience. The only chance of the Bolsheviks would be the contamination of our troops with Bolshevism but these are still loyal and we trust that they will remain refractory to the Soviet propaganda.

"My opinion", the General went on to say, "is that my country must progress on its way towards social reforms through evolution and that order and labour are necessary to realise this progress".

Alluding to relations with Germany, he said:—"Germany like ourselves has immense reconstruction plans laid out for her. I do not see why, if Germany loyally executes the treaty, we should not live on courteous terms with her".

Regarding the economic situation, General Pilsudski said:—"We mostly need means of transport. Failing these our military and economic development cannot progress".

A Bolshevik Peace Offer?

It is learned from American sources that the Bolsheviks are likely to ask the Allied Powers to open peace negotiations on conditions including the overthrow of the Soviet regime and the setting up of a constitution.

Further conditions would include a safe conduct for twelve Bolshevik chiefs, including Lenin and Trotsky, who desire to go to South America. These offers, it is stated, will be made through Allied diplomats in neutral countries.

British Flotilla Still on Guard.

A Helsingfors message denies the rumour that the British flotilla is leaving the Gulf of Finland. The blockade of Bolshevik Russia is maintained.

The new Turkish Cabinet is already giving indications of strong partiality for the Young Turk party. Mustapha Kemal has been immediately restored to the rank of general and the publication of the official organ of the Young Turks has again been authorised. The foregoing may involve a change in the government's attitude towards the demands of the Entente authorities to which it has hitherto been amenable.

Almost Cleared of Mines.

The Sea Clearance Service is to cease at the end of November as the work of clearing the seas of mines will then be completed.

The mere statement that in 12 months from the cessation of hostilities the mine fields in the neighbourhood of the British Isles have been swept up, gives but a slight indication of the immense and dangerous work which has been necessary to effect this clearance.

The mines included not only the large fields which were sown by the British navy and ships of the Allied and Associated Powers, but little fields discovered to have been laid by German submarines at the entrance to the Irish Sea and harbours, and in by-ways and channels of the Home waters. There were also huge tracks of waters which owing to weather and other conditions were found to contain floating mines.

At the present time, all that remains to finish the work in Home waters and the North Sea is to remove the remains of the minefield laid between Shetland and Norway, and those of the German mines of Heligoland Bight.

40,000 Deaths; 5,800 Births.

A Helsingfors message states that during the last six months 40,000 persons died in Petrograd, whereas the number of births registered was only 5,800.

Pyjamas in the Balkans.

A message from Budapest states that the American Red Cross has distributed some 400,000 pairs of pyjamas in the hospitals. But the lack of clothing is so great that the women and children are glad to use them as ordinary day garments.

The Anglo-Persian Agreement.

Prince Firouz, Persian Foreign Minister, in an interview on the recent Anglo-Persian agreement said that "the agreement would be submitted to the Persian Parliament at an early date and then to the League of Nations for approval. Nothing in this agreement", he added, "affects the independence of Persia. It gives no permanent rights to any monopolies in Great Britain. We can fix ourselves the powers of the councillors and military instructors that it may please us to accept from England". The Prince declared that Persia wished to maintain good relations with France.

French cities are being flooded with anti-alcohol pamphlets.

Berlin Revisited.

We take the following extracts from an article by a British newspaper correspondent just back from Berlin:

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When Berlin gets about its daily work—not quite so early as formerly, it is true—there is little in the scene to suggest to the superficial glance either sufferings of war or those of revolution. The crowds of white-bloused women and straw-hatted men which throng the Leipzigerstrasse and jostle for places in the trams are very much the old crowds, with the old faces, the old figures and the old demeanour.

It cannot be said that many of the faces show conspicuous signs of privation or care. Most are dull and expressionless, but that they always were. Many are hard and self-engrossed as of old. Moreover, there is no very noticeable decline in bestial and revolting obesity. During these few days in Germany I have seen more manifestations of unrestrained gluttony than in England during as many years. Obviously there has been very little of *richesse oblige* in Germany during the war and the making of peace.

While the bulk of the people had to draw their belts much tighter than is generally believed in England, the class that battens on warfare, and could afford the huge prices of contraband trade, must have given full rein to its appetites without any scruples whatever. And it is those swollen paunches which are now the chief provocation to the masses, and the ready illustration of extreme socialistic propaganda.

Uniforms are, of course, few and far between. Sentries in shrapnel helmets outside the War Ministry and some other public offices are a reminder that revolution may recur. The most distressful figures in the crowd are the demobilised men, who are wearing their old grey field uniforms to tatters because they cannot afford to buy civilian clothes. The faces of these men are often haggard and hopeless. They are the obvious recruits for the next Spartacist campaign. The artisan mending a road or loading a cart also bears traces of what Germany has passed through.

His working clothes have vanished, and have been replaced by a strange patchwork of bits of sacking, carpet, and, indeed, anything which it has been possible to sew together to give scanty covering to his limbs. But of the artisan, in the attire either of his work or his leisure, little is to be seen in the centre of Berlin, and that is, at bottom, the reason why the chief business streets of the city do not correspond with one's preconceptions of a debilitated nation.

Generations of discipline have bred in the German people a sense of order that has quickly overcome the wild impulses of the first revolutionary days. Policemen are fewer and much less vigilant, but there is no very obvious need for an increase in their numbers or their zeal. There are no more signs of aggressive lawlessness than there were when these guardians of Prussian legality were the unchallenged masters of the situation.

The Sultan on His First Effort for Peace.

The *Journal des Débats* has published an interesting interview on Turkish affairs granted to one of its correspondents by the Sultan of Turkey.

The Sultan affirmed that immediately after his accession to the throne he charged the Grand Vizir to enter into relations with the Allies to negotiate peace but that difficulties of all sorts were placed in the way of his initiative.

"This action", the Sultan added, "ought to be registered by history as the first move of any of the belligerents to end the war which, so far as Turkey was concerned, was the work of a handful of criminals".

With regard to the situation in Anatolia where bands have been organized to resist the occupation of that province by the Allied Armies, the Sultan declared that most serious measures had been taken by the Government to cope with the situation.

GERMANY'S NEW HERALDIC SYMBOL.

The Berlin correspondent of *The Times* states that the German Government is preparing to abolish the Monarchist emblems on official coats of arms, seals, stamps, notepaper, and envelopes. New tokens are to be substituted.

The one-headed Black Eagle has been selected by the Government as the German coat-of-arms, and it will be represented in simple heraldic form without any elaboration. It differs from the previous Imperial Eagle by the absence of the crown from the head, by the absence of the shield, by the disappearance of the Hohenzollern arms on the shield and by the eagle's wing not being spread out.

RUSH TO THE BETTER-PAID ARMY.

The new rates of British Army pay are attracting a good class of men. More men have presented themselves than had been the case for some time, and the officials confidently anticipate that a heavy rush will have to be dealt with in the next two or three weeks. Intending recruits must now produce six months' reference, and the physical standard has been raised.

1,500 Bolshevik Villains on Trial.

The Hungarian Government has begun criminal proceedings against 1,500 persons charged with misdeeds during the Bolshevik regime.

Denikin Approaching Moscow.

General Denikin's advanced troops are reported to be now about 200 miles south of Moscow.

Proposed U. S. Force of 20,000 Troops for Armenia.

According to a despatch from Washington to the *Matin* the Foreign Relations Committee of U. S. Senate which had been entrusted with the study of the Armenian question submitted its report to the Senate on Wednesday, asking that an expeditionary force of 20,000 should be sent to Armenia.

The *Matin* remarks that, in view of the growing hostility shown by the Senate towards U. S. intervention abroad, the adoption of this report appears very improbable.

A Marriage that was Nul.

With a view to helping the Armenian national reconstruction after the terrible experiences of the war, the Philanthropic Committee of Armenian Ladies is promoting marriages between Armenian young men and women, deported from various parts of Turkey, who are now settling in Constantinople. Of four such marriages which took place the other day in Yedi-Koule one was destined to be immediately dissolved, the couple having discovered that they were brother and sister.

Maxim Gorki on the Fall of Bolshevism.

Some Finns who have just arrived in Helsingfors from Russia report that according to a statement by Maxim Gorki, the famous Russian novelist, the Soviet Government can hardly remain in power for another three months. He stated that Lenin has no authority now and that Trotsky is now the Bolshevik leader.

The Fiume Situation.

According to a despatch from Rome to the Havas agency the Fiume affair is likely to wear itself out. Merchants and manufacturers are complaining of the stagnation of business and most of them desire to see a settlement of the situation which may compromise the future of the port and of the whole region.

Greek-Italian League.

Several prominent politicians and business men have formed a Greek-Italian League with a view to promoting friendly relations between Italy and Greece, particularly in the economic and intellectual spheres. At the first meeting M. Nitti, Italian Premier, and M. Tittoni, Italian Foreign Minister, as well as M. Venizelos and M. Politis, Greek Premier and Foreign Minister respectively, were elected honorary presidents.

Arrests for Tisza's Assassination.

Five arrests have been made in Budapest in connection with the assassination of Count Tisza, who was Premier of Hungary at the outbreak of the war, in November 1918 just after the armistice.

Trotsky Threatened: The Ikon Question.

Paris, Tuesday. — The religious movement which has lately developed in Russia is gaining in strength and causing grave anxiety to the Bolshevik Government which has no more bitter enemy than the Orthodox clergy. At a recent inspection by Trotsky of the factories in the Baltic provinces for the purpose of making a strong appeal among the workmen for the defence of Petrograd, the workmen demanded from him that before everything else he should restore the ikons in all the schools. So menacing became their attitude that Trotsky was compelled to withdraw, his followers declaring that they were unable to guarantee his personal safety.

The Nations Agree not to Sell.

An International Convention relative to the sale of arms and ammunition belonging to the Allied Powers was signed at the Quai d'Orsay. This Convention is meant to prevent the sale of arms and ammunition, as the dispersal of the enormous amount of this material which still exist might endanger public peace. The League of Nations will decide in seven years whether this Convention is to be renewed.

TO BE SOLD:

A Testament of great historical value, in Georgian, printed in Moscow in 1737.

1½ × 4 vershoks. Bound in velvet, ornamented with gold medallions in relief representing the Saviour and the four Apostles. This Testament formerly belonged to the Georgian Royal House.

Mr. Bakradze, member of the Academy of Science, says in his book that the testament printed in Moscow in 1737 is a rare specimen. He has never come across another such book either in Russia or in the Caucasus. This testament was part of the dowry of the Tsarina Nina Georgievna and bears the following inscription of the Tsar George XII: "Let it be as a token of health to her. Amen. Kyrie Eleison". The text of the testament has the crest of the Tsars of Georgia.

RARE AND UNIQUE SPECIMEN.

Price: 7,000 pounds sterling.

Inquiries to be made at the editor's office, from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m.