

## BOLSHEVISM AT CLOSE QUARTERS.

## REDS AND GREENS.

## Hatred of the Commissar.

By Paul Dukas.

(In the "Times").

When is a Red not a Red? When he is a "radish". A "radish" is a man who fervently professes devotion to the Communist cause while harbouring a secret longing for its overthrow. Red outside, but white, you see, inside. The epithet was invented by Trotsky.

It has been one of Trotsky's chief aims to root out all the "radishes". There are thousands in the Red Army. There are many, especially young Red officers, to whom the Red Army offers an easy field for a career. There are also many who do not care either way, neither for the Communists nor for the Whites. I am talking of more or less thinking people, but people with no wit of their own—with no colour to their character, if I may put it that way.

"Radishes" are found everywhere, in the army, fleet, Soviet institutions, pauper committees, and in the Communist Party. There are fewer amongst the workmen. There are scarcely any amongst the peasantry. Workmen and peasants, taking refuge in their numbers, rarely simulate sympathy with the Bolshevik *régime*. At the elections to the Petrograd Soviet in July the workmen and women of the Baltic Works openly cried, "We are for Koltchak!" So the election was declared void as the workers could not be persuaded to vote for a Communist.

One discovers "radishes" only after long acquaintance and cautious feeling of the ground. I was astonished when I joined the Red Army to find how many "radishes" there were amongst the soldiers. I am inclined to think this was a feature of the Petrograd front. I will call them by a commoner term—"counter-revolutionaries". In England, the term "counter-revolutionary" appears to imply an enemy of the revolution as a whole. That is not the significance applied to it in Russia. It means simply anyone who is against the present Soviet *régime*. There are multitudes of "counter-revolutionaries" who will oppose any tendency towards reaction. The most violent and unbalanced of the "counter-revolutionaries" are the Left Social

Revolutionary Party. They are preaching terror against the Bolsheviks.

Every regiment has a political organization attached to it. It is called the "Communist Group", and is appointed by the Communist Party. The duties of the Communist Group are to show a revolutionary example to the non-Communist soldiers, to aid in the propaganda of Communist ideas among the latter, to assist in the maintenance of discipline, and generally to bring up the Red soldier in the way he should go.

## Officers Under Suspicion.

In the military unit (numbering about 200 men) to which I was attached the Communist Group consisted of six men. This is about the percentage in most regiments. One of the six was the Commissar. The duty of the Commissar is to supervise the political work of the whole regiment. He is ordered to keep a strict watch over the actions and behaviour of the commander of the regiment and over the officer staff, who are always under suspicion. There are some special regiments consisting almost exclusively of Communists. These are the backbone of the Red Army. There are others, of foreign nationality, who are well paid and well kept—the Bashkirs, for instance.

There is a law in force that no man may occupy any position of authority in the army or navy unless his wife or near relatives are living in Soviet Russia. The reason for this is that there have been so many cases of infidelity amongst the officer staff, or, to put it colloquially, so many "radishes" have been discovered amongst them, that it became necessary to adopt some really effective method of control. Every officer is compelled to sign a declaration to the effect that in case of his infidelity he is aware that his wife and children, or other near relatives, will be arrested and deported.

I know numbers of men who are violently hostile to the Soviet *régime*, but who will certainly fight for it

in view of this last regulation. It was the most effective measure introduced by the Bolsheviks to check the officers deserting or attempting to join the Whites.

Having proved so successful against the officers, the measure was applied to the common soldiers when desertion became epidemic. When I left Petrograd at the beginning of September there was near Luga a new concentration camp containing from 10,000 to 15,000 women, the wives, sisters, and mothers not of officers, but of common peasants who had run over to the Whites.

The political organization of the Red Army is its most interesting feature. Every conceivable means is employed to turn the soldiers into Communists, even if only in name. Coaxing, hoaxing, and force are applied in turn, but with equally futile results. It is often easier to make them fight than to make them join the Communist Party, because they are always being assured that the Whites are already beaten and that the war will be over in a week. The miserable peasant, especially the newly mobilized, then fights blindly just to "get it over".

An order was issued in July by Trotsky for the preferential dispatch of trains bearing literature to the front. Even troop trains were to be detained, if possible, to allow propaganda trains to reach the front sooner. Vast quantities of literature, all of it Communist, are printed and distributed gratis. The propagation of any other political ideas is a criminal offence as aiding the "counter-revolution".

## Invented Atrocities.

Only one aspect of this propaganda has met with considerable success. Exhortations to fight for the establishment of Communes, for the extermination of the *bourgeoisie*, for the abolition of capital, are of no avail. The peasant does not understand these things. Besides, he has seen these experiments in working and formed his own crude conclusions. Even the division of riches amongst the poor no longer appeals to him, for he has learned that the benefits are followed by responsibilities in the form of taxes, &c., which he does not want to pay. But the painting of the Whites in the most lurid colours imaginable, aided by the fantastic stories told by bogus deserters from the Whites, in which every conceivable atrocity is attributed to the latter, who are said to burn every

Red soldier whole, after skewering his eyes out, and so on, has certainly had the effect of making many a Red soldier think twice before deserting.

At a mass meeting in Petrograd, Zinovieff quoted what he said was "an official statement in a White Guard newspaper", in which (as he said), "General Yudenitch publicly declares his intention on taking Petrograd to massacre wholesale not only the working men and women, but their children as well, as these reptiles will present no less a danger to bankers and landowners in the future than their parents do now!"

One of the Communists in the regiment to which I belonged was a Jew, a rare occurrence in the Army, where there are hardly any Jews. The only posts in the Army held in any number by Jews are the political posts of Commissars. The reason why there appear to be so many Jews in the Bolshevik administration is that they are nearly all employed in the rear, and particularly in those Commissariats that are not concerned in fighting. There is a large preponderance of Jews, for instance, in the Commissariats of Food and Public Economy and it is to this fact, and also to the fact that the Jews in minor offices are so exceedingly obtrusive in their manner, that the popular conception is due that Bolshevism is "run by Jews".

As a matter of fact I happen to know there is a very active Jewish counter-revolutionary organization in existence in Russia, one of whose objects is to destroy the impression that all Jews are Bolsheviks. The murder of Uritzky and the attempt on Lenin's life last autumn were both committed by members of this organization.

The fact that Jews so successfully evade military service has still further accentuated the popular feeling against them. The Jew in the Communist Group of my unit was obviously placed there to eavesdrop and report on the substance and tenor of conversations overheard by him. When the regiment was moved down to the front he disappeared, doubtless having received another job of a similar nature farther from the front.

## Epidemic of Desertions.

Desertion from the Red Army on the Petrograd front reached an incredible figure in the early summer. Troops had to be sent down to the front unarmed and in locked box-cars.

(Concluded on page 3).

# EDITORIAL.

## Christmas.

We had almost forgotten... And now, with something like a shock we realise that this week's paper will be dated December 24 and that it will be our Christmas Number. To be perfectly candid, we do not feel at all Christmassy. Circumstances are all against a real Christmas mood. The weather, for instance—but above all the fact that this is our sixth consecutive Christmas away from home. We have lost the Christmas habit. That is the sad truth. Annual family re-unions have been interrupted, and one of the sacred ties that bound us, for the good of our soul, to the happy past, has been broken. Christmas, to us, is no longer Christmas,—and there you have a tragedy...

## 1914.

Christmas of 1914, the first Christmas of the war, found us wallowing in Flanders mud. Behind us were nearly five months of horror: before us—we could not guess, but we were optimistic these days and we never dreamt of four years of war. The Hun's march on Calais had been stopped but the safety of the Channel ports was by no means assured. Almost the whole of Belgium had been occupied. Only a tiny portion still remained in Belgian hands. King Albert was staying in the little town of Furnes. Christmas Day found us all speaking of the possibility of Furnes having to be evacuated. These were nervous times. But the Hun never got any further, and the little portion of Flanders never got out of Belgian occupation, and the little town of Furnes remained the seat of the Belgian army staff.

## 1915.

Another year found us on the Russian front. Only a few months before we had been in the great Russian retreat. Late autumn found us all tired out. Winter found us hibernating. On Christmas Eve we were riding on horseback through a little village behind the lines when we had a strange meeting with an American doctor who was in the Russian service. For some minutes we tried to speak to each other in Russian. Only by chance did we discover each other. We dined together next day to celebrate Christmas. The weather was certainly seasonable enough—as we understood Christmas weather to be—but the Hun shelled our village as we were dining and the dinner had to be interrupted to

permit the doctor to attend to the wounded men.

## 1916.

The third Christmas of the war found us with still more experiences behind us. In the summer and autumn we had been on the Caucasian front. Then we went off to the Dobruja. Suffering from pleurisy, we left the Roumanian front for Odessa and Petrograd. Christmas found us in a Red Cross train near Odessa. We were in a very bad humour. And our spirits did not improve when we arrived at seven o'clock in the evening in Odessa and had to eat our Christmas dinner alone in a very deserted hotel dining room. This, now that we look back, was the worst Christmas of all. We really ought to have been in bed. We were sick in body and in mind.

## 1917.

After a terrible journey from the Russian front to Petrograd in December of 1917, we arrived at nine o'clock in the evening of Christmas Day in Petrograd—and could not find a room in any hotel. About 11-30 p. m. we were wandering along the Nevsky Prospect when suddenly we met a man we knew. He had a room at the Europe Hotel. He offered us a place in it. We gladly accepted. There was still time to have a Christmas meal—but there was practically nothing in the hotel. The waiters were all on strike, the restaurant was closed, but we managed to get a small piece of hard black bread and a piece of cold ham about two inches square. This and a bottle of cognac was our Christmas meal—and memories of that welcome cognac will always stay with us. It—and the circumstances—would have cured even Pussyfoot of his teetotalism.

## 1918.

Again another crowded year passed. We had escaped from the Bolsheviks. We had travelled through Finland and Sweden and Norway to Aberdeen and London. Thence we had gone by way of France, Italy, Port Said, Suez, Bombay and Basra to Baghdad. And then in a motor car across the Persian hills to Enzeli, where we got a steamer to Baku. Our fifth Christmas was to be in a Mussulman town. But there were British officers and there were British men, so things were not so bad. They were bad enough, however, as the big workmen's

strike in Baku of a year ago found the town in darkness. We ate our dinner in candle light.

We all drank toasts to Christmas Day at home in 1919—but here we still are in Trans-Caucasia...

## The Lost Habit.

We have had our war Christmases, but we have lost the habit. For although we never forgot that Christmas was Christmas, the celebration of it these past five years was a mockery. "Peace on earth..." while all the world was plunged in deadly strife. "Good-will towards men..." while only hate was in men's hearts. But we lived to a certain extent in the past. We still had memories of a little Scottish village; of snow and a frozen skating pond; of mistletoe and holly in all the tiny shops; of bulgy stockings that woke us earlier than the usual hour; of church bells—and anthems—and hymns.... Perhaps we have not altogether lost the Christmas habit. Circumstances are not Christmassy—unless it is that Christmas is a time of hope and so can never die. So we will wish our readers well—and wish them happier years to come.

## The People's Guard.

After the Russian debacle in 1917, when the Bolsheviks had come into power, the whole country was plunged into a terrible state of chaos—a state, indeed, in which the greater part of Russia proper still is today. On December 12, 1917, the Tiflis Guards took possession of the arsenal and prevented the Bolshevik hooligans from ruining the town. Since that day the People's Guard has stood on the defence of Georgia. Only a few weeks ago it was the People's Guard that was largely responsible for the suppression of the attempted Bolshevik rising in Georgia. There are many other deeds to the Guard's credit, so it is only fitting that December 12 should now be set apart each year as a special festival in honour of this organisation. As we mention on another page, Tiflis was *en fete* on December 12 of this year. And there was something very imposing about the procession that passed through the chief streets with banners flying and bands playing. Even the weather, which was disagreeably raw and uninviting, failed to keep all Tiflis indoors, and it was quite a happy crowd that lined the streets to watch the Guard go by.

S. L.

## LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

Nine aeroplanes were destroyed at Punta Arenas for the Chilean Government.

Mr. P. A. Stovall, American Minister to Switzerland, has resigned.

A bottle of wine is to cost 40 marks and a glass 10 marks in Germany this winter.

Swiss Red Cross delegates have decided to enter the International Red Cross League.

Northern France received only 37,594 tons to meet requirements of 70,000 tons of coal in October.

No sugar is to be exported from Canada, except in urgent cases, until the shortage is relieved.

Western Australia's gold yield for October was 66,000 ounces, as compared with 36,000 in September.

Six large submarines have arrived at Bombay *en route* for the Far East. They are the first seen in Bombay.

"We all know only one aim, that is—Down with England!"—The ex-Crown Prince to *Vorwärts*, February 26, 1915.

Sir George McMunn, Commanding-in-Chief, Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force, has been on a tour of inspection in Northern Persia.

Proceedings for libel have been instituted against the editor of the *Deutsche Zeitung* by the President and members of the German Government.

Polish reports state that a bomb has been thrown at General Bredoff, the Governor of Kieff. The General is said to have been severely wounded.

Canada proposes to make an additional grant of £4,000,000 for its soldiers' settlement scheme, and £3,000,000 for the civil re-establishment of soldiers.

German Government concerns at Spandau, Kiel, and Wilhelmshaven will yield 2,000,000 marks this year. The expenditure is estimated at 495,000,000 marks.

Australia's Commission on the Pacific Islands is preparing a report, which will recommend the adoption of the Papuan form of government for New Guinea.

Herr Hofman, the Bavarian Premier, says the Democrats were to blame for the war, because they had maintained "an imbecile and half-witted Monarch".

According to the Berlin *Localanzeiger*, General von der Goltz has been placed on half-pay.

## BOLSHEVISM AT CLOSE QUARTERS.

(Continued from page 1).

A whole series of measures were introduced to cope with the evil, the soldiers being threatened first with deprivation of all right to return to the land, and finally with arrest of their families. When all these measures failed the brilliant idea was hit upon of inviting them to come back with complete impunity. The idea was such an original one, and after all the dreadful threats came with such startling suddenness, that a very large number returned, though many of them with the avowed intention of deserting again if there were any fighting to be done. As long as the fortunes of war favoured the Reds, desertion remained within reasonable limits, there being always a tendency to remain on the winning side.

Fearing to desert to the Whites, but hating the Communist system which they were driven in hordes to defend, the peasant soldiers found a middle way out. "I won't fight for the Reds", thought the peasant, "but neither will I fight for the Whites, for I shall be betraying my family to the Bolshevists. I will make a bolt for the woods and hide there". Many of these poor wretches simply didn't want to fight any more for anyone.

Paradoxical though it may appear, numerous bands of these deserters have nevertheless shown a considerable amount of fight. Though they don't want to fight for either the Reds or the Whites, they will fight against Commissars, Communists, Bolshevist Soviets and all the other paraphernalia of the present régime. Living in the woods and open country, they got the nickname of "Green Guards".

During the summer this movement developed to enormous proportions. In many parts, particularly in the south, they have offered very great service to the White Armies, especially in raiding the rear of the Reds. They were estimated in August at numbering hundreds of thousands in different parts of the country. They became the terror of the Communist and Soviet officials in many parts of the provinces. In some cases the "Greens" existed with the connivance, and even assistance, of local Bolshevist authorities, who simply dared not take measures against them for fear of the local population. It was easy for the "Greens" to maintain their separate existence, for the population was only too willing to feed, support, and aid them in every way. Bread that the authorities could not force the peasants to yield even under threat of severe reprisals the peasants gave up to the "Greens" gratuitously. When the "Green" bands got into touch with sensible officers and leaders, who maintain with them of camaraderie, they are often organized and subject to

discipline. But there is as yet no coordination between bands of "Greens" in different districts.

### Recruiting for the "Greens".

Here is an incident which is typical of the attitude of the "Green" Guards. At the arrival at the wayside station of Kuprino (province of Smolensk) of a train of Reds, the Greens, who had seized the station, turned them all out on to the platform, and ordered all the Communists and Jews to "own up". They were shown up readily enough by the other soldiers and were shot on the spot. The remainder were disarmed and taken into the station. Here they were given a splendid feed and asked what that they would like to do. They were told they might stay with the Greens or go home disarmed. Most of them stayed.

I remember once a man who was drafted into our regiment and who was so outspoken at times that I was always afraid he would be getting himself into trouble. He was a tough little fellow, clean-shaven, with little darting eyes. He was a mechanic from one of the factories on the Viborg side of the city. I suspected him at first of being something like a *provocateur*, on his candour, but he was not that sort. One day I overheard him telling the story of how he and his fellows had been mobilized.

As soon as we were mobilized (he was saying) we were chased to all sorts of meetings. Last Saturday, at the Narodny Dom (the biggest hall in Petrograd), Zinovieff spoke to us for an hour and assured us we were going to fight for ourselves, for workmen and peasants, against all capitalists, Imperialists, bankers, generals, landowners, and other blood-sucking ruffians. Then he read a resolution that every Red soldier swears to defend Red Petrograd to the last drop of blood, but nobody put up his hand except a few in the front rows who had, of course, been put there to vote "For". Near me I heard several men growl and say, "Enough! we aren't sheep, and we know now what sort of freedom you want to use us as cannon fodder for". Son of a bitch! that Zinovieff, exclaimed the little man, spitting disgustedly. Next day we read in the paper that 10,000 newly mobilized soldiers had passed a resolution unanimously to defend what Zinovieff and Lennin call the "Workers' and Peasants' Government".

Switzerland has decided to make the Swiss Legation in Belgium an independent diplomatic entity. The present Swiss Minister at Brussels is attached to the Legation in Paris.

A German diplomatic courier, recently arrested by the Swiss authorities, was found to be carrying in his luggage a large quantity of contraband goods.

## MOON HAYS A CHRISTMAS STORY

By  
Scotland Liddell.

Once upon a time (and that is the way that all real Christmas stories must begin) before I became a real uncle with a very real and noisy nephew, I had unclehood thrust upon me and I became the possessor of ever so many little nieces. You know how it is. One goes to see their parents. A little girl comes shyly into the room. "Come and shake hands with Uncle", says the adoring mother—and one is immediately adopted. Not only is the name of "Uncle" conferred on one, but one is also loaded with a certain amount of uncle-ly responsibilities. The chief of these is, of course, the giving of presents. And Christmas time is the real time for these. Hence my story.

Now, it so happened that long before the war I had accumulated quite a collection of nieces. Nephews, too, of course, but little boys don't really matter. Christmas week was a busy time for me. I had much shopping to do. I had to buy dolls and all sorts of toys. Possibly I myself was too young in these days because I remember I used to be very nervous about the matter. It is no joke when a woman shop assistant serves a young man with a dozen dolls and points out how well clothed they are...

Sometimes I forgot some of my nieces. So it happened that on one occasion when I visited some friends two days after Christmas, I discovered, when it was too late, that their little girl, my niece Gladys, had not been on my Christmas shopping list. I only found this out when I saw her in her nursery surrounded with her many toys. She had dolls and gollywogs and stuffed animals and picture books with bible stories illustrated and tiny tea services and all sorts of things that squeaked and tooted when you blew them hard. Gladys was such a dear little girl that I regretted immediately that I had not sent her anything. But I had a very good idea.

"Gladys, dear", I said. "I have great news for you. Do you know that Father Christmas is staying with me in London before he goes off again to his ice palace?"

Gladys beamed with delight. She was only seven, so I told her all about my guest, and she believed every word I said.

"Now", said I, "Father Christmas asked me today where I was going, and I told him I was coming to see you. And do you know what he said?... He told me that

if you were really the good little girl that you ought to be I was to ask you if there was anything that you wanted that he had not already given you. All you have to do is to tell me what you want and I will see him tonight and get him to send you it before he goes off".

One can really say these things to little girls of seven. If they say they want a motor car—one can buy a nice toy one for a shilling; if they say they want a gold watch one can buy them one for twopence. It is all very easy.

Gladys thought very carefully for a few moments.

"I would like the moon, Uncle", she said at last.

This was difficult. One cannot buy moons anywhere.

"The moon, dear?" I asked. She nodded.

"But why do you want the moon?"

"To cut hats out of", she said.

"Hats, dearie?... Hats?"

Her baby brow puckered at my stupidity.

"The kind they wore when Christ came", she explained.

## Shells for the Baltic.

### Smuggling Germany's Surplus Ammunition.

The *Vorwärts* publishes a telegram from Frankfurt-on-the-Oder describing the continued smuggling of ammunition to the Baltic. It states that one barge-load of ammunition and three barges intended to be laden with ammunition have been confiscated by the authorities there.

A Berlin firm is implicated in this smuggling. The firm had been given a contract for the destruction of this ammunition. The bills of lading showed that it was to go to Stettin and thence apparently to Russia, where it was to be used in the counter-revolutionary movement. The quantity involved is valued at about M. 20,000,000 (nominally L1,000,000).

Although the Government has now issued strict orders with a view to preventing such transactions, it is a matter of common talk that the smuggling of munitions and the recruiting of soldiers are proceeding energetically. It is confidently stated that the wealthy industries, such as the blast-furnace industry and the heavy industrial generally, are providing the funds for this purpose. Recruiting agents come from the Baltic provinces with blank furlough passes, issue these to the new recruits and deceive the railway officials by this means, thus getting the new troops to the frontier, where they easily evade the vigilance of the frontier posts.

The object behind this movement is said to be the restoration of the Tsarist Government, with the hope of receiving in return support for a monarchist reactionary movement in Germany.

## GEORGIAN PEOPLE'S GUARD.

### Celebration of the Anniversary.

(From "Borba").

The second anniversary of the People's Guard on December 12 was in reality a festival of democracy, a triumph of the whole population and a sincere joy.

In the satisfaction expressed by the spectators, no militaristic feelings were manifested. It was an acknowledgement of their own power, of their own capacity for creative work, their own readiness for self-defence and their faith in success.

At ten o'clock in the morning the Guards detachment and the Tiflis garrison were in line on the Rustaveli Prospect. At the same time the professional organisations and different college processions came with flying standards, some with bands playing, and were lined up on both sides of the street. Pavements, part of the street, the square in front of the palace and the balconies were crowded with people. Bands, one after another, played national hymns and military marches.

At eleven o'clock Mr. N. N. Jordania, President of the Georgian Government, accompanied by Mr. Djugheli, Chief of Staff of the People's Guard, Mr. Ramishvili, War Minister, Mr. Lomtadze, chief assistant of the president of the Constituent Assembly and some officials of the administration inspected the troops and was welcomed with cheers.

President Jordania and those who accompanied him then took their places on the platform near the palace which had been decorated with carpets and garlands and where members of the Constituent Assembly and of the government and of the staff of the People's Guard, and the diplomatic representatives of the various foreign missions in Tiflis already were.

As soon as Mr. Jordania, the head of the government, came to the platform, the music started. On a special platform near the Georgian Museum, facing the palace, were the bands and choirs under the direction of the composers, Paliashvili and Potkhverashvili. After the musical programme had been carried out, all the troops who took part in the parade passed in a ceremonious march in front of the president. They then marched through the principal streets. With bands playing, the procession took over an hour to pass.

Following the parade, a lunch took place in the Persian hall, at which members of the government and of the Constituent Assembly, representatives of the staff of the People's Guard and of the various foreign missions were present. Officers of the cavalry detachments were also invited to this lunch.

In the evening bonfires were lit in the outskirts of the town, where fireworks also took place. The funicular

railway, the palace and the Town Hall were also illuminated.

A performance of the Georgian opera, "Absalom and Esther", took place in the State Theatre. A free concert was arranged in the workmen's club where the people's band and choir performed. Lectures also took place and various performances in Georgian and Russian. At the Georgian Club a "Comrades' supper was held.

In a leading article, "Vozrojenie" says: "The day of the People's Guard is truly a joyful day, a bright triumph of all Georgia which enjoys liberty and peace, thanks, for the greater part, to the indefatigable and fruitful work of the People's Guard".

## NO U.S. SHIPMENTS TO BOLSHEVIKS.

### Soviet Policy Condemned.

The State Department, in answer to an inquiry by a Senator, announces that, while the blockade of Soviet Russia does not exist so far as the United States is concerned, no export licences will be granted for shipments to Russian territory under Bolshevik control.

This policy, it explains, is based on two considerations; first, to prevent the Bolsheviks using commercial transactions as a means of getting their gold to the United States for the purpose of revolutionary propaganda; and, secondly, because the supplies would go to the Bolshevik Government, which would use them to further its policy of extinguishing the middle class.

The announcement is important in view of the effort that the Soviet headquarters here are making to ship food to Russia under the American flag. There was reason to believe that our enemies and critics were preparing, in the event of our seizure of such shipments, to agitate in the Senate and elsewhere about another example of British maritime high-handedness. Mr. Hearst is already doing so in regard to our alleged control of imports into Ireland. The action of the State Department will steal their thunder.

### British Goods for the Near East.

Great crowds are visiting the Exhibition of the Federation of British Industries now being held in Athens. During the first week 15,000 paid for admittance.

Practically all the exhibits have been sold many times over, and there has been an especial demand for machinery and textiles of all descriptions. Business men are arriving daily in increasing numbers from Constantinople, Smyrna, and all parts of the Balkans as well as the Levant.

## Congo Ivory and Cotton.

Before the war the Ivory Market at Antwerp was attended by many Germans. Now several have sought permission to attend the approaching sales of Congo ivory, and the Minister of Justice has authorized the attendance of six Germans at the Antwerp market.

A meeting of industrialists and financiers has been held under the presidency of the Minister of the Colonies for the purpose of discussing the possibilities of cotton culture in the Congo. It was decided to form a limited liability company with a capital of £200,000 for the growing, export, and sale of cotton. The Minister of the Colonies will continue to promote the growing of cotton by the natives.

### Mr. H. J. Mackinder's Post.

#### Commissioner for South Russia.

Mr. H. J. Mackinder, M. P., has consented, at the invitation of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to undertake a temporary special mission as British High Commissioner for South Russia. Mr. Mackinder will not receive any salary, and does not therefore vacate his seat for Glasgow.

It is now officially announced that Sir Ian Malcolm has been nominated by his Majesty's Government for appointment to the directorship on the board of the Suez Canal rendered vacant by the death of the late Sir Henry Austin Lee. Sir Ian Malcolm has already resigned his seat for Croydon.

Boulogne has been mentioned in an Order of the Day. "Boulogne", says the Order, "sustained violent and murderous aerial bombardments for many months. In spite of the losses she suffered, the town kept her moral intact, and continued her activities without flinching".

It is stated that salmon to the value of nearly £300,000 has been sold at Christiania to a Norwegian company, acting on behalf of the Pan-Russian Association of Cooperative Societies, which undertakes that the fish shall be used for civilian consumption only.

Belgium is demanding the prosecution of 1,160 Germans for war crimes.

For the first time for about six months German officers, in full uniform, were seen in Cologne last month.

British troops are being sent from the Rhine to Danzig. Some of the 29th Machine Gun Corps are leaving immediately.

## 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 3 p. m.



## CHURCH OF ENGLAND

### SERVICE

SUNDAY JANUARY 4

(2nd: Sunday after Christmas).

Matins and Holy Communion 11 a. m.

At the house of the British Chief Commissioner, Sergievskala 13.

All British and Americans are invited.

H. THOMPSON.  
Chaplain to the Forces.