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Daily News

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TOUCHSTONE OF THE ENTENTE.

"HANDS OFF."

FRANCE AND MR. BONAR LAW'S MEDIATION SUGGESTION.

DANGER TO ENTENTE.

BRITISH CABINET AND THE RHINE RAILWAYS.

Britain's position on the Rhine, and Mr. Bonar Law's suggestion that the whole problem of reparations might eventually, with the consent of France, be referred to the League of Nations, is exciting bitter comment in the French Press.

The result of the London Conference, which is discussing the French demand for the use of the railways in the Cologne zone, is, says our Paris Correspondent, regarded in Paris as "the touchstone of the Entente." On the conclusions reached will depend the decision as to maintaining or withdrawing the British troops in Rhineland.

ENTENTE AT STAKE.

French Interest Centred on London Mission.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Thursday.

ANXIETY for the result of M. le Troquer's mission to London is dominant to-day.

England's answer to the French request to be allowed to use the railways through the British zone, in some quarters, and for the moment, seen as the touchstone of the Entente.

Telegrams from London so far do not encourage the belief that it will be favourable. Mr. Bonar Law's expressed desire not to put difficulties in the way of France is already being discounted.

CHANCE TO FRENCH INTERESTS.

It is pointed out that British neutrality, however benevolent in intention, will, nevertheless, in case of a refusal, cause definite and grave damage to French interests.

It is even suggested that the Government was wrong in asking permission from Great Britain at all.

The Inter-Allied Rhineland Commission, which was competent to extend to the Rhineland the embargo on exportations from the Ruhr, it is maintained, was equally competent in the matter of the railways.

FAILURE TO OBTAIN GOAL.

The failure hitherto to bring out any but the smallest quantities of coal is well recognised in industrial circles.

The "Union," representing the metal industry, says it is useless to blink the facts. Coal deliveries are entirely held up, and the coal coming through is negligible by comparison with the 150,000 tons a month which the Ruhr is capable of producing. Improvements seem a long way off, and meanwhile industry is in for a bad time.

MR. BONAR LAW CRITICISED.

The reading of the fuller reports of Mr. Bonar Law's speech produced some bitterness to-day.

"Hands off" is the reply to his hint of eventual mediation and his suggestion that France, out of consideration for her own ultimate safety, did not desire Germany to pay, is especially resented.

"Forthright" states that France has made the Treaty the right to remain on the Rhine as long as she is not safe. "The Union" asks why she should not withdraw, and asks why she should not pay for the sake of her own safety.

It is also pointed out that the interests of the British coal owners who want to sell coal to France as well as to Germany.

All common efforts for European peace and stability now seem impossible between England and France. It is a sad epitaph to the splendid brotherhood of the war days.

Germany reaching Paris from the Ruhr, according to other telegrams, state that the position is being made more and more difficult owing to the reluctance of German agents in Bonn and other industrial centres.

A German strike, including all shopkeepers and school teachers, has been announced at Bonn as a protest against the arrest of the Burgomaster.

STOP PRESS.

GERMANY'S DEFAULT.

The Reparations Committee in London yesterday considered the Note on German Reparations Commission. It is pointed out that the Committee is not in a position to recover in order that they should be sent to France and that the Committee is not in a position to recover in order that they should be sent to France and that the Committee is not in a position to recover in order that they should be sent to France.

VITAL DECISION.

Question of Withdrawal From the Rhine.

From Our Diplomatic Correspondent.

M. le Troquer, with General Payot and Comte, St. Aubert, began their discussion on Rhineland communications with Mr. Bonar Law, Lord Curzon, and Lord Darcy, yesterday morning.

Strict pledges were given that no statement of the nature and course of the negotiations should be made on either side.

The conversations will be resumed to-day. Their main importance to this country lies in the fact that on the conclusions reached will depend the decision as to maintaining or withdrawing the British troops in the Rhineland.

H. W. H.

THE TUG OF WAR.

Issue of the Struggle With German Workers.

From Our Special Correspondent, NORMAN VENN.

BONNEN, Thursday.

The ultimate issue of the struggle in the Ruhr depends now almost entirely upon the attitude of the German workers.

The State has done everything that is possible to cause friction between the workers and the French, and the latter are now concentrating their efforts to divide the workers and the employers.

The beginning of unemployment on a wide scale is bound to affect the situation critically in the near future.

German officials, whose pensions and salaries are assured by the Reich, are willing to continue their resistance, but with the mass of the workers it is a different matter. The latter must have work, and they are also very anxious that the Ruhr shall not be ruined as an industrial centre.

Both in occupied and unoccupied Germany unemployment, with its consequent misery, is increasing, and there are workers who say that the Ruhr's attitude of resistance will last only so long as they can find employment.

There is a growing feeling that the support given by the French to the officials should be extended to the workers.

CHANGING POSITION.

Düsseldorf, Wednesday Night.

The situation in such centres as Düsseldorf and Essen is becoming more and more chaotic.

To-night all telephone communication between Düsseldorf and Holland is cut off owing to the strike of 500 German telephonists, and there is a danger that to-morrow all the postmen will cease work.

The amenities of life are gradually disappearing, as the struggle between the invaders and the German officials and workers in all departments of the Ruhr becomes more intense.

The banks are refusing to change French money, and—as in the case of hotels, restaurants, and shops—the French military authorities threaten to close them altogether.

The first serious effect of the blockade of the Ruhr was seen to-day, when some 2,000 steel and wire workers received notices terminating their engagements owing to the shortage of coke.

STINNES IN BERLIN.

Counter-Measures Against French Embargo.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BERLIN, Thursday.

Governmental circles here understand that the British troops on the Rhine will be withdrawn once a suitable pretext is found, as their presence in the Rhineland might, it is said, endanger the good relations of Great Britain and France.



M. le Troquer (left), the French Minister of Public Works, and the French Ambassador arriving at 10, Downing-street yesterday.

SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT.

"DAILY NEWS" ARTICLES.

The Liberal Party in Parliament is urging that the questions of security, reparations, and disarmament should be referred to the League of Nations, and the only means of stopping the growth of armaments in Europe.

The most striking and sinister fact in the world to-day is that there are more armed men in Europe than there were in 1918. What is the cause of this increase? Fear.

It is in order that the British public may fully understand the implications of this grave fact.

The "Daily News" has arranged to publish a series of articles by men of eminence dealing from different angles with the whole subject of military disarmament.

ANOTHER WORLD WAR.

What does this new competition in armaments actually mean to us all? It means in the first place that if we ourselves are not confronted with the huge cost of another world war our children certainly will be overthrown by the disaster. But it also means, unless this race is stopped by universal agreement, that the present generation must prepare to meet the cost of a world war.

Now many people realise that at the present time Europe is spending £2,000,000,000 a year more upon armaments than it was before the war.

It is this enormous expenditure of money which is the cause of the present world war, and it is this expenditure which is the cause of the present world war.

The main cause of the present world war is the lack of security.

The way out of the Ruhr is the provision of security. Security can only be provided through the League of Nations.

THE CHANCE FOR PEACE.

Plans for this are now ready which, if they have the force of public opinion behind them, can be transformed into action.

If by September next the League of Nations gives a clear and definite mandate we may then go forward to peace and security.

It is not, as it is so often said, that beyond all hope into conditions of chaos, but it is the conditions which have prevailed since the war.

The "Daily News" articles, the first of which, by Dr. Gilbert Murray, will appear to-morrow, should leave the people of this country under no misapprehension as to the reality of the issues involved.

FRANCE'S FEARS.

Skeleton of a Formidable German Army.

PARIS, Thursday.

The Senate this afternoon began to discuss the Bill passed by the Chamber fixing 18 months as the period of military service.

General Bourgeois explained that this period was the very minimum consistent with the security of France.

While France occupied the Ruhr she had nothing to fear, but the bad faith of Germany rendered the future disquieting.

Although the German Army was reduced to 100,000 men it was distributed in 21 camps in different regions and constituted the real skeleton of a formidable army for the day when Germany wished to attempt her revenge.

In order that France might dominate Germany from the military point of view it was important that she should appear in time of peace, without calling classes to the colours, to assure the occupation of the Rhineland and any coercive measures that were necessary.

EX-HARROW BOY TRAGEDY.

SHOOTS HIMSELF AFTER TRAMP FOR WORK.

A moving story of the privations of a 19-year-old man, educated at Harrow, and for two years afterwards a student at an agricultural college, was told at a Plymouth, Plymouth, inquest yesterday.

Through force of circumstances, it was stated, he had tramped from Orpington (Kent) to Plymouth, in search of work. On Wednesday morning he was found dead in his bedroom at a farm, where he was in temporary employment, with a revolver in his hand, and a bullet wound in the forehead.

Johnson left two letters, one addressed to his mother, which, at the coroner's desire, was not opened, and the other to the wife of his employer.

To the latter, by which it was stated, "I have been very happy to be in your service, and I am sorry to hear of your loss."

"Though I was in your service for only a short time, I have been very happy to be in your service, and I am sorry to hear of your loss."

The coroner, mentioning where the man had been educated, said that although the employment was temporary there was no question of his being turned out.

Verdict: "Suicide, whilst of unsound mind."

Johnson had lived with his mother at Aynscombe, Aynscombe, Orpington, Kent, before coming to Devon.

"WE ARE GOING TO DROWN."

LAST WIRELESS MESSAGE FROM BRITISH SHIP.

From Our Own Correspondent.

NEW YORK, Thursday.

"Ship breaking up. We are going to drown."

This was the last wireless message sent out to-day from the British freighter Tuscan Prince, a vessel of 5,250 tons belonging to the Furness Withy Co. (London), Newcastle.

The vessel went ashore in a terrific gale between Seattle and San Francisco. She sailed from the latter place on Saturday. She was bound from the Tyne to Vancouver.

AFIRE AND RUDDERLESS.

The gales are imperilling Atlantic and Pacific shipping.

An American freighter, the Santa Rita, is sinking. The steamer, which is 4,000 tons, is being driven rudderless and after before the storm.

An Italian steamer, the Moncalvo, 1,000 tons, is reported aground 300 miles off Cape Henry.

"KID" LEWIS BEATEN.

At the Albert Hall last night Roland Todd, of Doncaster, defeated "Kid" Lewis on points over 30 rounds, and therefore won the European, British, and British Empire middle-weight championships. (Fred Garinell's Special on Page Three.)

POLISH WAR CLOUD.

Authoritative circles in London, under the impression of the situation in Poland and Lithuania in regard to Vilna.

The French Chamber yesterday adopted a bill authorising advances up to £5,000,000 to the Polish Government.

Yesterday, at Kovno, says Reuter, declares that Polish Regulars have occupied Pinsk in the northern zone. The Lithuanian Government has addressed an urgent appeal to the Council of the League of Nations to prevent any extension of the conflict.

FRENCH COAL CRISIS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Thursday.—Following the report of the National Council of the mine workers (a joint hands with it, the committee of the United Federation, representing the extreme section last night issued an order for a general strike in the French coalfields.

WORLD CRUISE.

The Royal Cruising Club Challenge Cup, awarded for the best cruise in any waters in any one vessel, has this year been awarded to Mr. G. H. P. Mullin, for a cruise round the world in the 54-ton auxiliary yacht Anarchy.

NEW LIFE CULT.

FOR "HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT."

FEASTS AND FASTS.

PSYCHIC EXAMINATION AND MUSIC.

From Our Special Correspondent, E. G. BOWYER.

FOUNTAINHEAD, Thursday.

THE Company of the Harmonious Development, members of the interesting community which I described yesterday, may be divided into three categories.

At the moment the majority of the students are in the first and most important group—those who have placed themselves in the hands of the "master," Gurdjieff, and obey his instructions implicitly in their progress towards perfection.

The other two categories, broadly speaking, consist of interested visitors and those who desire to follow only a partial training.

TWO STAGES.

Students in the first group pass through two stages—one a general and the second an individual instruction.

On entering the settlement each is subject to a medical examination of a particularly thorough kind, including physiological, psychological, and psychic characteristics.

If or she is kept under strict medical supervision during the period of general instruction, and the "historical record" of the individual is often not complete until nearly the end of this period, which lasts about 12 months.

I was given one of these records, which are extremely detailed. Much importance is attached, for example, to the size, shape, and general condition of the "mouth cavity."

This system is rendered necessary by the nature of the instruction given by Mr. Gurdjieff, who, believing in the value of many Eastern methods, while rejecting others, may enjoin upon an advanced student a fast of as much as three or four months.

About a month ago he asked for volunteers for a fast. Fifteen students responded and went without food for a period, under medical care, while continuing to perform their usual heavy manual labour.

WILL CULTIVATION.

Mr. Gurdjieff's methods are catholic. He uses Eastern and Western ideas without the least prejudice in favour of one or the other.

"If it is good, I use it," he says. "If it is bad, I do not use it." "The good" is like a "distillate" of nothing to me when considering such matters.

Thus, while he instructs many of his pupils to practise concentration and the cultivation of the will, he also instructs them to perform their usual heavy manual labour.

Married quarters are provided in the settlement, and I saw several children happily busy in the garden, for Gurdjieff recognises a truth often forgotten in modern schools—"children learn by work."

And the youngsters, who at the same time receive instruction in ordinary subjects on a system laid down by the Master, are allowed to work as hard as they like in the grounds.

They are constantly under medical supervision, however, like other students here, and skilled doctors are constantly on the watch against signs of over-exertion.

MUSICAL EXERCISES.

Music forms an important part in the life of the settlement, and Mr. Gurdjieff has evolved a system of exercises containing over 6,000 different movements.

These must all be performed to music, most of which has been composed by him, with the assistance of Professor de Hartmann, a musician who is a member of the colony.

The elementary exercises are designed to give physical results only, but as the student progresses they become symbolic.

Mr. Gurdjieff does not wish to keep his pupils with him when they have reached a certain stage of development. After the period of general instruction, during the early part of which the pupil may never be in personal contact with the Master, comes the individual teaching, and rapid progress is then usually made towards a point at which the pupil may leave Gurdjieff, and pursue a further course through life unaided.

Gurdjieff's hospitality is Eastern in its lavishness.

For one day each student is treated as a visitor to the settlement, and is entertained by the Master. The next he commences the arduous life of preparation which I have outlined.

WONDERFUL FEASTS.

This life, however, is occasionally interrupted by wonderful feasts in the "Gurdjieffs," at which students are the guests of their chief. Such a banquet was held on Jan. 12—the Russian New Year.

Lack of means, it would appear, is no bar to the genuine aspirant, and in some cases students are admitted without payment.

STRUCK ON SOLAR PLEXUS.

R.A.F. GOALKEEPER KILLED BY A FOOTBALL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

SALISBURY, Thursday.

KEEPING goal for an R.A.F. football team from Netheravon against Old Sarum, on the latter team's ground near Salisbury this afternoon, Serge George Guy was struck in the pit of the stomach by a long-distance shot from left wing.

He saved the shot and cleared the ball, but a few seconds afterwards fell to the ground. Artificial respiration was tried without success, and on removal to Salisbury Infirmary he was found to be dead, and the game was abandoned.

Dr. Weston, R.A.F. Medical Officer, at the inquest this evening said death was caused by a blow on the solar plexus. The pathology of that particular portion of the nervous system was not thoroughly understood at present, but in special cases, especially on a full stomach, death could result from such a blow.

The verdict was "Accidental death."

U.S. DEBT VOTE.

A Democratic Irreconcilable's Anti-British Speech.

WASHINGTON, Thursday.

The Senate has formally agreed that the vote on the British Debt Funding Bill shall be taken to-morrow. Senator Reed, who is a Democratic Irreconcilable, made a fiery speech in which he assailed Britain and those believing that the United States ought to be more lenient with her debtors.

He said he did not believe that forcible measures would be needed, but declared he would do "what other nations did to get their dues." He referred to "proceedings of other nations not far from our shores, which could be taken within 24 hours."—Exchange.

MR. HOGGE'S TWO WHIPS.

Mr. J. M. Hogge, M.P., has decided to support the Whip of the National Liberals as well as that of the Independent Liberals. About half a dozen Liberal M.P.s now support the Whip of both groups.

Mrs. Aladdin's Slip

Simple little Mrs. Aladdin was taken in by Abanazar's flashy gilt lamps, but luckily it all came right in the end. It does—in fairy stories.

Some men are dazzled, to their later regret, by bright offers in clothing. But the wise ones plump for King-Tailoring—particularly during the Stewart Once-a-Year Sale period. They know that here is the real thing. Clothes that look good and are good. And that is the top value in the Kingdom.

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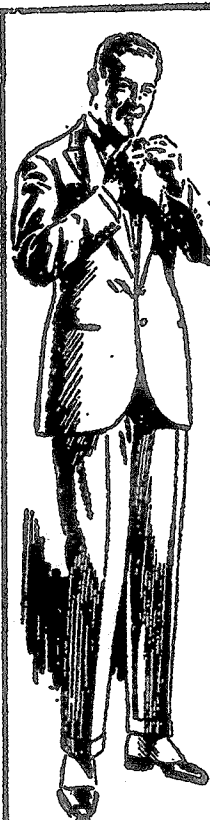
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