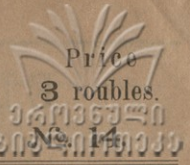


THE GEORGIAN MAIL

Wednesday
5 November, 1919.

TIFLIS.

Editorial Office: Kolubanskaia street, № 9.



Edited by SCOTLAND LIDDELL.

BOLSHEVIK PLOT IN GEORGIA.

Attempt to Overthrow the Government.

There has just been brought to light a Bolshevik plot to overthrow the Georgian Government. For some time past the Georgian authorities have been actively coping with the Bolshevik danger. Although numerous agents and agitators have been rounded up it was known that a considerable amount of propaganda was still being carried on in different parts of the state.

Following several unsuccessful attempts in the beginning of October, a general rising was planned to take place on October 24. Fortunately the authorities were prepared for it and the Bolshevik plot was a failure.

The following official communique on the matter has been issued by Mr. Ramishvili, the Georgian Minister of the Interior:

"In the first days of May, the Ministry of the Interior was notified that the Soviet government had despatched from Moscow to Georgia several prominent agents with large sums of money, and charged them to provoke a war between Georgia-Azerbaijan and General Denikin. From this time the agitation of the communists in the towns and villages increased, particularly from the moment when it was stated that the Georgian Republic would not be caught in a corner by the Bolsheviks and would not interfere in the internal affairs of other states or in the civil war in Russia.

Preparing the Ground.

"According to instructions received from Moscow, the Caucasian Committee of the Russian Party of Communists (the Bolsheviks) started to prepare the ground for the throwing over of the Constituent Assembly of the republic and of the government elected by it, by means of a revolt. With this object in view, they availed themselves of the foreign elements remaining within the limits of the republic, who are aspiring to the re-establishment of the domination of Russia, and who with equal energy support the camp of Ge-

neral Denikin and the forces of the Bolsheviks.

"The communists got into communication with deserters and robbers in different parts of the country. This has been definitely affirmed from the moment that they drew to them and invited as a terrorist the well-known robber, Paichadze, the murderer of the British doctor in Tiflis. And this was further confirmed at the time of the arrest of the Bolshevik, Dmitri Dgorbenadze, in the district of Tionet, on whom was found a list of the supporters of Bolshevism, the great majority of whom proved to have been recruited from robbers, some of whom were local and some of whom had escaped from the prison of Doushet.

"A Revolutionary Tint".

"In order to communicate to the anti-republican movement and to the openly treacherous activity a revolutionary tint, the country committee of the Bolsheviks aspired to enlarge their influence among the workmen, chiefly in the sphere of the economic situation, and started also to look for supporters in the rank and file of the army and among the national guard. Having this in view, they summoned on August 19 in Tiflis, the capital of the republic, a provincial conference, and in September, in the district of Ratchinsk, a conference of the Kutais province. At these conferences they formed military technical commissions and charged them to organise, at a fixed date, throughout the whole of the state, a general riot for the overthrow of the democratic organisation. Corresponding measures were taken for the interruption of this treacherous activity.

"On October 1 in Tiflis there was arrested George Kalandadze, on whom was found a protocol of the sitting of the local organisation. It appeared from this protocol that they were preparing a general rising in the immediate future. This was confirmed on October 4 when the whole of the Gouriyski military-technical commission were

arrested in Khidistavi-place. The beginning of the riot had been fixed for October 4.

Arrests.

"At this time the well-known leaders of the rising were arrested—Sasha Gegetchkori, the leader of the Doushet and Lechkhum risings, Agniashvili, Gakskia, and the chauffeur, Kalandadze, who, by information gathered, participated with Elbakidze (since shot dead) in the bomb attempt on General Baratov. This act of terrorism itself aimed at the bringing about of an attack by General Denikin on Georgia in order to promote the realisation of the strategic plan of the Moscow rulers.

"There was also arrested the treasurer of the Bolshevik committee of the province, the former commissar of the Tersky district, Elerdashvili. After this the Bolsheviks were compelled to postpone the date of the rising till a later day.

"On October 14, at half past nine in the evening, the Bolsheviks organised an armed rising in the town of Sukhum. Several Bolsheviks, disguised in soldiers uniforms, broke into the quarters of the 7th. company of the local regiment, where there were many deserters just brought from the Zugdid district. The rebels tried to break into the ammunition store, but thanks to the measures taken by the artillery division and detachments of the People's Guard the attempt proved to be in vain and the rebels surrendered to the authorities. Those who took part in the rising gave up on the spot their organisers, among whom several well-known Bolsheviks have been arrested. Complete order was restored in an hour.

General Rising Organised.

"After the failure of the Sukhum rising, the Bolshevik committee of the province decided to organise a general simultaneous rising on October 24. According to the news received by the ministry, it was learned that the leaders of the ri-

sing that was to be organised were meeting in room no. 15 in the Hotel Aurora in Tiflis. On October 21 there was arrested one of the leaders of the rising, Iiko Mgeladze, (formerly known under the name of "Kovogly"—a swindler.) There were also detained in the same place *praporschik* Sukhishashvili, Shaknazarov, the former soldier Pitchkhaia—the friend and the right hand of Gakhokia. At the arrest there was found on them a map of Tiflis, from which it is clear that the Bolshevik rising was planned to take place simultaneously in several parts of the town. Besides these men, there was also arrested the ex-officer Talakhadze, also one of the leaders of the rising.

"On the same day, October 21, in the town of Doushet, was arrested Takoev, a native of the Tersky region, on whom was found the order of the day of the communist conference of the district with a general plan of the rising. On October 18 the Bolshevik conference of the district was arrested in Telav. Among those captured were Anshrov, Motzonelidze, Bakuradze, Tzintzabadze and others.

The Bolshevik Plan.

"After this, the Bolsheviks from Tiflis succeeded in creating there one more organisation which worked out a plan of the rising, according to which the chiefs of the army and of the People's Guard were to be arrested and the Post and Telegraph offices and other state institutions were to be occupied. In spite of the measures taken by the government, they succeeded in several places, chiefly in the suburbs, in organising a rising with quite inconsiderable forces.

"On October 24 at 4 o'clock in the morning, a band of about thirty Bolsheviks broke into the village of Lagodekhi, occupied the Post and Telegraph office and the public buildings, and seized the local power. This band was composed of Bolsheviks and of elements foreign to the republic who are the open defender of Denikin and who are enforcing his army. A clash occurred with a little group of the frontier detachment in which one of the Bolsheviks was killed as was one soldier who was on guard at the ammunition store.

(Concluded on page 3).

EDITORIAL.

General Brough's Departure.

On Sunday, October 26, a special farewell dinner was given in the Orient Hotel to General Brough by Mr. Tchintchinadze, the Minister of Ways and Communications, and all the high officials of the Georgian railway administration. General Brough, as head of the British Railway Mission in Trans-Caucasia, had made himself extremely popular in that capacity. High tributes were paid to him by all the speakers, whose remarks were translated into English by Mr. Ghambashidze, who presided at the dinner.

Georgian Railways Future.

In addressing the company, General Brough expressed his admiration of the railway administration in Georgia and of the manner in which they had succeeded in running a regular railway service in spite of all technical difficulties, lack of vital supplies of railway material, and with no facilities for repairing engines. He foreshadowed the future of the Trans-Caucasian railway as an international highway and as one of the most important avenues for western trade with the Middle East. The company included the War Minister, Mr. Ramishvili, and General Guedevanov, the Commander-in-Chief.

The Kuban.

A special Georgian delegation in charge of General Odishelidze and including Mr. Topuridze and Prince Toumanov, is shortly going to Ekaterinodar to enter into economic relations with the Kuban republic. The Kuban republic is having a desperate struggle with the Volunteer Army at present. General Denikin is at present blockading the Kuban, one of the richest states in the North Caucasus, because the Kuban republic refuses to abandon its self-governing institutions for the sake of a nebulous central government.

Missions.

The American Mission, with Colonel Rhea at the head, has left Tiflis for Erivan from where it will proceed to Nakhitchevan for the installing of the American governor of the neutral zone there. A special French naval mission is visiting the Trans-Caucasian states. There is also here at present a representative of the French Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the purpose of organising commercial relations between the Trans-Caucasus and France.

And Another Mission.

Which, by the way, shall be nameless.... But is it not really very funny that one of the Allied "Missions" has lately been in the habit of importing quite a considerable quantity of German goods to Trans-Caucasia? We fancy that all right-minded Georgians will view this with disfavour. The Caucasian republics are in need of help for the time being, and they have no use for those who come here simply to help themselves and the ex-enemy on the peace treaty with whom the ink is scarcely yet dry. It is all very funny—but it is all very sad.

Manganese.

In conformity with the armistice clauses, the Georgian government is speedily liquidating two huge German concerns in manganese, the undertakings at Tchiatoury, which are going to be bought by the Georgian Government. By this action, one of the principal sources of the supply of manganese to Germany will be cut off.

Latest News.

The Georgian peace delegates in Paris have had a long audience with Clemenceau. The Russian State Bank at Batoum has been taken over by the British Trade Corporation. We regret to report that Mrs. Haskell, when on her way to Paris with Colonel Haskell, fell seriously ill at Constantinople where she is now remaining under special medical attention.

"Askhatavor".

We do not know whether "Askhatavor" is grateful to us or not, but it ought to be, for we have certainly provided this paper with other topics on which to write besides the monotonous reporting of all the "evil deeds" of the Mussulman. We continue to have brickbats thrown at our head. There has not yet been any reply to our original article in which we accused this paper's Erivan brother of gross falsehood and stupid mis-statements of fact. But "Askhatavor's" opinion of our past has been published. Not altogether complimentary, of course, but no matter. Our most serious crime seems to be that we are not serious-minded, but in these days that is a distinct blessing. Otherwise we might not get so much amusement from "Askhatavor" as we do.

The Georgian Club.

We spent an evening in the Georgian Club last week. But it was a new club to us. Now that the cooler weather has come the open-air restaurant has been closed and the club has reopened its winter quarters. One misses chiefly the kaleidoscopic passing crowd of the garden. One misses the wonderfully interesting stream of folk that paraded past one's table in the warm summer evenings. The winter quarters are quieter, duller indeed, but they are very cosy and they are a boon to strangers in the town. One has no need to fret away a solitary evening in a hotel room when one can pass one's time so pleasantly in the club.

S. L.

Denikin and Daghestan.

The Declaration of Colonel Rowlandson.

The United Medjhlis of the Mountaineers of the Caucasus addressed to Mr. Oliver Wardrop, the High Commissary of Great Britain in the Caucasus, a protest regarding the declaration of Colonel Rowlandson, British Representative at General Denikin's, to the Mountaineers.

The United Medjhlis express their feeling of deep perplexity referring to the incorrect, and inadmissible from the point of view of international ethics, act of the British representative regarding the Mountaineer people in the moment of the greatest tension of their forces in the struggle for national freedom and state independence. The United Medjhlis of the Mountaineers are keenly protesting against the statement of Colonel Rowlandson that the riot of the Mountaineers is not a national movement, but a Bolshevik one, and point out that the Colonel is more than any other Englishman aware of the character and aims of the actual movement in the mountains, because at the time of the domination of Bolsheviks in the North Caucasus he remained during the Autumn of 1918 with other British representatives at Vladikavkaz and only owing to the energetic armed interference of the Ingoushi (The Ingoushi defending the British have even fought against an armoured motor-car of the Bolsheviks) and other representatives of the Mountaineer people in this town, the members of the British Mission were saved and Colonel Rowlandson himself had the possibility with the aid of these same

Ingoushi to escape from the Bolsheviks.

Further it is pointed out in the protest that Colonel Rowlandson has been the British representative at the Government of the Republic of the Union of the Mountaineers and was so highly trusted that he was named the Commander-in-Chief of the Mountaineer forces.

The accusation of the Mountaineers in being Bolsheviks, as stated further in the protest, is an old and favourite way of General Denikin to justify his aggressions and cast a shadow on the aspirations of the Mountaineers to national self-definition and state independence. The appropriation of this faulty point of view by a British officer and an open accusation thrown by him in the face of the Mountaineer people points out, according to the views of the Medjhlis, that Colonel Rowlandson gives evidence of insufficient impartiality and is under an exclusive influence of the reactionary circles of the Volunteer Army hostile to the Mountaineers.

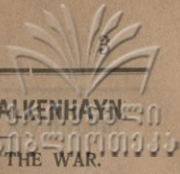
The protest is concluded by the statement that the declaration of Colonel Rowlandson and his open interference in the struggle of the Mountaineer people of the Caucasus with the reactionary Russian forces are not apt to assist the reinforcement and raise the prestige and authority of the United Kingdom among the people of the Caucasus.

The United Medjhlis ask Mr. Oliver Wardrop to notify to the British Government in London the deep feeling of indignation of the Mountaineer people regarding the inadmissible appeal of Colonel Rowlandson to the population of the North Caucasian Republic.

GIRLS AS EXECUTIONERS.

STOCKHOLM, Friday.

Professor Guido Schneider, who has arrived here from Riga, and who been a victim and eye-witness of the Bolshevik terror in Riga, in a public lecture which he gave yesterday, disclosed many terrible details of the occupation. He said that within a short period 13,632 persons, men, women, and children, were shot in Riga. The victims were stripped of their clothes and dragged out with bare feet into the snow-covered, blood-soaked prison yard. The Bolshevik executioners, intoxicated and unable to aim, hit the legs and stomachs of the unfortunate victims, laughing at their agonies, which sometimes lasted a whole day and night. Young girls, elegantly dressed, volunteered as executioners, and coquettishly promenading up and down with rifles, fired at the unfortunate prisoners.



BOLSHEVIK PLOT IN GEORGIA.

Attempt to Overthrow the Government.

(Continued from page 1).

One officer and one militia-man were severely wounded. The bandits took possession of the ammunition store and seized 150 rifles and several cases of cartridges. They were sure that the government in Tiflis would fall the same night and that the power in the whole of the republic would pass into the hands of the Bolsheviks, but when it turned out that all was quiet in Tiflis, and when the reports of the despatch of the People's Guard reached them, the robbers dispersed. At the present time all is quiet in the Lagodekhi region.

The Rising in Poti.

"In the town of Poti, on October 23, at eight in the evening, a secret meeting of the local Bolsheviks took place. At this meeting it was decided to rebel early on the following morning and to seize the local power. Those who were to take the chief part in the rising were the sailors and the inhabitants of the village of Nabada. The leaders of the rising were arrested. Among them were one former officer and the head of the military ship, Makalatia. Altogether a hundred men were made prisoners. A prominent role in the organisation of the rising was played by the Professional Union of Sailors, which has already been closed by order of the government.

"On October 24 armed risings of Bolshevik bands took place in Samtredi, Koolashi and the village Goobi, of the company of Kuhy. In Samtredi the culprits were arrested. The band entered Koolashi from the village Maranni and occupied several institutions. By taking measures order was re-established in half an hour. Twenty-four bandits were arrested, and the remainder, about twenty-four men, fled in the direction of the river Tskhenis-Tskhali. Fifteen rifles and one case of cartridges were taken away. In the village of Goobi, the rebels, marching with a communist flag at their head, disarmed the militia-men and several citizens. Order, however, was re-established. Ten men were arrested and the remainder, about forty, hid themselves.

"In the Bolshevik rising in the village of Sachelao the commissar was wounded. With the help of the guard of the Abasha and Khoni regions the rising was liquidated and the culprits were arrested. In the Marany Company (of the Senaky district) a Bolshevik rising of thirty men took place. They wounded the manager of the ad-

ministration and occupied the post and telegraph office. Six of them were arrested and order was restored by prompt measures.

Russians and Chinese.

"In the Koolashy company, near the church of the Crucifixion, appeared a band of sixty men, forty of whom were armed. Among them were Russians and Chinese. The latter, speaking broken Russian, said, "If you give us money we won't shoot". At the house of the wife of one of the arrested men was found a letter from her husband in which he wrote to her: "Sell everything in Poti. Go to Kutais. Call at the place I pointed out to you and you will receive a thousand roubles monthly".

"Rumours were spread among the people that a revolution had taken place in Tiflis, that Poti had been taken by the Bolsheviks, that the Bolshevik troops had come to the station Kvaloni, and the like. The greater number of the members of the rebellious bands are known to the people as professional robbers. There have also been arrested the real instigators of the rebellion, who were pointed out by those who took part in the rising. The latter affirmed that they had received arms from them and that they acted according to directions of the meeting called by the Bolsheviks.

"Not far from Doushet on October 24 at four o'clock in the morning, an attack was made on the Bazalety commissariat. Four militia-men were disarmed. Cross shooting continued for about fifteen minutes, after which the rebels were dispersed. Six of the assailants and six others who participated in the plot have been arrested. In other places, in spite of the energetic Bolshevik campaign, there have been no risings. At the present time full order has been re-established everywhere throughout the republic.

Punishment for Rebels.

"The majority of the rebels and their leaders have been arrested, and the strictest measures are being taken for the capture of the remainder. A special enquiry is being made into the rising. All the participants in the rebellion will be brought to trial and they will receive the punishment they deserve.

"During these Bolshevik risings it has been definitely proved that the people are the true defenders of the democratic government and that they will not fall into the snares laid for them by the bribed agents of foreign states".

Now all is quiet in Georgia, but people shudder to think of what would have been had the Bolshevik plot met with success.

A Suggestion.

We congratulate the Government on the success of their action against the Bolsheviks who attempted to throw peaceful Georgia into a state of chaos and disaster. We need not comment further, but we would like to suggest that Erivan Square would be a very good place to erect the gallows.

The Batoum Question.

A leading article in "Obnovlenie" comments on the note of Mr. Gegetchkori to Mr. Wardrop. It says that the responsible political representative of Great Britain cannot remain an indifferent onlooker regarding the Batoum tragedy. His main task is to regulate the lately troubled life of the states of Trans-Caucasia.

In view of the unjust estimation of the political events made by the British Command in Batoum, a situation has been created that gives many troubles to Georgian circles. Denikin's agents are at the head of the administration in this region. However, we thought that later on this province would be handed over to Georgia. The policy of the actual heads of the Volunteer Army is similar to that during the Tzar's regime. The Allied Powers would hardly find it advantageous that a Russian state exist at the gates of Persia, Mesopotamia and India. Georgia in any case will defend her independence. The note of Gegetchkori gives a clear picture of the behaviour of Denikin's supporters in a Georgian town. The High representative of the King of Great Britain must see now that there are other means to put an end to the Batoum *epopée* as well as to expel the unasked "administrators" of Denikin.

The resolution of the Paris Conference is not to be awaited. This is an urgent question because Trans-Caucasia cannot live on a volcano. And if the High British Commissioner will take notice of this and if his voice be heard by Denikin's agents, Georgia will escape the storm which is being prepared by the Batoum business men from the Volunteer Army.

Swedish Legation Sacked by the Bolsheviks.

It is announced from Stockholm that the Swedish Foreign Department has issued a communiqué confirming the report that the Swedish Legation and Consular Offices in Petrograd have been sacked by the Bolshevik authorities who have confiscated all valuables, also sacking the private apartments of the Swedish minister. The total value of the goods is, according to a Bolshevik statement, 12 million roubles. The Government is sending a protest.

GENERAL FALKENHAYN

BOOK ON THE WAR.

"The Supreme Army Command from 1914 to 1916, in its Most Important Decisions", is the title of a book appearing shortly, in which General von Falkenhayn surveys the events of the war from his appointment as Chief of the General Staff until his retirement on July 29, 1916. General von Falkenhayn writes that on assuming the post of Chief of the General Staff in the middle of September, 1914, he found himself confronted with a highly critical military position. He had from the first to wrestle with not inconsiderable difficulties and frequent differences in his own camp. His relations with the Commanders-in-Chief in the East, namely, Hindenburg and Ludendorff, were in particular by no means without friction.

The writer then deals with the sanguinary battles in Champagne and Artois in the spring of 1915, and the preparations for a break through by the Gorlice-Tarnow campaign against Serbia. The book for the first time throws light on the considerations moving the Supreme Army Command in its decision to proceed against either Belfort or Verdun, and the choice of Verdun for attack.

General von Falkenhayn describes at length the violence and terribly costly character of the struggle for this fortress. The battle of the Somme and the unprecedented scale on which artillery, ammunition, and men were used are also dealt with. The writer criticises Austria-Hungary's small power of resistance, which, he says, again and again proved fatal whenever her armies were not strengthened by German troops. Austria-Hungary's acting on her own account frequently, he remarks, led to defeats, or at least to miscarriages. He points out that he urgently dissuaded the Austrians from launching the unsuccessful offensive in the South Tyrol in 1916.

Dealing at length with the German Government's foreign policy, he complains of its failure to adopt his proposals in 1915 for the inauguration of peace negotiations with Russia. He likewise blames it for its considerable delay in beginning the U boat war, whereby he argues the German people were deprived of a sure and effective weapon.

The N. Russian Advance.

A message from Archangel says that a fortnight after the departure of the Allies the Russians have proved to be able to take the initiative and advance. It is now anticipated that with the arrival of the Serbian and Czecho-Slovak troops the northern regions will not only defend themselves but also spare troops for the other sections.

BOLSHEVIK HORRORS.

Outrages at Poltava.

POLTAVA, Sept. 4 (delayed).

A Jewess called Rosa, between 22 and 25 years of age, whose surname was not known at Poltava, was the prosecutor of the Chresvychaika during a great part of the Bolsheviki occupation of Poltava. She herself shot in cold blood with a revolver no fewer than seven anti-Bolsheviks and civilian prisoners. Eighty per cent. of the Chresvychaika consisted of young Jews.

I interviewed a Russian lady in whose flat was billeted the president of the Bolsheviki military revolutionary tribunal. He was a bepowdered young Russian, addicted to drugs, who indulged in cocaine orgies nightly with a companion. The Bolsheviks were always boasting among themselves of the sums which they had obtained by blackmail and by raids in the countryside. The peasants in the surrounding country were threatened with death or crushing taxation as counter-revolutionaries unless they denounced the landowners and demanded the passing of the death sentence on them. In the larger villages huge levies were made. One of them, for instance, was mulcted to the extent of 70,000 roubles. Grain was confiscated wherever it was found. Peasant girls wishing to marry into another district were not allowed the customary dowries of cows and linen, inasmuch as according to the Bolsheviks these were common property. The Bolsheviks on evacuating Poltava threatened to shoot all males between 15 and 45 unless they accompanied them.

There was no limit to the exactions of the Bolsheviks. The very oldest inhabitants, and even the sick, had to buy themselves from forced labour. Families of six and eight persons were either evicted from their homes altogether, or were left with one or two rooms, while the other was occupied by the Communists and their women-kind. The most refined ladies and girls were arrested and imprisoned for weeks with the lowest class of criminals and the prostitutes. Every kind of property was seized "for the needs of the Red army", though it included ladies' hats, dresses, and underclothes. —*Reuter's Special Service.*

M. Poincaré's Future.

M. Poincaré, in a letter addressed to the President of the District Council of Bar-le-Duc, says: "If in the future I am again called to represent the department of the Meuse, I shall consider myself obliged to accept. In any case, in the Chamber or elsewhere, I shall always do my best to be useful to the country". This would be the first occasion on which a former President of the Republic had stood as candidate in the General Elections.

The Cause of High Prices.

At the French National Congress of Co-operative Societies, M. Albert Thomas, ex-minister of munitions read a resolution pointing out the necessity of telling the country the truth about the real causes of the high prices of things. The resolution reads thus:—"Everything is dear on account of many reasons concerned with the war,—the exhaustion of stocks, the lack of workers, the decrease in production, the disorganisation of transport and the inflation of paper-money. The first thing to be frankly admitted is that the situation cannot be again the same as in pre-war times".

Mines Make a Four Years' Voyage.

In a paper read before the French Academy of Sciences, the Prince of Monaco said that considerable numbers of mines laid in the early part of the war had been carried by the Gulf Stream through the Channel and the Bay of Biscay along the Portuguese coast, and thence to the Canary Islands, the West Indies, the Azores and back to European waters after a journey lasting four years. These mines constitute a permanent danger along the course of the Gulf Stream. The cold stream running from Newfoundland down to the United States coast appears to protect the American coasts.

Paying the Occupying Armies.

The Allied Supreme Council met under the presidency of M. Clemenceau and examined the important question of the expenditure entailed by the occupation of German territory by the Allied Armies.

By the terms of the Versailles treaty the payments to be made by Germany should be appropriated in the first place to meeting the expense of the occupation. The questions therefore, is to reduce these expenses as much as possible while maintaining at the same time adequate forces of occupation. Another point is to determine whether or not the principle of appropriating the German instalments first to the expenditure of occupation should be maintained without compromise.

British Soldier Gives Life for Germans.

Private Boulton, 23rd Battalion Royal Fusiliers, attached R.A.S.C., was bathing recently in the Rhine at Rodenkereten, near Cologne. Seeing two Germans in distress, he swam to their aid, and made a gallant attempt to assist them to safety. Boulton was drowned. The Commander-in-Chief Sir William Robertson has expressed his appreciation of this act of bravery and his sorrow at the loss of a gallant life.

"Inglorious Victor of Fiume" French Authors' Letter.

The feud in the French Literary fraternity provoked by d'Annunzio's exploit in Fiume is growing wider. Dissension has already split French authors into two camps, one group of well known writers, veterans of the war, taking sides with the Italian poet and contending that his gesture was noble and chevaleresque, the very highest expression of literature itself.

Another group of equally well known litterateurs and also former combatants have come out against d'Annunzio condemning his act as unworthy of a literary artist, such as he is. The action of the latter group was taken in the form of a letter of protest signed by a committee of ex-service writers and followed close upon a manifesto supporting d'Annunzio, which the other faction had sent recently.

The letter addressed to the "Inglorious Conqueror of Fiume" says: "The undersigned not forgetting the debt which the world of letters owes to Gabriele d'Annunzio cannot refrain from expressing their indignation at seeing so famous an artist placing his talent and life at the service of a murderous Nationalism".

Court-Martial for Profiteers.

The Turkish Food Commission communicates the following: We have been informed that certain merchants whose names are known to us have been making certain suggestions to bakers recently with a view to raising flour prices which, as a result of the increased imports and the measures taken by the Commission, had fallen considerably. By order of His Majesty the Sultan the Food Commission has instituted a Court Martial for the trial of those who, in defiance of the decisions adopted by the Commission and the regulations pertaining thereto, continue to speculate on flour prices. We recommend these flour merchants to return to legal business practices.

The "Deutschland" in London.

The great commercial submarine, *Deutschland*, with which Germany endeavoured to evade the Allies' blockade, reached London. She was towed up the river by three tugs to her moorings opposite Cleopatra's Needle.

Finland and the Holy See.

The Finnish Government has decided to send to the Vatican the Abbé Christensen on a temporary mission to the Holy See to deal with certain questions which concern the Church in Finland.

Italian Parliament Dissolved.

On the proposal of the Government the King of Italy signed a decree dissolving the Italian Parliament. The dissolution was almost unanimously demanded by the Italian Press.

The new elections will give public opinion an opportunity of manifesting itself, thus offering the Government a valuable indication as to the policy to be pursued. Judging by the state of great excitement of all the parties the electoral campaign will be violent but in spite of appearances it does not seem that the question of Fiume will occupy the first place. The elections will take place on November 16.

As for the ratification of the German and Austrian treaties, the Italian constitution authorises the ratification of such treaties by royal decree to be subsequently submitted, of course, to Parliament for endorsement. Thus the King will be able to ratify the two treaties if necessary.

Germans Despoiling Dantzig.

A Zurich message says that the organisation of the Free Port of Dantzig is going on, but the Germans have taken measures to remove everything of value from the town and port. They have sold the naval dockyards, the state workshops and armament depots at hundreds of millions of marks.

The French General Election.

The French Chamber of Deputies has fixed the date of the parliamentary elections for Nov. 16. The new Chamber will meet on Dec. 8.

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.

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