

BRITISH READY TO HURL FORCE AGAINST REDS

Concerted Military and Naval Move Now Being Prepared to End Russian Snarl.

By HUGH MUIR.
Exclusive Cable to Universal Service and The London Daily Express.
On the Russo-Finnish Frontier, Aug. 9.—(Via London.)—I have been privileged to learn the general lines of the forthcoming attack on Petrograd, which, in the opinion of those who have prepared to carry out the plans, stands an excellent chance of success.
The plans involve co-operation from various points and timely action by various forces should insure speedy and complete success. Credit for the plans is due to the British. As a result of the recent conferences between British naval and military chiefs, it was decided to put an end to the inertia in certain quarters and secure success.

Abandon Hopeless Task.
The hopeless task of trying direct operations from Helsinki has been ordered discontinued. Admiral Cowan, the British fleet commander, drew up the plans in conjunction with Generals Gough, Yudenich and Pitkoff, commanding the Estonians, and they involve action by land, sea, air and from the submarine bases.
(Note—The above is the first mention of General Gough having a command in Russia. It is not certain whether this is the General Gough who commanded the British Fifth Army during the German spring drive last year, and who was later relieved of his command because of the utter collapse of his troops, though subsequently many expert military voices were raised in his defense.)

The recent bombing of Kronstadt by British airplanes tends to confirm the plans. The Estonians are ready to commence operations for the first time since the beginning of the campaign. If there is no hitch, the action against Petrograd should begin this month.

Reds Are Uneasy.
Direct and reliable news from Petrograd shows the Bolsheviks are made uneasy by the attacks on Kronstadt, and the expectation of a march on Petrograd. The Kronstadt forces have been greatly reduced.

(Note: Kronstadt is the naval fortress defending Petrograd.)
The road to Petrograd is practically open, due to the withdrawal of troops by the bolsheviks. The population is in dire straits. There is literally no food in the city and the guards themselves are suffering. Two incidents of famine just have been reported.
A mysterious disease is rampant, killing its victims within three hours.

Business Men Demonstrate That They Can Use Their Muscles as Well as Their Brains



SCREEN CRITICISM
By Maurice Tournier

Winning Team in Bankers' Reserve Life Company Home Office Tug-of-War.

The winning team in the tug-of-war contest at the Bankers Reserve Life Co. home office picnic at Lakeview park last Wednesday. From left to right: W. G. Preston, Paul B. Burleigh, Hudson Hill, G. De Witt Babbitt, Ray C. Wagner, J. M. Melander, E. B. McCreary, George H. Braun.

Airplane Becomes Angel Of Life for Sick Woman

Stockton, Cal., Aug.—The airplane became the angel of life for Mrs. J. Koenig of Stockton.
She was on the verge of death from rheumatism of the heart when her physician, Dr. Six, undertook a heroic restorative for which he needed a serum. The serum could not be obtained in Stockton or Sacramento. With each moment precious, Dr. Six finally found the serum in San Francisco and engaged B. M. Spencer of the Pacific Aviation company to make the trip to Stockton. Spencer made the trip in 50 minutes. The serum saved Mrs. Koenig's life.

Fishing by Seaplane.

Santa Barbara, Cal., Aug. 9.—Get out the old seaplane and let's go fishing! That's what they're doing here now. The fashion was set by A. K. Bennet, who invited six men and women guests aboard the P-1, piloted by Allen Longhead. They flew out over the Pacific, anchored in a channel, and made a good catch.

PHOTOPLAY criticism? There is little or none. If ever a form of amusement needed criticism, it is the photoplay. Not so much the pictures as a whole, but each feature.
Criticism of pictures as a unit gives but one or two men's views, and is therefore unhealthy. Criticism by a number of critics on a number of pictures forms the foundation of universal opinion and is more sound.
Persons who criticize pictures are divided into three classes, those who write laudatory notices in accordance with a set policy of not offending the theater men (i. e., the advertisers); those who use scissors and paste on the notices furnished them by the manufacturers; publicity writers, and those who indulge in occasional honest criticisms. The last named are few and far between, and even then some of them are often warped in their judgment by certain narrow views which they believe to be "moral."
Candid criticism is severely handicapped. It is hardly possible to take a man's money and decry his wares at the same time; how can the journals or papers carry the advertising for a certain film and then give it adverse criticism? The maker of a film, as a general rule, does not want criticism; he wants applause, and here, I think, is one of the crying evils of the industry. The fear of honest, capable criticism. Then again, most of the so-called critics are not entitled to criticize. Many of them have never been inside a studio, have no idea whatever of dramatic construction and no dramatic instinct; they do not appreciate the scope or the limitations of screen work; they are unable to distinguish the good from the mediocre. Many of them are biased by certain religious scruples and see evil where it does not exist.
What is the use of fooling ourselves? I have made pictures I like and ones I do not like at all, and when I make a mediocre picture and read a laudatory criticism of it I do not flatter myself that the feature must be better than I thought it was.
I will probably be criticised for criticising the critics, but I am strongly in favor of capable newspaper criticism, and bear no resentment against those who have openly written they have not liked certain of my pictures; it does me good; honest opinions honestly expressed do us all good and are far better for us than fulsome flattery and laudatory comment when it is not deserved.

Noted London Costumer Urges Less Nudity and More Beads for Women

London, Aug. 9.—W. Reville, noted costumer, rises up in his indignation to refute the charges that the wearing of beads by women of today is a barbarism.
"The ancient Egyptians wore them, and they weren't 'barbarians,'" he says. "And they are popular in India, and where do you find more beautifully dressed people than in India. Moreover, it is his love to play with them, and its natural that big girls still love them."
"Perhaps," Reville admits, "the beauty of women's dress today might be increased by a little less nudity, but for beads, they are right, and today's dresses are the most beautiful ever known."
Reville sells 'em; he ought to know.

'Exams' for Chauffeurs

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 9.—Chauffeurs who are color blind, weak have poor eyesight or hearing, or who have happened to be subject to apoplexy may soon be seeking other employment.
Director of the streets and sewers Talbert has opened a laboratory for the determination of the physical fitness of chauffeurs employed for hire.

MEXICAN PAPERS DISCREDIT TALE OF NATION'S DEBT

Say Articles Printed in U. S. Regarding Huge Indebtedness of Mexico "Wholly Inaccurate."

Washington, Aug. 9.—Mexican newspapers reaching Washington contain long articles declaring that recent figures as to the Mexican public debt, published in the United States, are "wholly inaccurate." In this connection financial experts here said comparison of the unofficial figures published in this country with the figures given out by the Mexican treasury department show no great discrepancy.
The official Mexican figures as to the external loan debt of the country are \$143,472,000 with interest to the end of this month placed at \$43,000,000. The unofficial figures as recently published placed this total at \$173,469,000. The apparent difference, experts here said, is made up mostly by the \$30,000,000 of the Florida loan, floated in France under authorization of the Mexican congress, but repudiated by the Carranza government.
The internal loan debt of Mexico, according to the official statement is \$69,397,000 and interest to June 30, of \$17,914,000. The unofficial report gave this debt as \$66,611,000 and interest of \$14,530,000.
Washington financial experts say the Mexican treasury statement fails to account for all the guaranteed railroad indebtedness which the unofficial report figures at \$200,500,000; the obligations other than railroads which the Mexican government has guaranteed, the chief of which is the farm loan banks' debts, which, with interest to June 30, totals \$31,500,000; the "infalsifiable" issue of paper money of which \$80,000,000 at 10 cents, United States currency, is still outstanding, making a total of \$8,000,000 more, or the \$20,000,000 which Carranza took as a "loan" from the banks of issue in Mexico City.
The fact that Mexico has paid no interest of its foreign debt since 1913, also is kept in the foreground by Washington experts, who, for the State department, are keeping a close watch on the financial condition of Mexico. Experts here also assert that the Mexican government has used the entire income of the railroads and express companies without accounting and with no admission of responsibility.

Owner of First Ice House in City Gave Ice Away Free

In Ice Cream-Sodaless Days, When the West Was Young and Men Drank Their "Liquor Straight," People Had Very Little Use for Ice and Failed to Support City's First Ice Business.

With ice selling at 70 cents per 100 pounds, during those hot days it makes you long for the good old days 50 or 55 years ago in Omaha when blocks of this frozen water could be had almost for the asking, if you would go after it and carry it away," said W. R. Rath, Nebraska pioneer and who now lives in Dodge county, near Fremont, and is now past 80 years of age.
Mr. Rath was in Omaha last week and during his stay visited at the rooms of the Douglas county Pioneers' association, in the court house. There he greeted some of the old boys with incidents of the early days, and they were early days in Nebraska, for he claims to have come west in 1856, when the country from the Missouri river through to the mountains was all known as the territory of Nebraska. Getting back to the ice, Mr. Rath said: "Father and members of his family reached Omaha in the spring of 1857 and at the time there were not more than 300 people living here, but there was an ice house, the property of George W. Forbes, now dead. This man Forbes conceived the idea that there would be money in handling ice, so the fall before, along the bluffs, probably at about what would now be the foot of Williams street, he had excavated for an ice house. He roofed it over with cottonwood logs and hauled up quantities of sawdust from a mill that operated near where Gibson is now located. When winter came and the river froze over, Forbes commenced packing ice. He filled his cave, sealed it and sat around waiting for the coming of spring and warm weather. Both came but no customers came for ice.
"You see the people of those days had not been educated to taking cool drinks and they had little use for ice in summer. Ice cream, sodas and those fancy things had never been thought of and here about all there was to drink was whisky, tea and coffee and cool well water was good enough. The outcome of the situation was that long before summer was over, Forbes was inviting the people to call at his ice house and carry his ice away, free of charge. "I think Forbes had the first ice

house in Omaha, for that matter, in Nebraska, and I also think that his venture into the ice house business was a financial failure."

Elopes With "Human Fly."
St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 9.—Declaring his wife ran away with Rex Casey, a "human fly," Gustav Schoop, was given a divorce in Bellville circuit court.
Schoop told the court that after his wife had gone to Chicago with Casey she wrote him he had deserted her, and she asked to be permitted to return to Schoop. He was unforgiving however.

Live Fox Appreciates New Duties as Frisco Woman's Fur Neckpiece

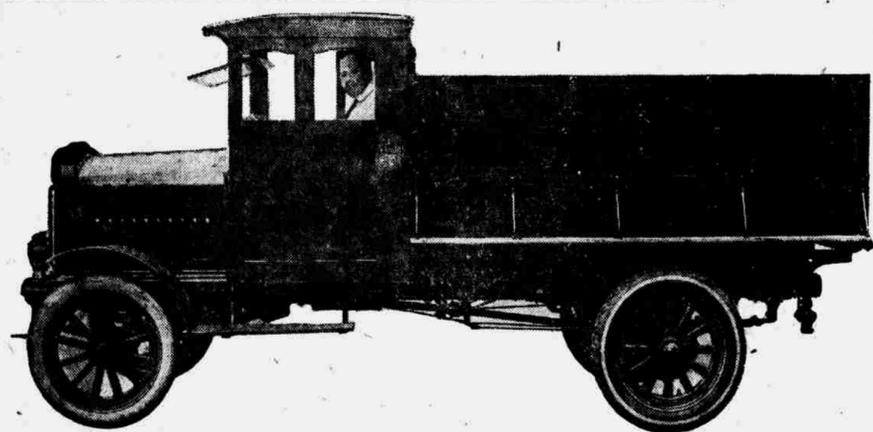
San Francisco, Aug. 9.—A pretty live fox for a neckpiece. Thus arrayed, Miss Florence Waters of this city, created no little stir as she strolled down Powell street.
"Foxy" circled his furry body about the neck of his new mistress, riding gracefully and apparently with delight.
The little animal was captured by Dr. George D. Scott. Miss Waters says that the combination pet and necktie is far better than any other neck-piece she ever owned.
"Foxy keeps quite still when about my neck," she said. "He seems to know what he should do. He answers to his name already."

Harvard Men to Mexico.
Mexico City, Aug. 9.—The faculty of the National University of Mexico is making preparations to receive several members of the faculty of Harvard university who are coming here to study typhus bacilli.

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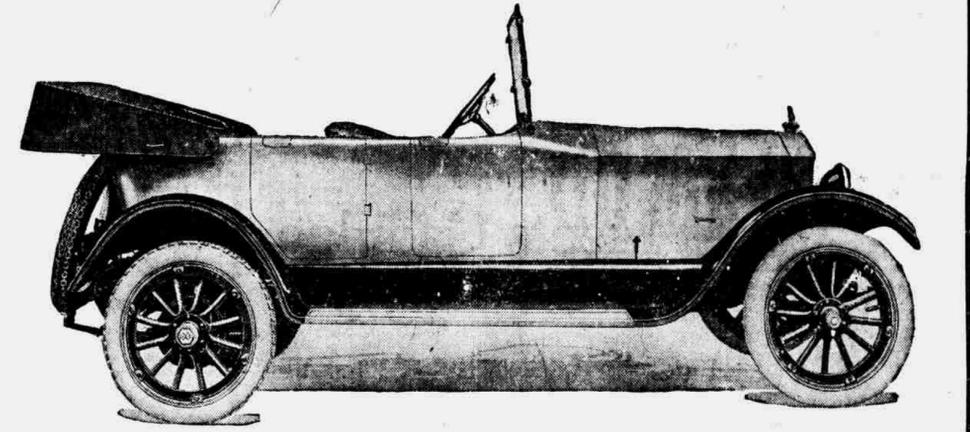
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