

British delegation in the Hotel Quarillon.

Paris, Aug. 12th.—Nikolai Lenine, the Russian Soviet Premier, has telegraphed a relief appeal to the Socialistic newspaper "Humanite" here, in which he predicts that the famine bids fair to approach that of 1819 in severity. He asks the workers and agriculturalists of other countries to come to aid of Russia as a means of aiding the Soviet Republic.

London, Aug. 10th.—Fires are raging in 18 wells in the suburbs of Batum the great oil centre in Asiatic Russia according to advices received here today from Reval, Esthonia, by the Central News Agency. The Reval despatch quotes a telegram received from Moscow. "There appears to be no means of extinguishing the conflagration, and the loss of oil will be disastrous. The disaster will be more keenly felt on account of the famine and cholera in that district and the consequent scarcity of labour, resulting in scanty supplies, of coal and firewood for the winter."

Riga, Aug. 10th.—The United States prisoners have been released by the Soviet authorities and have arrived at Narva Esthonia, in fair condition.

Quebec, Aug. 10th.—Lord Byng of Mimy, Canada's new Governor General, arrived here on the liner "Empress of France" early this afternoon. On account of the ship arriving earlier than was anticipated, arrangements have been made to entertain His Excellency privately until tomorrow, when his formal swearing in at the legislative building will take place. The Mayor of Quebec declared tomorrow a civic holiday in honour of the arrival of the Governor General.

Paris, Aug. 10th.—The Allied Supreme Council put the Silesian question, now apparently a definite settlement, temporarily aside today, while awaiting the report of the experts, engaged in drawing the boundary line between Poland and Germany. Thereupon the Council decided, that meanwhile it would discuss the Greco-Turkish situation, and German disarmament questions. In taking up the former subject, the Council decided unanimously to adopt an attitude of strict neutrality in the Greco-Turkish war without interfering with trading by private firms with either of the belligerent countries. The United States ambassador, Mr. Harvey, said this decision was in conformity with the policy of the United States previous to its entering the war, and he concurred with the Council's findings.

Cowes, Aug. 10th.—The 6th. and final race in the series between British and United States 6 metre yachts, sailed here today, was won by the British racers by 4 points. This gives the series to the British as they have scored 97 points in the five races previously sailed, as against 72 for the United States.

Washington, August 9th.—Protests

against continued American military occupation of Haiti and San Domingo, were made today to a Senate investigating committee, by representatives of organizations seeking to regain independence for the island republics. Ernest Angel, of the Haiti-Domingo Independence Society, and others, asked that witnesses be called to support the charges that grave individual military excesses had been committed, that the treaty of occupation was forced upon the people, and the acts of the American Government had injured the reputation of Haiti and San Domingo in their relations with South American Republics.

Washington, Aug. 10th.—Reductions of approximately \$600,000,000 in taxes and \$520,000,000 in Govt. expenditures this fiscal year were agreed upon late yesterday at a conference between Mr. Harding and Mr. Mellon and republican leaders of the House of Representatives, members of the Ways and Means Committee.

Washington, Aug. 9th.—The entire wooden fleet of the Shipping Board, built during the war emergency at a cost of \$23,000,000 will be sunk in the ocean unless the vessels can be sold or given away soon, chairman Lasker of the Board has informed the House Appropriation Committee. Pointing out that it cost \$1,000,000 to maintain and guard the vessels last year, and that the present cost of guarding is \$50,000 per month, Mr. Lasker said he believed it unwise to continue this loss. He suggested that committees of the Senate and House be appointed to determine what can be done. But, he added: "I feel, without shirking any responsibility that two committees of Congress ought to share the responsibility with me. If they will not, I am going to sink the boats, if we cannot sell them or give them away". Mr. Lasker said, that in the opinion of experts the Govt would be better off to sink the ships as they stand. He said it would cost more to salvage the machinery than would be obtained from its possible sale. Another plan is to use some of them for targets for army and navy bombers. The chairman said that a remote offer had come from a company in New York "that wants 50 of them, but does not want to pay for them", they want them for a civic purpose, and that is, to build a pontoon bridge away up the North River from Yonkers to the Palisades Park. Probably we should give them the boats, we would save the expense of towing them out and sinking them. I feel they ought to give us some of their bonds, so that if it pays we could get some money out of them. This is the only thing that looks to me like a remote negotiation. On the James River there is a wooden boat hidden behind almost every leaf. These boats are absolutely useless, I believe they require 750 tons of coal to carry a 2,800 cargo

across the Atlantic. They are twice as heavy as steel ships and insurance on them meant their operation impossible. They are unfit for river trade, as they have a draft of 14 feet.

THE MYSTERY EXPLAINED.

At last the mystery, if there was a mystery, regarding the death of Lord Kitchener, has been set at rest by the official publication of the German Admiralty of the facts in connection with the sinking of the Hampshire. The Germans assert that the vessel was not sunk by a submarine, but by a torpedo or mine laid at the end of May, 1916, by Submarine U, 75.

The Hampshire sailed on June 5th. and although a chartered mine sweeper had been sunk in the same field on June 2nd., and the fact was reported to the British Admiralty, the latter ordered the Hampshire to follow a course west of the Orkneys on the assumption that German submarines were not operating that far north. As the German document shows, however, a submarine commander, Lieutenant Kurt Beitzen, had laid a mine-field in this well-known path of warships six days earlier.

Responsibility for the death of Kitchener, therefore, is sought to be placed upon the British Admiralty. It will be recalled that it was originally intended that Premier Lloyd George should also sail on the Hampshire. Pressure of home affairs kept him in London, and undoubtedly saved his life. But it was a trick of fate—or was it by enemy suggestion?—that the Hampshire should have been directed into the only mine-field laid in the whole northern sea area by the Germans. The British side of the story should be given—Ibik.

Greek archæologists have unearthed an imposing temple at Rerras, Thessaly. The structure is in an excellent state of preservation and is stated to be as large as the temple of Jupiter at Olympia. The bronze inscriptions establish the date of 400 years B. C. Numerous tablets have also been found bearing indications of laws and resolutions of ancient civilization. This is the second temple which has been discovered within a month, the first having been found near the city of Volo. The excavations are continuing—*The Dominica Guardian*, July 28th.

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