

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 1915.

TIMELY WARNING

The article published yesterday in the London Daily Chronicle by the Hon. G. W. Masterman, certainly looks more than semi-official. Mr. Masterman has for some years been right-hand man to the Right Hon. David Lloyd George and it appears as if he had been commissioned to drop an unofficial hint to Greece and Roumania that they had better get busy, and get busy quick. Those two little countries have been kept out of the war chiefly because of the relationship existing between their crowned heads and the Hohenzollerns, but there has also doubtless been a feeling that Britain would give them a square deal anyhow, in fact would treat them liberally, whether they entered the conflict or not. The Kaiser has kept them pretty well scared with threats as to what will befall anyone who opposes him, and at the same time has made liberal promises to all who will help, generally promises of territory which is not yet, and is never likely to be, his.

The Balkan nations seem to have looked upon Britain as a kindly old grandmother who will always be generous to the weak. The sting in the tail of the Masterman article will do wonders in the way of convincing Greece and Roumania that they will only get what they fight for. Britain made a promise to Greece, and a promise which she could easily fulfill, but that was turned down. Masterman now intimates that the day of promises is past and that the time for action has arrived. The statement leading up to the intimation to Greece and Roumania is just exactly what all thinking men will expect to happen when the war is over, and it is at the

same time a calm intimation that the Allies are going to win. It is simply a final notice to Constantine and Ferdinand that they had better get on the band wagon while it is moving moderately. There is nothing of the bluster of "fearfulness" about it, but just the calm confidence of great strength.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

It is good to see Prince Rupert drydock occupied, if only for a few days.

Ottawa has found that paying civil servants salaries while on active service is expensive, and an order-in-council has been passed providing that only those whose positions do not require to be filled will be allowed to go, and their army allowance will be deducted from their salaries. There ought to be a few regiments still in the government service whose places would not require filling, judging by the number of officials required up to 1911.

If Prince Rupert does not provide much level ground for drilling soldiers, it at least presents splendid opportunities for mountain work, and, if the boys are going to the Balkans, such training might be useful.

It is reported that certain gentlemen in town were surprised and not particularly pleased, to find that Colonel Warden is a soldier and not a politician.

PEACE WOULD BE A CRIME AGAINST POSTERITY

Peace today would be a crime against posterity; it would be, besides, nothing but an armistice during which each nation would continue feverishly to prepare for war.—General Joffre.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS ARE FORMALLY ANNEXED

London, Nov. 13.—The Official Gazette announced that the Gilbert and Ellice Islands in the Pacific, which have been British protectorates since 1892, now have been formally annexed to the British Empire. This action was taken at the expressed desire of the native governments, it is stated.

Both the Gilbert and Ellice groups are in the Pacific, about 250 miles northeast of Australia. The Ellice group has been listed for years as a British possession, but the Gilbert Islands were German until last year, when an Australian expeditionary force captured them.

DISCOURTESY ENQUIRY

The finance committee reported to the council Monday night the result of their investigations regarding the complaint of discourtesy on the part of one of the staff in the treasurer's office. The committee found that there were only two members of the staff on duty at the time and that they were busy with taxpayers. The information wanted by Ald. Casey was to be had from the light department, and the official in question was obliged to leave taxpayers standing until he went upstairs to procure the information, which the alderman could have procured from the department direct himself.

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ALD. MONTGOMERY OBJECTS TO METHODS

On the warrant book for last month being brought down at the council last Monday night for approval, Ald. Montgomery objected to the council being asked to endorse accounts which they knew nothing about. He moved that they be laid on the table for one week.

Ald. Dybbavn, seconded by Ald. Edge, moved that the accounts be adopted as usual. These gentlemen pointed out that they were following a course which had been followed for years without comment, and stated that the vouchers could be examined at any time by any member of the council.

Ald. Montgomery said he knew that the method had been followed for years, but held that the aldermen should know exactly what they were adopting, which at present they did not. The accounts were Greek to him and he believed they were the same to others.

Ald. Beveridge, seconded Ald. Montgomery's motion, stating that he believed that the accounts were in order, but that the members of the council should know what was being done.

The mayor said that the accounts were brought down in the usual way and it was for the members to say what was to be done with them. Ald. Montgomery had passed them in this way for years without complaint. If there was any doubt about the accuracy of accounts he advised every member to vote for delay.

Ald. Montgomery said he did not question the accuracy of the accounts, but he wanted things done in a businesslike way. Ald. Edge withdrew his motion for the adoption of the accounts and it was decided to lay them on the table for one week.

Salvation Army.

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