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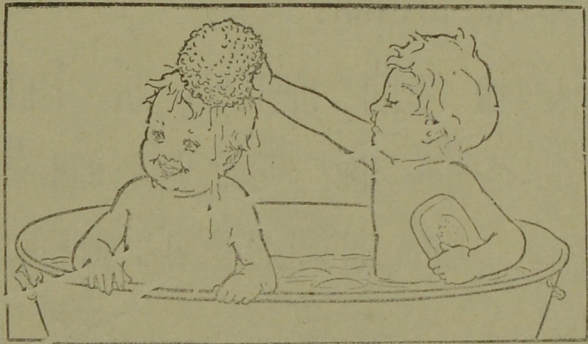
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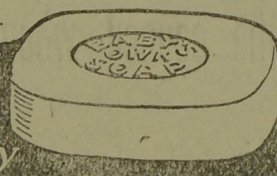
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ASQUITH HAS THE CONFIDENCE OF ALL PARTIES

T. P. O'Connor's Weekly Cable Letter Deals With Conditions in the Old Country—Germany's Effort to Start a Peace Campaign—Willing to Accept Half What She Wanted Six Weeks Ago.

(By T. P. O'Connor.)

to the living and the dead.

SERBIA'S POSITION.

London, Nov. 6.—Mr. Asquith was confronted with the most difficult situation of his political life last Tuesday. So far as his personal position is concerned, he triumphed despite aiping attacks from the newspapers.

It may be taken for granted that Mr. Asquith remains the only possible and the only desirable leader of the British people. He alone has the confidence of all parties. He alone can keep the parties together. Every member of his cabinet is as firmly convinced of this as the members of the House of Commons and leading cabinet ministers, referring to the charges of conspiracy brought against certain members of the cabinet to oust Mr. Asquith, declared that the only conspiracy in the cabinet was to keep Mr. Asquith in his place.

"To tie him to the stake?" I commented.

"Yes," answered the minister with a smile.

Mr. Asquith also acted as the lightning conductor to the storm that raged around Mr. Winston Churchill's head, as the sole author of the Gallipoli entanglement, by taking upon himself full responsibility for that enterprise. Mr. Asquith also convinced the House that with checks, even disasters occasionally, our certainty of winning in the long run remains not less but more assured.

VICTORY ASSURED.

News from all fronts, even Serbia, confirms this view. It is also confirmed by the news leaking out of the desperate distress among the German masses for food, under the daily growing strangulation of the British navy, and further by the strong indications of the renewed though unofficial attempts of Germany to start a peace campaign.

The terms Germany now suggests are just half what she asked six weeks ago, but they haven't the smallest chance to be listened to and no passage of John Redmond's speech was more successful in his life and men louder cheered than his denunciation of inconclusive peace as equally unjust

There is uneasiness largely due to the unnecessary delay in forming the plan to rescue Serbia, for the consequent loss of time is of great advantage to the German and Bulgarian armies in taking a strong position. The arrival of the French and British troops at a date which makes their victory more difficult and less speedy. One result of these obstacles is a strong feeling that the military intelligence department is not adequate, and on this point public opinion may concentrate before many days.

The great efficiency of the Germans in this department has been impressed upon the public a thousand times in a thousand ways since the beginning of the conflict. Even yet, with all the measures that have been taken to suppress the enemy that is in our midst, scarcely a day passes but that some spy does not leave traces of his work in a manner that is brought to the notice of the public or more often only to that of the military authorities, and arrests continue of these emissaries of the German intelligence department.

REDMOND AND CARSON.

One of the piquant contrasts in the debate were John Redmond's and Sir Edward Carson's speeches. Mr. Redmond's speech was cheered both by the Tory and the Liberal benches. Though he was most outspoken in his attack on the War Office methods and the mismanaging of recruiting in Ireland, these stupid errors made the more remarkable the extraordinary response by Ireland to the appeal. Mr. Redmond gave the figures of recruiting since the beginning of the war as eighty thousand new recruits and five thousand reservists from Ireland and one hundred thousand Irish from Great Britain, excluding the Irish from the dominions beyond the sea.

GALLANT IRISHMEN.

Mr. Redmond was interrupted by

loud cries of shame from all parts of the House when he attacked the narrow-minded men who had refused to mention the gallant conduct of the Irish troops at Gallipoli, Suvla Bay and Loos. It is certain that the error will not be repeated and that Irish bravery, never more conspicuous, will be recognized officially in dispatches. In spite of the disparagement of the unholy combination of the Orangemen in Ireland and cranks in America, the gallantry of the army is now universally realized in England, and practically has killed the old hostility to Home Rule. Sir Edward Carson's speech by its vigor and directness, has demanded prompt action and encouraged the exasperated demand for vehement conduct of the war; but his letter to Mr. Asquith, with its violent tone in relation to Greece, is regarded as dangerously indiscreet and makes difficult his ever again entering the cabinet.

CONSCRIPTION.

While no one believes that the time for conscription is here, the prime minister has made it very plain that he will not hesitate at this measure if convinced that it is necessary to the victory of the cause of Great Britain and her Allies. There has been much discussion as to the nature of the measure that the government will propose should compulsory enlistment become necessary. It can be stated here with assurance that among those to whom the defense of the nation is entrusted, no consideration is being given as a practical proposal to the conscription system of conscription, under which every man of military age is taken for the service of his country.

It is probable if we are driven to this alternative of conscription by the failure of Lord Derby's energetic recruiting efforts to produce enough men to meet the obligations of England to her allies and necessities of her wide front battle-line, that resort will be had to a system of military quotas, to be required from the country by districts, each district contributing its toll of men to the needs of the land. It is also proposed that the unmarried men be first required to enlist under this scheme and that the men with families remain exempt until all the able-bodied bachelors have taken up arms.

First, however, there will be given opportunity to the men of each district to volunteer. This failing to supply the quota, the idea of the originator of the scheme is that a ballot be taken among the voters of the district to determine who shall be compelled to enlist.

Many believe that the mere threat of such a measure of compulsion as this will induce the men to enlist in such numbers as to make the application of the plan unnecessary.

Roses are more in favor than ever for gowns and millinery. No frills of tulle are shaped to finish the back of the neck only.

TO ALL MEN!

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Many Hands Make Light Work