

Todday's Events.
Bagshaw Carnival; Bagshaw Drivers, Mechanics; A.R.D.A. Trades Hall, 8; Anti-Consumption meeting, near Law Courts, 8; pictures, Princess and Lyric Theatres.

The "No" Verdict Accepted.
In his speech last evening in Melbourne at the annual dinner of the "No" Verdict of Melbourne, Mr. M. Hughes traversed the referendum campaign. A report of the address, which is intensely interesting, is given on another column. It will be seen that the Prime Minister accepts the "No" majority as final, and that after a month's training, the conscription now in the different military camps will be released to return to their homes and occupations.

A.N.A. Branches Snubbed.
On the ground that the annual conference of the Australian Nationalist Association, which met at Warragul in March, had decided to support compulsory military service, the board of directors of the association decided yesterday not to consider or endorse resolutions against the conscription passed by several branches. One branch protested against the board of directors having forwarded to Mr. W. M. Hughes, the Prime Minister, a resolution supporting conscription. The view was expressed by members of the board that it might be necessary to amend the rules to prevent branches taking action to try to influence the policy laid down by the parliament of the Association (the annual conference) on important issues.

Paralyzed through Diving.
Having lain in the Williamsstown Hospital for two months, suffering from paralysis, due to a fracture of the spinal column, Victor Dumbarton, aged 16, of 17 York Street, Yarraville, died on Tuesday night, the night of January 6—a very early death. Dumbarton, with three companions went to the Williamsstown baths for a swim. Having undressed, he thought to heat his muscles in the water. Where he died he was only a few feet from the bank, and he struck heavily on his head, and was rendered unconscious.

Loyal Bendigo Lodge.
The fortnightly meeting of the Loyal Bendigo Lodge was held at the Oddfellows Hall last evening, N.G. Downey presiding over a large attendance. Sick pay to the amount of £15 10s 10d was passed by the lodge, and receipts for the evening totalled £41 4s. P.G. Bruhn reported having won the carpet bowls tournament of the Friendly Societies.

Rascally Mischief.
When the 8.25 p.m. train from Melbourne to Essendon was passing over the viaduct at Bundoora, a very large stone hurled through the window of a carriage, in which was seated Mr. W. Royce, of Primrose street, Moonee Ponds. A piece of glass which entered Mr. Royce's eye was extracted by Dr. M. J. Ryan, who hopes to save the eye.

"Chinese Practitioners."
In the Ballarat Assizes Court yesterday Daniel Lam was fined £5 for not being a registered practitioner, he placed the sign, "Chinese Medical Practitioner," on his premises. C. G. Shan was fined £5 on a similar charge.

Wheat for America.
Recent rumors of the likelihood of Australian wheat being shipped to America are confirmed by the fact that the American five-masted schooner, Snow and Burgess (1529 tons gross), now berthed at South Wharf, is to load wheat at Williamsstown for a Pacific coast port. The Snow and Burgess arrived here on September 20 with a cargo of timber from San Francisco, and recently completed discharging operations. The vessel, it is anticipated, will carry 1200 tons, or from 2000 to 2500 tons of wheat. It is reported that other vessels of this type will also load wheat here instead of returning to the Pacific coast in ballast, as has been the practice hitherto.

Heathcote Show.
Everywhere points to the annual Heathcote show to-morrow being a big success. The entries in all classes are very numerous, and visitors will not be disappointed. Every comfort and consideration will be given them and a most enjoyable time spent. The grounds and arena are in excellent order, and the weather promises to be fine and suitable for holding the function. A special train will leave Bendigo at 11.45 a.m., returning in the evening.

Oiga Petrova.
Throughout the five reels of the latest Metro "Playing With Fire," across the Royal Princess Theatre last night, and in which Oiga Petrova makes a welcome reappearance, there is a distinct artistic advance on the stereotyped methods of production. It is especially apparent in the old lighting effects, and in the use of double exposures, and in the care taken to give the picture a distinctive tone. Madame Petrova gives a magnificent exhibition of dramatic power. The plan for Saturday is at Pavlov's.

Triangle Programme.
A large audience assembled at the Lyric Theatre last night to witness the new programme. The start drama is entitled "The King's Daughter," a typical Wild West drama by the Triangle Company, with William Hart as the "strong" man of the picture. The Triangle comedy, "Hearts and Spices," is a very original production, in addition to Lubin star drama, entitled "Sons of the Sea," is included in the programme, also the English feature, with its usual interesting items. The programme will be repeated to-night and to-morrow night (Saturday) for the last time.

Orators and Oratory.
The above is the title of a lecture to be delivered by Sir John Quick in the Quarry Hill Methodist School Hall to-morrow evening, under the auspices of the Men's Society, interested with the lecture will be musical items. Admission is free.

Cooking's week-end sale to-day and to-morrow presents an opportunity of securing all requirements for men and boys at cost price for cash. Mothers looking for suits and hats for their boys should call to see the cooking. Another important offer is ladies' hosiery, special black silk ankle hose at 1s 6d. If you are unable to call to-day you should enquire to do so before one o'clock to-morrow.

A specially good sample of Ninety Day Seed Maize has just been received at Albert Bush's stores, next St. Paul's tower, and is being distributed in retail quantities at wholesale rates. Experience has proved that for dependable quality groceries and provisions Bush's, next the Tower, is the place for a visit. In connection with the Returned Soldiers' Association, will take place in the Princess Theatre to-night.

Today, at their bazaar, Messrs. E. M. Vane and Co. will conduct a special horse sale at 1.30 p.m. They will yard 100 horses, and a representative of the Military Purchase Board will be in attendance. The sale of booths for the Heathcote Races, to be held on Tuesday November 21, will be conducted to-morrow at the Heathcote Hotel by Messrs. Kilroy and Beady, auctioneers.

Full particulars appear in another column to readers required for the supply of vegetables at a camp within the State by the Defence Department.

IN EACH HARTLEY CYCLE
THERE IS A FEATURE
Which appeals strongly to some Particular Class of Rider.
FOR EVERY KIND OF SERVICE
THERE IS A TYPE SPECIALLY SUITABLE.
MANUFACTURED IN THREE GRADES—
110/15,
112/15,
113/15.
HARTLEY BROS. PROP. LTD.,
MITCHELL STREET.

THE WEST
PROGRESS SLACKENS

Big Guns Predominate

(Reuter's Agency).
LONDON, Thursday.
A Paris communique issued on Wednesday afternoon says:—
"The enemy merely bombarded our new positions in the Ablaincourt sugar refinery sector, south of the Somme.

Two enemy aeroplanes were brought down in an air fight. Eight of our aeroplanes dropped a ton of bombs on an aerodrome, and on the military railway station at Chambley (south-west of Metz) respectively. Reuter's correspondent at Paris states that the French attacking at Ablaincourt on November 7 easily carried two lines of trenches built in concrete, forming a great trench, but in the centre the enemy organised two villages, and formidably defended them. They sheltered in deep cellars during the bombardment, and then reappeared with a great number of machine guns. When a wave of assailants arrived a desperate struggle ensued. A cluster of houses at the cross roads changed hands three times. The church was hotly contested. The Bavarians within refused to surrender, and were annihilated. Ablaincourt was entirely captured after a desperate 11 hours struggle.

A Berlin official message says:—
"British night attacks between Le Sara and Gueducourt failed. The French gained ground at Ablaincourt, and occupied Pressoir (south of the Somme)."

A Paris official message states:—
"North of the Somme enemy troops were gathering to the east of Sully Salles, were dispersed. South of the Somme there was a violent reciprocal bombardment, during which we caught enemy forces marching to the east and north-east of Chambley. Prisoners taken yesterday numbered 659.

"On the right of the Meuse there was a particularly lively artillery engagement in the region of Damloup and Douaumont. The Times correspondent at the British headquarters states that during October there were 21 wet days. The British hopes were repeatedly destroyed. "Grand operations are still impossible," he adds "but during the last four weeks we took prisoner 2400 in mine episodes. Our work has been to slowly force our way to the fourth German main line in front of Le Transloy, Migny Thillois, Le Barque, Warlencourt, and Miraumont. Throughout this fighting the Germans had the advantage of the high ground, permanent trenches and deep dug-outs. Therefore our progress has been a high loss of money to our infantry's fighting qualities.

"The Germans fought stubbornly, and sometimes stiff bayonet fighting was necessary, whilst his recent counter-attacks have been driven home despite the mud with great determination. His artillery has increased, and there is yet no sign of a general demoralisation. The correspondent regards speculation regarding the immediate future of the offensive as not wise. "Before us," he says, "at varying distances from 1000 to 2000 yards away, run formidable lines of parallel trenches, triply protected with wire and numerous machine gun positions. With dry weather that line would have been ours. Meanwhile the amazing spirits of the men, the splendid work of the artillery, and the superb audacity of our aviators continue the same, and the people at home should realise how great a performance even a small success may be under the existing conditions."

The Times military correspondent reviewing the Verdun fighting, states that the recapture of the positions was a fine feat. It was not so much due to the mass of infantry as good generalship and the utilisation of enough arms and howitzers. The correspondent adds that Field-Marshal von Hindenburg misunderstood the Allies' resources on the Western front, and what had been achieved at Verdun would be repeated elsewhere.

General Sir Douglas Haig reports that the enemy's artillery is active on the whole front south of the Ancre. The enemy heavily shelled our positions west of Beaumont Hamel, and unsuccessfully attempted to raid our trenches. The weather is stormy.

ANZAC CASUALTIES NOT HEAVY.
ENEMY'S CLAIM DISPROVED.
(United Service Cable.)
LONDON, Wednesday.
Recent Australian casualties have been light. There has been no increase in the number of wounded men arriving in London, disproving the German claim that an Australian division suffered severely on the Somme front on Sunday.

Surgeon-General N. R. Howes, V.C., Director of Australian Medical Services, has just arrived from the front. He says that the health of the Australians in France and England is excellent, and that they are standing the climate better than they stood the first winter in Egypt.

ALLIES AND GREECE.
QUESTIONS IN COMMONS.

(Reuter's Service).
LONDON, Wednesday.
In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Arthur Lynch (Nationalist) suggested that in view of the dangers of delay the Allies should recognise the Venizelos Government immediately.

Mr. Asquith, the Prime Minister, replied that the Allies were fully alive to the dangers, and were constantly consulting on the Greek situation, but public statements could only be made in agreement with the Allies.

Lord Robert Cecil, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, declined to answer Mr. Lynch's question as to whether the King Constantine had concurred in the Greek Government's invitation to the Allies to land at Salonika.

ROUMANIAN FRONTIERS.
ENEMY ATTACKS STRENGTHENED.

(Reuter's Service).
LONDON, Thursday.
A Roumanian communique says a heroic bombardment has been maintained in the Prahova Valley, with repeated infantry attacks.

"We advanced south in the Dobrudja, and the enemy seaplanes attacked Suptina. One machine was brought down and the aviators captured." Dealing with the operations on the Roumanian frontier a Russian communique says:—
"Enemy attacks in the direction of Predeal Pass and the Aluta River continue. The enemy, reinforced, assumed the offensive east of the Jiu Valley."

A Bulgarian communique says that great damage was done at Constantza in the bombardments by the Russian fleet on November 2 and 4. A German official message says:—
"The enemy gained some small advantage in the Tolgys Pass sector, on the Moldavian frontier. The Germans recaptured some of the lost ground near the Bodza Pass, south-east of Brasso, and took more prisoners in the Spins region, in the Roterthurn Pass sector."

WAR AT SEA.
TORPEDOING OF DREADNOUGHTS.

"UNKNOWN" IN GERMANY.
(Published in The Times.)
LONDON Thursday.
The Vossische Zeitung declares that nothing is known in Germany regarding the torpedoing of Dreadnoughts by British submarines.

LINER OVERDUE.
LOSS IN ATLANTIC FEARED.

(Reuter's Service).
VANCOUVER, Wednesday.
Halifax reports that the steamer Rappahannock (3874 tons), owned by Furness, Withy and Company, Ltd., is ten days overdue, and it is feared that it has been lost in a trip across the Atlantic. Its cargo consisted of Nova Scotia apples for London.

STEAMER SHELLED.
AN AMERICAN CREW.

(Reuter's Service).
NEW YORK, Wednesday.
The steamer Columbian (8800 tons) is reported from London as having been shelled by submarines, although she was flying the American flag. The Columbian was carrying a cargo of iron and steel consigned to the Italian Government. No explosives were aboard. Eighty Americans comprised the crew. The Columbian sailed from New York on October 18.

ANOTHER NORWEGIAN STEAMER SUNK.
LONDON, Thursday.

The Norwegian steamer Reine has been sunk by a submarine.

BRITAIN'S FOREIGN POLICY.
SECRET SESSION URGED.

(United Service Cable.)
LONDON, Wednesday.
A strong movement among members of the House of Commons has been started to persuade the Government to hold a secret session to discuss the foreign policy, the administration of the Admiralty, and the man power question. It is believed that Mr. Lloyd-George, Minister for War, favors the idea.

MORE NEWS FOR RELATIVES.
NEW ZEALAND PREMIER'S EFFORTS.

(United Service Cable.)
LONDON, Wednesday.
Mr. W. P. Massey, Prime Minister for New Zealand, presided at the annual Salvation Army gathering held in London to-day. He is negotiating with the Records Office with a view of securing improvements in the despatch of information to the relatives of soldiers.

ITALIAN PROGRESS.
CHECKED BY WEATHER CONDITIONS.

ENEMY REINFORCEMENTS.
(Reuter's Service).
LONDON, Thursday.
Another great attack by the Italians toward Trieste is not likely to be made before the spring, though much depends upon the weather.

Meanwhile Austrian reinforcements from Galicia and the Trentino are pouring in between Trieste and Comen. Italians found that the Austrian defences near Castagnovizza, in the Northern Carso, had been brought to extraordinary perfection.

Huge underground barracks, holding several thousands of men, were protected by bastions and armed with machine-guns. The barracks contained stables, kitchens, canteen gardens, beds and hammocks. An Italian official message says:—
"We evacuated the observatory position, which was destroyed by enemy artillery on the slopes of Cimabocche, in the Travignoia Valley.

We found among the abandoned booty on the Carso battlefield a battery of four mountain guns. Reuter's correspondent at Rome states that a naval communique states that the Italian and French air squadrons effectively bombed an aerodrome at Parenzo. The enemy air defences ineffectively fired and counter attacked squadrons and torpedo boats.

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LOST LINER ARABIA.
MAILS AND CARGO LOST.

PASSENGERS SAFELY LANDED.
(Reuter's Service).
LONDON, Thursday.
Details of the sinking by a submarine of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's Royal Mail steamer Arabia (7933 tons) in the Mediterranean at noon on Monday, while bound from Australia to London, are coming slowly to hand.

The Arabia's passengers numbered 437, of which 169 were women and children. They were picked up by various vessels that were diverted to the scene of the disaster. Two engineers are missing, and it is believed that they were killed by the explosion. All the other members of the crew were saved.

The Arabia in September last fired on a submarine near Malta, and compelled it to submerge. London newspapers recall Germany's pledge not to sink vessels without warning. The Evening News says:—
"The sinking of the Arabia is merely another typical atrocity. Warships and transports remain practically immune from submarine attacks while merchantmen are sunk."

The Arabia carried a few passengers from India and intermediary ports, owing to this being the off season for homeward traffic. The great majority of passengers are Australians, including nurses. Captain W. B. Palmer, R.N.R., commanded the Arabia for six and a half years. He lives at North Finchley.

It is stated by the Post Office authorities that as far as is known all the mails on the Arabia were lost. The vessel carried mails from Australia, Ceylon, India, and the Straits Settlements, Egypt, China, Hongkong, and perhaps also from British East Africa, Zanzibar, the Seychelles, and Mauritius.

There were also parcel mails from most of the places mentioned. A tribute is paid by the naval authorities to the discipline that prevailed on the Arabia, after the vessel was torpedoed. This enabled the passengers to be rescued.

It is believed that some passengers have arrived at Malta. Others are expected at Marsailles. The P. and O. Company is taking measures for the comfort of the Arabia's passengers, and has arranged for accommodation and clothes and money.

It is believed that the passengers were not taken out of the water, which indicates that the rescue ships either alongside the Arabia in ample time or rescued the passengers and crew from boats. Mr. Andrew Fisher the Australian High Commissioner, is keeping in touch with the P. and O. Company, with a view to helping passengers. The company has arranged to collect the passengers at Marsailles at the earliest possible moment.

Additional batches of the Arabia's passengers are arriving in Egypt. The P. and O. Company intends to replace the lost liner and maintain its service without interruption. The Daily Mail, commenting on the rescue of the passengers and the crew of the Arabia says that it was not due to the submarine humanity.

Feeling is growing that the Government should declare that it will take a ton of Germany's shipping after the war for every ton that Germany has destroyed.

The Dutch press announces that the Rotterdam-Java service via the Suez will be continued. Reports received at Washington from Ambassador Page regarding the sinking of the Arabia indicates that the ship was armed.

It is believed that no serious disturbance with Germany is likely. If any, it will be delayed until after the election.

RESCUE WORK PRAISED.
VALUABLES ABOARD.

(Published in The Times.)
LONDON, Wednesday.
There is much favorable comment in shipping circles regarding the rescue of passengers and crew of the P. and O. Company's Arabia. Although the time the ship took to sink is not yet known, the rescue of those on board is a notable feat.

The Arabia called at Bombay principally to pick up passengers. These included Sir Ratanji Tata and Lady Tata, who had a pearl necklace with her valued at £40,000. It was insured for £20,000. The naval correspondent of The Times says:—
"The latest example of callous, unlawful sinking is especially important because, to a large extent, the Arabia's route has been made safer than others. Dutch steamers recently chose the Mediterranean in preference to the Cape route. Allied counter-measures in the Eastern Mediterranean included the routing out of sources of submarine supplies. A search of the Egyptian, Syrian and Grecian coasts prevented a repetition of the enemy's early successes, but the old measures have now proved unsuccessful. It is obvious that we are now confronted with submarines of a larger type and less dependent upon local sources of supply."

The correspondent suggests the necessity of some form of convoy. For the period during which the report of the sinking of the Arabia was unconfirmed the premium for accident insurance on the life of a passenger to America and back rose from 10s to 15s per cent. The underwriters do not consider that there is any reason to discriminate between neutral and belligerent ships. Some time ago a passenger was insured at a premium of 14 per cent. for death only, and an additional quarter per cent. for disablement, while proceeding from Scotland to Australia and return, including a three months' sojourn.

The Arabia was carrying a valuable cargo, but comparatively little loss falls upon the London insurance market. A large amount of the cargo was insured in the State office at £1 1s per cent, a rate with which the underwriters do not attempt to compete. Details of the cargo have not been received, because the ship was bringing its own papers. It is believed that it was carrying wheat, wool, and a little lead from Australia, silk from China, and tin and rubber from Singapore. The silk insurances amounted to £200,000. There were also pearls from Bombay, including a registered postal parcel worth £50,000, which was insured at £2 per cent.

In the course of a leading article The Times strongly attacks the Government's inactivity in dealing with the submarine menace. It says the Government was reported to have well in hand in August, 1915. "It is at least as serious now as at the worst period last year."

MAILS FOR SOLDIERS LOST.
MELBOURNE, Thursday.

When the Arabia left Australia she had on board something like 500,000 letters and parcels addressed to the A.L.F., and many thousands of other postal articles intended for civilians and firms on the Continent and in Great Britain. The mails from Victoria were very heavy and included 1928 bags of letters, etc., for the troops. All these have been lost.

Details of the mail on board the vessel after she had left Port Said was supplied by the secretary of the Postal Department to-day. They show that the mail from Victoria for the A.L.F. in Great Britain and France comprise 148,798 letters in 119 bags, 589 registered articles, 52,668 newspapers and packets in 415 bags, and 11,574 parcels in 1394 bags.

The civil mails which were aboard after leaving Port Said were as follows:—For London, 34,701 letters in 22 bags; 2925 newspapers and packets in 84 bags; 495 registered articles; 213 parcels, in seven bags. For foreign ports: 111 registered articles. For Geneva: 485 letters and 173 newspapers and packets. For Amsterdam: 134 letters in packets. For Brussels: 30 letters, 21 newspapers and packets. For Modane: 593 letters and 422 newspapers and packets.

The P. and O. Company informed the department to-day that the mails, for Malta, Italy and Salonika were put off at Port Said, and taken on by a smaller steamer.

DATES OF POSTING.
Parcels, packets, newspapers, and letters posted between the times mentioned below would have been on board the Arabia:—

FOR UNITED KINGDOM.
Parcels between September 26, at 5 p.m., and October 2, at 5 p.m.
Packets and newspapers between September 28, at 1.30 p.m., and October 4, at 1.30 p.m.
Letters between September 28, at 2.15 p.m., and October 4, at 2.5 p.m.
Registered letters between September 28 at 1 p.m., and October 4, at 1 p.m.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.
Parcels, packets, and newspapers between September 26, at 10 a.m., and October 2, at 10 a.m.

Letters between September 27, at 5 p.m., and October 3, at 5 p.m.
Registered letters between September 27, at 5 p.m., and October 3, at 5 p.m.

NO AUSTRALIAN TROOPS ABOARD.
The Minister for Defence (Senator Pearce), gave a denial to the rumor that a number of Australian troops were on board the Arabia when she was torpedoed. "You can say officially," he said, "that none of our soldiers were on the vessel."

RUMORED LOSS OF TRANSPORT.
There is absolutely not a tittle of truth in the rumor that a certain transport has been sunk off the African coast. If we can find out who is circulating this rumor we will prosecute," said Mr. J. A. Jensen, Minister for the Navy, yesterday afternoon.

A report has been circulated in Melbourne during the past few days that a transport conveying Australian troops had been sunk off the African coast by a German submarine.

IF PUTTING IN ANY MAIZE
Be the Area
Great or Small
GET YOUR SEED
AT
ALBERT BUSH'S STORES,
NEXT ST. PAUL'S TOWER,
BENDIGO.

AN ESPECIALLY GOOD SAMPLE OF NINETY-DAY SEED MAIZE
Just to Hand.

Bendigo Agents, too, for YATES & CO.'S RELIABLE SEEDS.

In Fact—
FOR ALL PERFECT QUALITY GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, and PRODUCE

You'll Find—
BUSH'S, NEXT THE TOWER
FAR THE BEST, and MUCH THE CHEAPEST.

RING UP—SIX—O.
FOR THE BEST IN BENDIGO.

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