

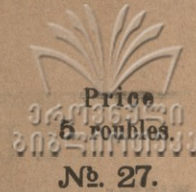
THE

Wednesday
4 February, 1920.

GEORGIAN MAIL

TIFLIS.

Editorial Office: Kolubanskia street, № 3.



Edited by SCOTLAND LIDDELL.

GEORGIAN MUSIC.

CAUCASIAN CONCERT IN LONDON.

(Editor's Note: The following article is published from a recent number of the "Near East". We accept no responsibility for the statements contained in it.)

On December 3 at the Aeolian Hall, a concert of music of the Russian Orient was held, under the direction of M. Lazare Saminsky, of the Tiflis (Caucasus) People's *Conservatoire de musique*. This concert was of great importance, not because of the mere performance of Oriental Russian music, but because it was a sign of the progressive cultural fusion of East and West. The music of the East is not yet explicable to us all, but it is no longer unknown.

Now the chief link between East and West is, of course, Russia. Since that country has begun to develop musically, its progress has travelled in two main streams, the national and the occidental. In other words, there has been one school which has looked to Russia, and especially to Russian folk-song, and another school which has looked to Western countries, older in musical expression, for the source of their respective inspirations. M. Saminsky's concert was devoted almost wholly to the exposition of the national or local music of the Caucasus.

Interchange of Culture.

In his lecture, points of which were exemplified vocally by Miss Zoia Rosowsky and M. Chelminsky and on the violin by M. Lasserson, M. Saminsky placed great hopes in the growing interchange of culture between East and West. Only recently (he said) has the music of the older nations, like the Armenian, Jewish, and Arab, which hitherto had been absolutely exclusive, been made public. But ignorance of this music is far from being dispelled yet, and this fact must have been felt keenly by most of the English listeners at M. Saminsky's concert.

The music of the Russian Orient was divided into Tatar, Georgian, Hebrew, and Jewish songs. Of these four peoples the Tatars (said the lecturer) are weakest in musical creation. The Tatars of the Crimea are the most gifted, but that is apparently due to the Genoese and Venetian influence which is obvious in many of their folk-songs. Georgia and Armenia have a much richer music, due to their very old culture, which had survived in

spite of material vicissitudes. The Hebrews are known the world over for their musical abilities, and their folk-songs are instinct with the deep spirituality of the race.

Sad Songs.

The prevailing note of the songs of all these peoples is sadness. The reason for this is patent, being easily found in their histories. These nations were often invaded, sometimes overrun, and in part dispersed. Sadness, therefore, is at the beginning and the end of their experience. But their songs are curious in that they have no lilt, no sense of direct rhythm; they meander plaintively, purposelessly in and out of the minor keys, wailing over the rocks of despair and sinking to depths of passionate woe. There is no touch of that exhilaration, no hint even of that occasional jollity, which are such common features of the folk-songs of most countries. One of the Armenian songs, by Komitas (and sung by Miss Zoia Rosowsky), had indeed the rare knowledge and the lightsome gladness of the mountain shepherd; it was an extremely beautiful song, but it had none of that lighthearted joy in which Serbian or Italian mountain songs are written. M. Lasserson played a Hebrew melody by Achron—an exquisite piece well played—but the piercing sorrow of its repetitions was too prolonged. The overwhelming grief of all these peoples is a thing with which we cannot for ever sympathise; we can for a time feel with them, we can always admire them, but we cannot say that indefinitely we will let our hearts be torn by their plaints. Sympathy, like elastic, perishes if too freely stretched.

"Extremely Cultured Peoples".

The second half of M. Saminsky's concert consisted of compositions by himself. Of these, two especially were pleasing, being songs from Pushkin and Sologub. He appears to have assimilated many influences, and his work shows far more vigour than do the folk-songs, of which earlier in the evening he had given an exposition. He is obviously interested in modern work, though

his own shows no trace of the unintelligibility of some of his countrymen. It is straightforward, with no meaningless subtlety; but as this is the first performance of his work in England, it is too soon yet to judge of it. That apart, it is work of a very great value that M. Saminsky is doing in showing us the music of these oppressed but extremely cultured peoples. The war has made possible the fusion of many cultures, and if the Western peoples cannot so easily as the Russians assimilate the culture of the Oriental peoples, the path will be made much clearer by the work of exposition which M. Saminsky is in England to perform.

BANQUET IN BATOUM.

Celebrating Georgia's Independence.

On the occasion of the independence of Georgia and Azerbaidjan, a banquet was arranged in Batoum on January 14 by the Georgian and Azerbaidjan Consuls.

General Cook-Collis, the Military Governor, British officers, consuls of Azerbaidjan and Georgia, as well as French naval officers from ships in the harbour were invited.

The Georgian Consul, Tchimidjiev, in his speech thanked the Allies for the confirmation of the independence of Georgia and Azerbaidjan. Other speeches were made by General Cook-Collis and the chief French naval officer, both of whom greeted the new republics.

Mamed Bey Abashidze expressed the wish that the region of Batoum would be speedily joined to the native-land of Georgia.

Japan and Russian Bolshevism.

The Japanese Premier in a manifesto says that Japan cannot afford to permit the danger of Bolshevik influences to touch her territory. Japan is taking up the matter of military action against Bolshevism with America. A decision has not been reached but whatever happens either in the Allied Councils or within Siberia, Japan must protect herself. Japan has no territorial ambitions in Siberia and will not take a single square foot. The moment the Red menace is settled, Japan will withdraw every soldier.

BRITISH TOURING TRADE SHIP.

Stalls in all the Seven Seas.

Commander Roderick Day, who participated in the Antarctic expedition for the relief of the late Captain Scott, and who has been an official of the British Ministry of Shipping, has an interesting scheme for the development of British Overseas Trade. He is to take round the world a specially constructed ship of some 10,000 tons built by British workmen in British yards, which will in itself be a great outline demonstration of what Great Britain has to sell to the world.

All her fittings,—lighting, paint, furniture, perhaps, even food,—will be samples of British workmanship or production and in addition there will be accommodation for specially equipped stalls or stands containing exhibits of British goods of every variety. These stalls will be manned by a special staff of trained salesmen chosen by the exhibitors. The ship will go to every port that it can reach where business for Great Britain can be obtained.

The first trip that it is proposed to take is to South America, and accommodation is to be provided for 300 trade representatives with a large restaurant and a good reception room for entertaining guests. Receptions will be held to which the principal buyers and officials there will be invited, and introductions will be arranged between sellers and buyers in their own particular lines of business. The voyage round South America is intended to take one year. The exhibition would not be landed and therefore customs difficulties would largely disappear.

Petrograd a Deserted City.

A recent arrival from Petrograd has given *Reuter's* Agency a heart rending description of the city where, he says, there are no longer even old people or children. Men have joined the Red Army in order to secure the beggarly rations. Mothers whose children have died of famine have either committed suicide or have joined the Reds for the sake of a morsel of bread. The streets and houses are deserted, the city having literally died out in the clutches of the famine and frost prevailing, and it is unlikely that there will be anyone left alive within a month excepting the commissaries. The hospitals are crowded with people who are dying by thousands daily.

EDITORIAL.

Winter.

Today, as we write, there is wintry weather in Tiflis. The house roofs and the trees are white. Thus the long spell of fine sunny weather has been broken. January 23 was one of the finest days we have experienced this winter. Tiflis smiled in the sunshine; the air was beautifully fresh and clean. One thought of last winter in Baku, when it rained almost every day: when there was a biting wind more often than not; when the air was damp and foggy and bitterly cold. The British soldiers felt very much at home, but the local inhabitants were intensely annoyed because not only had the British, they said, brought their own special brand of weather with them, but also Baku had lost its reputation for mild winter weather. The weather in Tiflis was also very bad. This season it has been excellent.

Georgian Health Resorts.

For Georgia as a health resort there ought to be a great future. In a recent number of this paper we referred to the long road to Western Europe which is getting shorter as time goes on. Distance has up to now prevented Georgia from competing against better-known European health resorts. Distance is now no objection. Consider what Georgia has to offer. There are glorious mountains that out-Alp Switzerland. There are mineral springs whose waters have great medicinal value. There are sites innumerable for sanatoria. There are warm valleys as well as bracing hills. In summer one can leave an almost tropic plain and, thermometer in hand, one can climb a hill and stop when one reaches the temperature one requires. It is an ideal country. On the Black Sea coast there are places that out-Nice the Riviera. And for the sportsman there is game of all kinds and of all sizes, and there is some of the finest trout and salmon fishing the heart of any angler could desire. Georgia is a hospitable country and there are no more kind hosts than Georgians. Meanwhile, the hundreds of British officers and men who have returned to England will advertise the charms of Georgia to their friends.

The Language Difficulty.

The language difficulty really does not exist. Only a few necessary words are required, but even these will not be needed if Georgian scholars continue to learn English as they are doing now.

One will be able to travel about without having to speak any other tongue than one's native English. We once met a Pole who confessed to us that when he first went to England he spoke Polish and Russian only. His whole stock of English words was "Ham and eggs". Whenever he was hungry, he simply said "Ham and eggs". He assured us that he lived on nothing else for nearly a fortnight! This reminds us of another man who was determined to learn English. He bought a huge dictionary and set to work. Some weeks later he was asked how he was progressing. "Excellently", said he. "I already know two thousand words beginning with the letter 'A'". Meanwhile, we would suggest to the Georgian authorities that they have all public signs in Roman characters as well as in Georgian type. For Georgian print is really too difficult. Tiflis when written ტიფლისი does not seem Tiflis at all, and there are very few European visitors who could tell that ქართული კლუბი means "Georgian Club".

A Baku Banquet.

There was an excellent banquet given by the Azerbaijan Ministry in honour of Mr. Wardrop on January 25. It was quite an international dinner. Besides the hosts and the principal guest, there were Persian, Italian, Polish, Armenian, Russian, Georgian and British representatives present. And these last, by the way, included English, Irish and Scots. Fatahi Khan Khoiskiy, the Azerbaijan Foreign Minister, proposed the toast of Great Britain, to which Mr. Wardrop replied in Russian. The Georgian, Polish and Persian representatives also spoke and in response to the toast of the British Army, the very popular Colonel Stokes addressed the company in Persian, to the delight of everyone, including those who, like ourselves, did not understand a single word! During the banquet an excellent programme of music, songs and dances was given. One of the artistes, by the way, was an American negro, who had drifted—heaven knows how—into Trans-Caucasia. After the dinner he asked us if we thought his "show" would be a success in London. Then he told us that when he last performed in B—, General — (naming a well-known British general) had said to him, "Say, Boy, you gotta go to London". Which reminds us of the famous interview with the late Lord Kitchener which was written for an American journal by the well-known writer,

Irvin Cobb. The ideas may have been those of Lord Kitchener, but the language in which he was reported to have expressed them was that of the wild and woolly west.

Georgian Music.

In this number of the "Georgian Mail" we publish a report from the "Near East" regarding a recital of Caucasian music in London. As we state in a note preceding the article, we do not in any way associate ourselves with the statements made in the article regarding the music of the various peoples in the Caucasus. They may or may not be correct. We shall be grateful to any reader who can enlighten us further in the matter. There is a distinct charm about Georgian music. In London one is already acquainted with the folk-songs of most of the European peoples. Russian opera and ballet are almost as much at home in London now as they were in Moscow or Petrograd. Only recently there was a recital of Czecho-Slovak music. The news that London has been able to listen to the songs and music of the Caucasus is pleasing. It is simply another way in which the peoples of the two countries can be brought closer together.

Rumours.

The latest rumour—actually published in a Baku newspaper, and then officially denied—is that ten thousand British troops are proceeding to Azerbaijan. Great Britain, says the rumour, has taken over Georgia and Azerbaijan as a protectorate. And so on, and so forth. It is extraordinary how these reports arise. We can only think that they must originally be uttered by such a lying "Voice" as that with which we dealt last week. Or is the discredit to be given to the same people who published a report last summer to the effect that the British troops were leaving the Caucasus and that "by arrangement with the British government" they were going to be replaced by "fifty thousand Turks"? After the signing of the Peace terms, it was said the world would settle down and that all strife would cease. Unfortunately, that was a rumour, too.

Zangezour.

The news from Zangezour is again disturbing. According to an Azerbaijan official report, the Armenian troops have again advanced in this district. The Mussulmans are fleeing in fearful panic. Azerbaijan asserts that even after the agreement signed between their repre-

sentatives and those of Armenia in Tiflis a few weeks ago, the Armenians have continued their aggression. The Armenians deny this. It is obvious that one or other side is lying. We have a very good opinion which it is. It is all very deplorable. At a time when the world is settling down to try and regain conditions approaching the pre-war normal, one can only regret the continual strife in the South Caucasus. Further, the guilty party is very foolish. The independence of the Trans-Caucasian republics and Armenia has been recognised, but the frontier lines have not yet been made known. Fighting now will not enlarge the aggressive state's boundaries. Rather, the aspirations of the state at fault will suffer. As we wrote a year ago, and as we have written consistently ever since, it is for the new republics to put their houses in order and to live at peace, one with the other, until such a time as their future status and their future frontiers are decided by the world's Great Powers. Azerbaijan and Armenia have each very much to gain: and as a corollary, each has very much to lose. Whichever state is in fault in the present instance will have to suffer for it in the future.

S. L.

GEORGIA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

"Warmest Greetings and Best Thanks".

The Speaker

The House of Commons, London.

Sir,

The Presidium of the Constituent Assembly of Georgia, moved by the great joy of the Georgian people at the "de facto" recognition of the independence of the Georgian Republic, sends the British Nation, through their House of Commons, its warmest greetings and best thanks. Owing to the initiative of the Government of Great Britain, the Georgian people join the family circle of European Nations. The Georgian people never doubted but that Great Britain, the cradle of liberty and the birth-place of European democracy, would uphold the freedom of small democratic Georgia. The Presidium hopes that Great Britain will also in the future show her friendly sympathy towards the just aspirations of the Georgian Republic and will give Georgia a friendly hand in the hour of need.

Please accept, Sir, my most cordial greetings and expression of deep respect.

Assistant President of the Constituent Assembly, Lomtathidze.

FATALI KHAN KHOISKY.

INTERVIEW WITH AZERBAIDJAN FOREIGN MINISTER.

(From "Voerjodient").

The Azerbaïdjan Minister of Foreign Affairs, just arrived in Tiflis, kindly stated his views regarding the present moment in a long interview.

The Object of His Arrival.

"The chief object of my arrival in Tiflis," said Khan-Khoisky, "is my desire to see Mr. Gegetchkori, Georgian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Khatissov, the head of the Armenian Government in order to solve some questions (which had not been cleared up) and to remove some misunderstandings, partly caused by the Gokhtan events. I wanted also to see the representatives of the Allied missions for the purpose of stating to them my thanks regarding the acknowledgment of the independence of Azerbaïdjan and the clearing-up of further projects following this".

The Events in Gokhtan.

"Have you succeeded in clearing up the events in Gokhtan and settling the misunderstandings that took place?"

"At present we take all measures in order that these misunderstandings should be solved according to mutual interests. The Armeno-Azerbaïdjan relations are very complicated in general. In particular, referring to Gokhtan, according to information that I have by me, the last attack was caused by the previous destruction of over 40 Musulman villages in Zangezour by Armenians. Many refugees from these villages came to the district of Nakhitchevan, chiefly to the lower Akulissi, where they could find no shelter. Owing to famine and cold, the result of the ruin of their homes, they then went further to the upper Akulissi where, having met resistance, they ruined some districts. At present these refugees live in the upper Akulissi. Thus the events in Gokhtan were the result of former collisions".

The Union of the Three Republics.

"What measures are to be taken in order to remove the Armeno-Azerbaïdjan misunderstandings and to settle more normal mutual relations among the Trans-Caucasian Republics?"

"Lately we have been very much concerned by this question and

my sojourn at present in Tiflis has the object of finding in collaboration with the Georgian and Armenian Ministers a right way for the solution of contestible questions and the settlement if possible of a certain organ which would not only solve all contestible questions of the three Trans-Caucasian Republics but also to a considerable degree would coordinate their common mutual proceedings".

"What results have these negotiations had in reality?"

"After these negotiations and the exchange of opinions between Gegetchkori and Khatissov we nearly settled the base according to which the line of solution of all questions, the fate of which is interwoven in the life of the three Trans-Caucasian Republics, must be traced.

"In the first place, we agreed that all Governments of the Trans-Caucasian Republics must take all measures which depend upon them in order to prevent collisions in future and that from the present moment all misunderstandings would be solved through mutual agreements or arbitrage.

"It has been cleared up that the idea of independence is deep-seated in the minds of the people. It dictates the necessity of a closer drawing-near and of a closer union of all our Republics amongst themselves for united defence. In view of the common interests dictated by politico-economical connections in the whole of Trans-Caucasia demanding some-times common proceedings on an international scale, it is agreed that coordination of activity is necessary. This will be realised in fact by regular conference of the delegations of the three Governments. They will solve necessary questions and coordinate their activity. Of course these delegations must be formed out of representatives of all three Governments. They must meet on certain dates for sessions in the capitals of the three Republics in turn. The resolution has been adopted that every one of the Ministers who participated in the actual negotiations will discuss with his Government the question of forming delegations and when this question is affirmatively solved we shall create such an organ that will manage a certain amount of affairs issuing from the idea of solidarity of all peoples in Trans-Caucasia".

The Question of Union.

"How do you look at Poland's proposal to form an anti-Bolshevik union out of all the new state-formations of former Russia?"

"I must point out and underline that Azerbaïdjan as well as Georgia in their exterior policy acknowledge the principle of noninterference in the affairs of foreign states and in consequence they are against the entering the civil war which is taking place now in Russia. Because of this we cannot enter into agreements which would oblige us to interfere in foreign affairs. We want to live in peace with all, and amongst others with Soviet Russia. At the same time we should not object to such a union as would reinforce and create closer economical connections".

Soviet Russia.

"How do you picture the relations of Soviet Russia to Azerbaïdjan in the immediate future?"

"Of course it is not easy to answer this question because we are not aware of the plans of Soviet Russia for the immediate future, but I personally, bearing in mind some impartial facts, am inclined to think that Soviet Russia must take into consideration our neutrality as showing our most sincere and most peaceful aspirations, deprived of any aggressiveness and therefore cannot but acknowledge our independence. The Azerbaïdjan people desire sincerely to secure their inviolable independence and because of this they are ready to fight unanimously against every attempt on it from whatever part it may come".

Trans-Caucasia and the Entente.

"What will be, according to you, the future of Trans-Caucasia and in particular of Azerbaïdjan in connection with the acknowledgment of its independence?"

"It is difficult to foresee this at the present moment, but one may state with full conviction that if they will not hinder us to develop normally, the fact of the recognition of our independence alone reinforces already our political and international position, reinforces our economy and promises a complete working of our natural riches. The representatives of the Entente in Tiflis have promised to me their assistance in political and economical respects".

The Agreement with Persia.

"Concluding an agreement with Persia, we had in the first place economical aims in view. We desire to establish an exchange of

goods. We cannot receive corn from Persia, but we can receive rice, cotton, etc. In our turn we can propose to Persia all products from the Baku market which are wanted in Persia. Apart from this, Baku will be the main jumping-off place for export and import in Persia. Commercial relations may be developed on a great scale and demand the necessity of the working-out of a commercial agreement. Kindred feelings connecting our two nations guarantee that the most close relations will be established between us and Persia".

Situation in Daghestan.

"According to our information the Volunteers intend to evacuate Daghestan entirely. Some small forces are left there at present. Some Bolshevik tendencies exist in Daghestan, owing to the presence of the Volunteers. With the latter's departure they will, of course, weaken and the Mountain-people will receive the possibility, I hope, of organising their statesmanship conforming to the example of the Trans-Caucasian Republics".

The Arrival of the British Troops.

"Is the communication stated by some newspapers concerning the arrival of British troops to Baku in a short time true?"

"I do not think that this communication is in accordance with facts. At least I know nothing concerning this".

A Voyage Abroad.

"Is it true that you are going abroad?"

"I intend to go but even if I go, this will not take place before a month. The object of my voyage, if it takes place, is to study the situation in the Allied countries, having in view closer economical connections of Azerbaïdjan with Europe".

The Mood in Baku.

"The co-relation of the political parties is naturally submitted to some hesitations in connection with the present moment, but I count it natural, in particular in a country with republican regime. The position of the Government, as of the power in general, I count steady. The mood of the proletariat and in particular of the Musulman proletariat, does not follow the mottoes of the Bolsheviks, in spite of all their craftiness".

THE TOLL OF U-BOATS.

SUBMARINE SINKINGS DESCRIBED.

BRITISH SUCCESSES.

(By the "Times" Naval Correspondent.)

Not even at this late date has all the information in regard to the submarine campaign, and especially the losses inflicted upon the U-boats which waged it, been revealed. As to the success achieved by the British Navy, the first authoritative information on the subject was that given by Mr. Lloyd George when he announced, on August 7, 1918, that at least 150 enemy submarines had been destroyed up to that date, more than half the total being accounted for in the course of the past year.

It will be remembered that when the Prime Minister's statement was challenged in Germany the Admiralty replied by publishing the names of the commanding officers of 150 boats known to have been disposed of. A little more information was imparted when the story of the "Q" boats was revealed by Sir Eric Geddes, and in various works dealing with the naval war instances and events have been described. Yet nothing like a detailed list showing how, when, and where the German submarines met their doom has hitherto been made known. The interest in this subject must be all the greater when it is recalled that, apart from other means and appliances, nearly 5,000 craft were employed by the British Navy alone towards the end of the war in hunting U-boats.

Now, however, to fill this gap in the published historical records, Mr. H. C. Feeraby has compiled for the Navy League a chronological list of German submarine losses, the dates on which these occurred, and the agency by which the destruction of the boats was accomplished. In many cases also the names of the commanders of the British ships are given. This list appears in the December number of the League's publication, the *Navy*, which is issued today. Although the list does not appear to be exhaustive, it has been checked by Admiralty officials, and the informations in it is therefore to be regarded as authoritative. The instances included are 94 in number, and cover the whole period of the war, from the ramming of U. 15 by the Birmingham on August 9, 1914, to the destruction by gunfire and depth charges of U. 34 near Gibraltar on November 8, 1918, by H.M.S. *Privet* (Q.19), assisted by motor launches 373 and 555.

Apparently destruction by every means except mines, and in all seas, has been covered. The growth and increasing effectiveness of our anti-submarine organization as the war progressed is amply shown, for whereas in 1914 only two submarines were accounted for, the total rose to 30 in

1917 and 37 during the 45 weeks of war in 1918. That is to say, in 1914 we sank, on an average, one enemy submarine in 73 days; in 1915 and 1916 the rate was one boat every 33 and 26 days respectively; in 1917 one was sunk every 12 days; and in 1918 the rate of loss was nearly one a week.

Modes of Destruction.

An analysis of the 94 cases reveals the interesting fact that depth charges, used by all classes of vessels, were the most effective means of destroying the U-boats. They accounted for 28 submarines, or twice as many as any other agency. The first recorded instance of their employment was on July 6, 1916, when the motor-boat *Salmon* destroyed U.C.10 by a depth charge in the North Sea. Sometimes other weapons were employed in conjunction, as on September 29, 1917, when the *Sylvia* destroyed U.C.55 near the Shetlands by gunfire and depth charges; and on October 23, 1917, when U.C.16 was sunk off Selsea Bill with explosive paravanes and depth charges.

The ram, which at first was the most common means of attacking the submarines, continued to be employed all through the war, and 15 instances in this list are attributed to it. The last recorded case was that when the *Olympic* rammed and sank U.103 in the Channel on May 12, 1918. *Gunire*, which might have been supposed to settle the fate of a large number, has 14 to its credit, excluding the boats sunk by gunfire from the "Q" or mystery ships. Seven successes by the latter are included in the new list, the earliest of which, recorded by Lord Jellicoe, was that of the armed collier, *Prince Charles*, commanded by Lieutenant W. P. Mark-Wardlaw, R.N.

Especially remarkable are the cases, 15 in number, in which German U-boats were sunk by British submarines, presumably in most, if not all, instances by means of the torpedo. It was commonly supposed before the war that submarines could not destroy submarines, because they were blind under water, but experience has shown this to be a mistaken estimate. It is true that in certain cases the British submarines which succeeded in destroying U-boats were cooperating with surface craft, the latter acting as decoys to the enemy. The only description of vessel which had a greater number of successes than the submarines was the destroyer, which was able to bring into action every kind of appliance used against the enemy's under-water craft. Five instances are described of the sinking of submarines by bombs from seaplanes, which, con-

sidering the difficulties of ensuring success in an attack from the air, must be accounted a very fair proportion. All these five engagements took place between May 20 and September 28, 1917.

Only three instances are mentioned of the destruction of U-boats by nets, two of which took place in the Otranto barrage. This method was thought during the war to have been a much more frequent cause of loss, and the only explanation which suggests itself is that the exact fate of the boats was not definitely established. The list includes two submarines which were blown up by their own crews after they had grounded, one off Jutland and the other on the Goodwins. The four remaining categories each contain one example. U.C.5 was captured; U.B.6 grounded in Hollana and was interned; U.27 was lost on August 19, 1915, from some cause which is unrecorded; and the destruction of U.66 and U.106 about October 1, 1917, is credited to a combined operation, in which destroyers, submarines, and net drifters participated.

Types of the U-boat Victims.

All three types of German submarines were represented among the victims. The "UC" class were the smallest and fitted for minelaying, their radius of action only enabling them to operate in the North Sea and English Channel for a maximum of 14 days. The "UB" class were somewhat larger, and could remain out for 14 to 24 days. They carried no torpedoes, and were armed with a 4-in. gun. The "U" class proper were capable of making cruises from 20 to 30 days, and were mostly fitted with torpedoes, although some had mines. It is noteworthy that several actions against German submarines which have been recorded and described are not to be found in the Navy League catalogue. There is, for example, the sinking of a submarine off Ostend on August 26, 1915, by bombs from an aeroplane piloted by Commander Bigsworth. There is also the action fought by the *Prize*, a mystery-ship, on April 30, 1917, for which her commander, Lieutenant Sanders, R.N.R., won the V.C.

Although two of Captain Gordon Campbell's actions are found in the new list, his earliest encounter, in H.M.S. *Farnborough*, on March 23, 1916, is omitted. Similarly, there is no mention of two other notable actions by "Q" boats, that of Commander Blackwood in the *Stoncrop*, in September, 1917; and that of Commander Auten, V.C., in the *Stock Force*, on July 30, 1918. It may be assumed that in these instances, and in others which find no place, the U-boats, although badly damaged, managed to reach port. It has been suggested that the German under-water craft were winning the war, but no more conclusive evidence than these facts and figures afford is needed to prove the efficacy of the British reply to the Hun submarine menace.

Kurdistan.

The collapse of the Austro-Hungarian and Turkish Empires in each of which various peoples were subjected to a foreign yoke, has given rise to so many appeals for independence, that it is almost impossible to keep count of them all. As regards the Turkish Empire, the Arabs, the Jews of Palestine, the Syrians and the Armenians have all made more or less successful appeals, but there are other appeals also, with regard to which there is as yet no indication of the reply which the Allies will make. Among these the demand for an independent Kurdistan is not the least important or interesting.

The Kurds, who are said by some authorities to be of the same race as the Armenians and by others to be of a different race altogether, are estimated to number about 3,000,000 of which the Ottoman Kurds number 1,250,000. Originally they were all nomads and pagans, but in modern times a number of them have settled down to a sedentary agricultural life and although the old pagan cult still survives, most of them are now Moslems, at least in appearance. The Ottoman Kurds are mostly of the orthodox Sunni sect, while the Persian Kurds follow the Shia persuasion.

The Ottoman Kurds are scattered through the provinces of Mamuret ul Aziz, Diarbekir, Bitlis, Van, Erzerum and Sivas, and in many instances it is not easy to say which is Armenian country and which is Kurdish country. They are divided up into numerous tribes governed by an hereditary chief or Sheikh whose authority seems to be absolute and there are three social classes: the nobles or "turum", the warriors and cultivators or "rayas" and the common folk or "zazas".

Until 1836 the Kurds although nominally subject to the Porte were in reality practically independent, but in that year they were reduced by a ferociously conducted military expedition under Reshid Pasha. Numerous other expeditions followed until in 1869 the whole of the Kurds had been reduced to obedience. Strangely enough when the Russo-Turkish War broke out in 1878, the Kurds not only took no advantage of the embarrassment of the Turks, but gave extensive and invaluable assistance to the Turkish armies. No sooner, however, was the war at an end than they revolted again and the Turks had some trouble in getting the better of them. But at no time can the Kurds be said to have led a peaceful existence.

After the armistice an association of Kurdish notables in Constantinople formulated a demand for an independent Kurdistan and Sherif Pasha, formerly a Turkish Minister at Stockholm, who is of Kurdish blood, became their representative in Paris, although there is no record of his having been formally acknowledged as such by the Peace Conference. Meanwhile the Turkish Government denies that there is a genuine demand among the majority of the Kurds for an existence separate from that of Turkey and bases its assertion upon numerous affirmations of loyalty from the chiefs of important Kurdish tribes. There is, however, no doubt that a very considerable number of influential Kurdish leaders insist upon complete independence. Possibly the truth of the matter is that the Kurds are divided between their longing for political independence and their religious loyalty to the Khalifat as Moslems.