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WEATHER—RAIN

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## GERMAN SUCCESS IN ROUMANIA HAS RENDERED SITUATION VERY GRAVE

Russians Have Borne Whole Brunt of Heavy German Attack in the Hope Roumanian Armies Would Have Opportunity to Refit and Reorganize—Capture of Fokshani Signifies Turning of Allied Lines and is Serious Menace to Whole Sereth Position.

### TEUTONIC ALLIES CAPTURE ANOTHER ROUMANIAN FORT

Mackensen's Onward March Results in Capture of Fokshani With Nearly 4,000 Prisoners and Much War Material.

British Troops Repulse All German Efforts to Approach Positions Southeast of Souchez—Enemy Batteries Effectively Engaged by British Artillery in Co-operation with Airplanes.

Another of Roumania's fortresses has fallen into the hands of the Teutonic allies. Keeping up their intensive forward movement along the railroad line northward into Moldavia, Field Marshal Von Mackensen's troops have taken Fokshani, and with nearly 4,000 prisoners and some cannon and machine guns. At last reports the invaders were pursuing the defeated Russians, while in spite of the snow and cold weather the troops of Archduke Joseph of Austria were pressing back the Roumanians eastward into Moldavia, between the Putna and Oltuz valleys.

The capture of Fokshani, which lies on the railroad forty-five miles northwest of Galatz, apparently places the important Danube town in great jeopardy.

The Russian war office, in its last communication, does not mention the capture of Fokshani, but records a repulse of the invaders northwest of the town in the region of Pontichesche, where they are said to have suffered heavy casualties. The repulse of Teutonic allied attacks at several other places, notably a short distance from where the Buzeu river enters into the Sereth, a short distance southwest of Galatz, also is told of.

Up in the region of Riga the Russians have taken trenches from the Germans near the village of Kalsmen, and in addition captured prisoners, machine guns, trench mortars and one heavy battery.

In a three days' battle in this region the Russians have taken sixteen cannon and about 800 prisoners.

In the other theatres there is still little activity, except by the artillery and patrol parties.

London, Jan. 8.—The following official communication was issued this evening:

### Petrograd Declares Fokshani Is Still in Hands of Russians

Petrograd, via London, Jan. 8.—(British Admiralty per wireless Press).—The war office communication issued today dealing with the campaign in Roumania reports the repulse of a Teutonic allied attack northwest of Fokshani, in which the invaders left a large number of dead and wounded on the field. Attacks along the Sereth were also repulsed. The statement adds:

The morning assumed the offensive in the region of Petzeschi, northwest of Fokshani, and pressed back the Roumanians. Further movements by the enemy, however, were stopped by the arrival of our reserves. The enemy, in close formation, took the offensive on sectors of our position in the region of Pontichesche, northwest of Fokshani. Being met by our heavy fire they fell back, leaving a great number of killed or wounded.

"Enemy attacks north of Oloneska, Ukota and at Ali, on the River Sereth, eight versts east of the mouth of the Buzeu, were also completely unsuccessful.

"Caucasus front: On the mountains in the Ourtia region the snowstorm still continues."

### FIXING THE PRICES FOR BRITISH CROPS

London, Jan. 8.—Baron Devonport, the food controller, has fixed the following prices which home growers may charge for their 1917 crops:

Wheat, sixty shillings per 604 pounds; oats, thirty-eight shillings, six pence, per 356 pounds, and potatoes,

a varying price of 115 to 130 shillings per ton.

The minister of munitions, under the Defence of the Realm Act, has forbidden any manufacture or assembling of internal combustion engines, except under government permit.

### SPAIN ENTERS PROTEST.

Paris, Jan. 8.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Madrid says the Spanish government has addressed a complaint to the German government on the subject of the torpedoing of the steamer San Leandro.

London, Jan. 9.—The capture of Fokshani, the western bastion of the fortified Sereth line, by the Teutonic allies is commented upon here as rendering graver the situation in Roumania. The fact that the capture of the town was not mentioned in the latest Russian official statement is regarded as probably being explainable by the Russian communication being of an earlier date than that of the German war office. The consensus is that the loss of Fokshani is a serious menace to the whole Sereth position. The Times today goes as far as to say:

"It means that the Sereth lines are turned, and that our allies must now fall back once more. There is no sign of slackening in the enemy's determination, and it may well be, as our correspondent at Jassy, the new Roumanian capital, suggests, that he designs the complete subjugation of Roumanian territory."

The Times pays tribute to the great efforts Russia put forth in Roumania's behalf, saying:

"Her attempt to hold the Sereth lines has failed, as the attempt to save Bucharest failed; but she has delayed the Germans for weeks, and made them pay a heavy price for their successes. The main brunt of the recent defensive has fallen on Russia, for the bulk of the Roumanian army has been withdrawn behind the Russian lines to be refitted and reorganized. Russia could hardly have hoped to more than delay the enemy's advance. Field Marshal Von Mackensen has three large armies at his disposal, and we may be sure of Austria's superiority in big guns. With both their extremities now in the enemy's hands, the Sereth lines, so far as they run west of the river, are useless. No doubt the Russians are on the way by the time the main defensive line, the River Sereth itself. Behind that line again is the formidable river line of the Pruth. Von Mackensen is now almost within striking distance of Russian territory, but he must either attempt a passage of the Danube from Dobruja or must force the river positions of the Sereth and Pruth before he can set foot on it."

"Early last night the enemy made three attempts to approach our positions southeast of Souchez. On each occasion he was driven back by our fire before reaching our trenches. A number of German wounded were left in front of our lines.

"The artillery has been active on both sides at a number of places along the line, both on the front and the support trenches in the back areas. In particular effective bombardments have been carried out by the enemy east of Lesbouffs, on both sides of the Anere and east of Neuve Chapelle. Ypres was heavily shelled by the enemy during the day.

"Yesterday a number of enemy batteries were effectively engaged by our artillery, in co-operation with our airplanes. Many pieces of military importance behind the enemy's lines were successfully bombed. A number of fights in the air took place in which two of the enemy machines were driven down damaged. Two of our machines are missing."

### WOMAN THRILLS WESTERN COURT BY HER ARGUMENT

Mrs. Annetta Adams, Assistant U. S. District Attorney Takes Part in Case Against German Consul General Bopp.

San Francisco, Jan. 8.—Mrs. Annetta Adams, assistant United States district attorney, began the government's closing argument today in the case of Frank Bopp, German consul-general in San Francisco, and co-defendants on trial for alleged conspiracy to violate American neutrality. Mrs. Adams' argument consisted of the weaving together of the government's case against the defendants, who are accused of having plotted to blow up ships and railroads carrying supplies to the Entente Allies.

When Mrs. Adams finished her review of the evidence and called upon the jury for a conviction, after pointing out what she termed "flimsy explanations of the defendants," women admirers showered her with bouquets.

### ABE ATTELL KNOCKED OUT BY NEW ORLEANS FIGHTER

New Orleans, Jan. 8.—Phil Virgots of New Orleans knocked out Abe AtteLL, one-time featherweight champion in the fourth round of a scheduled ten-round bout here tonight. AtteLL weakened after the first round, and in the fourth Virgots' left hook to the point of his chin, followed by a right cross, produced a knockout. AtteLL was unconscious for five minutes. The men weighed in at 126 pounds.

### TO REFINE "WAR ORES" IN CANADA

Canadian Government Expected to Develop Refineries of Lead and Copper and Zinc—Legislation Fore-shadowed.

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—It is foreshadowed that legislation will be introduced this session looking to the development of the refining of lead, copper and zinc, so that the empire may not have to depend on foreign sources of supplying in war time for these metals indispensable in munitions manufacture. For several months officers of the finance department have been inquiring into the metallic industries within this end in view.

### WILL SHIP DIAMONDS BY U-BOAT

Germany's Latest Plan for Development of Undersea Commerce with America.

Amsterdam, Jan. 8, via London, Jan. 9.—According to the Handelsblad, more than one million marks worth of German cut diamonds will be shipped at an early date to America by a German submarine freighter.

### PETROGRAD STILL DOUBTS MURDER TALE

Stockholm Newspaper Declares Russian Capital Does Not Believe Story of Rasputin's Death.

London, Jan. 8.—The Stockholm newspaper Nya Dagligt Allehanda, as quoted in an exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen, says that according to reliable information from Petrograd, it is not believed there that the Monk Gregory Rasputin, circumstantial stories of whose assassination were published recently, is dead.

### HOLLAND TAKING OVER INTERNED SUBMARINES

London, Jan. 8.—The Dutch minister of marine, J. J. Rambonnet, says a Reuter despatch from The Hague, announces that because naval construction has been hampered by the war, negotiations have been opened with the British and German governments with a view to Holland taking over interned submarines. The transfer of one British and one German submarine has thus far been arranged.

### MENNONITES OF THE WEST ASK GOVERNMENT TO EXEMPT THEM FROM MILITARY SERVICE

DATE FIXED FOR THE BY-ELECTION IN DORCHESTER.

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—The Dorchester, Que. by-election necessitated by Hon. Albert Sevigny's cabinet appointment is fixed for Saturday, January 27, and the nominations on the 20th.

### RUSSIANS TAKE VILLAGES AS WELL AS MEN AND GUNS

On Western Russian Front they are Meeting with Much Success in Campaign Against Huns.

Petrograd, via London, Jan. 8.—(British admiralty per wireless press)

—The war office communication issued tonight says:

"Western (Russian) front: Our detachments gained possession of a village, in the vicinity of the northwest corner of the swamp of Tird. After a stubborn struggle we captured enemy trenches north of the village of Kalsmen, and south of the western end of Lake Babit we took some prisoners, machine guns, trench mortars and one heavy battery. All the fierce counter-attacks by the enemy were repulsed.

"In the battle south of Lake Babit, since the beginning of the operations on Saturday, we have captured sixteen cannon and about 800 prisoners. Our troops have displayed extraordinary endurance and unrestrained bravery.

### TWO NEW BRUNSWICKERS ON THE CASUALTY LIST

Sapper R. E. Johnston of Debec and Lance Sergt. Tennant of Fredericton Wounded.

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—10.30 p. m. list:

Infantry.

Died of Wounds—

Archibald McCormick, Sydney, N. S.

Wounded—

R. D. Fraser, St. Joseph, N. S.

Acting Lance Sergt. N. M. Tennant, Fredericton, N. B.

G. D. Duggan, Freetown, P. E. I.

Engineers.

Died—

Sapper Robert E. Johnston, Debec Junction, N. B.

Mounted Rifles.

Dangerously Ill—

David McGowan, Malpeque, P. E. I.

Wounded—K. R. Sheron, Crapaud, P. E. I.

J. P. McPhail, Westville, N. S.

### GREECE MAKES EVASIVE ANSWER TO THE ALLIES

Reply to Last Note Neither Refuses or Accepts Entente Demand but Deals with Difficulty in the Way.

### Ottawa Has Some Interesting Experiences as Result of National Service Campaign—Sir Robert Borden Signs His Card.

One Patriotic Canadian Now Incarcerated in American Prison Also Evidences His Willingness to "Do His Bit" When His Sentence Has Been Served.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—A Mennonite delegation waited upon a number of members of the government this afternoon, including Hon. Robert Rogers, Hon. W. J. Roche and Hon. T. W. Crothers, and presented their case in favor of continued relief from the necessity of being called upon for military service. They pointed out that the Mennonites of the west including the settlers in southern Manitoba and Saskatchewan, were originally of Dutch origin. From that country they migrated to Germany and thence to Russia on the promise that they would not have to serve in the army. The guarantees given by Russia were subsequently revoked and the Mennonites came to Canada under similar pledges.

The delegation expressed the hope that the national service proposals do not mean conscription and asked that the agreement under which they came to Canada should be adhered to.

Hon. Mr. Rogers in reply said that the national service movement does not mean conscription, but it would be impossible for the government to give any definite promises as to what action it would take in the future in the event of the war being indefinitely prolonged, any pledges made in the past, however, would be fulfilled. The ministers intimated that it is not

the intention of the government to prevent Mennonites who desire to enroll in the service of the country from enlisting. Should they desire to do so no obstacles would be placed in their way.

Sir Robert Borden's card has been received by the national service directors. He replied to "what are you working at for a living?" with "Prime Minister of Canada," and expressed a willingness to leave where he now lives to some other place in Canada, "at the same pay."

Incarceration in a United States prison has not quenched the patriotic ardor of one Canadian citizen. Today the director of national service received a registration form clipped from a Canadian newspaper, with all questions answered and signed from an inmate of a state penitentiary across the line. He did not know that registration applies only to those in Canada, but he thought he was complying with a loyal and patriotic demand.

The questions were answered all right and quite seriously. To query 17, "what are you working at for a living?" he answered "doing five years in the penitentiary." A letter was sent accompanying the registration form stating that the writer would soon be on parole.

### REPRESENTATIVES OF ALLIES IN FULL ACCORD AS TO WAR

Conference at Rome Has Reached Eminently Satisfactory Understanding, Says Temps, on Authority of Private Conversations.

Full Expectation Now that Campaign Against Germans will be Carried Forward More Effectively than at any Time Since Commencement of War.

Paris, Jan. 8.—Although no communication has been made public regarding the conference of the Allies, says a Rome despatch to the Temps, private conversations with some of the principal figures in the conference leave no doubt that the result is fully satisfactory, and that the representatives of the Entente Powers separate in full accord and full confidence. The French premier, M. Briand, said to the Temps correspondent:

"Our visit has been most fruitful, and was timely. Many differences of detail had arisen since the last conference of the Allies, and in all directions the attempt was made to elucidate the Entente and the relations between the Allies—without mentioning public events that are known to everyone. It was necessary to dissipate the fogs and overcome the difficulties and find a common solution to accord with present and future events. All that was undertaken in a spirit of accord and good faith, and we have eliminated all the difficulties that could hinder our united efforts."

statements in response to the last note of the Allies. These statements, the despatch says, are neither a refusal nor an acceptance of the Entente note, but point out difficulties in the way of compliance with some of the terms.

An Athens despatch last Saturday said the Greek government had decided to reject certain clauses of the Entente note, which demands reparation for the recent outbreak at Athens in which Entente soldiers were fired on.

### BALAKLAVA HERO DEAD.

Elkton, M. D., Jan. 8.—August A. Brown, who served in the famous Light Brigade of the British army at Balaklava, died here today. He was ninety-two years of age.

### GREEK KING ON RATIONS.

Athens, Jan. 7, via London, Jan. 8.—King Constantine has applied for and received the regular bread card which is issued to all heads of families.