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WEATHER—MOSTLY FAIR

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## LLOYD GEORGE NEW PREMIER; GERMANS TAKE BUCHAREST

### BUCHAREST HAS FALLEN INTO HANDS OF GERMANS

Teutonic Armies Now in Possession of Half of Rumanian Kingdom—Defending Armies Believed to be in Hazardous Position.

Sensational Climax to Drive Incepted by Mackensen's and Falkenhayn's Armies—Severe Fighting Also Reported from Other Fronts.

Bucharest, the capital of Roumania, is in the hands of the forces of the Central Powers.

Exactly one hundred days after the declaration of war by Roumania against them finds the Teutonic allies in control of about 50,000 square miles of Rumanian territory, virtually one-half of the kingdom—running from the Transylvanian Alps northwest of the capital to the Danube south of it and a large part of Dobruja, and probably still on the heels of the retreating Russian and Rumanian armies which have been endeavoring to hold them back.

Simultaneously with the announcement of the fall of Bucharest came the news of the capture of the important railway junction of Ploesti, north of the capital, the conquest of which places in the hands of the invaders the last railroad in the west and gives to them the head of a line running northward to Jassy, where the capital of Roumania is now situated.

No details have as yet come through concerning the climax to the drive of the armies of General Von Falkenhayn and Field Marshal Von Mackensen, or whether the Rumanians or Russians succeeded entirely in making their escape behind the Bucharest line.

Previous to the announcement of the capture of Bucharest and of Ploesti, unofficial advices had indicated that four divisions of the defenders were in a hazardous position in the region due west of Bucharest and in danger of being enveloped. With the fall of Bucharest the Teutonic allies are now in possession of four capitals of Entente Allied states, the others being Brussels, Belgrade and Cetinje.

#### RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE FALLING OFF.

In the northwest, in the Carpathians, region near the Bukovina frontier and along the Moldavia front, the Russian offensive begun as a diversion against the Teutonic advance into Roumania, apparently is meeting with little success. In the Carpathians west of Jabonitza the Russians occupied a height, but later were shelled off the position by the Germans. To the south they succeeded in penetrating to the second line of the German defenses in the Trotus Valley, but were held by the defenders from further advance. North of the Otuz Pass and southeast of Kedzi Varsahely, the Austro-Germans took positions from the Russians.

#### SERBIANS ARE ADVANCING.

Additional fortified heights northeast of Budimirta, in Serbia, have been captured by the Serbs from the Bulgarians and Germans, according to the Saloniki war office, while the Bulgarians are reported by Berlin to have expelled the Serbs from positions near Gradeshnitsa. A heavy bombardment is in progress north of Monastir.

The Germans have again essayed a somewhat intense attack in the Verdun sector, launching it on the slopes east of the famous Hill 304 near Avocourt. According to Paris the attack was partially successful, the Germans gaining a footing in some of the advanced French trenches. Otherwise on the French front there have been only bombardments and operations by raiding parties.

In the Austro-Italian and Russian theatres the big guns are still doing the greater portion of the work. The Russians have heavily shelled the Narayuvka region in Galicia.

Berlin, Dec. 5, by wireless to Sayville.—Bucharest, capital of Roumania, has been captured; it was officially announced today.

Ploesti, the important railroad junction town 36 miles northwest of Bucharest, also has been taken.

The capture of Ploesti, on the main railway line running north from Bucharest, cuts the main railway line of retreat for the Rumanian armies operating in the Bucharest region.

The official statement does not indicate whether the entry of the Teutonic forces into Bucharest and Ploesti was simultaneous. The capture of Ploesti before that of the capital would be far more serious for the Rumanians. Many military observers looked for the Rumanians not to attempt a defense of the capital to the last, expecting an evacuation in time to save the forces defending it by a withdrawal of the railway route remaining to them.

The taking of Bucharest virtually completes the conquest by the Teutonic forces of the southern section of the Rumanian kingdom, embracing territory of more than 50,000 square miles.

From the hour when Field Marshal Von Mackensen forced a crossing of the Danube, and on November 24 set foot on Rumanian soil, effecting a junction shortly afterward with General Von Falkenhayn's armies driving through Wallachia from the west, there seemed little doubt of the ultimate fate of the Rumanian capital. The relentless pressure of the Teutonic invading armies, with their preponderance of heavy artillery, proved too much for King Ferdinand's forces once the Rumanian front was broken in western Wallachia and the Danube crossed behind the line of the northern Teutonic irruptions.

Continuously outflanked on the south by Von Mackensen's advance and on the north by further Austro-German irruptions through the mountain passes, the Rumanians had no chance but to fall back upon the line of their capital, and now have been forced to yield even that.

### BRITAIN'S NEW MINISTRY WILL BE COALITION WITH LLOYD GEORGE IN CHARGE

Secretary of War Succeeds in Overthrowing His Former Chief—Called Upon by King to Form Ministry He Accepts the Commission—Earl Derby Throws More Light on Cause of Political Crisis—Laborites Pass Resolution Which Indicates They Will Not Support New Premier.

London, Dec. 6.—David Lloyd George has overthrown the Asquith cabinet, and will become prime minister himself. The new government will be coalition, like the old one, but probably without the same measure of harmonious support which attended the formation of the first coalition government, because its birth has created additional factional differences.

This result has emerged from another day of active and hurried party conferences and a day of intense suspense and interest throughout the country.

There was a prospect this afternoon that the personal offices of the King might solve the situation, and many thought that the Asquith regime might be continued. The king called the party leaders to Buckingham Palace and conferred with them for more than an hour.

Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George, of the Liberals; Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Balfour, of the Unionists, and Mr. Henderson, of the Labor party, were with the sovereign. It is many years since a British ruler assembled the representatives of the different factions face to face when they had shown themselves unable to settle their differences. But no such serious crisis has arisen before to require such action by the king.

Whatever passed in council is held secret, but the inference that the king tried to arrange a reconciliation appears a most natural one. The five statesmen departed separately, four in their motor cars, and the workmen's spokesman afoot.

Afterwards the King gave an audience to Mr. Bonar Law, who declined to undertake the formation of a new ministry, and then to Mr. Lloyd George who accepted the responsibility, as everyone anticipated he would, if the opportunity came to him.

#### WILL BE COALITION GOVERNMENT.

The official announcement tonight that Mr. Lloyd George had undertaken the task, with the co-operation of Mr. Bonar Law, was a notification that the new government would be coalition. Any party government would be impossible, because neither the Unionists nor the Liberals have a majority in the House of Commons; either one must attach the Irish Nationalists or the Laborites to itself to command a majority.

The Nationalist have refused to participate in the government until home rule becomes established. The Laborites are sworn enemies of Mr. Lloyd George, because they resent his accusations that the workmen have put their personal interests above the National interests at times during the war. Continued on page 2.

### SIR ROBT. BORDEN AND R. B. BENNETT OPEN BIG RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

At Mass Meeting in Monument National, Montreal, Sir Robert Declared that "Victory Depends Upon the Thorough Organization of the National Strength."

Montreal, Dec. 6.—Sir Robert Borden, premier of Canada, and Mr. R. B. Bennett, M. P., director-general of national service, opened a campaign at the Monument National here tonight that is calculated to stir up the people of Canada to a better understanding of their duty in the world war and to a realization that every man who can do so should help to gain the victory for the Allies. The campaign is to take the premier and director-general west as far as the coast and tomorrow night they are to be in Quebec.

Sir Robert was given an excellent hearing, but Mr. Bennett was subjected to a good many interruptions. There was a hostile element present was brought out more clearly when Hon. E. L. Patenaude, minister of inland revenue, was speaking. He was almost continuously interrupted, and the force of his address was spent largely in retorts.

The disturbance was so marked that Hon. T. C. Casgrain and Hon. C. J. Doherty, who were to have spoken decided to remain silent. The gathering was large. Mr. Ludger Gravel, president of the chamber of commerce, and Mr. H. B. Walker, president of the board of trade, were joint chairmen.

The premier referred to the justice of the cause of the Allies, the patriotism and suffering of the French and Belgians, the splendid response of all the overseas dominions to the call to take part in the great war, and said: "I point with pride and gratitude to the fact that during a little more than two years nearly 400,000 Canadians have responded to the call of duty, more than 150,000 have seen service at the front, and more than 100,000 of them are now in the fighting line."

He emphasized the point that "victory depends upon the thorough organization of the national strength," and said: "The government has determined that an estimate shall be made of the man power of Canada, and the board of national service, created for this purpose will place before the people, in the immediate future the means by which that estimate can be effectually made."

### SITUATION IN ATHENS IS SERIOUS

London Claims Royalists Control all Cables and Press Censorship.

### BRITISH AND FRENCH RESIDENTS LEAVING

Great Excesses Feared Both in Athens and Larissa—Serious Rioting Reported.

London, Dec. 6.—The foreign office has issued a statement to the effect that there is a reason to believe that press messages do not give an accurate picture of the actual situation at Athens, both because the royalists have succeeded in retaining control of the cable and press censorships, and because the allied press correspondents in Athens are living under threats of personal violence, in common with all those suspected of Venizelist leanings. The foreign office adds:

"There is unfortunately reason to believe that very grave acts of violence have been committed by royalist forces and the mob."

London, Dec. 6.—In a despatch dated Tuesday, Reuter's Saloniki correspondent says:

"According to trustworthy news from Athens order is being preserved, but arrests of the followers of Venizelos continue. Piræus is quiet. It is occupied by detachments of allied troops. The railway service between Athens and Piræus is not interrupted, but the telegraph and telephone lines have been cut by royalists."

#### Excesses at Larissa.

"The provisional government has received news of great excesses at Larissa, where all the shops were closed as the result of pillaging bands of royalists marching through the town shouting (jeu de Venizeliste). The people are declared to be panic-stricken. Similar scenes took place at Trilissia and Volo."

#### French Residents Leaving.

Paris, Dec. 6.—A Havas despatch from Athens says that the entire French colony left Athens yesterday. The foreign colonies now all are the hotels of Piræus, and many have embarked on the vessels in the harbor. "Athens is apparently calm," continues the despatch, "but the population is much impressed by the exodus of the foreigners, and in a great state of anxiety. Arrests of supporters of former Premier Venizelos and searches of their residences continue, while the Venizelist organs no longer appear."

"Barriers have been raised in the streets, and are guarded by royalist regular troops, augmented by voluntary enrollments of reservists. The Entente ministers have been looking after the departure of their nationals."

"At Janina officers of the garrison, aided by reservists, have arrested Venizelist supporters."

#### British Colony at Piræus.

London, Dec. 6.—Official telegrams show that Athens is quiet, at least temporarily. Steps are being taken to insure the safety of the British colony, part of whose members have gone to Piræus.

### GERMAN SUBMARINES ARE OPERATING IN ATLANTIC

Funchal, Madeira, Bombarded from the Sea—French Gunboat Sunk and 34 Lives Lost.

Because of Reports of Submarine Activity Newfoundland Government Has Cancelled Despatch of Draft of Recruits—Extra Precautionary Measures on Coast of "Ye Ancient Colony."

#### HUN U-BOATS AT MADEIRA.

London, Dec. 6.—The French gunboat *Surprise* has been sunk by German submarines at Funchal, Madeira, according to an announcement by the Portuguese minister of marine in a wireless despatch received here from Lisbon. Thirty-four of the crew of the gunboat perished.

A few Portuguese were also killed aboard the steamers *Kangaroo* and *Dacia*, which were torpedoed, according to the despatch.

A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Lisbon says: "News received from Madeira says that 34 persons were killed in the bombardment of Funchal."

"The submarines shelled the shore for two hours, especially the English cable station and other public buildings, but only small damage was done. The steamers *Kangaroo* and *Dacia* were torpedoed."

#### ENEMY BOAT DRIVEN OFF.

Paris, Dec. 6.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Lisbon, dated Monday, says a submarine fired fifty shells on Funchal, capital of the island of Madeira. The population, frightened, fled, and only returned when the submarine departed under an intense fire from the fortress. The despatch adds that the fire from the submarine struck a ship, killing six Portuguese sailors.

#### PRECAUTIONS IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

St. John's Nfld., Dec. 6.—The colonial government permitted it to become known today that reports of German submarines in the Atlantic had resulted in the cancelling of the despatch of a draft of recruits for the Newfoundland regiment, which had been planned for the last week in November. Some of the regulations previously enforced, but recently suspended, regarding measures for coast defense, have been re-imposed. Lights in this city are permitted, but coast lights have been ordered dimmed. A fleet of patrol boats has been organized to scout in the vicinity of Cape Race and the Grand Banks. These boats are equipped with wireless apparatus and will give warning in case of the approach of any hostile vessel.

Funchal Shelled on Sunday. London, Dec. 6.—The despatch from the Portuguese minister of marine, dated Monday, showing that the shelling of Funchal occurred prior to that date.

Lloyd's announces that both the *Dacia* and *Kangaroo* were torpedoed Sunday by a German submarine.

The *Dacia* was a British cable-laying steamer of 1,856 tons, and was owned in London. The *Kangaroo* was a French steamer of 2,143 tons. Her home port was Havre. The gunboat *Surprise* was a vessel of 636 tons. She was 184 feet long, and carried a crew of 100. The *Surprise* was built in 1895.

### Italy Determined to Fight to a Finish

Rome, Dec. 6.—The Allies do not desire to force Greece into war, nor do they support anti-dynastic movement in Greece asserted Premier Benelli, in his report on war, delivered before the chamber of deputies yesterday. He reiterated the determination of Italy to maintain the war with her allies until the restoration of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro was accomplished. He termed this "the noble and essential object of the war." At the close of his speech he sent a message of greeting to "our valorous Latin sister, Roumania, trusting for her final success."

The premier's speech was very long, and in it he recapitulated the whole history of Italy's participation in the war, and enumerated the reasons which induced King Victor to enter into the struggle. As a proof that Italy was prepared to push her operations vigorously the premier announced that there were now 2,100 factories working on war material, the workers being one-fifth women, whose participation both in industries and agriculture was increasing daily. The premier declared that victory would insure the equilibrium on the eastern Mediterranean which he termed one of the chief foundations of Italian policy.

He said that Valona would be Italy's strategic post on the Adriatic, from which would radiate her future commercial expansion in the Balkans.

Jeremiah O'Connell, Truro, N. S. Lance Sergt. L. M. Thomas, F. H. Arie Ave., Moncton, N. B.

MIDNIGHT LIST.  
Infantry.  
Killed in action—  
F. A. McPhail, River Dennis, N. S.  
Artillery.  
Died of Wounds—  
Gunner F. S. Halliday, Elton, P. E. I.

NO BRITISH TANKS.

London, Dec. 6.—Commander Locker Lampson, who has been in three sections on the Dobruja front with British naval armored cars, has been wounded, says Reuter's Petrograd correspondent. The despatch adds that six British petty officers are missing but that none of the cars has been lost.

### TWO N.B. MEN IN CASUALTY LISTS

Ottawa, Dec. 6.—The 10.30 p. m. list of casualties includes the following:  
Infantry.  
Killed in action—  
W. L. Fowler, St. John, N. B.  
Previously reported dangerously wounded, now died of wounds—  
Frank Devine, North Sydney, N. S.  
Previously reported wounded, now wounded and missing—  
Russell Colburn, Shulce, N. S.  
John Gurn, Fisherman's Point, N. B.  
J. S. Hatherly, Box 33, River Hebert, N. S.