

### SERBIANS RE-CAPTURE USKUB, RETIRING SLOWLY IN NORTH; ITALIANS GRID TO POWDER GORIZIA AND RIVA DEFENCES

#### French Force of 150,000 With 100 Guns Already in Balkans and Britain Sends Distinguished General—Greece Reported Uneasy Over Saloniki Operations, But No Official Move—Russian Fleet Bombards Varna, Bulgarian Seaport.

Petrograd, Oct. 28, via London, Oct. 29.—An official communication issued this evening goes more extensively into the bombardment of Varna by Russian warships and the attack by German submarines against the Russian squadron than the communication issued by the war office. The communication says:

"Our Black Sea fleet bombarded Varna with heavy guns for about an hour, while hydroplanes dropped bombs. The harbor works, sheds and coast batteries were damaged but the town itself was not hit.

"During the bombardment the Russian fleet was attacked by German submarines which were driven off without our suffering any loss. During the day our wireless station recorded a telegram from the German station at Constantinople asserting that a German submarine attack had resulted in seriously damaging a Russian battleship of the Panteleimon type.

"This statement is one of the usual German lies which is proved by the fact that our fleet returned to Sebastopol without sustaining the least damage.

"The driving off of the submarines failed to interfere with the bombardment because the submarine attack was repulsed by smaller guns, while the main armament continued to fire on the town.

"After the bombardment the fleet steamed across the bay in front of the town and then headed for Sebastopol.

"Our aviators dropped twenty-one bombs in the vicinity of the harbor. They were subjected to a terrific fire, but none of them was hit and all returned safely."

London, Oct. 28.—Outside of the German official statement, which records the advance of the Austro-German forces and the capture by the Bulgarians of Zajcar and Knajevats, both on the Timok river northeast of Nish, and the heights of Piro, almost directly east of Nish, there is little or no authentic news of the invasion of Serbia.

There are reports, however, that the Serbians have re-captured Uskub, which is not improbable if, as Saloniki despatches report, the French now hold the line of Krivolak, Radovitsa and Strumitsa, for, with an army there and the Serbians at Vele, Uskub would form a dangerous salient.

#### SERBIANS RETIRE IN GOOD ORDER.

For the moment, the danger spot for the Serbians is the northeast corner, where they are being attacked from three sides, and must eventually fall back toward the southwest. Thus far they have been retiring in good order, and, despite the seriousness of the situation, optimism prevails in Serbian quarters in London, which are probably best able to judge of the assistance being sent by France, Great Britain and Russia.

The French, according to German despatches, have already landed 150,000 men, with one hundred guns, at Saloniki. While the whereabouts of the British reinforcements remains a secret, that they are of considerable size may be judged from the fact that, although General Sir Charles C. Monro, recently appointed to command the Gallipoli peninsula operations, is already on the spot, the government has decided to send out Major-General Sir Bryan T. Mahon, who commanded the columns which relieved Mafeking in the South African war, to cooperate with the French.

#### STATUS OF GREECE STILL UNCERTAIN.

Great anxiety exists as to the attitude of Greece. It is known that Austria, Germany and Bulgaria have seriously complained of the continued hospitality shown the Allies at Saloniki, and one account goes so far as to say that the Greek government has asked the Allies to leave Greek territory.

Against this is the quoted assurance given by the Greek minister at Paris to the French government that Greece has no intention of committing any hostile act toward the Allied troops.

#### Greece Not To Demand Withdrawal.

Paris, Oct. 28.—The Greek minister, Athos Romanos, called at the foreign office today to give assurance, under instructions from Premier Zaimis, that the reports that Greece would demand withdrawal of the Allied forces from Saloniki, were unwarranted.

#### Will King Peter Leave.

Amsterdam, Oct. 28, via London.—A telegram from Budapest to the Cologne Volks Zeitung says that King Peter of Serbia will probably leave that country and go to Italy.

#### Serbian Army Fighting Gallantly.

Paris, Oct. 28.—The Serbian legation here tonight issued the following statement concerning the situation in Serbia:

"On the 26th on the northeastern front: The Serbian troops on the right bank of the Morava river were obliged to fall back to the south, after heavy fighting, and have occupied the line of Svalenats-Grabovats-Chatona. On the left bank of the Morava, and the left bank of the Lepentza, there has been a violent artillery duel all along the front.

"Fighting is also going on along the line of Viskak-Kladour. On the southern Morava front the Serbian troops have repulsed the enemy on the left bank of the Korbiavatchka Reka. There is nothing to report on the Nichava front.

"On the Kujavrats-Since Serbian troops have relied on the position of Tressbaba, under strong pressure from the enemy. In the direction of Kojel Boutchie the enemy attacked with strong columns, and the fighting lasted all day.

"The enemy attacked in the Zajcar region today. The fighting still continues there. In the Koutchoul region the Serbians, by counter attacks, have recaptured the mouth of the Koutchoul defile.

"It will be seen that neither this statement nor the preceding one confirms the capture of Piro, which was reported in despatches from German sources."

#### Report Piro Fallen.

Amsterdam, via London, Oct. 29.—A despatch received here from Sofia says that after long and sanguinary fighting the Bulgarians captured the fortress of Piro.

The despatch adds that some civilians were killed in the Russian bombardment of Varna, but that little material damage was done.

#### Italians Advise General Offensive.

London, Oct. 29.—A special despatch to the Daily News from Milan says:

"From a semi-official statement of what occurred in the Italian cabinet council last night, it appears obvious that the quadruple entente powers have abandoned hope that either Roumania or Greece can be persuaded or bribed to observe

### SIR BRYAN MAHON, IRISH GENERAL, TO SERBIAN COMMAND

#### Leader of Mafeking Relief Column Now Commander of British Forces in Balkans—His Brilliant Record.

London, Oct. 28.—Sir Bryan Mahon has taken command of the British forces in Serbia. This announcement was made in the house of commons this afternoon by Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary under-secretary for war.

Major-General Sir Bryan Thomas Mahon was born at Bellevue, County Galway, Ireland, on April 2, 1862. He began his military career in the 8th Hussars in 1883, and later fought with great distinction in India, Egypt and South Africa.

General Mahon fought under Kitchener at Khartoum and also in the South African war. He led the Mafeking relief column and was twice mentioned in despatches. He was awarded the Queen's medals with three clasps. He was also awarded the Sudan and Egyptian war medals, the latter with eight clasps. He was created C. B. in 1900, and K. C. V. O. in 1912.

General Mahon commanded the 8th division in India from 1909 until the outbreak of the present war.

In view of the splendid record of Sir Bryan on many battle fields in Britain's far-flung fighting line, it is expected that the commander of the forces hurrying to the relief of stricken Serbia will add fresh laurels to the land made famous in the annals of war by Wellington, Kitchener, Roberts and other fighting sons of the Green Isle.

In relieving Mafeking, Lieutenant-General Sir Bryan Thomas Mahon caused greater joy in England than did any other single event of the war. It was stoutly defended against the Boers for seven months by a small force.

From a point near Kimberley, a flying column of mounted men, under command of Colonel Mahon, started northward on May 4, 1900. On the 13th it was joined by another detachment, and the two columns advanced on the works of the besiegers, drove them out by hard fighting, and entered the town on May 18. The defence of Mafeking, which was held down as one of the finest performances of the war, was in charge of Colonel, afterwards Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Baden Powell, who founded the organization of Boy Scouts.

### AUSTRALIAN SHIP OF WAR IN QUICK CAPTURE OF GERMANS

New York, Oct. 28.—The six officers of the interned German raider Kromprinz Wilhelm, who escaped from Norfolk (Va.), Oct. 10, in the yacht Eclipse, were captured at sea by a British warship, according to information in a letter received here today. The letter was sent to William Wolf, a New York manufacturer by his mother-in-law, who was a passenger on the steamer Hamilton, Bermuda, last Wednesday.

According to the letter the Bermudian was stopped a short distance from its destination by a British cruiser which engaged the passenger vessel in wireless conversation. The substance of the talk, as told by the wireless operator in a confidential request for its permission to send Russian troops through Roumania, Russia has decided not to make a request officially to this effect.

Only Partial Reopening.

Austrian Army Headquarters, via London, Oct. 28.—The junction of the Austrian, German and Bulgarian troops and the occupation of the last Serbian positions of the Danube, means the speedy reopening of that river for traffic.

Numerous vessels are now engaged in removing the mines and other obstructions, and communication between Hungary and Bulgaria and Turkey will be kept forthwith, although travel by river will necessarily be slower than by all-rail route through mid-Serbia. The entire re-establishment of traffic is expected within a few weeks.

### Appalling Work of Italian Artillery

#### Austrian Trenches Filled With Dead Before Infantry Advance Begun

#### Gorizia and Riva at Point of Capture—Russians Bring to Stop German Offensive on Sty—Big Guns Do Fighting in West.

Udine, Italy, via Paris, Oct. 28.—News of the great Italian offensive all along the Isonzo front is being brought down by the wounded, and the men of the convoys, which are escorting Austrian prisoners, have passed through Udine, which gives some idea of the magnitude of the operations. The fall of Gorizia and of Riva is believed imminent.

All the soldiers agree that the artillery preparations preceding the offensive, lasting three days, was appalling.

"If it was an inferno for us," said a wounded gunner, "how much worse was it for those yonder, where the shells burst?"

The Italian soldiers assert, with pride, that they are now reaping the benefit of a systematic destruction of the Austrian observatory points on the mountain peaks, mastered after fierce struggles during the past months and the lack of which, they say, has greatly decreased the accuracy of the aim of the Austrians. The men say that six months of warfare has enabled them to understand the tricks of their opponents.

#### AUSTRIANS CAUGHT BY LATIN RUSE.

When the Italian artillery prepared the way for an infantry attack on the entrenchments, the soldiers declare, the Austrians would retire. When the artillery ceased firing, with the purpose of allowing infantry to cover the ground between the opposing positions the Austrians would re-occupy their entrenchments with double forces. When finally the Italians discovered these tactics they adopted a ruse to catch the Austrians.

After the artillery had ceased firing, the Italians, according to the soldiers, permitted an interval of time to elapse, sufficient for the Austrians to return to their trenches. Then they re-opened fire with their artillery, and later charged, and when the infantry reached the trenches they were literally filled with the bodies of dead Austrians.

#### STRONG TOLMINO DEFENSES CAPTURED.

"We are now solidly in possession of trenches and positions like Cima Fredda, the hinge of the formidable triangular defense of Tolmino, which the enemy seemed determined to hold at any cost," said an officer today.

"In the fierce struggle in the neighborhood of Gorizia, where the Austrians had concentrated large reinforcements, the Austrians were finally repulsed. As they retreated the Austrians set fire to a large tract of country, making a wall of fire to protect them from the pursuing Italians."

#### GERMAN OFFENSIVE STOPPED IN SOUTH.

London, Oct. 28.—Except around Riga and Dvinsk, where the Germans are renewing their efforts to reach the Dvina river, and near Caesaryok, on the Sty, there has been no heavy fighting in the Russian area.

Engagements on a small scale have taken place west of Riga, showing that the Germans are attacking in a new direction. Hitherto their main attacks have been from the south and southwest of that city, where they were checked.

On the Sty and in Galicia the German offensive, according to the Russian report has been stopped.

#### BELGIANS UNDER HEAVY FIRE.

Paris, Oct. 28.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight is as follows:

"Artillery actions, particularly interesting and prolonged are reported in Belgium on the Het Sas-Steenstraet front, as well as to the north of Arras, in the Bolsen Hache and in the region of Rodoulcoet.

"The enemy directed in Champagne a violent bombardment against our positions at Mison De Champagne and Tahure. Our batteries replied by systematic fire on the enemy trenches.

"In the Vosges one of our reconnaissances having accomplished at Reich Ackerkopf the destruction of an enemy trench, which had been shattered by our cannonading, the Germans delivered a counter-attack, which was easily repulsed.

"The Belgian official statement reads:

"There was a slight bombardment to the north of Dixmude, and a violent bombardment between the 'Ferryman's House' and Steenstraet."

#### Russians Bombarding Varna.

Petrograd, via London, Oct. 29.—The following official statement was given out by the Russian war office tonight:

"In the region of Riga the situation is unchanged. South of Lake Babite there have been several engagements in the wooded region which however, have not affected the general situation. South of Isikval there has been artillery fighting.

"On the Drinsk front the enemy attacked to the northeast of Garbuonovka, and at first succeeded in occupying some of our trenches, but he was soon dislodged by our rigorous counter-attacks. The fighting was accompanied by an artillery duel which still continues. During one of the furious attacks the Germans suffered severe losses. This attack was undertaken by the Germans only under threat of being fired upon by their own artillery in the rear.

"On the front of Lakes Demmen and Dreywaly and further south, as far as the Priepel, the artillery fighting continues.

"On the left of the sty the enemy attempted to advance eastward in the region of the village of Ezerzy, northwest of Lake Bleke, but suffered heavy losses through our fire, and was obliged to fall back.

"During the night of the 27th the enemy thrice attacked us in the region of the village of Annecovha, west of Caesaryok, but was everywhere repulsed. The village of Bulki, west of Caesaryok,

remained in our possession after fierce fighting.

"On the remainder of the front, towards the south and in Galicia, there has been artillery fire at many points, but the general situation is unchanged.

"Conditions on the Caucasus front also are unchanged.

"In the Baltic Sea our submarine Alligator captured a German steamer near the Aland Islands. She was brought into one of our ports.

"In the Black Sea, on the 28th our fleet bombarded the batteries and harbor works of Varna, while at the same time aviators dropped bombs on the port. Enemy submarines attacked our ships, but without success."

#### Italian Fight at High Altitudes.

Rome, Oct. 28, via London, Oct. 29.—The official statement from general headquarters of the Italian army, dated Oct. 28, says:

"The enemy made an attack, preceded by intense artillery and rifle fire, on the night of the 26th on our positions at Valle Torca (Astico). It was repulsed with heavy losses.

"In the Monte Nero zone the activity and aggressive spirit of our troops have not been diminished by the low temperature. We accomplished further progress on the 27th on the Vodil spur, storming strong trenches and taking 70 prisoners and one machine gun.

"During the night of the 27th the enemy thrice attacked us in the region of the village of Annecovha, west of Caesaryok, but was everywhere repulsed. The village of Bulki, west of Caesaryok,

### GREAT BRITAIN TRUE TO NATIONAL HONOR

#### Germany's Many Breaches of International Law Not Considered Grounds for Retaliation

#### "We Must Continue to Pay Regard to Considerations of Humanity Independent of Conventions"—American White Book Tells Story of Diplomatic Exchanges.

London, Oct. 28.—Sir Edward Grey, the secretary for foreign affairs, in the house of commons this afternoon agreed with the proposition advanced by Lord Charles Beresford in the shape of a question, that in view of Germany's "many breaches of international law," Great Britain was under no obligation to observe previous declarations and conventions between the two countries.

"We shall continue, I hope," Sir Edward Grey added, "whatever Germany does, to pay regard to those considerations of humanity which are independent of any conventions; and the rights of neutrals must, of course, be respected."

The suggestion advanced in a question in the house of commons today, that the government might take steps to trace and sequester private securities in England of the German emperor and rulers of German states and hold them as security for present and possible future damage caused by Zeppelin raids, does not meet with the approval of Premier Asquith.

The premier informed the house, through David Lloyd George, minister of munitions, that he did not consider that the scheme offered "a practical method of deterring the enemy from future violations of international law."

#### Arbitration After Prize Courts.

The foreign secretary, Sir Edward Grey, said in the house of commons today that the American government had the right to demand the submission of six international tribunals the verdicts of the British prize courts.

Sir Edward made this admission on being pressed as to the power given to the American government in this regard in the British note of July 31 last, which gave the text of the terms of a dispute arose with the United States," he said, "after all legal remedies had been exhausted I think undoubtedly we should refer it to arbitration."

The secretary added that this was the usual procedure adopted by the British government "when ordinary negotiations have failed and it is to be preferred to settlement by war."

#### Germany's Futile Protests.

Washington, Oct. 28.—A second installment of what has come to be popularly known as the United States government's white book was issued tonight by the state department. It gives the text of important diplomatic correspondence with the belligerent governments of Europe since the publication of the first installment last May.

The secretary added that this was the usual procedure adopted by the British government "when ordinary negotiations have failed and it is to be preferred to settlement by war."

### FRENCH CABINET NOT YET CHOSEN

#### Aristide Briand Not Formally Called to Leadership Until He Completes Slate—M. Viviani Worn Out by War—Some Likely Men.

Paris, Oct. 28.—The French cabinet, of which Rene Viviani was head, resigned today, but up to a late hour tonight Aristide Briand, late minister of justice and former premier, who was called upon to form a new cabinet, had not succeeded in completing his task.

The subject of M. Viviani's retirement from the premiership and the reorganization of the cabinet was discussed at length by the political leaders, but as no definite arrangements could be reached, the chamber of deputies, which was awaiting the appearance of the ministry in the house, adjourned in the afternoon without any formal announcement having been made.

There had been rumors since the resignation of Theophile Delcasse, the foreign minister, of important changes in the cabinet, but the withdrawal of M. Viviani was in the nature of a surprise, as his ministry received a vote of confidence in the chamber recently by a very large majority.

It is believed that M. Viviani has overtaxed his strength in his official position by his strenuous services in connection with the war.

Aristide Briand, who held the office of minister of justice in the late cabinet, and who was premier in 1913, in a statement respecting the changes in the cabinet, said that he had received no official mandate, as there was no ministerial crisis. Throughout the day he conferred with the political leaders of all shades of opinion, with the purpose of reorganizing the ministry so as to include the best available men in the country.

It is believed that M. Briand will be officially invested with the mission of forming a new cabinet as soon as his selections for the various portfolios are made.

Information indicates that M. Briand will become foreign minister as well as premier, with Jules Cambon, who was ambassador to Germany at the outbreak of the war, as his principal secretary.

In addition to M. Viviani, probable designations are: Minister of war, General J. S. Gallieni, military governor of Paris; minister of marine, Rear-Admiral Lozeur; minister of agriculture, Etienne Clementel, former minister of agriculture and finance; minister of commerce, L. J. Klotz, former minister of the interior and of finance; or Joseph Thierry, minister of instruction, Emile Combes, former premier. The other members of the present cabinet, according to this programme, will continue in their present position.

According to a list issued by the Haas News Agency, giving the names of the members of the cabinet as it says it learns that body will be provisionally constituted, Charles De Freydet is to be vice-premier of the cabinet and minister of state; Prof. Paul Painleve, will be minister of public instruction and inventions concerning national defence; Jules Melles, a former premier, will be minister of agriculture, while either Rene Renault or Gabriel Guist-Han will be minister of labor.

As ministers without portfolio the list carries the names of former Premiers Emile Combes and Leon Bourgeois, together with Denys Cochin and Jules Guesde, who are now in the cabinet as ministers without portfolio.

The chamber of deputies held a brief session this afternoon, but no announcement was made concerning the cabinet reorganization. Adjournment was taken until tomorrow.

### YARMOUTH MAN HAS SIX SONS WITH THE COLORS

Yarmouth, N. S., Oct. 21.—One of the most remarkable incidents in connection with recruiting and enlisting in the maritime provinces, if not in the dominion, has been recognized by the king. William Hersey, a well known mason and builder, received a letter from his majesty congratulating him, and expressing the king's appreciation of the loyalty of Mr. Hersey's six sons who are now serving under the flag.

These boys, ranging in age from 18 to 25, caught the fever of patriotism soon after war was declared and one of them was among the first to enlist when the call was made for the first contingent in 1914. Two others followed in the second, and like the first, can now be found "somewhere in France." The other three are now quarters in training camps either at Halifax, Sussex or Valcartier.

The king's letter to Mr. Hersey is as follows:

Privy Purse Office,  
Buckingham Palace,  
October 2, 1915.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that the king has heard with much interest that you have at the present moment six sons serving in his majesty's forces.

I am commanded to express to you the king's congratulations and to assure you that his majesty much appreciates the spirit of patriotism which prompted this example, in one family, of loyalty and devotion to their sovereign and empire.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
F. A. R. PONSOMBY,  
Keeper of the Privy Purse.  
Mr. William Hersey.

### DIGBY MAN AND SON DROWNED

Digby, N. S., Oct. 24.—Guide Beverly Cornwall, Byron Roney and Gerald Merkle returned from Grand Lake at 9 o'clock tonight and report the finding of the bodies of James A. MacNeill and his son Frank, who were supposed to have been drowned while canoeing on the upturned canoe found Friday.

The body of the father was found at 2 o'clock this afternoon floating fifty yards from the south shore and near the head of Grand Lake. That of his son was found fifteen minutes later on the opposite side of the lake, a half a mile away. Frank had his shoes off and overcoat on. His father was completely clothed, with sweater and boots, but had no coat on.

James A. MacNeill, who was about 35 years of age, moved to Digby seven years ago, and had since carried on a tanning business in this town. His son Frank, aged nineteen years, was a volunteer for overseas service and had recently received a medical discharge at Valcartier. Besides Mrs. MacNeill, Mr. MacNeill's family consists of two sons, Arthur, in Saskatoon, Leslie, of Digby; and two daughters, Mrs. G. L. Lieming, of Hensington (N. Y.), and Meta, at home. Mr. MacNeill is a member of Seaview Court of the Canadian Order of Foresters, and was at one time a member of the Masonic order and of the Independent Order of Oddfellows. The event has cast a great shadow over the entire community. It is the first Digby county hunting fatality recorded for many years.

### ALLIES ON FOUR FRONTS WORRY AUSTRO-GERMANS

(Continued from page 1)

#### FRENCH HOLD GRIMLY TO CAPTURED POSITION.

Paris, Oct. 28.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"The enemy very violently counter-attacked today in Champagne, along the whole of the front of the fortified position La Courtenne. We remain in possession of the positions taken to the east and to the west, the Germans having succeeded in re-occupying in the centre only some positions on the trenches, where the battle continues with grenades desperately."

"There is nothing of importance to record on the rest of the front."

"The Belgian official communication says that calm prevails along that front."

Germans Brought to Standstill.

Petrograd, Oct. 25, via London, Oct. 26.—The following official communication from general headquarters was issued today:

"In the Riga region the fighting continues. South of Lake Babite the Germans unsuccessfully assumed the offensive. In the region of Olai there was an artillery duel.

"On the left of the Dvina, south of the Diskue railway, the Germans launched several attacks, some of great ferocity. Five attacks were repulsed. During the sixth party of Germans succeeded in penetrating one of our works. Our troops, fighting with courage and determination, cut up the great majority of the Germans and captured the rest. The attack was finally repulsed by a simultaneous action by the artillery and infantry.

"On the front, in the region of Friedrictshatd, there were some small engagements of the Dvina river. On the left bank of the Dvina, northwest of Jacobstadt, and in the forest region west of Liwuhof, there have been only actions by small detachments.

"Near Dvinsk in the region of Iloulost, furious fighting with the advancing Germans continues incessantly. After the capture of the forest region west of Liwuhof, the Germans attempted to develop their offensive, but were stopped on the border of the forest west of Iloulost.

"Enemy attempts to make progress to the east of the village of Pochlissa, and toward the south of Iloulost were repulsed.

"South of Lake Mesoun the artillery fighting is very violent. There are also artillery duels on the front of Lakes Dreywaly, Boginskoi, Mladziol, Narotch, and Vichnevoike engagements have occurred at many points but with out appreciable result for either side.