

VILNA TAKEN BY VON HINDENBURG'S ARMY; ALLIES DEMAND THAT BULGARIA DEFINITELY STATE ATTITUDE

Russian Army in Triangle Between Vilna Lida and Vilka Hard Pressed by Enemy Who Is Making Desperate Attempts to Surround It -- Czar's Forces Confident, However -- Bulgaria May Attempt to Regain By Force Part of Macedonia, Taken by Serbia and Greece in Last Balkan War.

London, Sept. 19, (9.40 p. m.)—The Germans have occupied Vilna, and by a wide sweeping movement to the north of that city have succeeded in almost, if not entirely, surrounding a portion of the Russian army which is fighting in the railway triangle between Vilna, Lida and Vilka.

At any rate, the Russian forces in this district either must fight their way out eastward or retire in a southeasterly direction, for the only railway left entirely in their hands is that which runs from Vilna to Lida and thence to Baranovitch.

The army of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, which took Vilna and has reached Vilka, to the east of Vilna, is working in close co-operation with that of Archduke Leopold of Bavaria in an effort to catch a part of the Russian army, an operation which has been so often tried without success since the Austro-Germans entered their drive in western Galicia in early May.

The Russians express confidence in the outcome of the battle, which must be decided before complete success falls to one side or the other, but with their northern armies closely held along the Dvina and the German flank well protected by their cavalry which recently occupied Vidsy, across the Vilna-Petrograd railway, it seems possible that any aid can come to them from that direction.

The battle seemingly must be fought out between the troops now in the district between Vilna, Lida and Sionim, with the assistance of any reinforcements that can be spared to hold the German force which has reached Vilka.

At the southern end of the line General Ivanoff is still keeping Field Marshal Von Mackensen at arms length from the fortress of Rovno, the key to the route to Kiev, and counterattacks has retaken a number of villages both in Volhynia and Galicia.

Balkan Situation Still Mazy.

It seems apparent from the inability of the Austro-Germans to hold their positions in the southern area that they have sent reinforcements from that front to Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's northern army, which, as hitherto, is expected to score the biggest success.

Both the Germans and the French claim minor victories on the western front, but neither there, in the Italian theatre nor in the Dardanelles have any events of great moment been reported.

The political situation in the Balkans is still shrouded with considerable mystery. The Bulgarians have secured what they wanted from Turkey in the cession of a railway line, and appear to be well satisfied for the present. But there is now talk in Berlin of the Bulgarians taking by force, if they cannot get it otherwise, the portions of Macedonia taken from them by the Serbians and Greeks during the last Balkan war. It is asserted that the Bulgarians have called to the colors all the Macedonian recruits now in Bulgaria, and that generally there is a warlike feeling in existence among the Bulgarians.

With Bulgaria surrounded by Serbia, Greece and Roumania, and her coasts open to attack by Anglo-French, Italian and Russian fleets, however, it is believed here that Bulgaria will hesitate before throwing in her lot with the Central Powers and Turkey. Turkey is declared to be having her own troubles over the cession of the Dedeagatch railway. The Mussulman population in this strip of land is said to be in revolt against being placed under the Bulgarian government.

German Positions on Belgian Coast Bombed

Paris, Sept. 19.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:

The British fleet, having bombarded the German organisations on the Belgian littoral, our heavy artillery in the region of Newport has operated in conjunction with it in shelling the batteries on the coast which had replied to the fire of the British warships.

On the Artois front the fire of the enemy has diminished in intensity. Our artillery has continued the bom-

INSPIRING ADDRESSES BY HON. MR. HAZEN AND PREMIER CLARKE MARK OPENING OF F'CTON. FAIR

Duty of New Brunswick in Hour of Empire's Crisis Forcibly Brought Home by Both Speakers—First Public Address of Mr. Hazen at Capital in Some Time Occasion of Notable Expression of His Popularity.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Sept. 19.—Fredericton Exhibition was formally opened Saturday evening by Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine and Fisheries. For the first time opening ceremonies took place in the main building, the amusement hall not being available for use and never were those attending an opening treated to such eloquent addresses as those delivered on Saturday evening by the Minister of Marine and Hon. Geo. L. Clarke, premier of New Brunswick.

John A. Campbell, ex-M. L. A., of Springhill, president of Agricultural Society No. 34, presided and Hon. Mr. Hazen, who arrived from St. John early in the evening on Senator W. H. Thorne's steam yacht, the Dream, accompanied by the Senator, Sir Frederic E. Barker, Judge Armstrong and Mr. F. E. Sayre, of St. John, who attended the opening ceremonies as guests of the management. With members of

the city council, directors of the exhibition and other guests the minister and premier occupied seats upon an enclosed platform of the balcony from which the speech making took place.

Premier Clarke, in his address dealt with the evolutions of exhibitions in New Brunswick, tracing their growth from the annual parish fairs to the present big provincial exhibitions such as those held so successfully in Fredericton biennially. He referred to the benefits, from an educational standpoint, which many of the features of present day exhibitions were to farmers, emphasized the importance of the agricultural industry in this province and pointed out the necessity of production being stimulated at this time so that the mother country might have the benefit of everything that her colonies could provide.

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ment of the German works and batteries.

"There has been cannonading and a struggle with bombs in the region of Roye. On the canal from the Aisne to Marne we have maintained our bridge-head at Saphneul, notwithstanding three German attacks.

"In Champagne the enemy has replied only feebly to the fire of our batteries, but has violently bombarded the region between the Aisne and the Argonne."

No Change Kitchener Reports.

London, Sept. 19.—A report from Field Marshal Sir John French, issued officially tonight, says:

"Since my last communication of September 15, no change has occurred in the situation on our front. There has been considerable mining activity on both sides, particularly opposite the southern portion of our front.

"East of Ypres our own artillery and that of the enemy have been active."

German Forces to Aid Turkey.

Berlin, Sept. 18.—(By wireless to Turckerton, N. J.)—A message from Constantinople, as given out here today by the Overseas News Agency, quotes Enver Pasha, Turkish minister of war, as saying that a great German army was to go to Turkey.

The News Agency says:

"A Constantinople telegram states that at a review of troops held in honor of Duke Johann Albrecht of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, commander-in-chief of the Turkish forces at the Dardanelles, he said the presence of the Duke was the fore-runner to the arrival of a great German army."

The three German nurses authorized to visit Russian prison camps under the agreement recently reached, were met at the frontier by a deputation from the Russian Red Cross and have been offered every facility in their inspection trip.

Berlin Reports Vilna Taken

Berlin, Sept. 19, via London.—The Russian city of Vilna, at which the armies of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg have been driving, and which was stubbornly defended until nearly surrounded by hostile forces, has been occupied by the Germans, it was officially announced by German army headquarters today.

Definition of Bulgaria's Attitude Demanded

Paris, Sept. 19.—The Entente Allies

PENSIONS FOR MEN IN THE NAVAL SERVICE

Order-in-Council makes provision for men who receive injuries while serving in Navy.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Sept. 19.—An order-in-council brings into force a system of pensions for the officers and men of the permanent and volunteer branches of the naval service. Captains will receive pensions of from \$456 to \$1,400, according to degree of incapacity while smaller allowances are given to the other officers. The men receive from \$75 to \$264 according to injuries. In the case of officers or men killed the widows of flag officers receive \$100 per month and \$16 a month for each child. Widows of the men receive \$22 a month and \$5 for each child.

have presented a joint note to the Bulgarian government asking in effect that it declare itself as between the Central Powers. The note, however, is not in the nature of an ultimatum.

Austrians Withdrawing Before Russian Attacks.

Vienna, Sept. 18, via London.—The Austrians are withdrawing their front in the sector of the Volhynian triangle of fortresses—Lutsk, Dubno and Rovno—to prepared positions further west according to an Austrian official statement given out here today. In this section the Austrians are fighting against superior Russian forces, it is stated.

SITUATION SERIOUS, SAYS LLOYD GEORGE

Demands Whole Strength of the Nation if Allies Are to Win.

GRAVEST ISSUE THE NATION EVER FACED.

Asks that Government be Given a Fair Chance to Decide the Question of Compulsory Service.

London, Sept. 19.—David Lloyd George, minister of munitions, in a letter to one of his constituents, issued by the official press bureau this evening, makes an appeal to the public to give the government a fair chance to decide the question of compulsory service, and reiterates his view that the situation is a serious one which demands that the country, if victory is to fall to the Allies, must exert its whole strength. Mr. Lloyd George says:

"You say, and say rightly, that the government ought to give the nation a lead on the question whether the moral obligation of every able-bodied man to defend his country should be converted during this war into a legal obligation.

"The government, I can assure you, are fully alive to the necessity of giving a definite lead. They are engaged in examining the subject with a view to coming to the right decision. Undue delay might be disastrous, but undue precipitation might be equally disastrous. Let us avoid both. The issue is one of fact, not of principle. The figures demonstrate that we can win through, and with the voluntary system, it would be folly to provoke a controversy in the middle of a world war by attempts to substitute a totally different method. On the other hand, if these figures demonstrate to every unprejudiced person that the voluntary system has exhausted its utility, and nothing but legal pressure can give us the armies necessary to defend the honor of Great Britain and save Europe from the triumph of military despotism, I have not yet heard of the man who would resist compulsion.

"Under these circumstances the government who say they would offer resistance to this expedient, even if proven to be necessary to save their country and the freedom of the world, have not yet appeared in the arena, and if they do I predict that their protectors will not be found amongst the working classes.

Whole Strength Necessary

"It is all a question of ascertainable facts. Why then all this premature anger? The determining facts have not yet been published. When they have been sifted and made known the advocates of one view or the other will surely find that the whole cylinders of fervor and ferocity have been wasted in attacking positions which they will then discover they ought to defend. Let the government have a fair chance to decide.

"The opinions I have formed as to the essential action are prompted by the sincere persuasion that nothing but the exertion of our whole strength will enable us to obtain victory, upon which so much depends. Having come to that conclusion, I am bound to do my best to secure that effort without the least regard to the effect my appeals may have upon my own political fortunes.

"The issue is the gravest any country has ever been called upon to decide. Let it be settled in a spirit worthy of its gravity. I have said as to the seriousness of the position. Naturally I take a hopeful view of the prospects of the cause I am concerned in, but I know too well that to ignore dangers which you can see with the naked eye, if you look around, is the most fruitful source of disaster in all affairs. I for months have called attention to the dangers in the present war. Events alone will prove whether

Are You Going To Turn The Cold Shoulder To The Call Of Our Boys In The Trenches

TURKS FOUGHT DESPERATELY TO HOLD HILL 60

When British Finally Took the Position the Trenches were Filled with Dead.

London, Sept. 19.—A description of the fighting in the Anzac region on the Gallipoli peninsula during the last week in August, and the result achieved during this period, is given by the Dardanelles correspondent of Reuters Telegraph Company.

The capture of Hill No. 60 was important, says the correspondent, as it is the last crest of the last ridge separating the Anzac zone from the plains to the north, and thus constitutes a point of union between the British forces in the Anzac position and the line across the Suvla Plain, besides giving access to a ravine leading to high ground beyond it.

The Turks, he says, clung to the hill with the utmost determination, and when they were thrown out of their trenches would fight to the death, accepting terrible losses, unflinchingly to regain the lost ground with the result that when the trenches finally were captured they were filled with Turkish dead. It took three days to oust the Turks, and the ground they left behind was strewn with their bodies and those of British soldiers who fell in the assaults.

It is computed, declares the correspondent, that the Turks lost 5,000 men before they surrendered the position. The Indian Brigade and the Connaught Rangers took part in the fighting, with Australians and New Zealanders.

The correspondent expresses the opinion that the Turks will not attack the Anzac positions again, after the terrible losses they sustained in previous attacks. They did succeed, he adds, in sweeping two British battalions of a ridge that previously had been won by the New Zealanders, but when they got across the crest into the ravine below they came under the fire of British machine guns.

NEW U. S. CONSUL AT ST. STEPHEN

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 18.—The appointment of Livingston Mays as consul for the United States at St. Stephen, N. B. has been officially approved.

I have been unduly alarmed. So far, I regret, they have justified my apprehensions.

"I should indeed be a traitor if I did not hope fervently that the course of the war would prove that I have over-estimated the worst evils, but I have not written without warrant in facts known to the enemy as well as to us—facts which I should have thought would have already sobered the most fatuous optimist.

"I have therefore felt driven by the jeopardy of my native land to sound a note of alarm. I have done so in a rousing of us in time to put forth all our strength, we shall win. If for any reason I fail, it will be a sorry comfort to be able later on to taunt with their mistakes those who now abuse me for daring to call attention to the coming storm, before it overwhelms the land, and because I strive to induce my fellow countrymen to prepare in time for its onslaught."

BERNSTORFF IS EMPOWERED TO SETTLE

Berlin Authorizes Him to Negotiate with U. S. Terms of Settlement of Submarine Problem.

Berlin via London, Sept. 19.—A full settlement of the submarine problem can probably be arranged by negotiations in Washington. Count Von Bernstorff, German ambassador to the United States, is in complete possession of information regarding the wishes and policy of Germany, so the Associated Press is informed, and has been given power to negotiate terms of settlement with the United States, subject only to final revision and approval by the home government.

Dumba Complains.

New York, Sept. 19.—Dr. Dumba, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador, defends his actions in a lengthy letter sent to Secretary of State Lansing last Friday, and made public by the ambassador here last night.

Dr. Dumba protests against the request for his recall as unjust, and complains of the restrictions imposed by the United States government upon his communications with his home government. He says that the diplomatic representatives of the allies in this country enjoy unencumbered use of the cables, a privilege which is denied him.

Not Likely to Hand Him His Passport

Washington, Sept. 19.—High officials indicated tonight that no further steps were contemplated against Dr. Constantine Dumba, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador on account of his letter to Secretary Lansing, criticizing the treatment accorded him by the American government in connection with the request for his recall. It was stated that the possibility of hastening the diplomat's departure from the country by handing him his passports had not been considered.

STR. ATHINAL AFIRE AT SEA

Halifax, Sept. 19.—The Greek steamer Athinal, from New York is on fire and abandoned at sea, according to a wireless despatch received here late tonight from Captain McLean of the steamer Tuscania.

The Athinal was abandoned in latitude 40.54 north, longitude 58.47 west. Only the brief statement came in Captain McLean's message, but it is probable that all on board were saved.

The Athinal registered 4,405 tons and was engaged in the trade between New York and Mediterranean ports.

GASOLINE EXPLOSION STARTS FIRE ABOARD SCHR. VERA B. ROBERTS

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Sept. 19.—The schooner Vera B. Roberts, coal laden, anchored about five miles from Victoria Harbor, caught fire on Friday night from an explosion of gasoline which occurred as the men were starting the pumping engine, the vessel and cargo were destroyed. She was 124 tons and owned by Magnus Benjamin of Parrsboro, N. S. A few days ago she was ashore off Pictou Island leaking badly.

Stirring Appeal by Senator Daniel and Others at Saturday's Recruiting Meeting.

NINE MEN SECURED.

Mr. Justice McKeown and A. M. Belding Join in Earnest Exhortation to Young Canadians to Heed the Call of Duty.

Nine recruits was the nett result of the campaign in the city Saturday. Five men accepted at the office on Mill street and four signed the honor roll in the marquee on King Square.

When the rolls closed on Saturday night the total number of men who had answered the call to the colors since the campaign started stood at 187.

The meeting on King Square Saturday night was most particularly large, owing, perhaps, to the fact that the stores were open and there was no hand in attendance. However, the speakers must have felt gratified to see the look of set determination in the faces of the listeners, in front of the stand, young men who were not attracted by music but who were there to show their interest in the Empire.

Looking out over the crowd assembled one could see the effect of the meetings of the two weeks. Men were there, serious minded men, who are beginning to realize the gravity of the situation, men with the grim, resolute bearing of true Britishers, ready to do their duty at all hazards.

Those who were enrolled Saturday were:

James Arditt, Potadum, N. Y. (British parents).
Roy Miener, Port William, N. S.
Cecil Wall, York County, N. B.
N. W. Slater, Massachusetts, (Canadian parents).
Robert Buchanan, Black River, N.B.
Frank Crabe, Bear River, N. S.
Frank Watson, Woodstock, N. B.
Albert F. Wilson, St. John.

and one other who did not want his name published.

There were three speakers, Senator J. W. Daniel, who presided, Hon. Justice McKeown and A. M. Belding. The speakers set forth the situation in a clear and concise manner and undoubtedly there will be many who, after pondering over the message they heard, see their course and as one of the speakers aptly put it, "follow the trail that has been blazed by those brave boys who are now on the firing line."

Dr. J. W. Daniel.

The first speaker, Dr. Daniel, said in part: "Great Britain is the only one of the belligerents engaged in the present titanic struggle who has no conscription law. It has always been the proud boast of Englishmen that when the Empire is called to uphold the honor of the country the men would not be wanting, and there would never be need of conscription. Belgium with a population one-third less than Canada, has placed in the field an army of 1,000,000 men, and Canada should at least do as well.

What Canada Has Done.

"It is true that Canada has already done great things; she has sent a contingent to the front which has won honor and glory. Men who have shown to the world that they are the equal, and, in many cases, more than the equal of any soldiers; men who have had no previous military training but have been taken from the civic population of the country and have made as good soldiers as the best.

"Last year, at Valcartier, when the first contingent was being mobilized, I met Major Duval, and to a friend I remarked, 'When he gets to the front he will make his mark,' and he has made it; he has his tomb in the Atlantic ocean, but he has left written on the pages of Canadian history, a memory that will always live, a monument immortal to his heroism.

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