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## TALK CLAIMS OF BULGARIA IN BALKANS

### Serbian Minister Thinks Ceding of All His Country Would Not Force Bulgaria into the Fight.

London, Aug. 18.—The Balkan capitals are showing the liveliest interest in the reports that the Germans are preparing to launch a campaign against Serbia, according to special despatches from Bucharest, Sofia and Athens, printed in this morning's newspapers. Several of the correspondents declare that the proposed German offensive against Serbia would be "a blessing in disguise" in it would probably bring about a union between the Balkan states.

#### Cessions to Serbia.

Athens, Aug. 18.—The entry of Bulgaria into the war against Turkey is only a matter of time. It is officially confirmed that the attitude of Bulgaria and Serbia is highly favorable to the recent propositions of the entente powers, which agreed to induce Serbia to cede to Bulgaria the disputed provinces in Macedonia. Serbia will be compensated in Albania, while Greece will be compensated in Smyrna and the Asia Minor hinterland. These cessions and annexations, it is hoped, will materialize in the conclusion of a successful war against the Teutonic allies.

#### Urging Bulgaria.

The leaders of all political parties in Bulgaria and the cabinet members are urging Bulgaria to accept the extremely favorable overtures of the entente powers. King Ferdinand is still opposed to war, fearing the ultimate triumph of the German armies, but he is expected to accept the advice of the cabinet and bow to the will of the nation and cast his vote with the allies.

#### Jolt for Germans.

Diplomats here are predicting that Bulgaria is finally on its way to abandon neutrality and say that German influence in Sofia has received a rude jolt, and that the Teuton agents are powerless to stem the tide of sentiment aroused when the entente powers' sweeping offers were announced. Bulgaria is expected to throw its military strength through Adrianople in a quick rush on Tchatalja to co-operate with the general military movement of the allies against Turkey.

#### Offer of Serbia.

The integrity of Bulgaria is assured for a certain period after the war. A Note received yesterday conveys the information that Serbia is not willing to cede to Bulgaria the territory desired, but offers instead Monastir and other Macedonian territory. Serbia is not insistent and bows to the wish of the entente powers.

#### A Minister's Views.

In an interview printed in one of the papers, the Serbian minister said:

"I do not believe a concession from Serbia would remedy the situation. Even if we ceded all Serbia, Bulgaria would still find a pretext for non-intervention. Only one event can possibly unite the Balkan states in the present situation and that is a German attempt to force a way through Serbia. Such a step would compel Roumania to come to the rescue and it probably would bring in also Bulgaria and Greece. As a Serb, I cannot wish for a German invasion of my country, but I should consider it providential for Europe."

#### What Serbia May Do.

Some newspapers express the belief that the Balkan situation is hopeful for the Quadruple Entente powers. The general impression conveyed by the editorials is that Serbia will be successfully pressed to yield to the Bulgarian demands and that the diplomats of the entente powers apparently are now engaged in trying to arrange a suitable compensation for Serbia. The assertion is made that, if the allies win Serbia probably will be given the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina with an outlet to the Adriatic and an indirect outlet through Croatia to Fiume. This, it is declared, will represent at least ten times the value of the concessions which she is asked to make to Bulgaria.

#### The German View.

Amsterdam, Aug. 18 (fa London).—Representations made by the entente powers can be regarded as doomed to failure, declares the Frankfurter Zeitung in discussing the Balkan situation.

Regarding the same subject, the Voestische Zeitung says: "The agreement between Bulgaria and Turkey now is so complete it cannot be disturbed. The active fabrication of notes suddenly begun by the entente powers is merely intended to throw sand in the eyes of

the world as the entente powers know only too well how the situation stands regarding Bulgaria. They know also that the Germanic allies await with indifference Roumania's decision.

#### Greece in Bad Position.

Greece is thrown into a bad position, inasmuch as it has indicated an intention of rejecting the overtures of the allies. The cabinet here is in great consternation, and the newspapers of all parties are beginning to cry for "Venizelos." Greece is expected to consent to the terms of the allies for the ceding of the Kavala hinterland, but it will probably not take an active part in the war.

#### Turkish Conditions Bad.

The American embassy in Constantinople is advising women and children to leave Turkey. Fourteen women and children, including the family of Consul-General G. Raynald, arrived here yesterday. Living conditions in Turkey are becoming harsh and the prices of food are rising. Communication between Constantinople and the rest of the world is in danger of being severed.

#### Unjust to Bulgaria.

Rome, Aug. 18 (Via Paris, Aug. 18).—The Bulgarian minister to Italy, D. Rizov, discussing in the Tribuna the negotiations between the Balkan States and the Quadruple Entente, characterized as unjust statements that Bulgaria considers herself indispensable to the allies and is bargaining on that basis.

Bulgaria, the minister asserts, has not changed her program. She was deceived in signing the Treaty of Bucharest of 1913, under the terms of which she ceded to Roumania nearly 3,000 square miles of territory. What Bulgaria now wished, he continued, was reparation based upon the principle of nationality for which the Quadruple Entente is contending.

#### British Judge on War Contractor.

Witness was questioned with regard to the services he volunteered at the war office. In the course of the evidence Mr. Justice Horridge remarked: "Patriotism very often has the accent on the pay."—Report in London Daily News.



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Orders from the belligerent governments continue to pour in to American industrial companies. It is announced that the new contract into which the Hall Switch and Signal Company has entered for the manufacture of shrapnel for the Allies is the most favorable yet placed with that company, and also one of the best obtained recently by any of the American railway equipment companies, inasmuch as it calls for the manufacture of the entire shrapnel, with the exception of the fuse and the charge.

In that respect, the order is similar to some of those placed with Canadian companies, including the National Steel Car Company. Two other contracts placed with the company in recent weeks called for the manufacture of shrapnel parts. Work on these contracts has already been begun. The new order calls for 1,000,000 shells.

## U.K. WILL TAKE SURPLUS GRAIN

Canada is Asked For Information As to Supply—Will be Record One

The British government is already taking adequate steps to secure Canada's available supply of grain from the coming harvest. A definite request has been received from the home government for information as to the estimated available supply for export and the extra tonnage of vessels required to move the grain from Montreal to the United Kingdom. Although no information is available on this point, it is assumed that the British authorities will take steps to provide the necessary tonnage.

The supply of wheat and flour available for export is expected to prove a record. Predictions are of the most optimistic nature. This year's supply for export is estimated at 175,000,000 bushels as compared with about 94,000,000 bushels last year.

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