

ALLIES STRONGLY REINFORCED AT SALONIKI AND ITALIAN EXPEDITION LANDED ON ALBANIAN COAST

Both London and Athens View Situation More Hopefully—Danger of Bulgarian Aiding Germans in Attack on Allied Forces at Saloniki Big Factor in Making Greece Look More Favorably on Entente Powers.

WHOLE BURDEN OF ATTACK ON ALLIES AT SALONIKI MAY FALL ON THE GERMANS

Greece Opposed to Austrians or Bulgars Setting Foot on Greek Soil—Germans May Try to Strike Before Allies Too Strong.

London, Dec. 16.—There is a more hopeful feeling in London with regard to the Balkan operations, now that it is definitely announced that the Italians have effected a landing on the Albanian coast, and that the Anglo-French force, which has fallen back towards Saloniki, has been strongly reinforced with men and guns, including some heavy naval weapons.

It is not stated how large a force the Italians will send to the assistance of the Serbians and Montenegrins, but from the fact that the official account intimates that landings have been made at more than one point, it is taken for granted that an army of considerable proportions is to be sent across the Adriatic. This, with the Montenegrins and Serbians who escaped into Albania, will be a serious threat to the Central Powers' right flank, while they can never look on in indifference to the concentration of an army at Saloniki, which, at a chosen moment, would undertake an offensive, and to the gathering of Russians in Bessarabia.

It is anticipated, therefore, that the Germans will strike at Saloniki before the Anglo-French forces grow too strong, and, it is believed with that end in view they are now negotiating with the Greek government. If their plans include the participation of the Bulgarians in the attack, they are likely to meet with opposition from Greece, as Greece is strongly adverse to any Bulgarian crossing her frontier.

This applies also, to some extent, to the Austrians, whose ambitions always have been for a port on the Aegean, preferably Saloniki. On the whole, therefore, it is thought here that the Greeks might prefer to see the Entente remain there until the end of the war. In fact, Lord Robert Cecil, under secretary for foreign affairs, said in the House of Commons today that the Anglo-French plan was to keep the Central Powers from that city, in accordance with the wishes of Greece.

Reports that the Germans are preparing for an offensive in the west, but thus far there has been little but artillery engagements and slight raids.

General Townshend, commanding the British forces in Mesopotamia, reports the repulse of another attack at Kut-el-Amara, since which the Turks have been quiet.

Allies Blow up German Ammunition Depot.

Paris, Dec. 16, 2:23 p. m.—The war office made public the following report this afternoon: "The activity of the enemy's artillery was less pronounced last night. Our batteries everywhere responded effectively, particularly between the Oise and the Aisne where our trench guns blew up a German ammunition depot near Quenestevillers."

American Note Delivered in Paris.

Paris, Dec. 16.—The American note to France concerning the removal of persons from the American steamer Commo, and other American vessels, by the French cruiser Descaartes, was received at the American embassy here last night, and was so delivered to the foreign office today.

It is presumed that several days will be required for consideration of the subject before a reply is given.

Germany Trying to Borrow in Switzerland.

Geneva, Switzerland, Dec. 16.—The Paris-Germany is reported to be attempting to raise a loan in Switzerland in order to relieve exchange, as the mark has fallen to a franc, the lowest figure since the beginning of the war, while exchange with Austria is fixed at 100 francs for 140 crowns.

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SAY EARL OF DERBY'S PLAN SECURED TWO MILLION MEN

London, Dec. 17.—It seems to be generally taken for granted that during the seven weeks when the recruiting plan of the Earl of Derby was in operation an aggregate of 2,000,000 men enlisted, of whom over a quarter of a million made direct enlistments for immediate service.

These figures are now being freely quoted in political circles, but it has been impossible to ascertain what percentage of single men enlisted.

Premier Asquith yesterday received a deputation of Liberal and Labor members of the House of Commons who are opposed to conscription, and at this meeting the question how to deal with single men who have not yet enlisted was lengthily discussed. Nothing definite was decided however.

London, Dec. 17.—A sensation was caused in the Hungarian parliament on Dec. 7 by the speech of Count Karolyi, leader of the independence party, demanding that the government should make peace proposals to the enemy powers, according to a letter received by the Morning Post from Budapest. The speech was heavily censured in the Hungarian papers, and all despatches to foreign papers dealing with the speech were stopped by the censor.

The correspondents give extracts from the verbatim report, according to which Count Karolyi argued that Hungary had achieved everything she wanted by the war, had saved the country from invasion, and had preserved the monarchy and throne. Her allies could demand nothing further from Hungary, who had given incontrovertible proof that it was her sons that the Emperor and King had to thank for the integrity of his empire.

"Owing to the fact that it was the Hungarian army that had brought the war to its present stage," said Count Karolyi, "we have a perfect right to come forward with our claims for compensation."

License Issued for Wilson-Galt Marriage.

Washington, Dec. 16.—A marriage license for President Wilson and Mrs. Edith Bolling Galt was issued today at the local bureau. The wedding will take place Saturday at Mrs. Galt's home here. The Rev. Herbert Booth Smith, rector of the Episcopal church, which Mrs. Galt attends, will officiate. President Wilson is a Presbyterian.

The license, which was obtained by Chief Usher Isaac Hoover, of the White House staff, gives the president's age as 59 and Mrs. Galt's as 45. The license, which was obtained by Chief Usher Isaac Hoover, of the White House staff, gives the president's age as 59 and Mrs. Galt's as 45. The license, which was obtained by Chief Usher Isaac Hoover, of the White House staff, gives the president's age as 59 and Mrs. Galt's as 45.

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NEW ARMY IN THE MAKING IN BULGARIA

No Attack on Allies at Saloniki—Greece Makes Formal Protest Against Fortifications Being Made by Allies.

Paris, Dec. 16.—An Athens despatch to the Havas Agency dated Wednesday says the Hestia learns from Sofia that the Bulgarian government is preparing a new army by calling up all exempted men and all Bulgarians able to bear arms living in the regions occupied in Serbia. The Bulgarians' staff is said to count upon thus raising an army of 150,000 men. They will be armed with Austrian rifles.

Sofia, Dec. 16, via London.—A neutral zone, extending two kilometres on each side of the frontier, has been agreed upon between Greece and Bulgaria, according to an official announcement made here today. The official announcement says: "Bulgarian armies, by the capture of Monastir and Bana, having approached the Greek frontiers, the Bulgarian government, wishing to avoid any possibility of accidents between advanced posts and Greek frontier guards, proposed to the Greek government that a neutral zone be formed by the retreat of the troops on each side two kilometres from the frontier."

Greece replied, accepting, and the war minister ordered the Greek authorities to co-operate with Bulgarian officers for the formation of the neutral zone."

Atmosphere Clearing. London, Dec. 16.—King Constantine, though slightly indisposed, received Premier Lloyd George yesterday in his bedroom and conferred on the external situation, which, it is announced from official sources, is progressing normally, says Reuters correspondent at Athens.

The progress of negotiations between Greece and the Allies is regarded in military circles as quite satisfactory. At the same time the negotiations with the Central Powers, directed against the possibility of a Bulgarian incursion, are going on so well that the highest optimism prevails in authoritative circles and the possibility that Bulgarians will cross the frontier is regarded as having been excluded.

Keep Central Powers Out of Saloniki.

London, Dec. 16.—Replying to a request for a statement as to the position of Greece and the Entente Powers, Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under secretary of foreign affairs, said today:

"The immediate object of the Allies has been to regularize our military position at Saloniki, and deny to Bulgaria and the Central Powers any direct, indirect or indirect over Saloniki. This we believe to be in accordance with the wishes of Greece herself."

"The British government hopes the negotiations may reach a satisfactory conclusion. It is impossible to say more at present."

German Troops Inadequate for Attack.

Paris, Dec. 16.—The Havas correspondent at Athens quotes the Journal of Embros as saying that the British military authorities regard it as likely that military operations will be suspended for some time at the Greek frontier, the Germans not having sufficient forces to pursue the Entente Allied troops.

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QUEBEC NOT LACKING IN PATRIOTISM

More Regiments Than Militia Department Can Handle Before Spring, Hon. Mr. Blondin Says.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—Hon. Pierre Blondin, secretary of state for Canada, speaking before the Empire Club today on Quebec and the war, aroused great enthusiasm by the statement that before winter was over Quebec would have more regiments than the militia department could equip. We may have lacked organization," he said, "but we did not lack patriotism. If my native province could be charged with indifference in this world conflict, where the life of the civilized world is at stake, I would say—and I am voting the feelings of the French-Canadian people—I would say, 'wipe it out of the map of the Dominion; let its name be buried in oblivion for the sake of our own children.'"

Sensation in Hungarian Parliament. Leader of Independent Party Demanded that Government Make Peace Proposals to the Entente Powers.

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Canadians Win Distinction in Brilliant Charge on German Position

Toronto, Dec. 16.—The Evening Telegram tonight had the following from its London correspondent: "A battalion of Canadians lately greatly distinguished themselves. Ordered to drive the Germans from a strong position, at all costs, they charged across the one hundred yards gap separating the trenches and forced the enemy at the point of the bayonet, inflicting heavy losses. The Canadian casualties were comparatively light. The Germans retreated well to the rear."

"The captured enemy position was very strong, and several concrete machine gun emplacements were found. The positions were firmly held by the Canadians."

WILL NOT LEAVE SALONIKI 'TILL PEACE SIGNED

Allies There to Stay—Many Foreigners Fearing Siege are Leaving the City.

Saloniki, Dec. 14, via Paris, Dec. 16.—"You make this as final: 'The Allies will not quit Saloniki until European peace is signed,'" said an officer of the Allies to The Associated Press correspondent today. "Outgoing ships are crowded with foreigners, particularly Germans and Austrians and the inhabitants of Saloniki are leaving the city in fear of a siege. The British consul is advising civilian British subjects, especially women, to take their departure. Hundreds of Serbian refugees and Greeks living between Saloniki and Gheggoli. A refugee camp is now well established at Volo, where the allied naval base will be located."

Turks Lost 2,000 in Attack at Kut-el-Amara.

Two Night Attacks by British Near Armentieres Successful—Enemy Routed With Loss of 70 Men.

London, Dec. 16.—The following official communication was issued this evening: "Last night two small enterprises were successfully carried out near Armentieres, hostile trenches being entered and their occupants disposed of. The enemy losses are estimated at seventy men killed. Our losses were trifling."

"Today there has been an artillery bombardment by both sides about Ypres."

"The report in the German wireless of the 15th that 'we lost four aeroplanes is untrue.'"

Turks Lost 2,000.

London, Dec. 16.—A British official statement issued tonight says: "General Townshend reports from Kut-el-Amara that, according to Arab reports, the Turks lost 2,000 men in their attack on the evening of December 2. General Townshend cannot affirm this, but he himself estimates that the Turks lost fully 1,000. They have not resumed their attacks since."

Russian Report.

Petrograd, via London, Dec. 16.—The following official statement was issued from general headquarters tonight: "There has been no change on either the western or Caucasian front."

WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT TO INSIST ON DISAVOWAL

MAY GIVE AUSTRO-HUNGARY ANOTHER CHANCE BUT WILL NOT DEVIATE FROM THE POLICY OUTLINED IN LAST NOTE TO VIENNA.

Vienna, Wednesday, Dec. 16, via London, Dec. 16.—The Austro-Hungarian government's reply to the American note on the Ancona was transmitted at noon today, to the American Ambassador, Frederick C. Penfield. The American note, as published in the Vienna morning papers, resulted in a high state of public indignation, and while the text of the Austrian reply has not been made public, it is understood that common ground is indicated on which the United States and Austria might come to an understanding.

Those who are conversant with the contents of the reply express the conviction that the American government cannot fail to realize the justice and moderation of the Austrian government's attitude, and they view the reply as a fair and open minded document, showing the imperial government's willingness to do whatever is right.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The United States will regard Austria-Hungary's reply to the American note regarding the Ancona as being entirely unsatisfactory and unacceptable should the official text, which tonight was momentarily expected, be identical with the unofficial version received in press despatches from Amsterdam and London.

Persistence by Austria-Hungary in the course she apparently has determined to pursue would result in the severance of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vienna government. This step would not be taken by the United States, however, it was authoritatively stated, tonight, without one more communication being despatched to Austria-Hungary.

The United States is described as being prepared to insist that Austria-Hungary promptly comply with the demands for disavowal, punishment of the submarine commander, and reparation by payment of indemnity for the Americans killed or injured in the destruction of the Italian liner, making it clear that failure will mean immediate breaking off of relations.

A second note, it is said, would review the original demands and without dealing in a discussion or exchange of views, would be of even a more insistent nature, as to the expectations of compliance without further delay.

The State Department tonight had

BELIEVE U. S. WILL ASK FOR RECALL OF AUSTRIAN EMBASSY

London, Dec. 16.—A message to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Amsterdam quotes a telegram received from Vienna as saying the feeling there is that the United States will ask for the recall of the Austrian embassy, as the Austrian note on the Ancona case is couched in such terms that such a step is considered unavoidable.

"It is said that the note was submitted to the German ambassador before its presentation to Ambassador Penfield," says the news agency despatch, "and that Dr. Dumba, the recalled ambassador to the United States took a hand in drafting the document."

The message adds that in today's editorials in Vienna newspapers on the note extensive excisions appear.

NARROW ESCAPE FOR CHURCHILL

Former First Lord of Admiralty's Dugout Hit by German Shell.

London, Dec. 16.—Winston Spencer Churchill, who resigned his portfolio of chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, in order to join his regiment at the front, had a narrow escape a few days ago, according to wounded men who have arrived at home. These men say that Mr. Churchill's dugout was hit by a German shell.

Not Yet Recalled.

Vienna, Dec. 16.—(Via courier to Berlin and via London, Dec. 17)—The foreign office informs the Associated Press that Alexander Nuber von Pered, the Austro-Hungarian consul general at New York, has not yet been recalled. A representative of the press bureau said that no information had been received here as yet of a demand for his recall.

Rupture Only Way Out of It.

London, Dec. 17.—As in the case of the American note to Vienna, the London morning papers show little disposition to comment on the Ancona case. A majority of them carry no editorials on the subject, among the editors, however, is the Daily News, which considers that there can be but one issue, namely, a rupture of diplomatic relations.

The Daily News says: "The extraordinary insolence of the Austrian reply is veiled somewhat by its extremely bad composition, but its general tenor is clear, and there could scarcely be a more flat defiance of a peremptory demand. The full seriousness of the situation depends upon the degree in which Germany may be implicated."

In view of the new development the note certainly could not have been sent without Germany's approval, for nobody seriously doubts that in this campaign, as in all the rest of her policy, Austria is the subservient tool of her ally. An open rupture with Austria will definitely free the United States government from even seeming condonation of the submarine crimes, and will do much to restore to her prestige and authority among civilized nations, which she will need if she is to play adequately the part to which her greatness and destiny call her."

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