

BULGARIA IN DESPERATION, IS WILLING TO QUIT

BRITISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY ASKED TO GRANT ARMISTICE TO DISCUSS PEACE; MEANWHILE ALLIES KEEP AFTER BULGARS

Strumnitza Captured By British Operating in Macedonia and Thousands of Prisoners Taken—French Commander Says He Will Receive Peace Delegates But Will Not Stop Fighting.

Bulgarian Peace Would Release Saloniki Army and With Turkey Smashed German Menace in East Would Be Completely Removed—Serbian Troops Have Captured Kochana.

London, Sept. 27.—The British Government today received from an official authorized source, an application from Bulgaria for an armistice. The application is regarded as a serious movement, and, contrary to the report from German sources of the armistice move, there is no suggestion that it is the action of Premier Malinoff on his own initiative. The request, which is addressed to the Allies, is for an armistice, for the discussion of peace.

Won't Stop Fighting.

Paris, Sept. 27.—The French commander-in-chief in Macedonia officially reports that the Bulgarians have asked for a meeting to arrange the conditions of an armistice and eventual peace.

The French commander replied, refusing to suspend the operations, but saying he would receive duly qualified delegates of the Bulgarian government.

General D'Esperey says that as the Bulgarian request might be a military ruse to allow the regrouping of forces and the arrival of reinforcements, he made a reply declining to grant an armistice, but promising to receive duly qualified government delegates.

The French commander reports that the Bulgarian request reached him through an intermediary, the general commanding the British army in the east, forming a part of the Allied command. Gen. D'Esperey's reply, therefore, asked the Bulgarian delegates to present themselves to the British lines.

The text of the French commander's reply to a letter brought by the Bulgarian officer read:

"My response, that I send through the Bulgarian officer bearing the letter in question, cannot be, by reason of the military situation, other than the following:

"I can accord neither an armistice nor a suspension of hostilities tending to interrupt the operations in course. On the other hand, I will receive with all due courtesy the delegates duly qualified, of the royal Bulgarian government, to which your excellency alludes in the letter. These delegates to present themselves in the British lines, accompanied by a parliamentary aide."

(Signed) "Franchet D'Esperey."

Would End Germany's Dreams of Eastern Conquest.

London, Sept. 27.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuters)—Reuters learns from the foreign office that in Bulgaria's application for an armistice there was no suggestion that Premier Malinoff's action was taken only on his own initiative. The request is for an armistice in order to discuss peace.

Great Britain can only reply after consultation with her Allies. It is understood that the official view is that peace with Bulgaria would have a prodigious effect, especially with Turkey. It would free the whole Saloniki army and in certain eventualities bring about peace with Turkey and thus free the Mesopotamian and Palestine armies, and thus kill the German menace to the east. Moreover it would affect advantageously the world's food situation.

Serbs Take Kochana.

London, Sept. 27.—(5 p.m. by the Associated Press)—Serbian troops were reported this afternoon to have captured Kochana, about fourteen miles from the Bulgarian border, opposite Kustendil. This is taken to show the rapid development of the Allied envelopment movement, by which it is hoped the Serbs, by a quick thrust to the northeast, will cut off the Bulgarians who are being hard pressed by the British on the Bulgarian front.

The Allied advance has been so very rapid that it has been impossible to count prisoners and ascertain the amount of war material captured, which is enormous. Up to this time, more than 10,000 prisoners, and more than 200 guns have been counted.

London, Sept. 27.—The Bulgarian city of Strumnitza has been captured by the British forces in Macedonia. Announcement of the capture was officially made this afternoon. The text of the statement reads:

"British troops, preceded by yannaries, entered Strumnitza yesterday morning, while Anglo-Greek troops stormed the heights of the Belashtitsa Mountains north of Lake Doiran. The British have taken more than 30 guns and much ammunition."

CASTORIA For Infants and Children In Use For Over 30 Years Always bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Williams*

Canada TROOPS ARRIVE IN ENGLAND

No New Brunswick Drafts Mentioned in Latest Announcements.

Ottawa, Sept. 27.—It is officially announced, through the chief press censor's office, that the following troops have arrived safely in England:

Infantry—Western Ontario; British Columbia; Saskatchewan; Central Ontario.

A. M. C.—Imperial and Serbian recruits; C. O. T. C. Candidates and Details.

R. C. H. A.—Field Artillery, Central Ontario regiment.

Infantry—Halifax.

V. A. P. Nurses.

Imperial Recruits and Details.

How GERMANY EXPLAINS IT

Berlin Statement Admits Retirement Before Franco-American Attack on Argonne.

Berlin, Sept. 27.—(Via London)—German troops on the front on both sides of the Argonne retired to their lines of defence before the Franco-American attack on Thursday, according to the official statement from German general headquarters.

The statement reads: "In the Champagne between the heights west of the Suippe and the Aisne, as well as northwest of Verdun between the Argonne and the River Meuse, the Franco-Americans yesterday launched strong attacks. The artillery battle extended itself beyond the heights west of the Suippe toward the west as far as Rheims, and across the Meuse toward the east as far as the Moselle.

"Partial attacks followed. They were repulsed in violent fighting, during which the Franco-American troops distinguished themselves east of the Meuse.

"On the main attacking front a tremendous artillery fire preceded the entry of the infantry into the battle. West of the Aisne and east of the Argonne the Franco-Americans advanced against our positions, employing numerous tanks. In accordance with orders our advanced posts retired, fighting, to the lines allotted to them.

"At Ture and Ripont the enemy succeeded during attacks, which continued until evening, in advancing beyond our foremost fighting lines as far as Mont Blainville and Montfaucon, and as far as the bend in the Meuse northeast of Montfaucon. Here our reserves brought him to a standstill.

"The enemy was able at some points to reach our infantry and foremost artillery lines. The great Franco-American attempt to break through, undertaken with far-reaching aims, failed on the first day of the battle, owing to the tenacity of our troops. Fresh battles are imminent."

AVIATORS ACTIVE.

Paris, Sept. 26. (Delayed)—The war office statement tonight, referring to aviation, reads:

"Aviation—On Sept. 25 five enemy machines were brought down in aerial combats. That night bombing aviators dropped more than twenty-one tons of projectiles on cantonnements in the region of Laon and on railroad stations at Mont Cornet, Marie and Laon and on the roads radiating from them. Fires and explosions were observed."

Smashing of Hindenburg Switch Line Has Resulted in Rescuing Hundreds of French Civilians From German Hands—Pathetic and Humorous Incidents.

By Lieut. A. A. Milne.

The breaking of the Hindenburg Switch Line has brought us into a country which we have never occupied before. As a consequence of this we have been able to rescue a few French civilians from German hands. At Ecoust, St. Quentin there had been two hundred of them living among Germans for the last four years. Three days before the British arrived a German officer went from house to house ordering the inhabitants to pack up and prepare to leave. A few infirm old women were left behind, while some of the men managed to hide in cellars. They had got hold of gas masks somehow, and they put these on and lay there while the battle went on above them. They could hear the tramp of men marching out and the rumble of the transports moving eastward; and then there was a long silence. After waiting for some time, one of them ventured out into the daylight. To his dismay he came across a German soldier—the last of them.

"You ought to be out of this," said the German. "Don't you know the English are coming, and they will be here in a few days."

"When?" asked the Frenchman in pretended alarm.

"Now, at once. I'm the last to go."

"Then I must go and pack my bag," said the Frenchman with great presence of mind, and dived below again. He told the others, and a little later they walked out into the arms of the British, the first they had seen since 1914.

But whenever he retreats the Hun leaves his own special "booby-traps," behind him, so that entering into a repulsed village is a thing which must be done carefully. The most innocent-looking "souvenir" may blow a man to bits, and it is necessary for specialized parties of men to disconnect any of these little contrivances before the troops can settle down comfortably. The latest devilment of the Hun is a thing which has been told of a kilted piper by its name to the British, and of an infatuated Briton who rushed up and took out the nails. . . . and was blown up; all of which would seem to a German to be according to the best traditions of twentieth-century warfare.

There have been some strange situations as the result of our rapid advances. On one occasion our troops were actually holding the old Hindenburg line, while the German troops were in our old trenches to the west of it and facing eastwards. As one officer prisoner said, he expected frontal attacks or even flank attacks, but he objected to being attacked from behind. It didn't seem to him to be good form; at least, not when it was done by the British.

Perhaps it was some sudden reversal of positions which accounted for the capture of another prisoner, who is generally regarded as the most important-looking visitor whom we have entertained as yet. He was a young cavalry officer in a sky-blue coat with a red collar, and the most beautiful leather boots, just back from a leave of absence. He was a young man, and he carried his kit, he made a superb entry into what he thought were the German lines, and from there a loss superb exit into what he discovered

BRITISH TROOPS NOW OPERATING IN COUNTRY NOT OCCUPIED BEFORE

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was a Town Major, who was peacefully pursuing his avocations many miles behind what was supposed to be his front line. In the British army a Town Major is generally regarded as the lucky possessor of a "cushy" job. Good infantrymen are Town Majors in their dreams, and wake up to find themselves still in the trenches. For a Town Major to go to sleep in his comfortable bed, and wake up and find himself in a prisoner's cage, must indeed be a shock.

In all these surprises the tanks have played a large part. Indeed they are getting on the brain both of the German soldier and of the German authorities. "To prevent rumors about tanks alleged to have broken through," says a recent order, "denials will forthwith be communicated to all ranks." That is to say, as soon as a German officer hears that a tank has broken through his men he immediately tells them that it hasn't. This is one way of disposing of them. Another way is to kill them by wireless. Every day two or three thousand tanks are "shot to pieces" by the German wireless editor, but there still seems to be enough left over for the German soldier. The high command must think

of some other way of dealing with them than by word of mouth. But indeed the German soldier knows much more than the high command is ready to admit. A letter which a prisoner had written home sums up the present situation as well as it can be put from the German point of view.

"The war cannot last much longer. We cannot hope for any further success. Our enemy is superior to us in numbers and everything else, and victory is out of the question."

He is absolutely right.

FUNERALS

The funeral of Mrs. Charles R. Watson took place yesterday afternoon from her late residence, 274 Douglas Avenue. Services were conducted by Rev. I. W. Williamson. Interment was made in Fernhill cemetery.

The funeral of Miss Julia A. Magee took place yesterday afternoon from her late residence, Main street, to Trinity church, where services were conducted by Rev. Canon R. A. Armstrong, who was assisted by Rev. Mr. Lowther and Rev. A. W. Daniels. Interment was made in Fernhill cemetery.

The two chief military week have both been subsidiary theatres of in Macedonia and the line. The first thing that regard to such operations easily. There has been of criticism delivered of troops in distant of night, apparently, be concentrated on the where alone the war is at this moment.

This criticism certainly in the past, when conditions have been in these with insufficient ten with ill success. The past a school which the situation on the West a deadlock and that won by turning the West the east. It was an error of disastrous result present situation is not The troops operating in and Palestine are bod enough to do more than They are based upon nee tries, and largely reco from the east.

The forces in Macedonia holding what is essentially from the enemy, the or have from the Balkans at Salonika. It was vit interest to send an exp to Salonika when they d it will be seen that it added value. That val and we shall understand the three eastern theat tania, Palestine and Ma we appreciate how grea cal situations have cha three expeditions were The two extraneous al tral Empires, Turkey were each attached to dominion in Europe for the disassociated from the ca and each again was r thives quite separate fr was an enemy to the worst quarrel the Turkish Empire ca because the Allied vict end to the Turkish Constantinople and the the Prussian victory pre tion of both.

The Russian Empire existence and the Allies compact to hand over control of the entrie from the Russian casu government because its rascally monarch saw tunity for himself; but came in because of the p the Bulgarians felt the when Austria, after th war some years ago, e and Greece to occur Bulgarians' eyes nation.

The Bulgarians also cover what they regard territory under the nee by Roumania at t As long as the cause of Empires seemed victori of war thus entered the Balkans, for reason nothing to do with the was borne, though not c now that the tide has tu is cannot win the stra intolable. Not only the various circumstances each party enter the changed, notably in the key, for the Russian Er exists.

The result is that in and Bulgaria the po against the continuanc has become very strong operations we are waiti much poorer the Bulg them further shakes the ing adherence to the which these two coun maintained.

To return from these cal considerations to t themselves, we first note ease with which the Bul broken by the French attack this week. It wa condition in Bulgaria p accounted for this, but i is something we the stra period of more than

The situation is as f great tangle of mount Southern Serbia is ch the great bend of the range of mountains fo thousand feet high and ern slopes this range plain where the main B tive position is drawn quite as strong as an west prepared with the Austrian and Servia a period of more than This line was broken six miles, and the moun behind it were carried fifty the north to the was already twenty-six and the French and Ser line through it had reac River and proceeded do over twenty miles. B of the week the main v reached and success a plets.

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NEPONSET ROOFS

NEPONSET PAROID ROOFING NEPONSET TWIN SHINGLES



The Guardian of the Home

In a very strict sense, the roof stands guardian over the home. It must protect the dwelling from rain, snow, hail and wind. When sparks are flying from nearby fires, the roof must save your home. These are reasons why you must be most careful in your choice of roofing material.

RED or GREEN Slate Surface

NEPONSET TWIN SHINGLES

Star—20 inches by 12 1/2 inches

Neponset Twin Shingles are made, like the famous Paroid Roofing, of tough felt, saturated through and through with Asphalt. A heavy surface of crushed slate is applied and rolled firmly in. The twin shape saves much time and labor in laying. The slate surface assures permanent coloring—Red or Green.

Neponset Twin Shingles will not rot, split, curl up, or dry out and do not require heavy rafters like slate.

Unexcelled for appearance, a roof of Neponset Twin Shingles is at once economical, durable and thoroughly satisfactory in every respect. Best for all residences.

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The Largest Manufacturers of Roofings, Wall Board and Roofing Felts in Canada

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Should Profit by the Experience of These Two Women

Buffalo, N. Y.—"I am the mother of four children, and for nearly three years I suffered from a female trouble with pains in my back and side, and a general weakness. I had professional attendance most of that time but did not seem to get well. As a last resort I decided to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound which I had seen advertised in the newspapers, and in two weeks noticed a marked improvement. I continued its use and am now free from pain and able to do all my household work."—Mrs. B. B. ZIELINSKA, 202 Wells Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Portland, Ind.—"I had a displacement and suffered so badly from it at times I could not be on my feet at all. I was all run down and so weak I could not do my housework, was nervous and could not lie down at night. I took treatments from a physician but they did not help me. My Aunt recommended Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I tried it and now I am strong and well again and do my own work and I give Lydia E. Pinkham's Compound the credit."—Mrs. J. JOSEPHINE KIMBLE, 935 West Race Street, Portland, Ind.

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LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

LYDIA E. PINKHAM MEDICINE CO. LYNN, MASS.