

## FRENCH TAKE STRUMITZA AFTER 3 DAYS FIGHT AND ADVANCE 20 MILES INTO BULGARIAN TERRITORY

### Serbian Main Army Bravely Resisting Attempts of Austrians to Cut Off Its Retreat, Has Valuable Ally in Montenegrins Who Are Putting Up Game Fight in Enemy's Own Territory—Russian Advance in Lake District Nears Vilna-Dvinsk Railway.

London, Oct. 29.—The Germans with their Austrian and Bulgarian allies, are still making an attempt to cut off the retreat of the main Serbian army, which is offering such spirited resistance to the invaders. While Von Mackensen's force advances slowly from the north the Austrians have crossed the western border of Serbia, south of Visegrad, and are moving eastward, and the Bulgarians are marching westward on a wide front from Piro, which lies southeast of Nish, to Zajecar, to the northeast of Nish.

It is, of course, a long way across, and the country is difficult to traverse, but the Serbians are bound to defend it as long as possible, as their great arsenal at Kraguevatz is situated in this area, and they will doubtless hold on, with the hope of making an eventual retreatment in the mountains, along the Montenegrin frontier and in that country.

To forestall this the Austrians also are attacking in Montenegro, but have made little progress, as the Montenegrins, under their veteran king, have had a long time to prepare for just such an event and thus far have beaten off all attempts to throw them back. In fact, the Montenegrins hold some strong positions in Austrian territory, out of which they will have to be driven before their own country is invaded.

There is no change in the southern area of Serbia, so far as is known. The report that Uskup has been recaptured is not confirmed.

The French, however, claim to have cleared the Bulgarians out of the Velez district. This, if true, would render Uskup an unsafe place for the invaders in the opinion of military men.

#### PROSPECTS BRIGHT FOR ROUMANIA COMING IN.

In what other way Serbia is assisted has not yet been disclosed. Some British troops are co-operating with the French in the south, and others are on the way, but where they will be used remains a secret. Russia's plans also have not yet been disclosed, although from German sources it is reported that Roumania is about to throw in her lot with the Entente Allies, and will allow the passage of a half million Russian troops through her territory to attack Bulgaria from the north.

Greece has assured the Entente Powers that she already has given them assistance by permitting the landing of their troops at Saloniki.

On the other fronts there is little or no change in the situation. In the west artillery engagements remain the chief method of warfare, although there has been some trench fighting. In the east the battle is still raging for Riga and Dvinsk, which for nearly two months Von Hindenburg has been endeavoring to reach, first from one point and then from another. During the past week the Germans have poured a perfect rain of shells on the Russian positions, along a front of 150 miles from the mouth of the Dvina to the south of Dvinsk, but although the Russians are falling back a little in the north, they have generally held firm and returned shot for shot, which is taken here to indicate that their supply of ammunition is now satisfactory.

Through the Lake District, between Dvinsk and Ventsyany, the Russians are steadily advancing, and are making a near approach to the Vilna-Dvinsk railway. In the south they also continue harrying the Austro-Germans by frequent thrusts. Emperor Nicholas and his son are now visiting General Ivanoff in this region.

As the Germans are reported to have sent a part of General von Linningner's army from this region to the Rumanian frontier, to guard against a Rumanian attack on Von Mackensen's forces in Serbia, important events are looked for along the Sty and in Galicia.

General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, has arrived in England. He had a long conference with Earl Kitchener today, and also visited the other ministers.

#### Austrian Report.

Vienna, via London, Oct. 29.—The following official statement was issued by the Austrian war office tonight:

"Russian theatre: There is nothing to report."

"Italian theatre: Yesterday the Italian second and third army recommenced a general attack with all their strength. A battle is proceeding along the whole coastal front. Infantry attacks have been preceded by artillery preparation which in several sectors, increased to an incessant fire. Especially against the Gorizia bridge head it reached unprecedented violence. Neither this fire nor the following storms could affect our troops. Our troops again assiduously repulsed the enemy on the whole front, and maintained their positions which often were destroyed. Where the enemy penetrated trenches he was repulsed by immediate counter-attacks. The difficult day ended with a complete failure for the Italians. It was followed by a calm night. In the Dolomites the hostile activity continues undiminished. Here the enemy directed most violent attacks against Col. Di Lana, where yesterday two attacks again collapsed. An Italian aviator bombarded the Castle of Miramar."

"Southeastern theatre: Montenegrin battalions, operating southeast of Visegrad, were bested near Prinska, and on the Suhagora the German divisions of Gen. Von Koenigs army advanced to the region of Rudnik. The Austro-Hungarian forces of this army, while attacking, crossed the lowland on the Upper Raca, which is nearly impenetrable owing to rains. In bitter fighting they drew the enemy from Cumisko Height and stormed the village of Cumis. The army of Gen. Von Gallwitz in the region of Lapovo, crossed the Lepenica and made further progress."

"The Bulgarian first army captured Piro. The enemy began a retreat along the whole front."

No Change on Russian Front

Petrograd, via London, Oct. 29.—An official communication issued by the war office tonight says:

"Over the entire western front (Russia) there is no change in the situation. On the left bank of the Sty, to the west of Rafalovka, the enemy assumed an offensive which was repulsed near the village of Kozlovka."

"There have been some stubborn engagements to the west of Opatovsk, near the villages of Guta Lisovska and Rudnik, at some points the bayonet being used. These combats, however, have not caused any modification of the situation."

"There is no change on the Caucasian front."

Serbia Thrown Back, Berlin Says

Berlin, Oct. 29, via London.—Serbian forces opposing the Teutonic advance on the western border of Serbia have been thrown across the frontier east of Visegrad, it was officially announced today by German army headquarters. Advances for the Austro-German armies and for the Bulgarian forces in other sectors of the Serbian front also are recorded.

The text of the statement regarding the Serbian operations is as follows:

"Near Drinske, south of Visegrad, the enemy has been driven back. East of that place he has been thrown across the frontier."

"West of the Morava the general line of Garke-Viva-Rudnik-Cumisko-Batcina has been reached."

"Southeast of Svilajnac enemy positions on both sides of the Remava were stormed. More than 1,500 prisoners fell into our hands."

"On the front of General Boydoff's army the enemy is weakening. This army is in pursuit."

## LURE GERMANS TO ISLAND AND WIPE THEM OUT

### Terrible Slaughter of Enemy Follows Bombardment of Island of Dalen in Dvina River by Russians.

London, Oct. 29.—Accounts have reached here, says a Reuter despatch from Petrograd, "of a spectacular fight on the island of Dalen, on the Dvina river, a few miles southeast of Riga, whither the Russians lured the Germans, allowing them time to install themselves before beginning a bombardment from both sides."

"Spectators from Riga who witnessed the cannonade from a bridge across the Dvina say the vessel which with German troops was destroyed in the stream, and that the Germans had been almost entirely wiped out."

## GENERAL STAFF ON GERMAN PLAN ADVOCATED

### London Papers Claim Lack of Such Body Responsible for Errors Great Britain Has Made.

New York, Oct. 29.—The London correspondent of the New York Herald says:

"I am informed that the new war council, which is expected to be empowered by parliament to deal with all questions arising out of war, will be made up of the following ministers: Mr. Asquith, Lord Kitchener, Mr. Lloyd-George, Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Bonar Law and Lord Curzon, while the other members of the cabinet continue to deal with affairs arising within their departments. The war council acting always in conjunction with the allies, will alone have power to decide the disposition of the army and navy."

London, Oct. 29.—Simultaneously with the newspaper demands for a smaller cabinet, which apparently resulted in Premier Asquith adopting as a compromise, the constitution in definite form of an Inner War Council, there has arisen in various influential quarters an advocacy of a creation of a general staff on the German plan.

The Weekly Nation, in an article on this subject, says it believes the lack of such a body has been responsible for all the grave errors of the war. It points out that the German general staff is placed even above the greater commands in the fighting armies and is, in a word, the thinking brain of the German army. The Nation adds that such a staff was suggested by Lord Haldane, former minister of war, after conferences with the ablest heads in the army, but "unfortunately, on the outbreak of the war, Earl Kitchener disappeared and destroyed it, and from that moment the government relied on the single initiative of Kitchener."

The Nation concludes by stating that it is high time to reconstitute the General Staff, "not as a makeshift, but as an established center of the best thought that the army and navy can command."

## NEW FRENCH COALITION GOVT REMARKABLE FOR PERSONNEL

### Both Old and Modern Elements Well Represented—All History of Modern France Since Napoleon 3rd Has Voice in New Cabinet.

Paris, Oct. 29.—The new French cabinet, headed by Aristide Briand as premier and minister of foreign affairs, came into existence tonight.

This is the first time in the history of the French republic that there has been a coalition ministry of all the opposing parties and factions. It follows closely on the recent innovation of forming a British coalition cabinet of Conservatives and Liberals.

The action taken today in forming the cabinet, was the culmination of popular sentiment that at the supreme crisis of the war party division should give way to united action by all the parties in common support of the government. As the result of the cabinet of Rene Viviani being representative of only a few political groups, the ministers presented their collective resignations, and President Poincare immediately changed Aristide Briand with the formation of a new organization, combining all elements. The resulting coalition is remarkable in personnel, including such venerable figures as Charles De Freycinet, who was one of Gambetta's aides in the upheaval of 1870; Jules Mellie, a former premier, who instituted the protective system of France, and Leon Bourgeois, who served as the "grand old man" of the republic party, which has the longest tradition in parliament.

The modern element is represented by conspicuous leaders of all the political groups of the country. Thus the new coalition brings together France's elder and younger statesmen, and in personnel represents all the history of modern France since the fall of Napoleon III. The new body also is notable in having the popular military leader, Gen. Gallieni as the head of the war office, and Rear Admiral La Caze as head of the ministry of marine, both of them replacing civilians.

All Parties and Groups Represented

The extent of the coalition is shown by the following representatives from the various parties:

The Radical party is represented by M. Viviani, a former premier; M. Combes, a former premier, and Rene Renoult, one of the foremost parliamentary leaders of the Radicals.

The Republican Socialists has as members M. Briand, M. Viviani and Prof. Painleve.

The Socialist group is represented by Jules Guesde, who has been the Socialist head since the death of Jean Jaures and by Marcel Sembat and Albert Thomas, prominent Socialist leaders.

The Democratic left has as members Gabriel Guisthaun and Joseph Thierry, while the Radical left has Etienne Clementel as its representative.

The Royalist and Clerical element is represented by Denys Cochin.

This embraces all the parties and groups in parliament which for years have been arrayed against each other. M. Freycinet, Mellie and Ribot belong to the old school of moderate tendencies, and are not identified with any of the parliamentary groups.

The designation of Jules Cambon, former ambassador at Washington, Madrid and Berlin, as secretary general to the minister of foreign affairs, is another innovation in the new cabinet, as it places an ambassador of wide experience, for the first time, in responsible direction of foreign questions.

The organization of the new cabinet was rapidly consummated during the day. The old cabinet, headed by M. Viviani, resigned at eleven o'clock this morning, and within half an hour, M. Briand was holding a conference with the men who were to form the new government. They assembled late this afternoon, and finally assigned men to several of the lesser positions.

The cabinet will proceed in a body to the Elysee Palace tomorrow for its first conference with President Poincare, and later will formulate a ministerial declaration of policy.

The new cabinet will be composed as follows:

Premier and minister of foreign affairs, Aristide Briand; vice-president of the cabinet and minister of state, Charles De Freycinet; minister of war, Gen. J. S. Gallieni; minister of justice, Rene Viviani; minister of the interior, Louis J. Malvy; minister of marine, Rear Admiral La Caze; minister of finance, Alex. Ribot; minister of public instruction and inventions con-

cerning national defense, Prof. Paul Painleve; minister of public works, Marcel Sembat; minister of commerce, Etienne Clementel; minister of colonies, Gaston Doumergue; minister of agriculture, Jules Mellie; minister of labor, Albert Metin; ministers without portfolio, Emil Combes, Leon Bourgeois, Denys Cochin and Jules Guesde.

Under secretary of state, war and munitions, Albert Thomas.

Under secretary of state for subsistence, Joseph Thierry.

Under secretary of state for sanitary service, Justin Godart.

Under secretary of state for aviation, Rene Besnard.

Under secretary of state for marine, Louis Nall.

General secretary of the ministry of foreign affairs, Jules Cambon; under secretary for fine arts, Albert Dallery.

The under secretaries for the ministries of the interior and foreign affairs were not made public.

Find Favors in Italy

Rome, via Paris, Oct. 30.—General satisfaction is expressed here over the solution of the French cabinet crisis. The Tribuna says:

"After the mistakes made, the quadruple entente needs, above all, determined men, with clear heads, like M. Briand."

The Giornale D'Italia says, in an editorial:

"M. Briand finds the nation perfectly organized and all parties in concord, which is a good omen for the day in which a victorious peace will be concluded."

The only member of the cabinet not well known to the public is the minister of marine, Rear Admiral Marie Jean Lucien Lacaze, commander of the naval forces at Marseilles. He is fifty-five years old, and has had a brilliant career. His first important appointment was chief of staff to the late Admiral Germet, commander of the Mediterranean fleet. In this position he showed great executive ability and attracted the attention of his superiors. He was next appointed as naval attaché at Rome, from which place he was summoned, in 1912, by Theophile Delcasse, then minister of marine, to be the latter's principal naval secretary. As naval secretary he bore a large part of the initiative and carrying out of reforms in the scheme for a radical re-organization of the fleet which was undertaken by M. Delcasse, and Rear Admiral Lacaze, who reached his present rank in Oct., 1911, is given credit for being responsible, in great measure, for the present high standard of efficiency of the naval forces of France.

LOST PATRONS

### ON ACCOUNT OF THE ZEPPELIN RAIDS

### Hundreds of Residents of English Seaside Resorts are Nearly Destitute.

London, Oct. 29.—(Montreal Gazette cable)—Following a statement made by Hon. Walter Long in the commons yesterday that the Canadian government had generously provided funds for the relief of the east coast seaside resorts, a meeting of the special committee was held at the offices of the local government board today, when representatives of the municipalities concerned laid their case before the committee. Sir George Perley was present on behalf of the Dominion government. The towns suffering are chiefly on the Yorkshire and East Anglia coasts. Some of them have had half their population, largely women, ruined owing to the absence of holiday makers during the past summer. Grants have already been made from the Prince of Wales fund but the problem has become so acute that nothing but a government scheme can save hundreds of hotel and lodging houses-keepers from destitution. The male population in certain towns being mostly fishermen or boat hirers, have also failed to make a living."

## GERMANS LOSE TRENCHES AFTER A STUBBORN DEFENCE

Paris, Oct. 29.—The following official statement was issued by the French war office tonight:

"In the course of the continuous combats that are going on in Champagne for the possession of these portions of 'La Courtine' work which are still occupied by the Germans, we realized today very perceptible progress by taking from the enemy on a front of about 150 metres, several trenches which the Germans defended up to the last moment with the greatest tenacity. We have taken 200 un wounded prisoners, including a company commander and two other officers, the Germans having besides lost nearly 400 men, killed or wounded."

"On the Lorraine front a German bombardment, especially violent, is reported between the forest of Parroy and La Vezouze river. Our artillery replied by shelling effectively the batteries and works of the enemy. Our artillery hit a military train in the station of Burtheourt."

"Tonight's Belgian official statement follows:

"Some short bombardments occurred on the front of Rykenhoek, Pervyse, the Maison De Bourg, St. Jacques, Cappelle and the Ferryman's House."

Bulletin—London, Oct. 29.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Athens says:

"It is learned from a good source that the French, after a three days' fight, have occupied Strumitza and advanced thirty-two kilometers (about twenty miles) into Bulgarian territory. The Bulgarians lost heavily."

SEBS LOSE VELES AGAIN?

Bulletin—London, Oct. 30.—The Bulgarians have recaptured Veles (Koprulu) Serbia, according to the Athens correspondent of the Times. Veles is twenty-three miles southeast of Uskup and is on the railroad line between Uskup and Saloniki.

Sofia, Oct. 27, via London, Oct. 30.—The damage done by the bombardment of Aegean Sea towns and villages by the allied fleet recently was greater than at first reported. One fourth of the entire city of Delesghatch was razed by the shells of the warships.

BULGARIAN BATTERIES FAILED TO HIT RUSSIAN SHIPS

Sofia, Oct. 26, via London, Oct. 30.—Although the bombardment of Varna by the Russian fleet lasted only ten minutes the bodies of twenty-two civilians already have been found, while over a hundred persons were injured, many of them seriously, according to reports received here.

The Russian fleet was sighted at eight o'clock in the morning, rapidly approaching the city and opened fire while still at a great distance. It approached to within a little over three miles, but withdrew before the Bulgarian batteries could make their fire effective.

According to officials here the Russians never searched out the Bulgarian batteries, but merely shelled the city, especially the harbor sections, where Greeks form the majority of the population. The people are greatly excited over the bombardments of Bulgarian cities on the Aegean and Black seas.

ROUMANIA LIKELY TO JOIN ALLIES

Athens, Oct. 29.—The Hestia says it has learned from a diplomatic source that there are indications Roumania will accept the proposals of the Entente Allies for joining with them. It is highly probably, the newspaper says, that Russian forces concentrated on the Rumanian frontier will pass through Roumania to go to the assistance of Serbia.

The Entente Powers, it is said, intend to satisfy Roumania's ambitions, including her desire for territory in Russian Bessarabia.

## LYDD GEORGE'S AGENT RETURNS HOME SOON

### FOR OCTOBER OVER 74,000

Ottawa, Oct. 29.—Mr. D. A. Thomas, Lloyd George's representative in America, leaves on Sunday for New York en route home to England. Before sailing, however, he will undergo a slight operation in New York for an ailment which has been troubling him for some years, but the nature of which was not determined until he underwent an examination recently by New York physicians.

POPE APPEALS TO SAVE ART TREASURES

Rome, via Paris, Oct. 29.—The Corriere D'Italia says Pope Benedict has made representations to the Austrian government as a result of the recent air raid over Venice.

The newspaper adds that the Pontiff, after the first bombardment of the Italian coast towns, expressed a strong desire to Emperor Francis Joseph that undefended cities, rich in treasures of art, should be spared such attacks.

## BRITISH LIST FOR OCTOBER OVER 74,000

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London, Oct. 30.—The total British casualties in October, computed from the War Office lists which have been published daily during the month, were 3,110 officers and 71,877 non-commissioned officers and men.

A recruiting advertisement, published today, declares that thirty thousand men weekly are desired to fill up the ranks and meet new requirements.

EIGHT HUNDRED MEN ARE NOW AT CAMP SUSSEX

Colonel Fowler has more than eight hundred men now under canvas for the 104th Battalion at Sussex. Besides these there are about one hundred and fifty in St. John waiting to join the regiment. It is expected that New Brunswick's crack regiment will have its full complement of men within a few days.