

DETERMINED EFFORT TO CRUSH ALLIES IN BALKANS; ASQUITH TO ASK FOR ANOTHER MILLION MEN

Germans and Bulgarians Reach Kenali, 10 Miles South of Monastir— French Withdraw From Kivrolak Salient to Demirkapou, Strong Position Near Greek Border—Reinforcements for British Arrive in Mesopotamia—Allies Striking Hard at Dardanelles.

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE RE-EQUIPPING SERB ARMY

London, Dec. 9.—Premier Asquith next week will ask parliament to authorize the raising of another million men, making altogether four million. He is expected at the same time to announce the result of the Earl of Derby's voluntary enlistment campaign.

London, Dec. 8.—A despatch to the Times from Salonki, dated Monday, says the British and French governments early arranged for the re-equipment of the Serbian army, the main body of which has taken refuge in Albania, and that the first instalment of the supplies arrived in Albania some days ago. The correspondent adds that a portion of the retreating Serbians reached Epirus, Greece, by skirting the eastern shore of Lake Ochrida.

London, Dec. 8.—The situation in the Balkans is developing rapidly. The Germans and Bulgarians have reached Kenali, on the Greek border, 10 miles south of Monastir, thus threatening to outflank the Anglo-French forces while Bulgarians, who also are supposed to be supported by Germans, have attacked the Allies' strong right wing near Strumitsa.

Under this pressure the French have withdrawn from the Kivrolak salient, and at last accounts had taken up a position at Demirkapou, in a steep gorge about twenty miles from the Greek frontier, through which the Salonki railways runs. Here they were attacked by the Bulgarians, who, according to the French reports, were repulsed.

The plans of neither the Allies nor the Germans are yet quite clear, but apparently the Germans are determined on crushing the little force which went to the assistance of the Serbians and which has been, and is still being, reinforced. The retirement of the Allies to Demirkapou has led to the report that they intended to abandon the Balkan enterprise entirely, but the continued landing of troops at Salonki should be held as a base for future operations in the Near East.

There is little news from the other fronts. The Germans have scored minor success in Champagne, where they captured about 500 yards of a French trench, part of which, however, has been regained; the British have received reinforcements at Kut-El-Amara, where they are making their stand after the retreat from Ctesiphon, and the Italians, who for the past two weeks have been on the offensive, are engaged in meeting the Austrian counter-attacks.

The expected offensive of the Allies in Gallipoli apparently did not materialize, while throughout Russia the wintry weather has put a stop to all but small ventures.

Large Force of Bulgarians Near Dorian.

Paris, Dec. 8.—It is reported that an important Bulgarian force, estimated in some quarters to number as many as four divisions, is being concentrated in the region of Dorian, about half way between Salonki and the northern extremity of the French front, says a despatch to the Temps from Salonki. Simultaneously German forces are forming in front of the Allied lines.

The German forces, according to the despatch, are probably of the army of Gen. Von Gallwitz, which, since the Austro-German army of Field Marshal Von Mackensen and the Bulgarian army of Gen. Boyadjieff have effected a junction has been detached from the mass and sent toward the south, while Gen. Von Kooress and Gen. Boyadjieff continue operations against the Serbs and Montenegrins. Quiet prevails in Salonki.

Fresh Pushed Back Along Vardar River.

Berlin, Dec. 8, via wireless to Sayville.—The Bulgarian war office reports in a statement dated yesterday, and received in Berlin today from Sofia, that the French troops in South-western Serbia are being pushed back further along the Vardar river.

This follows the announcement yesterday that the French had evacuated the Vardar salient. The Serbians, who have been attempting to form a junction with the Allied troops, also are said to have been forced back by the Bulgarians, who have captured Resna, in the Southwestern Serbia, to the west of Monastir.

"Bulgarian troops continued to pursue the retreating French along both banks of the Vardar," the statement says.

"Bulgarians occupied Resna after defeating the Serbians in the mountains. Other Bulgarian troops marched against Ochrida northwest of Resna. After a stubborn battle they occupied strongly fortified positions near Medovo and Miranovca. They are continuing the advance against Ochrida."

"Other Bulgarian troops defeated the Serbians in the Jama mountains, and occupied Dibra, near the Albanian border. They are continuing to pursue the enemy in the direction of Stuga.

NAVY OF BRITAIN SAFEGUARD OF UNITED STATES

Only Thing That Stands Between America and Germany's Hordes, Says London Paper.

London, Dec. 9.—In an editorial this morning, dealing with President Wilson's message to congress, the Morning Post, referring to that passage in which the president speaks of the necessity of the United States holding aloof from the conflict, so that "some part of the great family of nations should keep the process of peace alive," observes that if Mr. Wilson regards the nations as making one family, and in this domestic circle the United States is included, it is at least odd that the United States should be so majestically independent of the desires and feelings of her relatives.

The editorial proceeds to argue that President Wilson strangely misunderstands the nature of the conflict, which it says is a struggle for the preservation of civilization, and not a mere clash of contending ambitions.

Then quoting passages from the president's denunciation of the disloyalty of naturalized citizens, the editorial contends that they are proof that the Entente Allies are fighting, indirectly for the United States.

"What," says the editorial, "stands between America and 'creatures of passion, disloyalty and anarchy' in their armed millions, but the British fleet? For, unless America is prepared to renounce what President Wilson calls 'a common cause of national independence and of political liberty,' she is the next objective of German ambition, which goes unslacked as long as there remains one independent and free nation."

NATIONAL LOAN TO HELP ITALY FINANCE WAR

Budget of 1914-15 Closed with Deficit of Half a Billion, Finance Minister Announces.

Rome, Dec. 8.—In a statement before the chamber of deputies today, the minister of the treasury, Paolo Carcano, said that the budget of 1914-15 had been closed with a deficit of \$567,000,000. The budget of 1915-16, showed a surplus of \$248,000,000, taking into account the war loans emitted. But, added the minister, the surplus was much below the amount necessary for the expenditures indispensable for the continuation of the war from the end of December to the end of June. Therefore it was necessary to make another appeal to the Italian people for a great national loan. Signor Carcano, speaking with reference to the budget of 1916-17, predicted peace would come before the expiration of that period, and he estimated a surplus of \$28,000,000. The expense of the war, according to the minister, reached \$500,000,000 during the first five months, and would be proportionately higher in the next seven months.

CREDIT VOTE OF 2½ BILLION IN GERMANY

Chancellor Will Deliver His Speech on Political and Military Situation Today and Socialists Will Introduce Peace Subject.

Berlin, Dec. 8, via wireless to Sayville.—The Reichstag will be asked to vote a credit of 10,000,000,000 marks (approximately \$2,500,000,000), supplementary to the 1915 budget, the Overseas News Agency announced today.

The Reichstag will meet at ten o'clock tomorrow morning. First on the order of the day is the speech of the imperial chancellor, dealing with the political and military situation. The Reichstag will then discuss the Socialist Interpellation regarding the prospects for peace.

An Intimation of the Socialist position regarding peace terms is given in the Socialist organ, the Chemnitz Volks Zeitung, which, commenting on the declaration of the French under Secretary of War, Albert Thomas, regarding the impossibility of France concluding peace until Alsace and Lorraine are re-established as part of the French unity, says:

"It need not be emphasized that no German Socialist can be found who would favor cessation of a single stone of Alsace-Lorraine. The majority and minority are completely unanimous on this question. There remains no alternative, unfortunately therefore, except to fight for this."

BRITISH CRUISER KEEPING WATCH ON INTERNEED ENEMY

MAJORITY FOR UNION.

Montreal, Dec. 8.—With still a few of the Montreal Presbyterian congregations to be heard from, the official returns up to this evening show a majority of 494 in favor of union with the Methodist and Congregational churches, the figures being: For union, 5,295; against, 4,801.

Walter Roffey, latterly of Montreal, representing Swifts of Chicago, is in the city supervising the shipment of Swift products to Europe.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 8.—A British warship, of the type of the Australian cruiser Sydney, arrived at the entrance of Tampa Bay today, and remained off Egmont Key tonight. Reports that the Austrian steamer Borneo, in port here since the beginning of the war was preparing to make a dash for New Orleans to go into dry dock, generally were connected with the cruiser's appearance. The warship had not been spoken to tonight.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—Assurance that the wounds of Captain W. Victor, son of Sir Clifford Sifton, are not fatal, was contained in a cable received today by Mrs. Sifton from her son, Captain Winfield Sifton in England.

Canadian Officer Accidentally Killed.

New York, Dec. 8.—A news agency despatch from Folkestone, England, today says: "Lieut. G. F. Franklin, of the Canadian contingent, fell off the harbor wall today and was drowned."

Capt. Sifton Will Recover.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—Assurance that the wounds of Captain W. Victor, son of Sir Clifford Sifton, are not fatal, was contained in a cable received today by Mrs. Sifton from her son, Captain Winfield Sifton in England.

U.S. DEMANDS DISAVOWAL OF THE ANCONA INCIDENT

Reparation for Loss of American Lives and Assurance That Such Acts Will Not be Repeated — Communication So Drafted as to Obviate Parleying Such as Followed Lusitania Affair.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The United States has sent to Austria-Hungary a note asking for a disavowal of the submarine attack on the Italian liner Ancona, assurances that such an act will not be repeated, some degree of punishment for the commander of the submarine, and reparation for the American lives lost.

The communication was sent by cable yesterday by Secretary of State Lansing to Ambassador Penfield at Vienna, who was instructed to hand it to the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, Baron Burian.

Word of the delivery of the note had not been received by the department tonight.

The document is understood to make a particular point of prompt assurances for the future safety of American lives. Austria-Hungary has never informed the United States whether the commanders of its submarines had been given instructions similar to those which the German government gave to its commanders after the Lusitania tragedy. It is understood the note referred particularly to the charge that shells from the submarine killed or wounded some passengers on the Ancona after she had halted, and asked for an examination on the point.

Brief but Vigorous in Tone.

In despatching the note, Secretary of State Lansing acted with the approval of, and after consulting with, President Wilson. It is stated authoritatively that the document, which is described as being comparatively brief and decidedly vigorous in tone, was so drafted as to attempt a settlement of the controversy without bringing on a series of communications, such as followed the sinking of the Lusitania.

High officials are said to be of the opinion that the situation is one that calls for grave consideration, the state of affairs having become more complicated since the note was despatched, by reports of attacks upon American oil-carrying vessels in the Mediterranean, presumably by Austrian submarines.

News that the note had been sent came as a complete surprise to official Washington generally, the reports which emanated from the state department early in the week being that no positive and corroborated evidence as to what actually had occurred when the Ancona went down had been received. It was said that the reports received were fragmentary, conflicting or contradictory, and that until a reply to the inquiries submitted to Austria-Hungary was received it was probable that no communication would be sent to Vienna. Tonight it was suggested in some quarters that information of a most conclusive nature had come to Mr. Lansing probably late Monday night, and it had been decided that the protest should go forward immediately. Whether Ambassador Penfield had transmitted the reply of the Vienna foreign office to the list of queries submitted by the United States could not be ascertained.

Canadians Bound for England are Held up at New York.

FOR ENGLAND ARE HELD UP AT NEW YORK

Had Not New Passport Required by British Government—Many of them Soldiers' Relatives.

New York, Dec. 8.—Because they were not supplied with the new passports required by the British government, 100 would-be passengers, mostly Canadian women, who were planning to go to England, to spend the Christmas holidays with their husbands in the Canadian contingent, were barred from sailing for Liverpool today on the White Star liner Adriatic.

A new regulation compels all British citizens entering England to be supplied with a passport from their port of embarkation. The women appealed in vain to the British consul, being told that the rule makes it necessary for twenty-four hours to elapse before the granting of any passports.

The sailing of the Adriatic was delayed more than an hour, while the passengers left the ship.

The Adriatic carried a large number of passengers and a big cargo of war munitions, the freight totalling nearly 18,000 tons.

Press Attaches Great Significance to Alleged Interview of Constantine Given to Associated Press Correspondent.

Berlin, Dec. 8, via London, Dec. 9.—The Associated Press interview with King Constantine of Greece, is the feature of the day in the German newspapers. All the Berlin papers this morning headed their columns with the interview, and great significance is attached to King Constantine's declarations regarding the necessity of retiring allied troops passing direct through Greece without stop and re-embarking at Salonki.

Similar news had been received from Bucharest, in the form of a reported decision of the Greek cabinet and general staff, which it is stated, is to be communicated as a note to the foreign governments.

According to the version of this note, circulated by the Bucharest newspaper Minerva, the note declares that Serbian troops fleeing through Greece territory will be disarmed and Anglo-French headquarters at Salonki will be required to transport troops retiring before the enemy on Greek territory from Greece by the way of Salonki with their entire equipment and supplies. The Greek government requests the Central Powers not to cross the Greek frontier in pursuit of the retiring forces, Greece undertaking to guarantee that they depart from Greece.

FOUR GERMAN AIRMEN MEET HORRIBLE DEATH

Aeroplanes Collide Hundreds of Feet Above Ground and Explosion Follows—Occupants Carried to Death in Flaming Machines.

New York, Dec. 8.—A news agency despatch from Amsterdam says:

"Two German aeroplanes, manoeuvring over Ellebruck, Monday night, were in head-on collision at a height of several hundred feet and dropped to earth, their four occupants being killed."

"The gasoline tanks exploded, playing streams of flames over the fallen aircraft."

"The bodies of the four men were burned beyond recognition."

Germans and Bulgar Forces in Monastir.

London, Dec. 8.—It is officially announced that one German and one Bulgarian regiment entered Monastir yesterday, says a Reuter despatch from Athens.

The Anglo-French troops continue their withdrawal towards the Greek frontier, the despatch adds.

London, Dec. 8.—Telegraphic communication between Sweden and Estonia has been interrupted for several days, says a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Copenhagen. The cause of the interruption has not been learned.

Communication between Denmark and Russia continues normal.

LIVERPOOL WILL BE DISCHARGE DEPOT FOR RETURNED SOLDIERS

Wounded Will be Examined There or on Way Across Ocean to Obviate Delay on Arrival Here.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—A new arrangement has been made by General Hughes regarding the examination and care of invalid soldiers returning to Canada. Hitherto they have been sent in batches, when transportation was convenient, to Quebec where they have been examined by the Medical Board of the Department, and an official report upon their condition made. Quebec has been the discharge depot for returned soldiers and arrivals have been dispositioned as speedily as possible.

However, the discharge depot will be Liverpool after this. The Medical Board of the Militia Department will go to Liverpool and returning soldiers will be examined there or on the way across the ocean. Medical officers will travel on every vessel carrying Canadian soldiers.

Further, instead of sending men home irregularly as heretofore they will be sent weekly and come 150 at a time. The object of the new arrangements has been to obviate any delay of the invalids at Quebec. Recently a batch of 700 soldiers were kept at Quebec for a week, and as some of the men came from British Columbia, they were long in reaching their homes.

The reason for the delay was the necessary examinations to discover what the physical condition of the soldiers was. On this examination depended the question of pay and pensions. By having the examinations done at Liverpool or on the way out there will be no necessity for the men going to Quebec at all. When they reached St. John, N. B., they will entrain at once for their homes or the convalescent hospitals as the case may be.