Drive Into Serbia Might Bring Peace

Should Entente Forces Capture Monastir and Regain Serb Territory, Turks and Bulgars Would be Isolated From Their Allies

(By Herbert Corey.)

With the Serbian Army in the Balkans, Nov. 15.—This is no attempt on my part to become a minor prophet. It is merely an effort to show what may happen in the Balkans this winter, and why it may happen. It is also an explanation of what ill-informed critics in Europe and America have called the delays of the Saloniki expedition.

The capture of Monastir and Prillip by the Serbian army means the next move will be on Uskub.

The British forces may break through the Bulgar-German resistance on the Struma. The final objective of the two forces in Nish.

Nish recaptured means Serbia regained, and the Serbian army is working like mad to that end. If the allied forces go through the topographical and man-power defenses on to what may be called the Serbian plain, the Berlin-Constantinople railway is immediately endangered.

If that line is cut both Bulgaria and Turkey are isolated from their allies of the Central Powers. Tremendous importance is attached to this fact here.

Here it is believed that Turkey and Bulgaria would immediately sue for peace if this is accomplished; With Germany debarred from drawing fresh supplies from her eastern allies, and with the road to and from Russia open to the Allies for corn and munitions, the end of the war would seem at last definitely in sight.

A combination of the Roumanian, Serbian and French and English forces would then strike across the Hungarian plains, in conjunction with one of the Russian armies. The position of Austria-Hungary may then be guessed at.

Active Winter in Balkans

All this would seem to indicate a tremendously dramatic and active winter in the Balkans. This is not necessarily true. The two gates through which Serbia can best be entered—the Mogiene range and on the Struma—may be held by the Bulgars until the advance of winter renders further operations inadvisable. This may come in a few weeks on the Serbian front.

The small Serbian army was complimented by General Sarrail by being given the stiffest sector on the Allied front. The craggy peaks and precipitous gorges of the Moglene range can best be compared to the Trentino sector on the Italian Austrian front. The first considerable fall of snow will make it impossible to stir a foot.

This is not the case on the British front on the Struma, nor is it the case to the same extent on the sectors held by the French, the Russian or the Italian troops. It is considered doubtful, however, if a really important advance can be made during the winter, because of the difficulties of transport. It may be assumed that the fighting will be of the most desperate character possible until ice bars the door to Serbia. The capture of Monastir before snow stops the roads means the advance of the Allies will not be checked during the winter, unless—

"The Bulgar-Germans are fighting desperately for time," said one Serbian officer. "They are relying on winter to help them out. If we make a considerable advance I fully believe the repeated stories that Germany will shorten her western front in order to detach a large force for the Balkans under Mackensen will prove true."

"A break through" into Serbia by the Allies at any point then means that the fighting will in all probability be hard and continuous. It may well be that neither side can make great progress because of natural conditions; but once the Allies are across the Moglene range into Serbia it becomes desperately essential to both sides to hold every foot of ground.

"On the other hand, a failure to break through will in all likelihood point to another winter of preparation, in order that operations may begin at the earliest possible moment in the spring.

By this circuitous route I am approaching the reasons for the apparent slowness with which the Saloniki expedition has moved from its inception. I say "apparent" slowness. As a matter of fact, I believe this expedition will one day be shown to be one of the great feats of the war. General Sarrail has accomplished miracles of organization and replacement and has combated difficulties of which the outside world has been permitted to know nothing. In a minor way he has gone through the same work of preparation that the British army did in the west. Everything had to be made ready before anything could be done.

Purpose of Expedition.

It was impossible for the British leaders to take the world into their confidence as to their reasons for apparent delays. Consequently they were bitterly criticized by ill-informed writers and by a great part of the neutral peoples. General Sarrail has had the same experience.

My belief is that just as the British leaders were praised when the world was finally permitted to know what they had done, so will General Sarrail win commendation when the manner in which he has performed his task shall be made public.

The object of the Saloniki expedition was, of course, the cutting of the Berlin-Constantinople Railway. Certain political considerations entered into count at the time. Bulgaria was to be teased or frightened into taking sides with the Allies for example. But considered only as a military expedition, the railroad was its true objective. The cutting of the railroad involved the winning back of Serbia. The Allies have always held their honor bound up in this.

In preparing a forward movement, General Sarrail was placed face to face with three major difficulties.

He was forced to land troops and munitions through a single port, in which all ocean-going ships must discharge cargo by lighters.

He found no roads fit for troops transport in the country in the rear of Saloniki.

He was called on to fight and move troops through one of the most unhealthy countries in the world. The Macedonian malaria is a type peculiar to itself.

Those arm-chair critics who think that in such a movement as this of the Allies it is only necessary to land troops and then go whooping ahead should examine these difficulties in detail. Before a foot could be gained the landed force must be sufficiently large to defend itself against being driven into the sea. That means cantonments, hospitals, more hospitals, stores, roads, roads, roads.

What Sarrail Has Done.

In the past year General Sarrail has built considerably more than 1,000 miles of road, and has pushed his stores and munitions forward against almost incredible difficulties.

During the wet season the Macedonian mud is quite bottomless. Every motor, every cart, every horse, every tool and equipment, had to be brought overseas on a voyage which averaged a month's duration for cargo vessels. Before that could be done the seas had first to be cleared of submarines, which was done by the British navy. At least, it was nearly done. Now and then a submarine shows its head, but not often.

Three-quarters of certain battalions have been invalided home. A sick rate of fifty per cent. is a common thing. Twenty-five per cent is mere commonplaceness. Gen. Sarrail has called for men, and more men and still more men. Critics in France and elsewhere who did not know the true conditions—or did not appreciate them at their full value—have said most unpleasant things about this leader. They have not realized that to put one man in the field he has been forced to import three men. The transports returning to France and England were almost as full as the ships coming to Saloniki.

In spite of these things a solid foundation for the advance to come has been created. Roads have been biult, supplies have been moved up, all is in readiness for the blow. It may be possible to cut through the Bulgar-German defenses this winter and debouch upon the comparatively healthy Serbian plain—which is not a plain but a succession of wide valleys and high mountains. It may be that the blow must be deferred to that month in the spring which intervenes between the time when the going of the snow makes troop movement possible and the day when the arrival of malaria makes troop wastage enormously costly.

In any event, I believe that all has been done that could be done, and that the sins of omission have been few. One of these days the gate will be thrown open into Serbia, and then what is believed here to be the last page of the ghastly history of this war will be written on.

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From The Courier, Brantford

THE HARDEST JOB

What is the hardest job, you ask—the most excruciating task? Go, ask the sad and heartsick jay who loses on election day. You know how bitterly he fought to get the public snap he sought. For weary weeks he drilled around, wherever voters could be found, and handed hot air to the rubes, and flattered all the hicks and boobs. He spent much coin he could not spare for punk cigars and railway fare, and all the divers odds and ends that statesmen think will gain them friends. He made a long and hard campaign; he toiled around in mud and rain, and talked his tonsils out of whack, and got lumbago in his back. And when election day was done, he found the other fellow won. No doubt when he was all alone, he filled the air with sob and groan, and cussed the voters, in despair, as being chumps beyond compare. But on the street he wore a grin, as though he'd really hate to win. To try and hide one's grouch and bile, behind a large three-cornered smile, to spring a laugh when one would sob—that surely is the hardest job!

THE MAGIC TOP.

Well, there was the Spinning Elf in the fairy forest with his feet wedged into a magic top that came to his waist and left the rest of him above and the old wizard who'd trapped him that way for his mischievous tricks just laughed and laughed and laughed. But, dear, me! it wasn't any laughing matter. For everywhere the elf wanted to go his mother or his father, his sister or his brother had to wrap a string around him, fling him down like a top and set him to spinning. And then off he went—spin—spin—spinning. The trouble was he would run down like any other top and he could never tell where it would happen. He might start out spinning on an errand for his mother, run down before he came back and tumble head over heels into a bush. There he'd have to wait and wait and wait until somebody came with the strung to wind him up again and start him going.

His father grew tired of running out to rescue him. His mother grew tired. So did his sisters and his brothers, and after that he had to stay at home.

And all the time the wizard went on laughing.

So matters stood when the Spinning Elf's father thought of another wizard even wiser than the one who'd done the mischief and better natured. So one day he wound up his son, started him spinning in the right direction and followed him to the cave where the second wizard dwelt.

"Hum!" said the wizard. "This is a dreadful thing! How did it happen? Why did the wizard punish you?"

"I used to knock his hat off with an acorn," said the Spinning Elf, hanging his head.

The other wizard looked the magic top over very carefully.

"I suppose you know you've always kept spinning in one direction," he said gravely. "That's bad, very bad, for you've wound yourself up and wound yourself up until the case is almost hopeless."

"How," begged the Spinning Elf, "can I unwind? Tell me, kind wizard, how to unwind!"

"Have you ever once felt sorry that you tormented the wizard?" demanded the other wizard.

"No," said the Spinning Elf.

"That," said the other wizard, "is why you've always kept spinning in the one direction. Go off and think it over—how you knocked the old man's hat off with an acorn. He could see that as soon as he thought it over. And so he went and asked his father to set him spinning. His father wrapped the string around him, flung him out and off he went. But this time he spun in the other direction. He spun and he spun and he spun, all the time unwinding, and when he'd spun a year and a day, by fairy time, the magic top fell off.

And there was the secret. When he felt kind and sorry, he'd broken the spell upon him. But if he'd kept on, he'd just gone on spinning in the same direction, winding himself up tighter all the time.

WATER SUPPLY AT FIRE WAS WEAK

No Additional Victims Are Revealed in the Peterboro Disaster

By Courier Leased Wire.

Peterobro, Ont., Dec. 13.—No additional victims have been added to the toll of dead and injured in the fire at the plant of the Quaker Oats Company and no more bodies have been recovered. The walls are being torn down under the supervision of the city engineer and when one ruined section fell this morning, one of the workmen was injured, but not seriously. Some parts of the ruins are still burning and search for the bodies under the debris is impossible.

Coroner Greer opened an inquest this morning into the death of Walter Holden, who succumbed to injuries. After the jury had been empanelled and the body viewed and identified an adjournment was made.

At the temporary offices of the company, a roll call was held this morning but was not completed as the absence of some employees believed to be safe, necessitated a visit to their homes. It is thought that the full loss of life is known, made up of four known dead and ten missing.

The weak water pressure from the hydrants on the company's property was caused by the walls falling down and breaking the 8-inch mains which were laid along the east side of the plant and carried under the boiler room and under the warehouse. The water pressure was thus weakened for at least thirty minutes, while the fire raged at its worst. The city hydrants gave their normal pressure of 70 pounds and went as high as 110 pounds. The insurance is distributed among Canadian and American companies, but the amounts are not obtainable.

THE BRANT

The "Colonial Trio," at the Brant Theatre, continue to secure round after round of applause. This is well merited, as their singing of old-time melodies is not only well done, but is of an exceedingly artistic nature. The lady member of the trio was the recipient of a large bouquet of very fine "Mums," as a mark of appreciation for her rendering of "The Last Rose of Summer."

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

PROSECUTION OF WAR VIGOROUSLY

Favored by Irish Parliamentarian, Who Opposed Conscription For Ireland.

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Dec. 13.—A meeting of the Irish parliamentary party yesterday with John Redmond presiding, passed a resolution declaring the intention of the party to await a declaration of the government's Irish policy before deciding upon its attitude in future towards the government, but declared that it favored a vigorous and successful prosecution of the war.

Another resolution passed declared against conscription in Ireland, and asserted that any attempt to enforce it would produce disastrous results.

A third resolution adopted said that while martial law still prevailed Ireland must remain a source of weakness to the Empire.

DU FOURNET IS REPLACED

Commander of Allied Fleet In Greek Waters Succeeded by Admiral Gaucher

By Courier Leased Wire.

Paris, Dec. 13.—It is announced officially that Vice Admiral Du Fournet, commander of the allied squadron in Greek waters has been replaced by Admiral Gaucher.

THE DREADED DOVE.

Awful panic in New York! Remote prospect of peace strikes terror to the hearts of all good citizens! Bethlehem Steel and General Motors may go down! Proposal to stop the war a heartless plot! Cabarets are emptied in one minute! Milliners and modistes prepare to march on Washington, demanding protection for $100 hats and $1,000 cloaks! (Later) Pierpont Morgan issues reassuring statement! Declares prospect of peace in dim future! Leading citizens deprecate attempt to menace American prosperity! Slaughter will go on indefinitely! Hurrah! Cabarets quickly filled with milliners, modistes and patrons! Honolulu orchestra touches up ukuleles! Corks pop like machine guns! Horrible possibility fades into rosy prospect of more profits, more wine, more women and more war!

"SEND PROFITS TO HELL"—J. FLAVELLE

Chairman of Munition Board Emphasizes Need For Perfect Shells

Toronto, Dec. 13.—J. W. Flavelle, chairman of the imperial munition board, who returned from England a few days ago, yesterday, accompanied by Col. Edwards, inspector-general of munitions and Mr. Gordon and Mr. Fitzgerald of the munition board met two hundred leading munition manufacturers from all over Ontario. Mr. Flavelle, who said he was fresh from the heart of a nation which was sweating blood to win the war, bluntly told the manufacturers that Canada had failed to make good the promises made to Great Britain in the matter of delivery of munitions. He stated that in the inspection houses in Britain he had seen Canadian shells which were faulty. Good shells meant victory but defectitve shells were deadly to our own gunners.

"Profits," he said. "Send profits to the hell where they belong. If you fail in your promises it may mean disaster."

Col. Edwards stated that it was hoped to establish training schools where uniformity of inspection might be taught. One was already in operation in Montreal, and in the near future one would be opened in Torontot.

KELVIN ITEMS

(From our own Correspondent)

Mr. Joseph Roswell has taken a milk route to the condenser at Norwich.

Mrs. William Thompson and Miss E. Wood were recent guests of Mrs. John Andrews.

Mr. Charles Almas, who has been very ill with erysiplas, is, we are pleased to report, slowly recovering.

Mrs. R. McCombs and Miss Sarah J. Shepherd and Miss Beulah Slaght were visiting Mrs. Hiram J. Andrews one day last week.

Mrs. Ambrose Nunn, who has been spending a week with her brother here, A. G. McCrimmon, returned to her home in Fenwick on Friday.

Mr. I. Wooden of Paris, was calling on Mr. and Mrs. George Clarke, one day last week.

Mr. Wilson of Simcoe was in this section on business on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Clarke were visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Johnston of Teeterville, a few days ago.

Mrs. John McCombs and son, of La Sallete was visiting her parental home recently.

A few friends were calling on Miss Delilah Goring one day last week.

The friends here of Mr. Lewis B. Markle of Oakland, greatly sympathize with him in his sad bereavement by the death of his wife.

This Bush Yields only 2½ ozs. yearly

A VERY small yield considering the size of the bush. It takes about 6½ bushes to yield a pound of ordinary tea—and about 10 bushes to yield a pound of Red Rose Tea, as only the tender shoots and buds are used to produce the distinctive flavor and richness which characterize this high-grade tea.

In sealed packages only. Try it.

110

SUTHERLAND'S

We have just received a number of Casks of the—

CELEBRATED COALPORT CHINA

comprising cornjoles, chop plates, cake plates, cups and saucers and fancy pieces in various patterns, any one piece of which would make a most acceptable Christmas Gift. This shipment also includes the famous Indian Tree pattern, of which we have a most complete line.

Coalport ranks among the very highest of all the English Makers.

CUT GLASS

We are one of the largest handlers of Cut Glass in Ontario and carry nothing but the choicest goods in the market—Bowls, Jugs, Sugars and Creams, Vases, Nappies, Water Sets and fancy pieces of every description at the lowest prices.

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It is not a bit too soon to order the beverages you will want to make the coming season a real old-fashioned Christmas. Don't leave the ordering until the last minute when stocks may be low or prices sharply advanced and when even a small mishap in the great rush may leave you stranded. Place your order to-day and take no chances.

The prices below cover all charges on orders received east of North Bay. From North Bay to Sault Ste. Marie add 50c. per package. West of Sault Ste. Marie add $1.00 per package.

CANADIAN WHISKIES

GOODERHAM & WORTS' RYE.
Case of 12 bottles ..... $ 9.00
6 bottles 5.00
3 bottles 3.25

GOODERHAM & WORTS' SPECIAL
Case of 12 bottles $11.00
6 bottles 6.00
3 bottles 3.50

WALKER'S IMPERIAL
Case of 12 bottles ..... $ 9.50
6 bottles 5.50
3 bottles 3.25

WALKER'S CANADIAN CLUB
Case of 12 bottles $12.00
6 bottles 7.00
3 bottles 4.00

WISER'S RECREATION
Case of 12 bottles ..... $ 9.00
6 bottles 5.00
3 bottles 3.25

WISER'S RED LETTER
Case of 12 bottles $11.00
6 bottles 6.00
3 bottles 3.75

MAPLE LEAF
Case of 12 bottles ..... $ 9.00
6 bottles 5.00
3 bottles 3.25

ROYAL RESERVE (Reputed Quarts)
Case of 12 bottles $11.00
6 bottles 6.00
3 bottles 3.50

SEAGRAM'S 1 STAR
Case of 12 bottles 9.00
6 bottles 5.00
3 bottles 3.25

SEAGRAM'S 83 or WHITE WHEAT
Case of 12 bottles $11.00
6 bottles 6.00
3 bottles 3.50

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Special Ale, Special Porter, Old Stock Ale and Pilsener Lager.

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Case Lots	Per Case
McAdam's Highland Dew	$12.00
Dewar's Special, Usher's Yellow, Bullock, Lade & Co.'s or Buchanan's Red Seal	15.00
Walker's Kilmarnock, Usher's White, Old Mull or Dewar's Blue	16.00
Black & White, Usher's Green Stripe, White & McKay's or John Haig's Glenlevin	17.00
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IRISH WHISKIES	
Redmond's or O'Borne's	$ 9.00
Redmond's or O'Borne's Imperial Quarts	13.00
Jamieson's 1 Star and Burke's	14.00
BRANDY	
Old Brandy	$ 9.00
V. Pinet & Cie V. O.	12.00
Hennessy's 1 Star, Martell's 1 Star or Hines	21.00
GIN	
Gordon's Dry or Burnett's Dry	$12.50
RUM	
Robt. Andrews'	$10.00
PORT WINE	
Old Tawney's	$ 9.00
SHERRY	
Fine Old Golden	$ 9.00

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(D. Thomas Curtin in The Londo
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The Reichstag has been squelch
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ernment has therefore complete con
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ing.
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graphs. All of which are, in effec
under the control of the police man
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The German police are armed wi
revolver, sword and machine-gu
with powers to search and arre
without warrant. They are allowe
in their discretion to maltreat, n

CHRISTMAS MESSAG

The Hospital for Sick Childr

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Dear Mr. Editor:—

Thanks for the privilege of appe
ing through your columns on beh
of the Hospital for Sick Children,
great Provincial Charity.

Our need of money is measured
the children's need of help, and
can judge how great that need m
be when last year 3,045 sick little c
were treated as in-patients, and as
be seen from the 1916 figures,
patients were admitted from
places outside Toronto.

Last year 271 in-patients were tr
ed for deformities, such as club
bow-legs, knock-knees, Pott's diseas
the spine, lateral curvature of
spine, dislocations, infantile paral
tubercular disease of knee, hip, al

Is the Hospital for Sick Childre
take dollars out of your pocket,
death to take babies out of
cradles? That is the question.

One gift more in the Hospital's
sury means one coffin less in
LITTLE WHITE HEARSE.

The Hospital must be digging
help for little children from the s
human kindness or sextons wil
digging graves for little childre
the soil of many a cemetery.

The Hospital for Sick Children
only volunteer its mercy in so f
you friends of little children volu
your money for service in the
pital's never-ending battle for the
of the little ones.

Let your money fight in the tre
of some mother's trouble and
some little child from the dug
pain, disease and death.

Can the Hospital leave childr
die because the fathers of those
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etty on the British battle line, a
the Hospital help the children o
ada's soldiers with its care unle
help the Hospital with your cas

You have money enough t
every other war fund without k
back a dollar from the Hospital
fund—the fund that helps the H
save the lives of little children,
ing the soldiers' little children.

Do not let the little children
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tribution that should be give
must be given to the war funds

Your money can send a mess
cheer to some father in the tren
yes, send that message from
where the Hospital nurses som
child back to life, the child
father who is fighting your ba
the trenches.

Every dollar kept from th
pital's power to serve the litt
dren is a weight added to the
and a grief added to the sorr
this war.

You can bear to have your
emptied of a little money easi
some mother can bear to ha
home emptied of a little child.

Will you send a dollar, or
you can, to Douglas Davidson,
tary-Treasurer, or

J. ROSS ROBERTSO
Chairman of the Board of T

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Helps the S
You cannot cure const
never effective against
salts and purgative pill
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Compare Dr. Cassell's
helps nature by strengt
restored and a cure
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