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PROBS—RAIN

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BRITISH AND FRENCH FIGHTING HARD TO RELIEVE SERBS' NORTHERN ARMY IN UNEQUAL STRUGGLE

Austro-German and Bulgarian Invaders Drawing Cords Around Brave Serbians—Germans Attacking in East and West Fail to Make Ground and Are Driven Back.

London, Nov. 5.—While Greece hesitates, the Serbian northern army is being slowly but surely ground down before the combined pressure of the Austro-German and Bulgarian forces. The fate of Nish hangs by a hair, and it is only at the southern end of the battle front that the Bulgarians are meeting with any reverses. There, according to reports the British are co-operating with the French, but, as heretofore, these reports are unofficial, and fragmentary, and it cannot be said authoritatively whether the British are in touch with their new enemy.

If the Bulgar-Teuton tide is turned, the best opinion here is that it will be some weeks hence, involving a period of uncertainty such as preceded the stand before Paris and on the Yser. But giving the Entente Powers a Month's time, it is argued that they can throw three hundred thousand, and perhaps five hundred thousand, men into Serbia, not including Russians, and with such a force not only can they dispute the advance of the Central Powers, but contest Bulgaria's occupation of Serbia Macedonia.

The Germans are on the defensive in the east and west. Neither theatre has developed any large battles, as modern battles are reckoned. The Turks continue sporadically activity in the Dardanelles region, as recorded in tonight's British official communication from Gallipoli peninsula.

This says the Turks launched attacks against the British right in the Anzac region, but that they did not defeat the British line.

Fighting in Champagne Continues Violent.

Paris, Nov. 5.—The war office communication, made public tonight, says: "Artillery actions have continued during the day in Artois, especially in the Lens sector."

"In Champagne fighting is going on with the same violence in the region to the north of Massiges. During the recent attacks, delivered with the same methods and with heavy effect, the enemy was able to push a few elements into our first line trench at Hill 199. Everywhere else the enemy was stopped, or completely repulsed by our counter-attacks."

"In the Vosges, one of our mines has been destroyed, at Le Chapelle (east of Badonvillers), a German blockhouse."

"Army of the Orient: Notwithstanding the violent preparation by their artillery, the Bulgarians failed to break through our lines at Krivolak."

"The same day to the east of Raborvo, we carried the villages of Memeti and Kajali, and attacked the hill crests on the frontier. The Bulgarians have shown great activity with their artillery. They have violently bombarded Valadovo. The action engaged in by our troops to the north of Raborvo is going on."

The Belgian war office statement says:

"The enemy's artillery has been very active, and violently cannonaded our positions to the northeast of Oostkerke and to the south of Saint Jacques Capelle."

"Wulpen, Pervyse, Avecapelle, Oostkerke, Rousdamme and Saint Jacques Capelle have been bombarded. Our batteries have replied vigorously and have executed acts of retaliation against Leke and Saint Pierre Capelle."

Bulgarians Claim Important Victory at Saloniki.

Berlin, Nov. 5, by wireless to Sayville.—It is officially reported that the Bulgarians have completely defeated at a point northeast of Philip, the French forces which were landed at Saloniki. Part of the French contingent was routed and the others were made prisoners. The first of the French prisoners have arrived at Kustendil.

Enos Bombarded.

Constantinople, Nov. 5, via London, Nov. 6.—The official statement issued today at the Turkish war office was as follows:

"There was minor fighting near Anafarta. Our artillery forced enemy war vessels to retreat from stations off Kerkirliet Luan. An armored cruiser was hit three times and a transport vessel on fire. Fire was observed aboard the latter."

"An enemy monitor torpedo boat bombarded Enos for two days, destroying some houses."

GOV'T PUTS BAN ON EXPORT OF CANADIAN FURS

Except to France, Russia, Italy, Spain and Portugal—Shipping of Cotton Products Forbidden.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Nov. 5.—The government has prohibited the exportation of all manufactures and products of cotton and also cotton lace and dressed or undressed furs to foreign destinations in Europe other than France, Russia (except through Baltic ports), Italy, Spain and Portugal. Cotton waste remains prohibited to all foreign destinations.

Hon. T. Chase Casgrain, postmaster-general, received a cablegram today from Sir George Fery, Canadian High Commissioner in London, stating that he is with the Canadian hospital which went to Alexandria, is recovering rapidly from his serious illness and will be back on duty in a short time. The economic commission started work today. It was decided to make a start by inviting statements from farmers' organizations, including live stock breeders, grain growers, fruit growers, and stock dealers associations, as well as from many leading authorities on practical farming.

Other organizations concerned directly with shipping and transportation interests will be called on immediately also to assist in the investigations. Later leading authorities on the various subjects connected with Canada's development will be called upon to give evidence.

CLOSE SHOPS IN RUSSIAN CAPITAL AT 7 P.M.

To Conserve Fuel Supply Theatres Ordered to Close at 11.30 and Restaurants and Clubs at 11 p. m.

Petrograd, via London, Nov. 5.—With a view to saving fuel and reducing the use of artificial light it has been ordered that all shops, except those devoted to the sale of food, close daily at seven p.m. Places of entertainment must close at 11.30, while eleven o'clock is the hour fixed for restaurants and clubs to close, and for the adjournment of public meetings.

SIR GECIL AND LADY SPRING-RICE IN OTTAWA

Ottawa, Nov. 5.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British Ambassador at Washington, and Lady Spring-Rice arrived in Ottawa today, and are guests at Government House. Tonight the envoy was guest at a dinner given in his honor by the prime minister, Sir Robert Borden. The Ambassador will remain in Ottawa as guest of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught until the end of next week.

KING CONSTANTINE AGAIN DEFIES WILL OF THE PEOPLE

Calls on Defeated Premier to Form a New Cabinet.

ZAIMIS TURNS DOWN THE KING'S OFFER.

Decision for or Against Participation in War Expected to be Outcome of Conference of Leaders Called by King.

London, Nov. 5.—King Constantine of Greece has again offered the premiership to M. Zaimis, who had resigned on the defeat of his ministry in the Chamber of Deputies, according to a Reuter despatch from Athens. M. Zaimis refused to accept the offer, and a council of ministers was called, the despatch adds.

M. Zaimis' refusal to retain the post, the correspondent states, was on the ground that although he had provisionally accepted the premiership to ease the situation, he was determined, as he had previously declared, to abstain from taking an active part in international politics.

Athens, Nov. 5.—In reply to a question in the parliament today Premier Venizelos said, "Under the constitutional regime the King can have no responsibility."

Only Delaying War, Which is Inevitable

Ex-Premier Venizelos said, however, that he did not mean to throw upon the King responsibility for the present situation in Greece. He blamed those who had failed to advise His Majesty as they ought and said the crown could not refuse to recognize the vote of confidence accorded by the chamber of deputies to the preceding cabinet.

M. Gounaris, minister of the interior, interrupting, said he thought the policy of M. Venizelos would lead the country to ruin and to take a position against the Central Powers which would be disastrous for Greece and Serbia.

When Gounaris had concluded M. Theodis, minister of communication, addressed the house. He examined the foreign policy of M. Venizelos and asserted that the latter last February would have led the Greek fleet and army to complete ruin.

The developments which had followed justified the opinion, the minister contended, that armed neutrality had saved Greece from catastrophe and that if the country had not maintained neutrality it would have been lost without saving Serbia.

Resuming his speech M. Venizelos apologized for his policy of last February and discussed the benefits which Greece might have realized if her neutrality had not been maintained. Continuing he said:

"Your policy has rendered our national ideals impossible and in serving involuntarily a German political group we are exposed to the danger of aiding Bulgarian aspirations and the growth of Turkish power. Why not take part today in a war which tomorrow will be inevitable?"

M. Venizelos terminated his address by urging the government not to let pass an occasion which is presented to the people only once in a thousand years. His speech was frequently applauded.

Coalition Cabinet Favorable to Neutrality?

Rome, Nov. 5, via Paris, Nov. 6.—Advices received here through official channels are to the effect that former Premier Venizelos is not likely to be entrusted with the formation of a new cabinet, but that King Constantine is seeking to form a coalition cabinet, favorable to a continuance of armed neutrality.

Much Hinges on Conference Called by the King

London, Nov. 5.—Another twenty-four hours have complicated, rather than clarified the situation in Greece, the attitude of the King of which country is causing the Entente Powers much concern.

Apparently, determined that M. Zaimis shall remain in the office of premier, King Constantine today urged him to retain the premiership. Ac-

BRITISH ARTILLERY ON SERBIAN FRONTIER



BRITISH GUNS GUARDING THE DANUBE. This heavy piece is on a military road leading to the Serbian frontier. In the compelling situation in the Balkans the presence of British guns is not the least interesting incident.

GAIN OF FOUR MILLIONS IN THE REVENUE

Expenditure for October Considerably Below that of Corresponding Month Last Year

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 5.—The Dominion revenue during October was \$14,440,333 which is nearly four million more than October, 1914. For the seven months of the present fiscal year it was \$87,483,848, compared with \$80,972,466 during the same period last year.

While the increase in revenue although satisfactory is not very large the expenditure is much less. During seven months last year it was \$65,211,793. This year it is \$56,247,663, so that the surplus last year was only half the thirty million betterment this year.

Customs excise, post office and public works, which include railways all show increases in revenue.

There is an increase in the national debt of over seven and a half millions during the month of October.

The total net debt now stands at \$49,528,492 compared with \$32,675,399 a year ago. Temporary loans which include war loans amount to \$190,140,350.

UNVEIL STATUE IN LONDON TO CAPT. SCOTT, ANT-ARTIC EXPLORER

London, Nov. 5.—A statue of the late Captain Robert F. Scott, the Antarctic explorer, was unveiled this afternoon in Waterloo Place by A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty. The statue was executed by Lady Scott, widow of the explorer, who previously had designed a bronze memorial to Dr. Edward Wilson, of the Scott party, who died with Captain Scott on the return journey from the south pole.

According to Athens despatches, however, M. Zaimis declined to acquiesce in the King's desire, whereupon the King called a council of ministers, the deliberations of which may or may not determine whether Greece is to ally herself against Bulgaria, or persist in her attitude of "benevolent neutrality," which means that though the allied troops may cross her soil, her armies shall not aid them in driving the Bulgarians from Serbia.

RUSSIANS PUSH FORWARD ADVANCE AROUND RIGA

Progress Near Lake Akkel. While Warships Bombard German Positions Near Baltic Seaport—Thousand Enemy Dead Strew Field After Futile Attempt to Storm Russian Position Near Dvinsk by Early Morning Attack

Petrograd, via London, Nov. 5.—The Russian official statement follows: "Near Riga yesterday our troops progressed slightly towards the west of Lake Akkel. Artillery and rifle fire continues all along the front in this region."

"In the region of Jacobstadt, and on the Dwina there is no change in the situation. Near Dvinsk, south of Lake Swenton, the enemy, at five o'clock this morning, delivered an attack against the village of Platonovka, which was repulsed with heavy losses. So far, over a thousand bodies have been counted on the field."

"Further south calm prevails as far as the Priepet. To the west of Rafalovka (on the Stry river) the enemy on the evening of the third, delivered an attack on the village of Kostukhnovka. After fierce fighting, during the night, our troops drove off the Austrians, capturing two guns, three machine guns, 250 prisoners and a large quantity of arms and ammunition."

"In the region of the village of Volitz, north of Novo Alexinec we attacked enemy forces which had approached our entanglements. The enemy was driven back after a bayonet fight. We captured three officers and 150 men."

"Fierce fighting continues on the right of Stripa (East Galicia) in the region of Semikovitz, the artillery duel on both sides being very violent. Our ships opened fire against the German positions near Shlok, west of Riga."

"The situation in the Caucasus is unchanged."

Five Air Battles in a Day, Sir John French Reports

London, Nov. 5.—The following official communication from Field Marshal Sir John French was made public tonight:

"Yesterday five air fights took place, resulting in a German aeroplane being brought down in our line."

"Since the first of November the weather has been very wet. Mining activity continues on both sides."

Italy Not to Send Troops to Balkans

Rome, Nov. 5, via Paris.—The reports that Italy will take a hand in the conflict in the Balkans by landing an expedition in Albania receive no confirmation in official quarters here. The negative attitude of officials leads to the strong conclusion that no Albanian expedition is intended.

Four Attacks on British in Dardanelles Repulsed.

London, Nov. 5.—The Turkish forces in the Dardanelles took the offensive on November 4, and made four attacks on the positions of the Entente Allies. All these attacks were repulsed. It is announced in an official statement issued here today.

The official statement announcing the repulse of the Turks' attacks says: "Between 8.30 p. m. and 9.30 p. m., on the night of the fourth instant, the Turks attacked four times against our extreme right at Anzac. The enemy advanced with filled sand bags, and built small barricades. On each occasion, however, they were repulsed with bomb and rifle fire, and by 11 p. m., all was quiet."

"Although during the attack there was considerable firing and demonstrations by the enemy against different portions of our line, no other attack was attempted. Our casualties were very light."

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Nov. 5.—In view of the continued repetition in the Liberal press of the allegation that the government, as the result of the influence of a certain member of parliament, had given a large contract for uniforms to a real estate man who sub-let the contract at a profit of \$20,000 and that there were many other such cases, Hon. E. A. Kemp, chairman of the War purchasing commission, tonight issued an absolute denial of the whole story. He adds that an officer of the government promptly visited the trade journal that first published the story to find on what grounds the article was based and in the interest of the public asked for a definite statement as to who the parties were who had received the alleged contract. The information was refused. The proprietor demanded an expensive tribunal for investigation. He also said he was afraid of a libel suit. Mr. Kemp states that no such contract was ever given and no member of parliament has been a medium in connection with war contracts.

No contracts are awarded except on the tender system. Any journal which wishes to make such a charge and will be made open to the light of day and subjected to the closest possible scrutiny."

ITALIAN STEAMER SUNK

London, Nov. 5.—The Italian steamer Ionio has been sunk, according to an announcement made here tonight. The Ionio was a vessel of 1,800 tons. She was built in 1886 and was owned at Palermo by the Navigazione General & Italiano.

have a similar privilege at the office of the war purchasing commission and inspect the tenders and everything relating thereto. He added "the public interests have been scrupulously guarded by the commission and of the many thousands of transactions which have come before the commission all are open to the light of day and subjected to the closest possible scrutiny."

ARRIVES AT HALIFAX WITH SUGAR CARGO AFIRE

Halifax, Nov. 5.—The steamer Rio Laga, with a cargo of sugar on fire in No. 2 hold arrived here tonight and anchored in mid-stream. Nothing is known as to the extent of the damage or the origin of the fire. The steamer will go into drydock tomorrow for examination.

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