

## TURKISH PROPOSAL IS MUCH MODIFIED

Peace Conference Only Moderately Disturbed by Bulgarians' Threat.

## MACEDONIA IS CONCEDED

Porte Also Willing to Give Up Epirus, With Saloniki, and Will Discuss Adrianople and Boundary Issues.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—After their protracted diplomatic skirmishing the Turks finally capitulated to a majority of the demands of the Balkan allies at today's session of the peace conference in St. James Palace. Through Rechad Pasha they conceded practically the whole of the Ottoman Empire's European dominions, except Adrianople and the territory between there and Constantinople to their victorious but despised neighbors.

The terms the Turkish delegates presented to the conference as a counter proposal to the demands of the allies were:

First—The ratification of the Turkish-Bulgarian frontier by making the boundary west of the line now occupied by the troops of the allies in the village of Adrianople.

Second—The status of Adrianople to be settled by Turkey and Bulgaria directly.

Third—The cessation of the rest of European Turkey, including Janina and Scutari, to the allies.

Fourth—The Albanian and Cretan questions to be solved by the powers.

Fifth—The Aegean Islands to remain Turkish.

The announcement of these terms was made by the Ottoman delegates with the greatest difficulty. They came only after Rechad Pasha had reiterated Turkey's desire to shift the responsibility for adjudication of all vital questions to the powers and after the representatives of the allies had registered their unchangeable objections to such a course and plainly had given the Turks to understand that the failure of the Ottoman delegates to make a mark upon serious negotiations would mean a resumption of hostilities.

Sitting Is Exciting.

Today's sitting was the most momentous and exciting since the beginning of the conference. The Greek Premier, M. Venizelos, presided and invited Rechad Pasha to represent the Turkish counter proposals as the Turks last Monday had agreed to do.

Rechad said his interpretation of the badly translated telegrams of the early week had been correct, his government proposing to submit all questions at issue except Adrianople, to settlement by the powers. This caused an outburst of indignation. Several delegates shouted that it was not dignified to turn such vital matters into a joke, while others observed that they had not come all the way to London and remained here for three weeks to hear a proposition advanced, which might have been made at the time the armistice was signed.

Allies Scorn Mediation.

When relative calm was restored, M. Venizelos, Dr. S. Danoff, leader of the Bulgarian delegation; M. Novakovich, Serbian, and M. Myuskovitch, Montenegrin, each for their respective countries, declared that they would not accept the proposed mediation by the powers and insisted that the Turkish delegates present a practical proposal.

Rechad then announced that his instructions contained another alternative and requested time to formulate it. After a short recess Rechad said that Turkey, desiring to give tangible proof of her love for peace, in deference to advice received from the powers, was ready to make the maximum possible concessions to the allies by granting a rectification of the frontier, ceding the territories westward of the line occupied by the allies in the village of Adrianople.

Bulgaria Demands Adrianople.

M. Danoff here rose and said it would be impossible for Bulgaria to renounce her claim to the possession of Adrianople and that he could not accept such an indefinite answer. M. Venizelos said the proposal of Turkey must be declared explicitly that the question of Adrianople must be settled independently later. He added that the proposed compromise should include territory not yet occupied by the allies, citing as an instance Janina. M. Myuskovitch made a similar claim on behalf of Montenegro concerning Scutari.

Rechad Pasha then said that the translation of his communication had not yet been finished, but that the part of it, as read, naturally meant the cession of Janina and Scutari. He added that the question of Albania and Crete should be solved by the powers, who already had taken the matter in hand.

Several delegates then asserted that this meant Turkey's renunciation of both Albania and Crete, but Rechad replied that his instructions did not extend to that. M. Novakovich observed that the Turkish statement did not lend itself to any other interpretation, the allies taking it in that sense.

Islands Racially Hellenic.

Rechad, continuing his enumeration of the Turkish proposals, added that the Aegean islands should remain with Turkey. To this M. Venizelos protested in the name of Greece and also on behalf of the other allies, declaring that the islands, geographically and racially, were Hellenic, and with the exception of those provisionally retained by Italy at the conclusion of the Turkish-Italian war, were occupied by Greek troops.

Finally Rechad ended the reading of his communication by proposing that Turkey and Bulgaria treat direct concerning Adrianople. M. Danoff immediately declared it would be impossible to accept this proposition, saying: "The Balkan states united in bloc to obtain their independence. All bloc they conducted the war and en bloc they intend to carry on the negotiations and conclude peace on all large or small questions that may arise."

Rechad then inquired whether the

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## Silk Waists One-Half Price

Broken lines, collected in stock-taking. Silks and chiffons, in all shades. Marked \$7.50 to \$15, at exactly half price.

## ST. JOHNS AROUSED

Water Rate Problem Reaches Acute Stage Now.

## SUITS MAY FOLLOW SOON

Company Sends Out Notices That Delinquents Must Pay or Trouble Will Result — Municipal Plant Is Proposed.

ST. JOHNS, Or., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—The fight of the City Council in an endeavor to secure lower water rates for the city of St. Johns reached an acute stage at the regular meeting of the City Council last evening. An ordinance becoming operative last September established new rates for the patrons of the water company. But the great majority of patrons hesitated to pay the new rates, being fearful that their water supply might be shut off as a result, or that suit might be instituted by the company, in which additional costs might be involved.

A number, however, tendered the new rates and refused to pay more. These tenders were not accepted by the company, neither was the water shut off, and these delinquent patrons have been receiving water free ever since. The company has finally sent out notices to the delinquents to the effect that if delinquencies are not paid up by the 15th of next month suit would be instituted for collection of same.

To counteract this menace of the water company, the City Council passed an ordinance re-enacting and confirming the previous ordinance on rates and in addition providing a penalty for any violation of the provisions of that ordinance.

Misdemeanor Is Defined.

It provides that "any person, partnership or corporation who shall charge, collect or attempt to collect more for water than the rates and schedules prescribed in said ordinance No. 502 (the new water rate ordinance), shall upon conviction thereof be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and be fined not less than \$15 for each offense, nor more than \$100." It also further provides that "any person, partnership or corporation and any agent, employee or official of any such person, partnership or corporation who shall shut off the water of any consumer or attempt to shut off the water of any consumer to enforce a higher rate than the rate prescribed in said ordinance No. 502, shall upon conviction thereof be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for each and every offense the sum of not less than \$15 nor more than \$100, or be imprisoned in jail for a term of not less than 15 days nor more than 60 days."

The City Attorney was also instructed to file charges against the water company for the same offense. Just what action the water company will take in the light of the new developments is uncertain. It has offered to sell the plant to the city for the sum of \$150,000 at a public meeting called for the purpose of discussing its purchase, but the offer was rejected

## Value of Plant Not Known.

Just what the physical value of the plant and utilities are worth no one outside of the company will guess. At the recent mass meeting one business man intimated it might be worth \$500,000 in a few years, while another was most positive that it then would be only a hole in the ground with water unfit for use. The diversity of opinion expressed as to its present and future value was appalling. At any rate the water company seems to be "in bad." It cannot sell its plant to the city, and unless the Public Utilities Commission comes to its aid, it will be forced to reduce the rates of water. The company has expressed a willingness to place the proposition before the Utilities Commission and abide by its decision. The present rates of the water company are approximately the same as exist in Vancouver, Wash., and the same as existed in Portland before that city took over the water

works.

Alderman Horsman advocated the city establishing a municipal lighting plant. It met with some favor on the part of the Councilmen, but no definite action was taken.

H. E. Pennell, of the St. Johns Lumber Company, communicated the fact that a party had sought his aid in securing a lease on the city dock for a period of 10 or 15 years, and asked for information regarding a sidewalk and right-of-way. The purpose for which it was proposed to use the dock was not divulged by Mr. Pennell, but it is understood to be a large cement industry, the construction of which Aldermen Hill, Hiller and Martin was appointed by the Mayor to supply information and enter into details regarding a lease of the dock.

## RABBITS ARE CORRALLED

ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE ENTER STANFIELD DRIVE.

Hunt Hugely Enjoyed but Number of "Jacks" Captured Is Disappointment to Promoters of Affair.

STANFIELD, Or., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—The big rabbit drive at Stanfield today was a success as an event of sport, although only about one-fifth as many rabbits were corralled as had been anticipated. The delegation from Portland especially enjoyed the sport. Many of the spectators from Eastern Oregon or this vicinity had seen drives made previously.

The day was bright, warm and pleasant with no wind stirring. Promptly at 10 o'clock the start was made, the people being conveyed in automobiles, hacks and hackneys as far as the Copeland ranch, from where they proceeded on foot. People from Hermiston and Umatilla, as well as settlers from the north part of the Finnish irrigation project, soon came in from the north and their line connected with the first line.

Hundreds of rabbits were scared out of the sagebrush, but perhaps half of them escaped through the line because it was not close enough. Although more than 1000 persons were driving, for the territory taken in at least 2500 persons were needed. Moving pictures were taken and in a short time will be on exhibition in Portland and other cities.

Chehalis Man Has Old Coin.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—C. Gilliam has a \$5 gold piece which was made in 1835. It is of bright yellow gold and a little larger than the present-day coin of the same denomination. The coin book gave the value of this piece as \$8.50. Mr. Gilliam was about to deposit it in the bank, when his attention was called to it by the receiving teller. He then changed his mind and put it in his own safe.

## MAYOR ASKS INJUNCTION

OREGON CITY ACTING MARSHAL'S SALARY IS INVOLVED.

Fight Starting Year Ago Between Council and Executive Centers Around City Treasurer's Office.

OREGON CITY, Or., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Grant B. Dimick, Mayor of Oregon City, has filed suit for an injunction against M. D. Latourette, City Treasurer, asking the salary warrants of E. L. Shaw, acting Chief of Police for the year 1912. Shaw, it is

said, has sold the warrants, and the court will be asked to enjoin the City Treasurer from paying the holders of the warrants. The suit is the result of a controversy between the Mayor and City Council, which started when the Mayor took the oath of office last January and appointed Charles E. Burns Chief of Police. The Council, by a vote of eight to one, refused to confirm the appointment and insisted that Shaw be retained as Chief. The city had the unique distinction for four months of having two acting chiefs of police. Burns finally resigned and sued for his salary, Circuit Judge Eakin holding that he was not the Chief, and, therefore, not entitled to salary.

Mayor Dimick several weeks ago filed suit calling upon Shaw to prove he was the Chief. A compromise verdict was reached in which Shaw admitted he was not Chief, but contended he was entitled to the same salary as

Shaw, an office created by the Council and to which he was appointed. The plaintiff in the suit filed today insists that there has been no Chief of Police since January 6, 1912, which he avers is admitted by the defendant. Shaw was removed by Dimick on that date. The Mayor avers that the Council, over his objections, audited and approved warrants for salary for Shaw drawn on the City Treasurer for \$1100. He declares that Shaw has rendered no service as Chief or otherwise and that the City Treasurer, unless restrained, will cash the warrants. A restraining order against the warrants being paid until a final hearing is asked and a perpetual injunction is asked at the final hearing. Mayor Dimick is represented by Attorney B. N. Rich.

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Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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