

# RUSSO-TURKISH SEA FIGHT THOUGH NEAR

Germans and British, However, Are Expected to Man Guns of Two Fleets.

## GREECE IS AWAITING SHOT

Roumania's Further Neutrality Considered Improbable, While Italy Indicates Union With Allies. Bulgaria Is Doubtful.

BY JOHN CALLAN O'LAUGHLIN.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—(Special.)—Official advice received in Washington forebodes a naval battle in the Black Sea between the Russian and Turkish fleets.

Strangely enough the United States is more or less responsible for the expected entrance of Turkey into the great European war. The movement of the sublime porte has been only awaiting the receipt of sufficient coal from this country to enable it to give the order to the Turkish fleet to strike. A large quantity of the coal has been received and further cargoes are en route. The fuel is required for the operations of the men-of-war.

### Germans Man Turke Ships.

Commanded by German naval officers and their crews supplemented by German sailors, the Turkish fleet will put up a fight which would not be possible were Turks only serving aboard the vessels. The latter are notoriously bad seamen, excellent though they are as land fighters. The Russians also have never demonstrated any seamanship qualities. Since the war with Japan, the Petrograd government has given close attention to the developments of its fleet, and it may be it will give a better account of itself than did the force commanded by Vice-Admiral Rozhkovsky, which was destroyed in the Sea of Japan.

The Russian fleet in the Black Sea comprises six pre-dreadnoughts, two large cruisers, 16 destroyers, 16 torpedo-boats and five submarines.

### Fleets Evenly Matched.

The Turkish fleet has a couple of pre-dreadnoughts, but a large number of destroyers and torpedo-boats. It has been reinforced by the battle cruiser Goeben, which is superior to any of the Russian pre-dreadnoughts, and the protected cruiser Breslau, which is more than the equal of any one of the Russian cruisers. The Turks also are equipped with a few submarines.

It is the impression in Washington that the two fleets are about evenly matched. The latest advice show that the Russians are prepared for action and press reports announce their fleet is cruising in the western end of the Black Sea within 12 hours of Constantinople. It would not be surprising should the Germans and Turks find that the Russian ships are partly manned by British soldiers. It is known the British and Russian naval staffs have fully considered the entrance of Turkey into the war and have made plans accordingly.

### Greece Avails Gun Shot.

The French and British fleets in the Mediterranean have an ample number of ships available to take care of the Austrian fleet and also to blockade the mouth of the Dardanelles. These straits, official advice report, have been heavily mined.

The moment hostile guns are fired by the Russian and Turkish men-of-war, that moment Greece will enter into the conflict. In this connection, further irritation has been caused between Athens and Constantinople governments by the action of the latter in expelling Greek troops from Eregli on the sea of Marmora.

With Greece and Turkey fighting it will be impossible for Roumania to keep aloof from the business.

What Bulgaria will do seems to be in doubt.

### ANTWERP ENTERED IN POMP

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until the eye grew weary of watching the ranks of gray under slanting lines of steel. As they marched they sang, the canyon formed by the high buildings along the Place de Meir echoing to their voices roaring out "Die Wacht am Rhein" and "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

### Artillery in Fine Condition.

Each regiment was headed by its field music and colors and when darkness fell and street lamps were lighted the shrill music of fifes, the rattle of drums and the tramp of marching feet reminded me of a torchlight election parade.

Hard on the heels of the infantry rumbled artillery—battery after battery—until one wondered where Krupp found time or steel to make them. These were the forces that had been in almost constant action for the last two weeks and that for 36 hours had poured death and destruction into the city, yet the horses were all groomed and the harness well polished. Behind the field batteries rumbled the quick-firers, the same pompoms whose acquaintance I had made at Weerde and elsewhere; and then, heralded by a flare of trumpets and a crash of kettle drums, came the cavalry, cuirassiers in helmets and breastplates of burnished steel hussars in breeched jackets and fur busbies, and finally the Uhlans riding amid a forest of lances under a cloud of fluttering pennons.

### Few Are There to See.

This was not all, nor nearly all, for after the Uhlans came the blue-jackets of the naval division, broad-shouldered and bewhiskered fellows with cap worn rakishly and a roll of sea in their eyes; then the Bavarian infantry in dark blue, the Saxon infantry in light blue and Austrians in uniforms of beautiful silver gray, and last of all, a squadron of kermades in silver and bottle green.

As that great fighting machine swung past I could not but marvel at how the gallant, chivalrous and courageous but ill-prepared little army of Belgium had held back as long as it had. The most remarkable feature of this wonderful spectacle was that there were comparatively few persons to see it. So far as onlookers were concerned, the Germans might as well have marched through the streets of Pompeii. Another American and I, standing on the balcony of the American consulate, were the only spectators in the whole length of Place de Meir, which is the Broadway of Antwerp. It reminded me of a circus that had come to town a day before it was expected.

The only human touch I saw in all

that mighty column was a victoria drawn by a fat white horse and with two soldiers on the box, which accompanied a regiment of Bavarians. Both horse and carriage were decorated with flowers and ferns, as though for a floral parade, and even the soldiers had flowers pinned to their caps. It was evidently a species of triumphal chariot for it was filled with hampers of champagne.

Everything indicates that the Germans have received orders to treat townspeople with marked consideration. They have liberally patronized such few stores as remain open, paying for what they have bought in German silver. Whenever they have occasion to ask a question of a citizen they thank him and touch their caps.

When the main body of troops began entering the city on Saturday morning the townspeople rushed out with beer, cheese, bread and flowers, evidently with the idea of placating them by means of their poor little offerings. It was not a pleasant sight, but these people have been so terrified by tales of German barbarities that one can hardly blame them.

### Bearers of Message Waits.

Prior to the actual occupation half a dozen motorcars filled with armed men wearing gray uniforms and spiked helmets entered Antwerp through Porte de Malines, sped down the splendid tree-lined boulevards which lead to the heart of the city and drew up before the Hotel de Ville. The doorkeeper, in the blue and silver livery of the municipality, cautiously opened the door to the summons of a young officer in a voluminous gray cloak. "I have a message to deliver to the Communal Council," said the young man pleasantly.

"The Communal Councilors are at dinner and cannot be disturbed," was the doorkeeper's reply. "Monseigneur will have the kindness to take a seat until they are finished." So the young man in the spiked helmet became seated on a wooden bench and the other men in spiked helmets ranged themselves in a row across the hall. After a quarter of an hour's delay the door of the dining-room was opened and a portly Councilor appeared, wiping his moustache.

### Antwerp "Now German City."

"You have a message you wish to deliver," he inquired. "What might it be?" "The message I am instructed to give you, sir," said the young man, clicking his heels sharply together and bowing from his waist, "is that Antwerp is now a German city and that you are requested by the general commanding his Imperial Majesty's forces to inform your townspeople and to assure them that they will not be molested so long as they display no hostility toward our troops."

As the young officer had been sent to inform the Communal Council of the city's capture, the delegates had no choice but to accept the terms. Thus after 36 hours' bombardment Antwerp was occupied, on receiving word from the Colonel commanding the last line of defense, that he could hold out only a few minutes longer.

## OSTEND FEARS GERMANS

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refugees already have been distributed among homes in different parts of the country.

### WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—American Consul Johnson at Ostend re-

ported today that British interests there had been turned over to him and the British Consul would leave for England tomorrow. Whether this meant the abandonment of Ostend by British as well as Belgian military forces was not explained, but the dispatches indicate the rapid approach of the Germans from Antwerp.

Mr. Johnson reported that communication between Ostend and Ghent had been severed since yesterday and the belief prevailed in Ostend that Ghent had fallen. He said he was able still to communicate with Bruges, not far distant from Ostend, disproving reports that the town had likewise been occupied.

### GHEENT DEFENSE HOPELESS

Country So Flat Napoleon Could Not Find Good Position for Troops.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—An Ostend dispatch to the Daily Telegraph, explaining the German occupation of Ghent, says that the country thereabouts is so flat it would baffle the genius of a Napoleon to find a good position for troops.

"I never saw a more hopeless country from a military point of view," says the correspondent.

"It would be difficult enough to de-

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on Sale

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tend with a sufficient force and in view of the great number of Germans pushing forward the allies had no choice but to retire.

### SIEGE TRAINS ADVANCING

Germans Contradict French Reports of Success in Woerwe.

BERLIN, Oct. 13, via Amsterdam and London.—Heavy fighting continues in the Argonne, two chains of hills in Northeastern France, according to an official statement received here today from the German headquarters, under date of October 12.

"Violent attacks made by the enemy east of Soissons have been repulsed, it is said. The communication follows: 'There is no important news from the western war theater. Violent at-

tacks made by the enemy east of Soissons have been repulsed. Heavy fighting continues in the Argonne.

"Our troops are moving forward through dense underwood in difficult ground, with siege trains for use against fortifications. The French troops offer obstinate resistance, firing from trees, where machine guns are posted. Besides rifle pits, which are arranged in tiers, they have built strong points of support."

The statement contradicts reports given out by French army authorities regarding success met with by the allies in the Woerwe region, and denies other reports. It continues: "All the French attacks at St. Mihiel have been repulsed. Etain (12 miles northeast of Verdun) remains in our possession."

Caroline Crawford, of Paterson, N. J., paid \$25 for a coffin in which to bury her pet bulldog.

## EPIDEMIC NEW MENAGE

PNEUMONIA AND DYSENTERY APPEAR IN TRENCHES.

Many Wounded Soldiers in France Dying of Infection, Says American Officer.

LONDON, Oct. 13.—An epidemic threatens the battle line in the Western theater of war according to Major Louis Seaman, of the United States Army, an expert in military sanitation and surgery, who reached here from France today. The men living in the trenches are unable to observe the ordinary sanitary rules and take and retch each other's ground, said Major Seaman. Heretofore good weather has favored both sides, but now the nights are growing cold.

The major visited all the hospitals and said that dysentery and pneumonia are prevalent. Many wounded men are dying of infection due mainly to shrapnel wounds and to delay in applying first aid. Many are left two or three days on the battlefield without attention.

The Paris hospitals are doing excellent work, said Major Seaman, particularly the American Hospital. There is plenty of room in Paris now, as the wounded are being moved to the south. In the early fighting at Soissons Major Seaman got between lines of shell fire, but escaped injury.

### LILLE OCCUPIED BY GERMANS

French, However, Report Progress Between Arras and Albert.

PARIS, Oct. 12.—The official communication issued by the French War Department tonight says: "With the exception of an advance of some importance in the vicinity of Berry-au-Bac (on the center) there is nothing to report."

The announcement issued earlier in the day said: "On our left wing our forces have resumed the offensive in the regions of Hazebrouck and of Bethune, against detachments of the enemy composed in large part of cavalry coming from the front along Balieul, Estacas and La Bassée."

"The town of Lille, held by a territorial detachment, has been attacked and occupied by a German army corps. 'Between Arras and Albert we have made notable progress.'

"On the center, also, we have made progress in the region of Berry-au-Bac, and we have advanced toward Soumy, in the west of the Argonne and north of Malancourt."

"Between the Argonne and the Meuse, on the right bank of the Meuse, our troops who hold the heights of the Meuse to the east of Verdun have advanced."

"To the south of the road from Verdun to Metz, in the region of Apremont, we have gained a little territory on our right and repulsed a German attack on our left."

"On our right wing, Vosges and Alsace, there has been no change. 'To sum up, yesterday was marked by perceptible progress on the part of

our forces at various points on the field of battle."

### NEW HALL TO BE BLESSED

Hibernians to Be Hosts Tonight in Dedication Celebration.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians will dedicate its new hall at 340 Russell street, near Union avenue, tonight. The chairman of the evening will be P. E. Sullivan, and the speakers will include: Most Reverend Archbishop Christie, E. H. Deery, T. J. Murphy, Rev. J. M. O'Farrell, Mrs. W. A. Eiverson, state president of ladies' auxiliary, A. O. H., and Miss Marie Chambers, past national director, ladies' auxiliary, A. O. H. Miss Dagmar Ines Kelly, Mrs. Rose Friedie-Gianelli, Miss Mae

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### Siberian Reservists Mutiny.

BERLIN, Oct. 12, via wireless to Sayville, L. I.—The Russians have dispatched two regiments to suppress mutiny of Siberian reservists in Bessarabia.

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