

ROUMANIA MAY HAVE SET BALKAN TIMBER SWIRLING TO HISTORY

Her Entrance Into War Breaks Jam That Has Checked Operations in Near East.

THE PROBABLE OUTCOME

More Territory for Roumania, New Life for Serbia and Defeat for Bulgaria Seem Assured.

By Charles Johnston.

Copyright, 1916, by Charles Johnston. While in Russia Charles Johnston met and married Miss Jelibovskaya, elder sister of the wife of General Alexei Brusiloff, the most brilliant of the commanding generals in the conduct of the allied offensive. What Mr. Johnston has to say about the military and political participation of Russia in Roumania's entry into the war is based upon his intimate and circumstantial knowledge.

Roumania entered the war on Sunday, August 27. The day will loom large in all future history. Nothing more dramatic, nothing more decisive, could have happened; no neutral nation stood placed to deliver so heavy a blow.

The large Russian force which has been waiting at Reni and Ismail on the Danube and at Odessa—a few hours by steamship from the Danube mouth—has gone south, by river and by rail, for immediate invasion of Bulgaria, following generally the line taken by the Russian army led by Brusiloff in the spring and early summer of 1917. At that time Bulgaria was still a slave-province of the sultan of Turkey—a slave whom Russia and Roumania set free, creating the free Bulgarian nation through victories at Lovcha, at Plevna, at the Shipka pass. Bulgaria, on the one hand inflamed by the former nihilist Stambuloff and on the other hand pillaged by German generals then in Russian service, like Kaulbars, turned against her liberators and threw herself into the arms of the Teutonic powers. The fruit of that alliance we have seen and shall see.

But the heart of the Bulgarian na-

tion is with Russia today, as in 1877. Witness the presence of Bulgaria's greatest soldier, Radko Dimitreff, victor at Lule Burgas and Kirk Killis-shah, a volunteer commander in Brusiloff's army, and the imprisonment of Bulgaria's greatest military organizer, General Savoff, by Ferdinand of Coburg because Savoff flatly refused to lead a Bulgarian army against Russia's allies.

Therefore, we see an immediate Russian invasion of northern Bulgaria, along and across the Danube, not so much a military attack against the Bulgarian nation as a move to liberate that nation once more, this time from Teutonic dominance personified by Ferdinand of Coburg, Stambuloff's choice for the Bulgarian throne, and charged by the friends of that fire-eating patriot with Stambuloff's murder in the open streets of Sofia, the Bulgarian capital.

Russia Moves on Bulgaria.
The great Russian army move into Bulgaria should mean the doom of Ferdinand of Coburg. It may have started on Sunday evening, August 27, for Russians have a superstition against beginning a journey on a Monday and there was no sufficient reason for waiting until Tuesday. Nor is the distance great. Up the broad Danube from Reni (which is on Russian soil) to the Bulgarian frontier is a distance equal to that up the Hudson from Staten Island to Kingston; and, as a coincidence, the splendid steel bridge over which the railroad crosses from Bucharest to Koster is at the same distance from Reni as the Poughkeepsie bridge across the Hudson is from New York. So the journey for Russian troops by river to Bulgaria is shorter than the run to Albany—a matter of a dozen hours. Therefore, we may believe there was no undue delay in their arrival.

Equally for reasons of race and nationalism, the bulk, or at least a very large part, of the national army of Roumania has begun to force the passes into Transylvania. Roumania is in area almost exactly equal to England, with a population of 7,000,000 or 8,000,000—about that of England a century and a quarter ago. But there are, just beyond her frontiers, 5,000,000 Roumanians more, and four-fifths of these are in Transylvania and Bukovina, the latter already in Russia's hands. It is, indeed, the adding of these unredeemed 5,000,000 with the lands they inhabit, to her present territory and population that forms the political ideal of Roumania's nationalism.

Roumania Covets Bessarabia.
Transylvania and Bukovina—the former, politically, a part of Hungary, the latter a crownland of the Austrian

ARRIVAL OF BRITISH INVALID PRISONERS IN SWITZERLAND



Above, left to right—Crowd at Depot at Chateau d'Oex, Switzerland, awaiting arrival of troop train; British invalid prisoners upon arrival. Below—Arrival of British soldiers.

POTATOES PLENTY IN GERMANY, BUT NOT OF EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY
Greater Part Will Be Dried and Quickly Converted Into Potato Flour.
Berlin, Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—Germany has now finished her potato harvest and, as far as quantity goes, it is said to be abundant, but the quality is rather inferior, owing to the wet summer. This causes some anxiety, as the poorer grades of potatoes will not keep well. Consequently, the greater part of these will be dried and converted into flour as quickly as possible. In the meantime the people are now getting a larger allowance of potatoes than before, that is to say, nine pounds a week. They are also receiving more meat, but only one egg instead of two a week on each bread ticket.

Germany Reported Almost Coffeeless
Coffee Houses, It Is Said, Must Soon Close Until After War Because Supplies Are About Exhausted.
Amsterdam, Sept. 9.—(U. P.)—Although it is not admitted in Germany, the famous old German coffee houses, the popular resort of the masses, are about to go out of business until after the war. Germany is about out of coffee.

Captured Officers To Operate Movies
Berlin, Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—Twenty captured Russian officers interned in the prison camp at Burg, near Magdeburg, have organized a moving picture company with the consent of the German military authorities.

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Had Killed Seven Persons.
Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—Police declare that when "Wild Bill" Latura was shot to death by Patrolman John C. Lyons the last real Memphis "bad man" bit the dust. He had killed seven persons during the 30 years of his life. Once he killed four negroes within five minutes in a saloon.

Degree Conferred on Von Tirpitz.
Berlin, Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—The University of Charlottenburg has conferred the honorary degree of doctor of engineering upon Great Admiral von Tirpitz, the former secretary of the navy and originator of the submarine war.

Butter Would Come High.
Referring to a now famous case of a Dutch onion merchant who supplied many wealthy Berlin families with butter at the rate of nine pounds for \$11.25, it says that this case has been beaten by the advertisement of a Neumark farmer, which ran as follows: "Butter will be delivered on paying for a cow and money for food. The purchase of the cow will be attended by the Domains Edwardshof, near Gnanow, Neumark."

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A DECEMBER TRAGEDY

CHARACTERS: Mr. Portland and Mrs. Portland, with the Little Portlands for Chorus.
The Chorus Oh, Daddy, it is so cold!
Mr. Portland I'm very sorry, but I can't help it. We seem to be unfortunate. First of all, I forgot to order the fuel, and now I have got as big a fire as the furnace will hold, but the house just won't heat.
The Chorus Why didn't you order the gas system when you had the estimate in September?
Mr. Portland Times seemed hard and I decided not to do it until next Fall.
Mrs. Portland But Mrs. Smith put one in and her heat has not cost her nearly as much as ours. She keeps her house beautifully warm without any attention whatever. Besides the cost of installation was not great.
Mr. Portland Well, I suppose the longer I put it off the more we shall suffer and the more I shall be out of pocket, so I had better get a gas system put in right away.

Install a
Gas Heating and Ventilating System
and don't let this tragedy be enacted in your home.
We guarantee to fulfill every claim we make for this system in your case. Enquiries by telephone welcomed.
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I Go To The Strand. What's Your Hobby?

THE STRAND

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The Strand is the mecca for all joy tourists and they know the reason—one of the finest theatres in the good old U. S. A., a big pipe organ, augmented by an orchestra, a five-part Photoplay feature and a single—all topped with four acts of Vaudeville—and the price—only two jitneys.

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A Red Feather Feature that will make everybody sit up and take notice. An unusual story of Love's Redemption, with wonderful heart interest and a big climax.

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