

Forty-fifth Year. Daily—Tenth Year.

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GREECE DENIES ANY INVASION BY BULGARIANS

All War Material Preserved and Losses Light—Greece Officially Denies Reported Entrance of Bulgarians Into Greek Territory—French Forces Not Cut Off.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—With official denials both from French and Greek sources of the reports that the Bulgarians had entered Greek territory, the entente capitals await with keen interest the next move of the central powers in the Macedonian theater of war.

The question asked on all sides is "what will the Bulgarians do now they have realized—whether temporarily or permanently remains to be seen—the greater part of their national aspirations in Macedonia?"

Military observers here say it is recognized that without Bulgarian cooperation the Austro-Germans at present are not in sufficient strength to attack the Anglo-French forces in Greek territory. The report of the presence of large German forces in the ranks of the Bulgarians is considered in London to be exaggerated. On the contrary, according to the best available information only small German detachments are included, and these consisted mainly of artillerymen.

Invasion Improbable

The situation in Macedonia formed the subject of lengthy ministerial conferences at Athens yesterday, and at their conclusion the Renter correspondent says he learned:

"Official circles are of the opinion that both for political and military reasons it is highly improbable that the Bulgarians will cross the frontier."

Greece is completing the removal of its troops from the large area which the Anglo-French commanders mapped out as being necessary for the defense of Saloniki and with the freedom of movement acquired by the entente allies in this district energetic measures are being inaugurated with a view of expelling the pro-German element and the nest of spies with which Saloniki is alleged to be infested.

To Attack Egypt

On the continent of Europe many rumors concerning a Turco-German plan to attack Egypt with a large army during the spring are being persistently circulated. The possibility of such a movement gives added interest to the deflection of Dutch East Indian mail steamers from the Suez canal to the Cape of Good Hope route.

The Cologne Gazette says strong defense works are being constructed on both sides of the canal by the British, who are reported to have more than a quarter of a million troops in Egypt and to be landing additional forces daily.

Retreat in Progress

PARIS, Dec. 15.—The last information obtainable by the Havas correspondent at Athens when he filed a dispatch yesterday was that the allied front extended as far as Kukus, in Greece, about 25 miles north of Saloniki. The retreat is being carried on under favorable conditions, enabling the allies to preserve all their war material. Athens newspapers express the belief that neither German nor Bulgarian troops will cross the Greek frontier.

It is said that the German and Bulgarian forces in the Givigli section consist of nine divisions, three German and six Bulgarian. Greek troops

BRITISH CONTRACT FOR \$15,000,000 AIRSHIPS

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—It was said in the financial district today that the Curtiss Aeroplane company has closed a contract with the British government for \$15,000,000 worth of aeroplanes. In the fiscal year ended October 31, the company produced more than \$6,000,000 worth of aeroplanes and motors, most of which went to the British government.

SUPER-ZEPPELIN BLOWN-UP IN SHED CREW OF 40 KILLED

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 15, via London.—A report of the destruction of the super-Zeppelin L-22 was received from Schleswig today by a Copenhagen newspaper. It is said nearly all the forty members of the crew were killed or wounded.

The loss of the Zeppelin is said to have been due to the accidental explosion of a bomb as the airship was leaving its shed. The explosion demolished the shed.

LABOR LEADER INVOLVED IN PLOT TO CALL STRIKES

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—It was learned authoritatively today that a high official of one of the largest international unions in America is seriously involved in the investigation United States Attorney Marshall is making into the Franz Von Rintelen conspiracy to foment strikes in munitions factories.

This man is of German descent. He was prominent in the prolonged strikes in Bridgeport, Conn., factories last spring, and also took a leading part in the strike of 12,000 workers last summer at the General Electric company's plant at Schenectady, N. Y.

The investigation into the strike conspiracy has been halted for some days pending word as to when Samuel Gompers could appear before the grand jury.

Mr. Marshall learned today that Mr. Gompers had arrived in Washington and sent word to the capital to have the labor leader subpoenaed.

TURKS REPORT MINOR PROGRESS

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 15.—The Turkish war office today gave out the following statement concerning the progress of hostilities:

"Iraq front (in Mesopotamia): The activity of the enemy's artillery near Kut-el-Amara daily is decreasing, owing to our violent counter-fire. As a consequence of successful attacks our troops have approached closely to the enemy's main positions.

"Dardanelles front: Our artillery successfully bombarded the enemy's positions near Anafarta, and hostile ships near Kemikle Liman, compelling the vessels to withdraw. Near Ari Burnu there has been mine-throwing activity and rather violent, though intermittent, artillery duels. Near Seddul-Bahr there has been bomb and air torpedo fighting. Our artillery shelled a hostile howitzer battery and blew up its ammunition depot.

"Monday there was violent bomb fighting against our trenches in the center. Our artillery successfully shelled the enemy artillery positions and destroyed a blockhouse and two bridges across the Kerevizdere."

FORD PEACE SHIP DETAINED BY BRITISH

KIRKWALL, Orkney Islands, Dec. 15.—The steamship Oscar II, having on board the Ford peace party arrived here early today.

Kirkwall is the port into which most trans-Atlantic vessels which are held up for search by the British authorities are taken. The Oscar II was destined for Christiania and her arrival at Kirkwall probably means that she is being detained by the British. A London dispatch last night said it was hardly likely that the steamship would be taken to Kirkwall as she had no cargo aboard.

\$300,000,000 OF WAR LOAN SOLD TO PUBLIC

\$200,000,000 of Anglo-French Bonds Still in Hands of Underwriters—Syndicate Dissolved at Midnight—Placing Bonds on Market Results in Slight Decline From Selling Price

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Sixty per cent or \$300,000,000 of the Anglo-French bonds handled by the American syndicate, have been taken for investment, according to announcement made this afternoon by J. P. Morgan & Company, leaving \$200,000,000 in the hands of the underwriters.

Commission Distributed

"Of the bonds bought for investment," says the statement, "the larger part was naturally taken by participants who joined the syndicate with the idea of immediate withdrawing their bonds and thus obtaining the benefit of the syndicate price.

"The amount of cash which the syndicate managers are distributing to those who did not withdraw their bonds for investment amounts to between 10 and 11 per cent of the amount of participation."

The cash payments of ten to eleven per cent represent the difference between 96, the selling price to the public and 95 1/4, the participation price. Representatives of the syndicate declined to comment upon the heaviness of the bonds in today's market.

Syndicate Dissolved

With the dissolution over night of the banking syndicate which floated the \$500,000,000 Anglo-French 5 per cent loan, interest centered largely around the dealings in that security at today's stock market opening.

The first offering consisted of twenty-five bonds at 94 1/4, a decline of 1 1/2 points from the price at which they were taken by the syndicate, and 1 3/4 under the previous low quotation at regular sale. This was followed by numerous additional transactions of ten to fifty bonds at 94 1/4 and 94 3/4.

The bonds were readily absorbed and caused no disturbances to the general market.

Before the end of the first hour the bonds made a further decline to 94 1/4 for future delivery.

ALLIED AIRSHIPS WINGED BY GERMANS

BERLIN, Dec. 15, by wireless.—Four allied aeroplanes, including one battle plane with two motors, were brought down by German anti-aircraft guns, the war office announced today, during raids on Bapaume and Peronne, in France, and Vulheim, Baden.

A successful attack on an English steamship was made by German aviators.

In the Balkan campaign the retreating Serbians are being pursued farther. Southwest of Plevlje, in northern Montenegro, they were driven across the Tara river and farther to the east across the Grab-Broderovo line. Several hundred prisoners were taken.

SAFE CONDUCT FOR BOY-ED AND VON PAPEN

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Captains Boy-Ed and Von Papen will leave New York, barring a change in their plans, on Tuesday next on the Holland-American liner Noordam. This was learned authoritatively today.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The British embassy received today from London authorization to issue safe conduct to Captains Boy-Ed and Von Papen, the withdrawn German naval military attaches.

The officers will not be required to give assurances that they will refrain from participation in the war after reaching Germany.

IS THE OLD 'ORANGE' ROTTING?



4000 BULGARIANS MOWED DOWN BY BIG FRENCH 75'S

PARIS, Dec. 15.—How the Bulgarians in the battle of the Cerne, one of the earlier operations in Macedonia, lost 4000 men and how they hurled themselves repeatedly at the enemy, but mowed down by the French "75's", were finally compelled to retire behind the heights, is recounted in an official statement issued today. The battle lasted nine days.

It was fought in a wild country. Certain of the villages of the district were completely destroyed.

"The order to attack was given on November 6," says the statement. "A battalion succeeded in attaining the Rajee, and installed itself on the hill dominating the river.

"Further north French troops began to ascend Arhangal heights, and their continued progress and rapid success greatly disturbed the enemy. The Bulgarians were unable to gain the slightest amount of ground.

"On November 11 the upper Cievo was attained. The enemy retreated in disorder. Later the Bulgarians attempted, with three divisions, to make headway in repeated attacks, but were mowed down by the fire of our mountain artillery and 75's. The enemy finally abandoned the contest, and on November 15 retired behind the heights.

"These hard-fought days cost the Bulgarians nearly 4000 men. Our losses were relatively slight. Our victory may be counted among the best of the war."

AUSTRIANS RESENT AMERICAN NOTE

GENEVA, via Paris, Dec. 15.—A dispatch from Vienna received by way of Buchs, Switzerland, states that President Wilson's note to Austria regarding the Ancona incident has produced a profound impression in government and political circles. The note is said to be resented by a minority.

It is generally believed in Vienna, says the dispatch, that Austria will give satisfaction and will pay an indemnity, especially as she has large interests in America. Baron Von Burian, the Austrian foreign minister, has called a special council to discuss the matter.

1916 SHORTAGE ESTIMATED AT \$81,525,500

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Treasury estimates that receipts in 1916 will fall by \$81,525,500 to meet disbursements, including a \$10,000,000 postal deficit, as cited by the house ways and means committee report on the emergency revenue law extension filed today as evidence of necessity for additional taxation.

It is estimated that extension of the law till December 31, 1916, would provide \$6,800,000 a month.

Revenue from distilled spirits, fermented liquor and tobacco decreased \$25,000,000 in the last fiscal year, the report says. Treasury estimates of ordinary internal revenue receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, were \$272,000,000 compared with \$283,399,760 last year, "thus indicating a further anticipated revenue reduction from this source of more than \$11,000,000.

The bill today was reported back to the house with a view to consideration tomorrow. Party leaders have requested all members to be present tomorrow in anticipation of a lively party fight. Majority Leader Kitchin declares, however, that its enactment by the end of this week is certain.

TAVENNER ATTACKS MUNITION TRUST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Representative Tavenner of Illinois, made the first preparedness speech of the session in the house today, urging government manufacture of all war materials. He attacked the Navy league as being composed in part by men who profit by the sale of munitions.

Since 1887, Mr. Tavenner declared, four firms in the United States have virtually had a monopoly on war orders, dividing millions for munitions that might have been produced from twenty to sixty per cent cheaper in government arsenals or navy yards.

Coercion of Greece Discontinued

PARIS, Dec. 14.—A dispatch from Athens to the Havas agency, dated Monday, December 13, says: "The ministers of the quadruple entente, according to the Greek press, officially informed Premier Skouloudis that the economic coercion had been discontinued and that Greek ships detained in ports of the allies would be released."

VALUE OF CROPS 1915 ESTIMATED \$6,270,465,000

Banner Year for Farms in United States — \$1,755,059,000 in Corn, \$930,302,000 Wheat, \$156,407,000 Apples—Other Crops in Same Proportion.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—This year's principal farm crops were worth \$6,270,465,000 at December first farm prices, the department of agriculture today announced.

The value of each crop was announced as follows: Corn \$1,755,059,000; winter wheat \$622,012,000; spring wheat \$302,290,000; all wheat \$920,302,000; oats, \$555,569,000; barley \$122,944,000; rye \$41,295,000; buckwheat \$12,408,000; flax seed \$24,080,000; rice \$26,212,000; potatoes \$221,104,000; sweet potatoes \$46,081,000; hay \$812,320,000; tobacco \$96,041,000; cotton \$602,393,000.

In addition it was announced that the apple crop was 76,670,000 bushels valued at \$156,407,000; the bean crop in the three principal producing states 9,325,000 bushels—a decrease of 1,688,000 bushels valued at \$28,557,000 and the cranberry crop 475,000 bushels valued at \$2,845,000.

The value of these three crops is included in the year's total.

WRONG PHOTO OF TRUNK MURDERER SENT BROADCAST

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 15.—A photograph, believed to be that of George Bartholomew, alias Ed Hopkins, alleged slayer of John Lind, whose body was found in a trunk in the Willamette river on November 19, is not the likeness of the man wanted, according to the conclusion of the Portland police today.

This unexpected turn in the countrywide search for the suspected man developed upon receipt of a letter from Police Chief White of San Francisco, who says that the photograph has been positively identified as that of Antoine Anderson, floor manager of the Columbia garage in San Francisco, and a friend of the murdered man.

Anderson's photograph previously had been identified by those in Portland who knew Bartholomew as the latter's likeness, and reproductions were sent throughout the United States and Canada in an attempt to apprehend him. Bartholomew, who was rooming with Lind, disappeared before the murder was discovered. The photograph was found in Lind's effects.

CRAZED HUSBAND USES AXE ON WIFE

OAKLAND, Cal., Dec. 15.—Crazed by failure to effect a reconciliation with his wife, Charles Clarke Lawrence, a millhand, used a small axe today to beat out his wife's brains, while their 16-year-old daughter listened in terror outside the door of the bedroom in which the crime was committed. The girl finally gained entrance to the room. Her father was standing beside a couch with the axe still in his hands. Lawrence has been taken into custody. They had been separated about a week.

British Sink Two Ships

PARIS, Dec. 15.—The correspondent at Athens of the Milan Secolo, says a German submarine has been sunk in the Black sea off the Bulgarian port of Varna, and that a Turkish torpedo boat has been sunk in the Sea of Marmora by the British.

The Turkish cruiser Sultan Selim, formerly the German warship Goeben, came out into the Black Sea, the correspondent adds, and was torpedoed, though the vessel was not seriously injured.

PEACE IN SIGHT FOR BASEBALL BELLIGERENTS

American and National League Officials in Conference at Chicago Over Burying Hatchet With Federals—May Result in Consolidation, With But Two Major Leagues.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Belief that the olive branch would soon wave over the camps of warring baseball magnates increased today as the hour for the arrival of Barney Dreyfuss, president of the Pittsburgh Nationals, approached. It was whispered that Dreyfuss' mission was to induce the American league directors to permit the sale of the Cleveland franchise to Edward Gwynner of the Pittsburgh Federals.

Gossip had it that such action would complete the chain of Federal club owners to be introduced into organized baseball under the peace proposals.

Another story printed here said that Dreyfuss was coming in an effort to induce Charles Webb Murphy, former president of the Chicago Nationals, and still believed to have considerable influence in the affairs of the Cubs, to withdraw his objections to their sale to Charles Weegman. The board of directors at their meeting today approved the treasurer's report and awarded the pennant for 1915 to Boston.

"It is true that there is a plan for peace," said Mr. Dreyfuss. "I am here to confer with the American league on peace suggestion, and if they approve, to ask the appointment of a committee to confer with a similar committee from the National league to draw up a tentative plan which will harmonize all the present difficulties."

Mr. Dreyfuss said that the committees, if appointed, would settle all details as regards the disposition of players and all other matters at issue. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the sale of the clubs, he said.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—The National league meeting now in session here will not be adjourned tomorrow, according to authoritative reports, but will be held upon until definite word is received from Barney Dreyfuss, who has gone to Chicago to discuss with Ban Johnson and other American league magnates a tentative plan for peace between the two major leagues and the Federals.

The magnates declined to comment upon reports that two American league clubs would be sold to the Federals as a part of the peace plan. With the arrival today of Barney Dreyfuss, owner of the Pittsburgh Nationals, the reports of peace plans for baseball were confirmed.

PLAN TO MARKET 1916 APPLE CROP

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Dec. 15.—Representatives of eight fruit shipping agencies of Washington and Oregon, associated in the Northwest Fruit Shippers' council, gathered here today to consider plans for the incorporation of the council and devise means for marketing next year's apple crop. It was estimated that the shippers would handle 21,000 carloads of apples. A plan of levying 1 cent per box on all shipments for advertising purpose met with some objection and the meeting adjourned until this evening without taking action.

ACCUSED PLOTTER SERVING JAIL TERM

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 15.—J. H. Van Koolbergen, mentioned in the revelations in San Francisco, was arrested while with the First Canadian contingent and returned to Calgary, Alta., where he had enlisted, on a charge of forgery. He was tried and found guilty and is now in the western jail serving a sentence of twelve months.