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Albanian Stronghold of Berat Captured By Victorious Italians Prisoners and Munitions Taken

Allied Armies Unite Long Balkan Front

Italians Pressing Hard On Rear and Flanks of Fleeing Austrians Whose Retreat Is Rapidly Becoming Rout—Fighting Now Developing Along Entire Balkan Front With Bulgarian Artillery Active Against French and Greek Positions In Macedonia—Situation Fast Becoming One of Great Interest

Washington, July 12.—Berat has fallen before the advancing Italian troops in Albania, an official cable to the Italian embassy reports.

Berat is a strategic center of the road to Serbia and was the immediate objective of the allied offensive in Albania. A great quantity of war booty and numerous prisoners were taken.

Capture of the city was expected by military authorities after dominating heights to the south and west were taken by Alpine troops in hand to hand fighting.

French troops had pressed the Austrian defenses to the east back beyond the city. The Austrians, realizing the importance of maintaining their positions, fought desperately until practically surrounded.

The fall of Berat completely unites the allied forces operating in Albania. Withdrawal of the Austrians north of the Semeni was also announced in the Rome cables.

By Ed L. Keen
(United Press staff correspondent)

London, July 12.—Activity is developing along the whole Balkan front and there are increasing indications that the Albanian fighting may spread to the entire 300 mile line from the Adriatic to the Gulf of Rendina.

The Italians have crossed the Semeni river at one or more points, according to the latest reports from the battle front, and are nearing the new Austrian defense line along the Skumbri river. Infantry has progressed at least 25 miles north of the original line on the Vojzura while cavalry detachments are reported to have advanced even further. This would bring the Italians into the region of Lushnje, about midway between the Semeni and the Skumbri.

In Macedonia, Bulgarian artillery is heavily bombarding the French and Greek positions, especially north of M. Anstr and west of the Vardar river. British airmen made bombing raids on enemy depots in the Struma valley. The Struma represents the extreme right wing of the allied front. The Vardar flows into the Gulf of Saloniki at the city of that name.

The right wing of the Austrians, retreating on the sixty mile front from the sea eastward, is said to be falling back so rapidly that the retirement in some places borders on a rout. Great quantities of material are falling into the hands of the Italians and Albanians, while the enemy is destroying other quantities.

Effective resistance by the enemy is becoming less frequent and whenever

a temporary stand is made the Italians succeed in inflicting heavy casualties.

Overwhelming Defeat

Rome July 12.—Austria's defeat in Albania is proportionately as overwhelming a reverse as the Piave rout, battle front dispatches received here today declared.

In a three day advance of from 20 to 25 miles the Italians and their allies swept forward irresistibly, occupying the whole southern bank of the Semeni, according to a message from Valona.

Italian troops have almost entirely enveloped the city of Berat. Its surrender is expected momentarily.

Fierce fighting took place on the Austrian right wing, where strong resistance was offered to the incessant attacks of the Italians, dispatches said. After a three day fight the enemy's stubborn defense was smashed and Italian cavalry proceeded from the right wing and swept into Berat.

(Continued on page six)

SCOTTS MILLS MAN REPORTED AMONG DEAD FROM DISEASE

Total of Fifty-Two Casualties, Nine of These Having Been Killed in Action

Washington, July 12.—General Pershing today reported 52 casualties, divided as follows:

Killed in action, 9; died of wounds, 7; died of disease, 7; died of airplane accident, 2; died of accident, and other causes, 4; wounded severely, 15; wounded slightly, 1; wounded, degree undetermined, 2; missing in action, 5.

The list follows:

Killed in action:

Lieutenants W. Brown, Washington, D. C.

H. M. Coppinger, Oklahoma City, Okla.

A. C. Paisley, Gibsonville, N. C.

A. M. Trotter, Camden, S. C.

Sergeant P. G. Miller, Lancaster, Pa.

Privates S. L. Conklin, Newark, N. J.

S. Dusanski, Schenectady, N. Y.

H. F. Jones, Rossmore, Va.

W. Santiman, Potsdam, N. Y.

Died from wounds:

Captain G. R. Spaulding, Columbus, Ky.

Lieutenant R. E. Ball, Wollaston, Mass.

Privates J. W. Bresnahan, Rochester, N. Y.

H. L. Erisman, Sterling, Ill.

J. V. Finnessy, Rochester, N. Y.

H. Klein, New York.

W. F. Ryan, Portage, Wis.

Died from disease:

Lieutenants F. A. Browne, Petersburg, Virginia.

W. R. Lux, Fort Shaw, Mont.

Fireman C. Hendricks, Havre, France.

Privates J. H. Enslay, Ainsworth, Nebraska.

R. U. Nicholson, Scotts Mills, Ore.

Died of airplane accident:

Lieutenants W. D. Robbins, Raleigh, N. C.

J. C. Wilford, Asheville, N. C.

Died from accident and other causes:

Captain K. H. Dauber, Benicia, Cal.

Sergeant A. J. Peterson, Beloit, Wis.

Corporal G. M. Cox, Denison, Texas.

Cook H. E. Hollingsworth, La Harpe, Ill.

WAR CLOUD WAS WINNER

Aqueduct Base Track, July 11.—War Cloud, A. K. Macomber's 3 year old, this afternoon won the Dwyer Stakes at this track.

Jack Hare, Jr., finished second and Johann, generally accepted up to this time as the champion three years old, was third.

NEXT HUN DRIVE STRAIGHT ON PARIS IS ALLIED BELIEF

Experts Figure This Is Reason For Recent Operations of French Forces

By J. W. T. Mason
(United Press war expert)

New York, July 12.—Persistent French attacks between the Aisne and the Marne strongly suggest that General Poch believes Von Hindenburg's next offensive, if it materializes at all, will be directed against Paris.

The Aisne-Marne front is the best jumping off place for an advance on Paris. This is especially true of the northern sector. It is here, east of the Villers-Cotterets forest that General Poch has lately concentrated his efforts to improve his local positions. Today's official French report announces still another victory in this district which may well be regarded as the outer defenses of Paris.

The Villers-Cotterets forest is the most valuable defensive area in General Poch's possession between the Aisne and the Marne. The Germans have advanced to the eastern fringe of the forest, but are now being shoved back at important local points. These successful assaults by General Poch are adding to the defensive security of the French positions, but they also gravely interfere with such preparations as Von Hindenburg may be making for a drive in that area.

The Villers-Cotterets forest splendidly protects the principal railway running from the Aisne-Marne front to Paris. There is an admirable path for a quick dash toward Paris some twelve miles wide between this railway and the Ourcq and Marne rivers, which form a continuous stream. If Von Hindenburg could penetrate through the forest he would have overcome the chief obstacle to seizing this runway to Paris.

Therefore the French would have no natural defenses to assist in the frontal defense of their capital. They would have to rely largely on threatening the two German flanks near Compiegne and Chateau Thierry. These threats certainly would develop new complications for Von Hindenburg.

But with the Villers-Cotterets forest in the enemy's possession, the allies' task would be seriously increased. General Poch, therefore, intends to make sure that Von Hindenburg's line remains to the east of the forest and such is the purpose of his present activities.

PIONEER DENTIST DIES.
Portland, Ore., July 11.—Dr. Edwin Augustus Baker, member of a pioneer family that helped settle Cincinnati, Ohio, and who himself was one of the first Oregon settlers, died here today. He was born in Cincinnati.

Abe Martin

Did Albert M. Roemer commit suicide last night by drowning in the Willamette river?

Superintendent Steiner of the Oregon state hospital and Coroner Clough are looking for an answer to the question. Indications point to suicide.

Roemer, who was committed to the asylum from Multnomah county April 10, eloped from the institution yesterday afternoon and this morning his hat and coat were found on a raft near the bank of the Willamette river above the wagon bridge.

Last evening Bridge Tender Irwin saw a man with his hat and coat off on the raft, and this morning it was Mr. Irwin who noticed that the hat and coat were still on the raft but no man was in sight. Dr. Steiner says he thinks the man drowned himself, but Coroner Clough is inclined to think he wandered off and forgot his hat and coat.

A letter addressed to an unnamed friend was found in the coat pocket. It gave no indications of being written by a man with an unsteady mind. In the letter Roemer says he has not improved very much, that he is lonesome for his wife and children, but feels better since he has been paroled and can get out on the hospital grounds. He advises the friend about feeding the cow well during the hot weather.

An effort is being made to locate the body, if it is in the river.

LIBERALS ACCEPT VON HINTZE
Copenhagen, July 12.—The German liberals are willing to give Admiral Von Hintze "a trial" as foreign minister, the Vossische Zeitung says.

Philip Scheidemann and other social leaders accepted Von Hintze's appointment "with certain reservations."

"I'll never marry another man till I see him in civilizing clothes, believe me," said Mrs. Tilford Moots' niece today. Uncle Enos Timberlake, who mastered a high wheel bicycle in 1884, dropped dead on the floor of a dancing academy last night at the age of 104.

Americans Repulse Large German Patrol

By Fred S. Ferguson
(United Press correspondent)

With the Americans on the Marne, July 11.—(Night)—A large German patrol which attempted to raid the American lines near Chateau-Thierry was repulsed sanguinarily yesterday afternoon. Presence of new enemy units in this sector was revealed through identification of the dead.

There was harassing artillery fire on various parts of the front, but aside from the raid no infantry action was reported.

Heavy clouds, high winds and rain prevented aerial activity.

President Vetoes New Wheat Price

Washington, July 12.—President Wilson today vetoed the agricultural bill fixing a minimum price of \$2.40 a bushel for wheat.

RUSSIAN POLICY OF ALLIED NATIONS NEARING SOLUTION

Raymond Robbins, Bull Moose Leader, Advocating Official Recognition

By Robert J. Bender
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington, July 12.—The great problem of a working arrangement between the inter-allied economic mission and Russian business interests is near solution.

The United States chamber of commerce, conferring with the Russian-American chamber of commerce throughout this week, is determining not only upon a business plan of operation, but also on much of the mission's personnel. It was indicated today that Daniel P. Lard, formerly head of the war industries board and president of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad might head the American branch of the mission.

Others in the unique expedition will include business men who have traded with Russians in the past.

As recently foreseen, by the United Press, the working agreement of the

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DID ALBERT ROEMER SUICIDE LAST NIGHT?

Hat and Coat Found on Raft on Bank of Willamette River

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FIVE AMERICAN AIRPLANES LOST IN RECENT RAID

German Official Report Says Crews Were Captured In Attack On Coblenz

FRENCH DRIVE AHEAD ON FIVE MILE FRONT TODAY

Rains Are Again Seriously Interfering With West Front Operations

Berlin, Via London, July 11.—"Five airplanes of an American squadron of six, intending to raid Coblenz, were captured and their crews taken prisoner," the German war office announced today.

Coblenz is the capital of the Rhine province and is situated on the river of that name, fifty miles southeast of Cologne. It has a population of about 50,000.

By William Philip Simms
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With the British Armies in France, July 12.—Heavy rains throughout the British front seem to assure further delay in resumption of the German offensive.

There have been intermittent showers during the past two days, which increased to a steady downpour last night and today.

French Drive Forward
Paris, July 12.—Driving forward on a five-mile front, the French again made important gains between the Aisne and the Marne, capturing the village of Longpont and several adjacent strongholds, the French war office announced today.

German artillery was active in the Verdun sector. The French made successful raids in the Champagne region and north of Montdidier.

"North of Chavigny and east of Faveroles the French accentuated their progress," the communique said.

"Longpont village and the Javage farm were occupied.

"French troops took twenty prisoners in raids north of Montdidier and in the Champagne.

"German artillery was active along the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun sector)."

The French operations between the Aisne and the Marne are becoming increasingly important. Capture of the village and castle of Comy was reported only yesterday in this same neighborhood, while Chavigny farm also has

(Continued on page three)

GERMAN READY FOR PEACE TALKS SAYS HERTLING

Chancellor Hertling Reiterates That Enemies Bent On Destroying Empire

GIVES REASONS FOR DEPOSING KUEHLMANN

Food Shortage Forces Paring Down of Rations For German Soldiers

Washington, July 12.—Bread rations are being pared down, because of food scarcity, according to reports in official circles here today. All men in uniform have heretofore been allowed a supplementary food ration, such as manual laborers receive. Scarcity, however, has forced abolition of extra rations, for all orders, mess attendants and other soldiers not engaged in combat or heavy service.

London, July 12.—Germany's leaders military as well as political, are ready to consider "sincere peace proposals," Chancellor Von Hertling declared in a speech before the main committee of the Reichstag yesterday, according to dispatches received here today.

"The recent speeches of President Wilson and Foreign Secretary Balfour plainly indicating our enemies' will to destroy her, force Germany to continue the struggle," Von Hertling said.

"The closest unity, however, exists among Germany's political and military leaders regarding readiness to receive sincere peace proposals."

Von Hertling said the change in foreign ministers was not due to any real difference in opinion, but because personal discussion had revealed matters which should not have been published. He further stated that the new foreign minister will not change the empire's policy; that the government will prosecute vigorously the reforms already begun and that the program laid down in his reply to the pope will be strictly adhered to.

French Crisis Predicted
London, July 12.—Reports from Germany, including newspaper comment, indicate that the appointment of Admiral Von Hintze as foreign secretary is likely to precipitate a fresh crisis.

There is evidence that Chancellor Von Hertling and even more particularly, Vice Chancellor Von Payer, will find Von Hintze's "strong" policy embarrassing. It is reported that Von Payer will resign if Von Hintze attempts an open pan-German policy.

Less interest is evidenced here, however, than regarding any previous changes in the German government.

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SEVEN LADIES WERE IN THIS DOUGHBOY PARTY

How Boys of Army Entertained Real Ladies with Vaudeville Show

With the American Army in France, June 18.—(By Mail)—All along that part of the line they're still talking about the "party at the front with women to it" which the boys of the—th staged. The—th figures it put over on all the other regiments in a social way, and what's more the other regiments have to admit it.

It came about this way. The boys appreciated the doughboys the Salvation Army sisters had been making for them when all the fellows were in the trenches, and also the work of the Y. M. C. A. women were doing to make war more pleasant.

So one company decided to put on a show back in the woods to entertain the women. Then another company wanted to join in, and another, until pretty soon five companies had brought forth talent, and they called it a "vaudeville."

Back in a certain thick woods they found an open space about as large as a big theatre, and about the same shape. At one end they put up a stage under some trees and blankets make good enough for curtains, when moved back and forth on a wire. The flowers and branches made fine scenery, and the ground was as good as an orchestra pit as you ever saw when the regimental band took its place in it.

No Reserved Seats.
Doughboys from the front who could be spared were allowed to come back to the woods the night before so the ladies wouldn't see any troop movement, and

before the show began they sprang from every bush and tree, and folded their legs under them on Nature's unreserved seat, the ground.

The committee in charge had detailed one group to "scare up" a piano. They got one, no one knows where except they—it had a German name on it, and it turned out tip-top American music when the rag-time kid from C company sat down to "syncopate."

"So everyone was happy and asked no questions, but just wished he could waltz up to one of the 'ladies' and say, 'This is our dance, isn't it?'"
(Continued on page three)

RUSSIAN REFUGEES TELL GRIM STORIES

Germans Killed Ali Russians Who Looked Like They Would Make Soldiers

Vancouver, B. C., July 12.—Grim tales of horror and famine in Russia, gruesome stories of war, holocaust, civil conflict and wholesale murders by the Germans—stories of pathos, misery and human suffering—were brought to Vancouver by a party of sixteen Russian refugees aboard the S. S. Arabia Maru here after a run from Oshaka and Yokohama.

It is plain from the stories related

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PROFITEERS WILL PAY HEAVY TAXES IN PROPOSED BILL

Luxuries Will Be Heavily Taxed But Profiteers Will Be Loaded Heaviest

Washington, July 12.—War profiteers will bear the heaviest taxes under provisions of the new war tax bill to raise \$5,000,000,000; taxes on luxuries used by the people will be a secondary consideration. Such is the intention of the house ways and means committee which is drafting the measure.

The schedule for taxes on luxuries submitted by the treasury department is considered to be an excellent basis for that kind of levies when they become

(Continued on page two)

NINETY THOUSAND CANS ARE FILLED DAILY AT HUNT BROTHERS SALEM CANNERY

One of the Big Industries Which Are Making This City Great Fruit Center

An average of more than 90,000 cans a day were filled at the Hunt Bros. Co. cannery during the past week, mostly cherries, enough to fill five large cars daily, according to W. A. Allen, who has been manager of the plant since it opened for business in 1914. Early in the year in anticipation of a big season Mr. Allen had stored in the plant 700,000 cans. During the height of the cherry season, there was packed ready for shipment, 95,000 cans a day.

This immense business is made possible of course through machinery. After a can has been filled, it is placed on a conveyor and as it goes on its journey is scryped, exhausted, tops put on and crimped, sterilized and then cooled without the touch of a hand. One machine that crimps the tops has a capacity of 50 cans a minute.

During the big rush of the cherry season, the Hunt Bros. Co. cannery employed 250 workers, of which 200 were girls and women. The stemming of cherries is done on the basis of piece work—that is, more work, more pay, and the average for the women has

from \$10 to \$25 a week, the high figure being earned by those who had had some former experience in the canning department.

The plant is handling about 40 per cent more cherries than for any former year and about twice as many as one year ago. Since 1914 when the cannery first opened for business, it has been gradually enlarged until now its capacity is four times as large as during its first year.

And not only has the cannery been doing a record business, but the farmers who have cherry tracts and the homes that have just a few cherry trees—all have profited. This year Royal Arnds were sold at eight cents a pound, a profit of six cents a pound to the grower, compared to a little over four cents a year ago. Other kinds of cherries paid in proportion.

As a money making proposition, the cherry year of 1918 may be a record breaker. Many tracts yielded from \$250 to \$100 an acre and many showed a clear profit of \$250 an acre. In many instances where there was but a few trees in the yard, the average has run from \$40 to \$50 a tree. One instance is the three on what is known as the Cox property on Cheleketa and Summer streets. The lot was recently purchased

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(Continued on page two)