

**SERBS IN ALBANIA  
HURL BULGARIANS  
OVER RIVER DRIN**

Foe Forces Passage in Two-Day Snowstorm—Beaten Back Third Day

FIGHTING IS FURIOUS

BERLIN, Dec. 17.—Austro-German troops that swept down the valley of the Lim River have captured Bijlopolje, eight miles within Montenegro, it was officially announced today by the German War Office.

Austria is pressing its campaign to crush Montenegro, but apparently with indifferent success, as Cettigne bulletins officially state the news that Teuton assaults, supported by heavy guns, were beaten back at three points.

Bulgars and Serbs have resumed furious fighting in Albania. The Bulgars were driven across the River Drin, which they won in a snowstorm battle.

The Teutons are endeavoring to reach Scutari, and the Bulgars are driving toward Elbassan, where it is reported an entire Serb division has arrived. Both Bulgars and Austrians are straining every effort to stem the Italian advance in Albania.

The nature of the operation that the Italian troops will undertake is not yet clear, but these are the chief possibilities:

They might cross into Montenegro to give battle to the Austro-Hungarians. They might drive through Albania into Serbia in an effort to take Bulgarian and German forces upon the rear and flank.

They might be content to hold the coast of Albania, a piece of territory which Italy has long coveted.

PARIS, Dec. 17.—Furious fighting has been resumed between the Bulgars and Serbs in Albania. Three thousand Bulgarian troops forced a crossing of the River Drin after a two days' battle in a severe snowstorm. The Serbs brought up reinforcements, and threw the Bulgars back on the following day.

Austria has sent reinforcements into Montenegro, and is pushing with great energy her campaign to capture or annihilate the Montenegrin army.

Dispatches received here today said the Austrians are advancing on a 70-mile front. The Montenegrins are retreating stubbornly along the Lim River, but lack heavy artillery and ammunition to check the invasion. Inhabitants of eastern Montenegro are fleeing before the approach of the Austrian army, which now occupies a front extending from 20 to 30 miles within the Montenegrin frontier.

The Montenegrin Legation today issued an official report, from Cettigne, announcing the repulse of Austro-Hungarian troops at three points with heavy losses. The report follows:

"The enemy supported by big guns hotly attacked our Sarajak army. Our positions were furiously assaulted near Plevlje, Kraljeva and Mataroge. Our troops repulsed the enemy at all points, inflicting upon him most serious losses."

TEUTONS MASS AT GIEGVELI.  
Athens dispatches today reported that 150,000 Bulgarian and German troops are now massed at Giegvelli and Dorian. To these forces will soon be added 50,000 Austrians advancing from Krivopal.

GREECE ALSO FEARS AUSTRIA.  
If their plans include the participation of the Bulgarians in the attack they are likely to meet with opposition from Greece, as Greece is strongly averse to any Bulgarians crossing her frontier. This applies also to some extent to the Austrians, whose ambitions always have been for a port on the Aegean, preferably Salonica.

On the whole, therefore, it is thought here that the Greeks might prefer to see the Entente Allies remain there until the end of the war. In fact, Lord Robert Cecil, Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, said in the House of Commons yesterday that the Anglo-French plan was to keep the Central Powers from that city in accordance with the wishes of Greece.

AUSTRIA WILL CONCEDE POINTS IN NEXT NOTE

BERLIN, Dec. 17.—Berlin does not expect any diplomatic break between Austria and the United States as a result of Austria's failure to comply promptly with American demands in her reply to the Ancona note.

Austria is willing to make important concessions to prevent such a break, according to information received here. Another exchange of notes probably will clear the whole situation.

The position taken by the Austrian Foreign Office in its reply not only is heartily approved here, but is exactly the attitude Austria was expected to take. It was pointed out by officials today that to have complied meekly with the American demands at once would have cost Austria much in prestige and would have brought down popular denunciation upon the Austrian Government.

"Austria, having maintained her position in a dignified manner in her reply, can now gracefully yield to America in a subsequent note," said one German official. "To have bowed down to Washington in the reply it has just delivered would have raised a storm of protest in Austria. There is every reason for believing that the Austro-American controversy will be solved just as the trouble over the Lusitania was settled."

The Vienna press, apparently at the suggestion of the Government, is refraining from sounding defiance in editorials on the Ancona affair. Some of the newspapers declare that Austria has no desire for any but friendly relations with America, and assert that Austria is willing to accept the American viewpoint if Washington can submit the proper proofs.

These comments are taken as further indication that the Austrian Government does not intend to force a break.

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**SLAV DRIVE ACROSS RUMANIA  
HALTED BY TEUTON MASSING**

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Rumania's projected invasion of Bulgaria through Rumania has been held up for the time being at least by the concentration of fresh German troops on the eastern front. In view of the likelihood of a renewed Austro-German offensive on the east front it may be some time before Rumania will be in a position to make a decisive move to help the Allies in the Balkans.

The possibility exists that operations in the Balkans and on the east front may be more closely linked in the future. The Germans have massed heavy forces of reinforcements in northern Galicia and Austria in order to allow the Austrians to withdraw some of their men for service in Bukovina. This movement is said to have caused the Russian General Staff to shift part of the army of General Volsky northward from Odessa and Reni.

**VILLA HELD CAPTIVE;  
NOW FACES EXILE**

Leader Virtually a Prisoner of His Generals—May Be Driven From Mexico

EL PASO, TEXAS, Dec. 17.—General Francisco Villa, virtually a prisoner of his 15 generals at Chihuahua, today faced removal as leader of the rebels and possible deportation from Mexico. Villa is considered a failure by his followers, who are still determined to wage warfare against the recognized Carranza Government. They are reported to be meeting in Chihuahua to decide whether to select his successor. In case he is deposed he will be taken under guard to the United States and told never to return to Mexico.

Since his arrival at Chihuahua Wednesday Villa has remained secluded at the home of his "church" wife, Senora Lucicora de Villa. His presence at the council was forbidden and he was placed under surveillance.

The 15 generals have taken up the plan of future opposition to Carranza. They have decided to inaugurate a campaign in northern Mexico.

GIRL WHO WROTE 'POISON PEN' LETTERS HAD A LOVE SORROW

Member of Rich Goshen, N. Y., Family Annyed Newlyweds

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—By arresting Miss Theresa Samuels, of a wealthy family of Goshen, N. Y., at her home yesterday, Postal Inspectors Durvea and Pitch say they captured the writer of the "poison pen" letters that in the last year have been sent to newly married or betrothed young women, some of them of great social prominence in New York city.

The letters contained shocking charges against the young husbands or fiancés.

Inspectors Durvea and Pitch said at Middletown, N. Y., where they went from Goshen after Miss Samuels had been admitted to \$500 bail, given by her brother, Sigmund Samuels, that she had confessed the authorship of the "poison pen" communications.

"Were you acquainted with any of the persons to whom you wrote letters?" she was asked. "Had you any grudge against any of them?"

"No," it is said Miss Samuels answered. "I just picked the names at random out of newspaper columns that appeared in the accounts of weddings or engagements."

"Have you ever had any love affair?" "Yes," the inspectors report she answered, "two years ago."

When asked if this love affair had preyed upon her mind and caused her to write such scandalous letters, she replied:

"Perhaps it did."  
Miss Samuels was taken to New York today for arraignment before Federal Commissioner Houston. Owing to the nature of the letters written by her it is expected she will be examined as to her sanity before she is placed on trial.



MRS. HERBERT H. ASQUITH, wife of British Premier, who is suing London Globe for alleged libel.

**KILLED IN QUARREL BY FELLOW EMPLOYEE**

Glass Factory in Tacony Scene of Tragedy in Which Youth of 20 Is Shot

A youth was shot and killed today at the Gilliland & Sons glass manufacturing plant, Deyersaux and Tacony streets, as a result of an argument over a number of globes which were broken. He is William Ranzinski, a 20-year-old Polish boy, who lived at 1951 Tacony street. The man's assistant is said by the police to be August Beck, an Italian, living somewhere on Carpenter street. The man disappeared immediately after the shooting and is being sought by the police in every quarter of the city. The shooting took place after 6 o'clock this morning, when a tray of newly made globes was dropped. Both Ranzinski and Beck said they were not responsible for the accident. Each accused the other, according to fellow employees, and the shooting followed. Ranzinski was pronounced dead by Dr. H. W. Lambert, 521 Tacony street.

Wills Probated  
Wills probated today were those of Anna T. Hatherington, 231 South 16th street, which dispose of an estate valued at \$500 in private bequests; George Grosz, 25 North 5th street, \$500; Hon. Horwitz, 201 North 11th street, \$500; and Michael A. Boyle, 152 North 11th street, \$250.

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**BRITISH FORCE WAY INTO FOE'S LINE AT NIGHT**

German Trenches Penetrated at Armentieres. Defenders Killed

BIG GUNS ROAR AT YPRES

LONDON, Dec. 17.—British troops entered the German trenches at two points near Armentieres and disposed of the occupants, according to a report from British headquarters. Considerable artillery activity and much activity on the part of aviators on both sides are noted in the official statements. Ypres and the district between the Oise and the Alps were the scenes of particularly heavy firing. French trench mortars blew up a German ammunition depot near Quenneviers, between the Oise and the Alps.

The British official statement denies the German official report of the loss of four British aeroplanes. The following official report from British headquarters in France was issued by the press bureau:

"Two small enterprises were successfully carried out near Armentieres. Hostile trenches were entered and their occupants disposed of. The enemy losses are estimated at 20 killed. Our losses were trifling."  
"Today there were artillery bombardments on both sides about Ypres."  
"The report sent out by the German wireless on December 15 that we had lost four aeroplanes is untrue."

Today's statement issued by the French War Office reports activity at many points on the front. The text of the communication follows:

"In Champagne there was heavy fighting in the region of the dunes. Patrol encounters occurred south of the small fort of Givenechy, in Artois, between the Somme and the Oise."  
"In Lorraine there was a cannonade on the Nomeny-Almy front."

**BERLIN ADMITS BRITISH PENETRATED TRENCHES**

BERLIN, Dec. 17.—The War Office issued the following report this afternoon: "Southwest of Armentieres and before Helverden the English penetrated our trenches, but were driven out."  
"Bad weather has hindered fighting on the western front. However, there have been engagements with grenades and mines, and the usual artillery duels have taken place."

**HUBBARD'S ESTATE \$433,000**

Lusitania Victims Direct Cremation. Requests Filed in Canada  
TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 17.—The wills of Elbert Hubbard and his wife, who were drowned on the liner Lusitania, were filed here today for ancillary probate, as both held stock in the Northern Crown Bank of Canada.  
The amount of Mr. Hubbard's total estate was declared at \$432,545, and that of Mrs. Hubbard at \$3,753. In each case the estate was divided equally between their children, Elbert and Miriam.  
A direction in each will read: "I desire that my body be cremated and not buried in the ground."

**TODAY'S MARRIAGE LICENSES**

- William Green, 1127 S. 23d st., and Marie Libers Venetian, 1521 Trenton ave., and Caroline Arnold, 474 Trenton ave.
- George H. Dierker, 426 S. 13th st., and Sarah Anna Gray, 308 Christian st.
- Joseph E. Gorman, 222 S. 19th st., and Annie E. Gorman, 200 Fitzwater st.
- David G. Hinkle, 174 S. 22d st., and Elizabeth G. Christian, 1842 Girard ave.
- John Dalkin, 1423 S. 6th st., and Anna Deljak, 1313 S. 6th st.
- Agnes C. Fenne, Camden, N. J., and Isabella Agnes, 208 Gilligan st.
- Maureen C. Cohen, 1532 S. 23d st., and Catharine J. Langdon, 1532 S. 23d st.
- David C. Corbin, 104 S. 23d st., and M. J. John F. Goleman, 1432 S. 15th st.
- Harry H. Gerner, 1420 Keim st., and Ella J. Ward, 1331 S. 23d st.
- Anna M. Burr, 1324 S. Orinana st., and Anna Weat, 310 S. 23d st.
- Charles McDonough, 2520 C st., and Florence E. Wilcox, 1341 Cambridge st., and Sophia Green, 1541 S. 23d st.
- John J. Johnson, 1433 1/2 S. 23d st., and Margaret A. Kendall, 1520 S. 23d st.
- Richard J. Hennessey, 1313 S. 23d st., and Rosa Shapiro, 1419 N. Franklin st.
- William H. Smith, 1229 S. 13th st., and Ruby Smith, 220 S. 13th st.
- John Heigeman, 607 Fulton st., and Ellen E. Heigeman, 607 Fulton st.
- John E. Gannon, 1410 S. 23d st., and Lawrence E. Gannon, 1410 S. 23d st.
- Edith H. Gannon, 1410 S. 23d st., and Alexander Gannon, 1410 S. 23d st.
- Charles H. Wing, 128 S. 13th st., and Florence Clapper, 1009 Kater st.

**AUSTRIANS EXECUTE AMERICANS AS SPIES**

Two Bankers in Gorizia Reported Put to Death—Refugee Brings News

MILAN, Dec. 17.—Revelations have been made concerning a reign of terror in Gorizia. The summary execution of two Americans by the Austrian authorities is reported by a Spanish refugee, Amilcare Panuelli, who has arrived in Novarra. Panuelli was ordered out of Gorizia, where he had been a resident 23 years. His belongings were confiscated. Everything has been taken from the inhabitants. Any one who objected was considered a suspect and expelled, imprisoned or summarily court-martialed and shot. Panuelli was unable, he said, to get the names of the Americans, but

they probably soon will be known by the American Ambassador at Vienna. One of the charges brought against the Americans was that the capital of their bank had been furnished by members of the American banking trust which recently floated the Anglo-French war loan.

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