

BULGARS RAID RUMANIAN SOIL, SWISS REPORT

Hostilities Opened Between Balkan Neighbors—Invaders Reinforced

Salonica Teuton Aim

LAUSANNE, Feb. 11.—Swiss papers publish reports that Bulgarian troops have invaded Rumania, opening hostilities between the two countries.

They state that a Bulgarian patrol which crossed the frontier was immediately driven back by Rumanian troops and that reinforcements were sent to the patrol and fighting was renewed.

Salonica, Feb. 11.—German and Bulgarian troops, massed on the Greek frontier for the campaign against Salonica, number 150,000 men and are arriving daily, according to reports made to General Sarrail, the Allies' commander, by Franco-British air scouts.

The German heavy artillery with the Bulgarian army is suffering from inadequate food transport.

U. S. MAY WARN CITIZENS AGAINST ARMED LINERS

British to Arm Liners, Despite German Ruling

London Believes U. S. Will Not Accept Berlin's Stand

London, Feb. 11.—New issues, as grave as those revolving about the sinking of the Lusitania, have arisen between the United States and the Central Powers, officials here declared today, as the result of the German announcement that all neutral merchant ships will be treated as warships and sunk without warning after February 23.

It was stated on reliable authority today that England and her allies under no circumstances will yield the right to arm merchantmen for defensive purposes, a practice recognized by all nations.

It is believed here that the United States, having already recognized this right, will change her policy in the middle of a great war.

Should a German or Austrian submarine acting under the new instructions torpedo without warning and sink a British or French liner carrying American passengers, the United States, it is believed here, will take prompt and decisive action.

Berlin Gives Reasons for Sea Policy Change

Say British Merchantmen Are in Reality Cruisers

Berlin, Feb. 11.—Germany is determined to stop the destruction of its submarines by enemy merchant ships armed with guns and in all cases to take the offensive with its purpose to take the initiative, it is claimed, to claim the right to torpedo without notice all armed merchant vessels. The ships armed "for defense only" are regarded as warships and neutral citizens taking passage on such vessels will do so at their own peril.

This action was decided upon by the Admiralty after it had received definite evidence that the British Government has attracted masters of armed ships to its own German U-boats.

In explaining the stand that it has taken the Admiralty cites 19 cases in which British merchant vessels attacked German submarines. To establish its claim that the armed merchant vessels are really auxiliary cruisers the Admiralty says:

"The British Ambassador at Washington on August 23, 1914, declared to the American Secretary of State that 'the conduct of British merchantmen is solely a precautionary measure, adopted for the purpose of defense against attack from hostile craft.' And in the same letter assurances were given that 'British merchant vessels will never be used for the purpose of attack; that they are merely trading vessels, armed only for defense; and that they will never under any circumstances attack any vessel.'"

Today in the War

Russia is making a strenuous endeavor to regain her lost prize of war, the Austrian crownland of Bukovina. Troops already have captured a strategic position and crossed the Dniester.

Petrograd reports that Russians engaged in a heavy attack against the Austrian positions northwest of Czernowitz and the Austrian War Office reports heavy Russian attacks along the entire front from Bessarabia to Volhynia.

The new Galician offensive is designed to influence Rumania against casting in her lot with the Central Powers.

Rumania has been invaded by Bulgars, it is said in Swiss dispatches. Outposts crossing the border were repulsed, but renewed their attacks with reinforcements.

Nearly 200,000 Teutons and Bulgars are massed on the Greek frontier in preparation for the drive on Salonica. The Allies, it is reported, are bringing forward heavy guns for the defense of their Aegean base.

Dispatches from Paris indicate the French have been counter-attacking almost without cessation for 48 hours in the Vimy Heights region, and have repulsed several German attacks.

The battle has spread to the British front, where a heavy artillery duel has been in progress for more than 24 hours.

Northcliffe Urged for Cabinet Post

British Weekly Demands Editor Accept Ministerial Appointment

London, Feb. 11.—Among the unnumbered rumors of Cabinet changes the most surprising is the report of a reconciliation between the Government and Lord Northcliffe, who may be induced to accept a Cabinet position.

Although this amazing rumor generally is not believed, and is ridiculed by in view of Lord Northcliffe's unceasing and strenuous fight against the Government, it is a fact that his realization would be welcomed throughout the country.

It is impossible to overestimate Lord Northcliffe's power. Even so great an expert as Dr. E. J. Dillon, of the Daily Telegraph, who strongly opposes him, declares that Lord Northcliffe is the most influential man in the country.

Lord Northcliffe has fought the Government step by step ever since the first days of the war, but even his opponents agree that his motives have been purely patriotic and that he has nothing to gain and everything to lose by his attacks.

One of the best known of his opponents told the correspondent of the Sun that there was no question that Lord Northcliffe's objects in attacking those now controlling the conduct of the war was his determination to see Great Britain victorious.

An outspoken demand upon Lord Northcliffe to accept a seat in the Cabinet as Minister of Aviation will appear tomorrow in the British Weekly. Extracts from the article follow:

"That is to be chiefly borne in mind is that Lord Northcliffe has convinced himself that the war is not going well for us, that trials of the severest kind await us and that the end is very far off. The man who says this is the ruling spirit of a number of journals of enormous circulation. Through his representatives everywhere he has extraordinary resources for acquiring news. Through the Press Bureau, his information colors his writing."

Peace advocates from several neutral countries were in Bern for the meeting.

Prince von Buelow, former German Chancellor, Prince Hohenzollern and Baron von Kraff have arrived at Lucerne. It was reported today they are in touch with the peace movement here. The committee hopes to obtain the consent of the belligerents to an armistice of at least two weeks before the spring campaign brings fresh slaughter in Europe. They believe if the armistice is allowed for two weeks the fighting will never be renewed.

Several peace leaders said they were encouraged by the German Chancellor's recent Reichstag speech to believe that Germany will give benevolent consideration to any plans for an armistice. If they fail in their plans for a truce they hope at least to suggest a program to the belligerents designed to eliminate some of the more horrible features of the war.

FRENCH ATTACK FAILS TO REGAIN VIMY POSITIONS

Germans Hold Captured Lines Despite Terrific Assaults and Artillery Fire

TEUTONS LOSE BALLOON

BERLIN, Feb. 11.—German troops have repulsed four efforts by the French to regain positions lost on Vimy heights, the War Office announced today. Similar efforts on the part of the French forces south of the Somme also resulted in failure, it is claimed.

The following official report was issued this afternoon: "Northwest of Vimy the French, following artillery preparations that lasted for several hours, four times attempted to recapture their lost trenches. The attacks failed."

"South of the Somme the enemy was also unable to recapture any part of his lost positions. On the Aisne and in Champagne there were artillery duels."

"One of our captive balloons escaped without its crew and drifted over the enemy lines at Vailly."

French Say German Attacks are Repulsed

Crater of Mine Captured, Asserts Paris Official Report

London, Feb. 11.—The fighting in the Vimy sector, north of Arras, against the Germans has been launching violent attacks for some days, continues with little decrease in intensity.

The Germans captured a section of French communicating trenches west of La Folle yesterday, but were dislodged by a counter-attack. At sundown last night the Germans again attacked, this time directing their assault against the Neuville-La Folle road.

They were repulsed on the greater part of the front attacked, but recovered possession of a mine crater which they had previously lost.

Hand-grenade fighting continued all day in the same group of trenches, west of La Folle. The French pushing their counter-attacks with success and making some progress. The Germans made two assaults west of Hill 104 (northwest of Vimy), but failed to gain. On the Neuville-Saint-Vaast-Thelus road the Germans anticipated them and occupied the crater.

Second only in interest to the operations in Arras is the combat south of the Somme. Here the French gained a foot hold in the first line of German trenches to the north of Beaucourt and repulsed a German attempt to drive them out.

Two shells were thrown in the direction of Belfort yesterday by the German long range guns, which have been bombarding the French fortress for the past few days. The location of the German battery doing the firing was reported to the French, and the French long range guns took up the bombardment of the emplacement.

Armistice Proposal of Peace Conference

Advocates Meet in Berne—German Statesmen at Lucerne in Touch With Situation

Berne, Switzerland, Feb. 11.—The first definite move to end the world war was made here today when the permanent committee to establish lasting peace met to formulate proposals for an armistice.

Peace advocates from several neutral countries were in Bern for the meeting.

Prince von Buelow, former German Chancellor, Prince Hohenzollern and Baron von Kraff have arrived at Lucerne. It was reported today they are in touch with the peace movement here. The committee hopes to obtain the consent of the belligerents to an armistice of at least two weeks before the spring campaign brings fresh slaughter in Europe. They believe if the armistice is allowed for two weeks the fighting will never be renewed.

MAYOR'S FRIENDS SAY MERIT COUNTS IN APPOINTMENTS

Impression That Plums Are for Organization Is Denied

The many changes which are being made in the Philadelphia City Hall have created the impression that only men favorable to the Organization will be considered for any office controlled by the present administration.

Politicians who are close to Mayor Smith declare, however, that he has considered merit above every other qualification in making some of his appointments.

By way of illustration, they point to the selection of Robert M. Griffith, president of the Civil Service Commission. Those who know Mr. Griffith say that he never held political office until his present appointment. It is also declared that the choice made by the Mayor did not cause any special jubilation among the leaders who favored politics above merit.

Although Mr. Griffith was on the stump for the Republican ticket and was a Republican presidential elector in 1912 for the 4th Congressional District, he had no other connections in politics.

He is a member of the Law Academy, Geographical Society, Historical Society, Lincoln Club, Union League, United Barge Club, Welsh Society and numerous fraternal organizations.

Germany's Censors Suppress Riot News

Denounced by Socialists at Reichstag Hearing for Preventing Food Discussions

By Carl W. Ackerman

Berlin, Jan. 11 (by mail).—The German censorship was roundly denounced today at a special committee meeting of the Reichstag. All day long, while these criticisms were being made, the Foreign Office, which is responsible for the police, and the War Press Bureau, which controls the military news, were minus their responsible heads.

They were at the Reichstag listening to the attacks which were being made, mostly by the Socialists and some provincial newspapers.

The charges against the censorship are about the same as the criticisms of American correspondents, except that the Socialists are more insistent. They charge the censorship with discriminating, citing instances where some journalists have been permitted to discuss peace, while the Socialists have not.

Speakers said conditions had become much worse with the organization of the War Press Bureau. They declared the restrictions about food discussions, especially the latter shortage, are too severe, and that they try to suppress what they were losing thousands of dollars because so much news is suppressed.

The chief complaint of the American correspondents is that they are so restricted by the censorship that in writing they are unable to do what they wish, but what they think the censor will pass. Recently the correspondents discovered that their own accounts of the bitter shortage and the demonstrations in Berlin were suppressed while the Government wireless sent a denial that there were riots in Berlin.

American correspondents also believe that the Government in too strict about preventing comment on current news in Berlin, and to influence Rumania, the United States and Germany. Most correspondents, for instance, were prohibited from sending anything about the recall of Captain von Papen and Boy-Ed. On the whole the censorship appears to be growing less liberal.

Mute Describes Murderer

Cannot Read or Write, but Testifies Through Dumb Interpreter

Independence, Ky., Feb. 11.—Telling his story by signs, Harry England, a deaf mute, conveyed to another deaf mute, through a dumb interpreter, an order having been murdered at their home near this town by a man with a mustache, and that this man had thrown stones at him during the assault.

The bodies of the man and woman were found with bullet holes through their heads Tuesday.

BRITISH HOME OFFICE CLERK IN SPY PLOT

Inspector of Aliens' Deputy and Russian Singer Already Arrested

LONDON, Feb. 11.—Government agents are conducting an investigation which may reveal one of the most serious German plots in England since the war began.

This case, which grew out of two arrests last month, is marked by the utmost secrecy and has already involved one employee of the Home Office.

Those under arrest, so far as known now, are:

John McPherson Mitchell Dallas, a clerk in the inspector of aliens, in the office of the Secretary of State for Home Affairs, and Noel Joachim Altani, alias Altenculer, a Russian, who is described upon the records at Scotland Yard as a professional singer.

The police charge against the men is that they conspired between December 1 and January 15 that money should be corruptly given to and accepted by Dallas "as an inducement to him to diversify in a violation of public duty and welfare."

The police have found that Altani has been in this country for seven years and has been employed at very infrequent intervals, although he was always well supplied with money. He made it a point to cultivate the friendship of Government clerks and Dallas became an intimate.

Since the war began Dallas has been in a position which gave him peculiar opportunity to assist enemy agents if he had been so disposed. He has had access to the safe conduct of letters issued by the Home Secretary, and in addition was able to supply valuable information.

The arrest of suspected German agents in the numerous espionage cases which have developed within the past year have led on more than one occasion to the suspicion that enemy agents were being assisted by an employee of the Government. Detectives of the special branch of the criminal investigation department of Scotland Yard were set to shadowing various employees and suspicion fell upon Dallas, but his superiors were loath to accuse him for he had been in the home office for 20 years with no blemish upon his character.

However, the evidence was of such character that the arrest was made and at the same time the Russian was taken into custody.

Austrians Strive to Halt Foe in Galicia

Continued from Page One

defenses there do not offer the obstacles that the Austrians did.

The growing activity in southern Galicia is evidently a co-operative campaign on the part of Russia to help the allies in the Balkans and to influence Rumania. The Russians have massed a great army, supported by a tremendous amount of artillery, and fighting east and north of Bukovina is in progress over a wide front.

The desperate defense of Czernowitz by the Teutonic forces, which has cost them large losses, was delayed by political rather than strategical considerations, an order having been issued to the troops declaring that the fall of Czernowitz would cause the immediate adherents of Rumania to the Quadruple Entente.

Lace Operatives' Dance February 18

The 18th annual ball of the Lace Operatives' Beneficial Association will be held at the Philadelphia Quaker Club Hall, Germantown and Lehigh avenues, on February 18.

GEN. WIEDERSHEIM DIES AT BANQUET SPEAKING FOR PREPAREDNESS

Financier and Civil War Veteran Succumbs With Patriotic Utterance on His Lips

STRICKEN BY APOPLEXY

General Theodore E. Wiedersheim, financier, Civil War veteran and retired National Guard officer, fell dead last night as he was concluding an earnest plea for national military preparedness before 150 prominent Main Line residents at a banquet in Wayne.

The General had just reached a dramatic climax in his appeal, and vigorous applause was ringing out in response to his words when death came. The words which preceded his tragic end were:

"We must prepare; we must prepare, as we need not quail or hesitate before any country, and so our flag will be respected whether it floats over the sea or over the land."

He suddenly careened and fell to the floor. A startled cry arose from the men who had served with him in the war as they saw their old comrade collapse. In another moment those present were filled with dismay. For Dr. George Miles Wells, Dr. J. C. Egbert and Dr. Robert P. Elmer hurried to the place the General had occupied as toastmaster, made a cursory examination and announced that General Wiedersheim was dead.

HAD ANNOUNCED SPEAKER

Before the attack which cut short his life he had announced that Harry Roosevelt would be the first speaker of the evening. Preparedness and the honor of the nation were subjects so close to the heart of the old warrior, however, that he encroached somewhat on the functions of a toastmaster.

"I think that all men will agree with me," he said, "when I say that the National Guard must be recognized in our plans for national defense. The guard is part of the administration of our law. We have Congressman Butler here to tell us about national preparedness. On that subject I want to say that the time has come when we, to defend our nation, must prepare. We must not quail or hesitate before any country, and we must see that our flag will be respected wherever it floats or sails."

There was applause at this point, and as if spurred on by approval, the General launched into what he intended to be a stirring narration. He took a step backward. A crash followed as he plunged face downward to the floor.

General Wiedersheim was a veteran of the Civil War and had a distinguished career as a banker and in the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

For many years he was a member of the 1st Regiment of the National Guard, and was commander of the Veteran Corps of that regiment.

As captain of Company D of the organization he served with distinction during the perils of the Pittsburgh riots of 1877. On one occasion he and his company were prisoners in a roundhouse on which the strikers had trained an old-fashioned cannon loaded with spikes and iron scrap. But one by one the strikers who tried to light the fuse were picked off by the sharpshooters of his command. By the coolness of their captain the command was saved.

In the organization of the National Guard in 1878, Colonel R. Dale Benson

having resigned as the commander of the regiment, General Wiedersheim was elected with one record to succeed him. He was the most popular man in the regiment when he was chosen colonel. He retired from the colonelcy after 10 years of service.

For years he had been associated with the Girard National Bank, being its vice president at the time of his death. Earlier in his banking career he was in the Independence National Bank, which merged with the Girard bank. He also spent years with leading brokerage firms. General Wiedersheim retired from the banking business several years ago and devoted most of his time to the consideration of public problems. His brother, Major Wiedersheim, is connected with the firm of Bailey, Banks & Biddle. Mrs. Grace G. Wiedersheim Drayton, an artist, is a niece. Mrs. Wiedersheim, the General's widow, was Miss McKay, of Washington.

Two children, Mrs. Catherine Scull and William Wiedersheim, are survivors.

General Wiedersheim was for years one of the most active members of the Union League, serving as a director, chairman of the House Committee and vice president.

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Valentine's Restaurant Broad & Chestnut Sts. A "Heart's" Welcome awaits you on St. Valentine's Day, Monday, February 14th. Dancing from 8:30 until closing.