

SULTAN FACES REVOLT, RUMOR FROM ATHENS

Fall of Erzerum Responsible for Critical Political Condition in Turkey

GRAVE LOSS, EXPERT SAYS

LONDON, Feb. 24.—News from Constantinople represents the situation there as most critical since the news of the fall of Erzerum has leaked out, says a special dispatch from Athens to the Morning Post.

"The always latent dissatisfaction of the people with their Young Turk rulers is now assuming hourly more threatening proportions, both in the capital and the provinces, especially at Smyrna where the populace is in almost open revolt. The popular anger is augmented by the great death of necessities, due to the blockade and the stoppage of trade and industry."

"The leaders of the dissatisfaction are Osman Pasha, Abd. Pasha and Suwai Pasha. Starting development, it is asserted, may be confidently expected very shortly."

Last night's official report from the Turkish War Office, received from Constantinople, says: "There have been no important changes on the various fronts."

The Russian official report from Petrograd on the Caucasian campaign says only: "Our pursuit continues."

Major Morab, military critic of the Berliner Tageblatt, contributes a frank discussion of the fall of Erzerum to the latest issue of that paper received here. He says:

"No one can say otherwise than that the Grand Duke conducted his operations ably. At the beginning of February the situation on the Caucasian front became critical for the Turks."

"The Russian conquest of Erzerum is, of course, of importance, both strategically and politically. As the only fortified place in the vast territory of Northern Asia Minor, Erzerum was a base of operations of importance and weight."

Turkish reports are still completely wanting. Our people should be told the truth. (Since this was written, the Turkish War Office has officially admitted the loss of Erzerum, but declared it was of no importance.) The Russian reports which preceded the conquest of Erzerum have proved to be true. The immediate political result of the Turkish victory will be a complete insurrection of Turkish Armenia, where the Russian ruble is standard in peace and in war."

CROWN PRINCE SMASHES WAY NEARER TO VERDUN

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trated in their efforts to carry the French position by storm.

(Brabant, which the German drive compelled the French to give up, lies six miles north of the Verdun fortress, upon the eastern bank of the Meuse River. It was a strongly fortified position in the sector known as the Heights of the Meuse. It is directly southeast of Convoys, where the Germans made their first attacks in the big offensive campaign.)

GERMANS LOSE 50,000 MEN.

Fifty thousand men have been lost by the Germans in the assault on the defenses of Verdun, according to an estimate of military experts here today.

Crown Prince Frederick of Germany is personally directing the operations against Verdun from Berlin.

Paris is the objective of the Crown Prince, in the opinion of military experts, and they believe that no effort will be spared to capture the French fortress line, including Verdun, Toul and Reims.

The official communiqué follows: "In the Avois district there was a conflict with grenades to the east of Souchev. "The reaction to the north of Verdun, the battle continued all night with the same intensity from the right bank of the Meuse as far as a point to the south of Ornes. Owing to the violence of the enemy's bombardment of the advanced position of Brabant Sur Meuse, our troops evacuated that village under cover of the night and protected by the flank fire from our positions on the left bank of the Meuse."

"An attack directed against Samogneux was repulsed. Another strong attack by a force consisting of at least a brigade launched against the Bois des Caures recaptured from us a part of the wood of which we now actually hold the south point."

"All the offensive directed upon Beaumont, before which we have established ourselves, failed, the discharge on the east front of attack."

"Before Ornes we dominate the passage situated to the south of Herbebois."

"The movements of withdrawal made necessary to avoid the bombardment of the Bois des Caures were effected with perfect order, and the enemy, who advanced only with difficulty at the price of considerable sacrifices, was unable to break our front at a single point."

"There was desultory and continuous bombardment in the region between Ornes and Fromesey."

"In Lorraine the enemy gained a foothold at one of our advanced posts in the forest of Cheminet, whence we immediately drove him."

"There were some patrol engagements to the east of Reillon yesterday."

"In the country to the north of Verdun, the enemy's squadrons threw 45 projectiles of which many were of large calibre, on the station of Metz-Sablon and on the gas factory nearby. There was observed afterward a large fire."

BELIEVE LINES WILL HOLD.

Despite the ferocity of the German infantry attacks, which have been launched in mass formation time after time, and the tremendous violence of the German cannonade, it is confidently believed that the French lines will hold, and that the great offensive of the invaders will have spent itself without any important result.

Facing the 288,000 men in the army of the German Crown Prince are more than 200,000 French soldiers under General Humbert. The defenders have the advantage of fortifications which have been strengthened for a year, and the French artillery is held to be equal to that of the Germans.

Furious counter-attacks have been launched by the French north of Verdun to win back positions lost to the enemy on Tuesday and Wednesday. At some points, however, the trenches were captured by artillery fire that no effort was made by the French to retake them. Instead of counter-attacks, the French artillery developed a heavy fire against these positions and some were voluntarily abandoned by the Germans.

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CZAR OFF FOR FRONT; AUSTRIANS HALT FOE

Russian Attacks Northwest of Tarnopol Repulsed, Vienna Reports

PETROGRAD, Feb. 24.—Czar Nicholas, who opened the Duma on Tuesday, has again left for the front. The czar, who is acting as commander-in-chief of the Russian armies, is taking an important part in directing operations against the Austro-German forces on the east front.

VIENNA, Feb. 24.—Russian attacks northwest of Tarnopol have been repulsed, the Austrian War Office announced today.

Artillery duels are in progress on the Austro-Italian front.

The official report follows: "The Russian attacks against our advanced positions northwest of Tarnopol have been repulsed."

"On the lower front artillery combats are in progress. Large fires have been observed behind the Italian front."

"The Balkans, southeast of Durazzo (Albania) the enemy has been driven from its advanced positions."

VIOLENTO ED INUTILE ATTACCO AUSTRIACO SULLA CIMA FREDDA

Gli Austriaci Riescono a Penetrare nelle Trincee Italiane d'Ala Destra per Esserne Subito Ricacciati

UN AVIATORE EROE

ROMA, 24 Febbraio.

Il Ministero della guerra pubblica ieri sera il seguente rapporto del generale Cadorna sulla situazione sulla fronte italo-austriaca:

"Noi abbiamo efficacemente usato la nostra artiglieria nell'alta valle del Cordevole e nelle valli del Boite e del Vidente."

"Nella zona del Monte Nero, dopo una intensa preparazione di artiglieria e lancio di bombe a mano, un forte colpo aereo fu fatto, ma le nostre posizioni sul monte Arzi. Noi respingemmo il nemico su tutta la linea, ma esso riuscì a penetrare in un breve tratto delle nostre trincee sulla nostra ala destra. Poco dopo, però, un vigoroso contrattacco da parte dei nostri lo ricacciò completamente dalle nostre linee verso le sue basi."

"Nella regione del Carso si sono avuti i soliti duelli di artiglieria."

L'EROISMO D'UN AVIATORE

Giungono ora a Roma i particolari del raid aereo fatto dagli aeroplani italiani sui Lagobchi, e si trova il quartier generale delle forze austriache dell'Isonzo, particolari che rivelano l'eroismo del capitano Salomone, che pilotava uno degli aeroplani italiani.

Durante il suo viaggio di ritorno la macchina del capitano Salomone fu attaccata da cinque aeroplani austriaci (due Fokkers). Il capitano rimase gravemente ferito, ma riuscì a sfuggire agli austriaci ed a ritornare in salvo scendendo a Palmnova.

Il capitano Salomone si trova ora ricoverato in un ospedale militare e gli è stata conferita la medaglia d'oro al valore militare.

Telegrammi da Petrograd dicono che il ministro degli Esteri russo, Sazonoff, parlando alla Duma della situazione militare e politica internazionale si esprime in senso ottimistico sulla Rumania. Egli disse:

"La Rumania non tradirà i suoi propri interessi e quindi continuerà a stare fedelmente con noi, come realizza la sua unità nazionale col versare il proprio sangue. Ella può essere certa che, difendendo se stessa contro un nemico comune che tenta di monopolizzare l'indipendenza, ella troverà appoggi reali e tangibili."

Un telegramma da Vienna dice che un trasporto italiano carico di truppe è stato affondato da aeroplani austriaci nel porto di Durazzo.

DISORDINI IN TURCHIA?

Notizia da Atene e dicono che in Turchia sono stati violenti disordini in seguito alla notizia della caduta di Erzerum. Anche a Costantinopoli si sono avuti grandi dimostrazioni in favore della pace, e la polizia ha dovuto prendere precauzioni straordinarie per impedire una rivoluzione che minaccia di scoppiare da un momento all'altro.

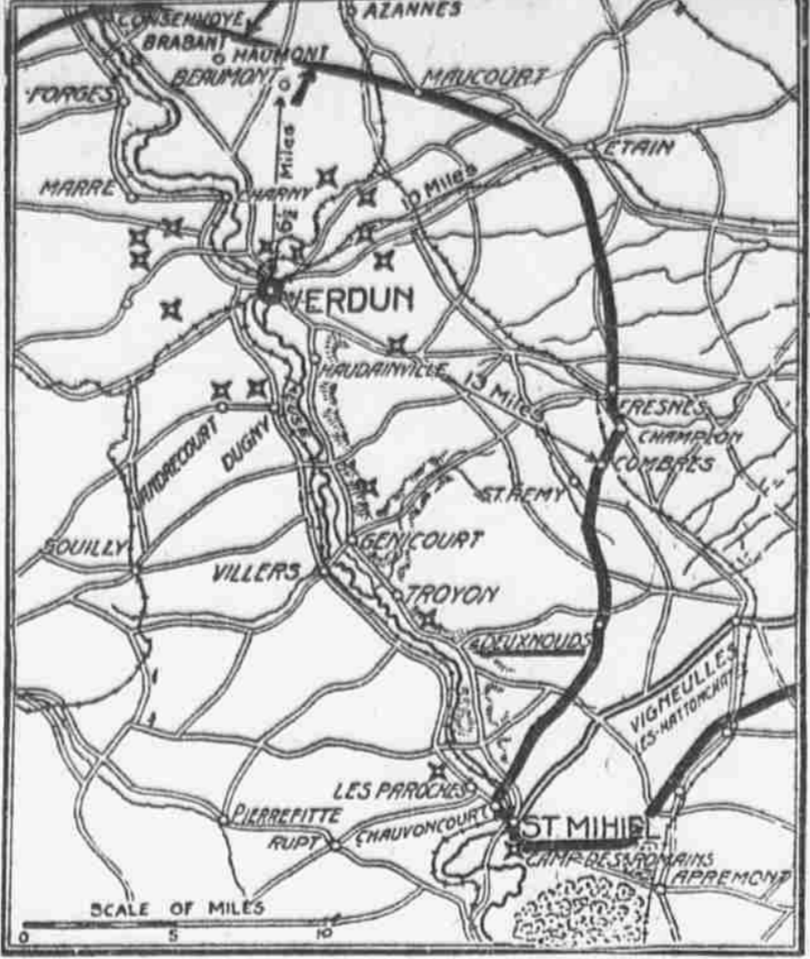
Le informazioni che si hanno ad Atene sono che la popolazione turca è stata colpita da un senso di sconforto del governo dei giovani turchi, ma lo sconforto assume ora proporzioni gravissime non solo a Costantinopoli, ma anche a Smirne ed in altre città dell'impero ottomano. Si dice che l'opinione è di accenti sono capitani da Osman pascia, da Abd pascia e da Suwai pascia, e corre voce che avvenimenti importanti e sorprendenti sono da attendersi in breve tempo. Perfino il magnifico Marbat, tedesco, riconosce l'importanza della vittoria dei russi ad Erzerum ed il valore strategico della piazza forte conquistata dalle forze dello czar. Egli dice che la prima cosa da attendersi ora, dopo questa vittoria russa è l'insurrezione dell'Armenia turca, cioè di buona parte dell'Asia Minore, insurrezione che altererà non poco le operazioni delle forze del granduca Nicola.

Woman Leaves Many Descendants

ATLANTIC CITY, Feb. 24.—A family of extraordinary longevity survives Mrs. K. E. Kiler, Atlantic City's oldest woman resident, who died yesterday, aged 95 years. She was active, living by herself and doing her own washing, ironing and other household work until stricken with her last illness. There are three children, 54 grandchildren, 29 of whom are abroad, some of them in the forces of European belligerents; 43 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

The Largest Watch Board. We know of stands in our store and hold 320 of our customers' watches. It is usually filled. On it hang only those watches on which repairs have been completed. Many more movements are in work. C. R. Smith & Son Market St. at 18th. PARCEL POST. HEMSTITCHING. 3 YARD. Pressing and Buttons covered. 1122-1224, 10th Street, 1123 North 13th. Phone Locust 524.

THE FIGHTING AROUND VERDUN



The Germans, under the Crown Prince, are attacking on a 25-mile front north of the great fortress and have made a dent about two miles deep in the French line, extending from a point west of Convoys to Etain. The French, in counter-attacks, have won back part of the ground lost north of Beaumont. The move is apparently an effort on the part of the Germans to draw their iron ring closer about Verdun.

RUMANIA TO AID RUSSIA, CZAR'S MINISTER HINTS

Sazonoff, in Duma, Declares Nation Only "Awaits the Hour"

UNITED POLAND IDEAL

PETROGRAD, Feb. 24.—Addressing the opening session of the Duma, Foreign Minister Sazonoff reviewed the war situation in a most optimistic way, although he declared it was more difficult now than ever before to foresee the end of the world struggle.

M. Sazonoff's address dealt with Russia's relations with several neutral countries. Of Rumania he said:

"Rumania will not betray her own interests, and when the hour strikes she will know how to realize her national unity at the cost of her own blood. She may be certain that in defending herself against the attempts of a common enemy to interfere with the independence of her decisions she will find real support."

"The Foreign Minister spoke in a way intended to reassure Sweden.

Taking up Russian-American relations, the Minister said: "The interest which American industry has in our markets permits of the hope that in addition to the friendly political relations now existing between the two

countries an economic rapprochement may be brought about which will be of the greatest benefit to both nations.

"In any case, the Russian Government will put forth all its efforts to this end."

M. Sazonoff also dealt with the Polish problem.

"From the beginning of the war," he said, "Russia has had inscribed on her banner the reunion of dismembered Poland, and never has this ceased to be our aim. Germany has granted a few minor concessions to Poland, and in return it is said she contemplates raising hundreds of thousands of Polish troops, to be used in the attempt to bring about the triumph of Germanism."

"The Allies have brought about a complete union without the sacrifice by any one of them of a particle of independence or personality. With the enemy it is different. Germany's allies have become vassals. It is hard to speak any longer of Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria as independent States. The clutching grasp of Germany has seized the power in their armies and all branches of administration."

"The signature by the five allied Powers to the treaty to conclude peace in common proves the futility of absurd rumors of a separate peace."

Alleged Private Banker Accused

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Feb. 24.—Joseph Solomon was today held under bonds here, accused of conducting a private banking business without a license. Solomon is a silk dyer and several weeks ago complained to the police that two artists who came from Philadelphia and offered to clean the family pictures had stolen \$900 from a picture frame where he had the money hidden.

It turned out that \$700 of this money belonged to four foreign girls who boarded with Solomon and entrusted their savings to him. They say he represented himself as a banker.

The War Today. The German forces are making rapid progress in their great drive upon Verdun, according to today's official report issued from Berlin. The Germans have made further advances on the east bank of the Meuse, the report stating that they have captured the villages of Brabant, Haumont and Samogneux. They have also taken all the forest situated to the northwest, north and northeast of this region. ... French forces have been compelled to evacuate the village of Brabant-sur-Meuse, less than eight miles north of Verdun, under heavy attack by the Crown Prince's army, it was officially admitted in Paris today. ... The German centre again delivered a violent onslaught against Beaumont, seven miles northeast of Verdun, but all attacks were beaten off. The War Office reported German losses as heavy in this fighting, which was especially violent. ... The Central Empires, it is forecast in dispatches, may strike belatedly at Portugal. The casus belli would be, in case of a declaration, the action of the Lisbon authorities in seizing 36 German and Austrian vessels interned in the Tagus. England's guarantee of Portuguese integrity, under an ancient treaty, and the action of the Republic in aiding the British campaign in Africa have excited resentment in Berlin which may flare out on account of the new development. ... The military situation in Armenia is in statu quo on account of the bitter weather and heavy snows, which have delayed the Russian advance and hindered the fleeing Turks. Political conditions in European Turkey are chaotic and Athens dispatches confidently predict a revolt against the Young Turk Government. ... The czar has again left for the front. Vienna reports repulse of Russian attacks northwest of Tarnopol.

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TEUTON EMPIRES MAY OPEN WAR UPON PORTUGAL. Drastic Action Likely to Follow Seizure of 36 Ships by Lisbon Authorities. INTERNED ON TAGUS. LISBON, Feb. 24. Germany and Austria are expected to declare war immediately upon Portugal as the result of the action of the Portuguese naval authorities. ... The German and Austrian merchant steamships have been interned in Portuguese ports since the beginning of the war. They were seized as a result of information reaching the Government that some of them were being prepared for a dash to sea to prey upon the Allies' commerce. ... The seizure was made yesterday afternoon, and it was reported today that large guns were found in the hold of five of the vessels that had been lying in the River Tagus. ... The Premier, M. Costa, announced that the vessels were confiscated because Portugal needed transports and because of the fear that they would escape into the Atlantic, possibly to raid allied commerce. ... The Portuguese Minister to Germany was today instructed to call the matter to the attention of the German Foreign Office. ... Though no state of war has existed between Germany and Portugal, the Portuguese Government, under the terms of

London is pitch dark for fifteen hours out of every twenty-four, yet Scotland Yard finds fewer night accidents, less crime, and greater compliance with the restrictions on drinking. The head of London's police told Victor Murdock why and this week he tells the readers of Collier's THE NATIONAL WEEKLY. NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—Both Portugal and Spain have been making heavy purchases of ammunition recently in the American market, according to information obtained here several days ago. This discovery was made at about the same time Gibraltar dispatches carried the news that Spain was preparing to attack Portugal and join the Teutonic Powers if a favorable moment was offered.

A "Different" Half Price Sale. BEGINS tomorrow morning with the opening of the store at Oak Hall, Sixth and Market Streets. "Different" because no false stimulants are administered in the form of exaggerated prices to re-act against ourselves. No inferior merchandise will be found in the store. "Different" because 55 years of honest and honorable dealing must never be forgotten at Oak Hall. Tomorrow! Wanamaker & Brown Market at Sixth for 55 Years.

Van Sciver Sale Prices Call for Immediate Action. Notwithstanding the enormous selling of the past month, this Sale Groves in Interest. Multitudes of Extra Values for every Nook and Corner of your home are added daily. Bear in mind that with the Savings are included the well-known Van Sciver Excellence of Quality and Beauty of Design. Office Furniture in This Sale. Many Excellent Reductions in Roll and Flat Top Desks, Revolving Chairs, Tables, etc. Call, Write, Phone. An opportunity for genuine saving on high-grade office equipment. ... Rug and Linoleum Reductions. Buy Now at These Prices. Axminster Rugs. Tapestry Brussels Rugs. Wilton Velvet Rugs. INLAID LINOLEUM. Regular \$1.00 and \$1.10, now 69c sq. yd. Regular \$1.50 and \$1.35, now 98c sq. yd. 30,000 Yds. Carpet—All Grades Reduced 25 to 50 Per Cent. J. B. Van Sciver Co.

"How I Saved \$110—by Bell Telephone". "I found my assistant pouring over a batch of time-tables and the expense estimate for an out-state trip the other day," says the Sales-Manager of a Philadelphia manufacturing concern. "About a hundred and a quarter," he said it would cost for the five-day trip he was planning. "But I had heard a good deal from some of my friends lately, about the great sales they made by systematic telephone calls on their good customers and prospects. "So, I pulled over the Bell Telephone and we sat down for two hours of a 'round-up' trip by wire. "You'll hardly believe it, but we talked to eleven customers and four other firms from our 'prospect' list and pulled in close to nine hundred dollars worth of business. "And—the \$110 plus the week's time we saved was not all—we learned a great lesson, and you'll find us at the telephone every day now." YOU will learn, too, Mr. Man-with-something-to-sell. TRY IT!