

TEUTONS INVEST DURAZZO; DEFEAT ITALIAN FORCES

Enemy Retreats Into Inner Line of Defenses of Albanian Capital

ESSAD PASHA IN ROME

VIENNA, Feb. 25.—Durazzo, capital of Albania, is now under siege by Austro-Hungarian troops. It was announced today by the Austrian War Office.

Italian troops in Albania have been defeated by the Austro-Hungarians. Following is the official report of the War Office.

"In Albania yesterday we defeated the Italians and troops of Essad Pasha near Durazzo and took possession of the last of the enemy's positions east of Bazar Syak. An Italian brigade was driven from its main position east of Bazar Syak at the same time. Intrenchments of the enemy at Sasorobino, six miles southeast of Durazzo, were stormed. The enemy is retreating to the inner line of defenses, pursued by our troops."

ROME, Feb. 25.—Essad Pasha, President of Albania, has arrived in Rome to confer with members of the Government. It was announced today.

In view of the official Austrian announcement that Austro-Hungarian troops have laid siege to Durazzo the seat of Essad Pasha's government, ground is furnished for the belief that the Albanian ruler may have fled to escape capture.

BERLIN, Feb. 25.—The political situation in Athens is now entirely governed by expectation of a great Germano-Bulgarian attack on Salonica, according to a dispatch by Emil Ludwig to the Tagblatt. There is a growing fear that in case of defeat the English and French will destroy the city.

The French seem confident of victory—so much so, in fact, that they have not completed a single line of retreat through Chalcedon.

The total number of Entente troops ready to take the field is now 160,000. King Constantine is inflexible, and the entire Greek army supports him. The King is to be seen everywhere, usually accompanied by the Queen and the Princess. Yesterday the united royal family attended a children's festival, where an ovation was given them.

It is openly stated that the Venetian leaders will quit before the expected attack comes.

The Entente authorities are carefully avoiding arbitrary acts so as not further to antagonize the populace. British ships often visit the Piraeus, Patras and Corinth, but landings are not made.

There was no landing at Phaleron in January as reported. The story grew out of a torpedo boat's landing an officer and a seaman to deliver mail.

Athens is quiet. The hotels are overcrowded. One hears many accusations against the British Ambassador who, with a commission, decides what quantities of foodstuffs the country needs.

ZURICH, Feb. 25.—The Pester Lloyd says that a joint Austro-Bulgarian note to Rumania, presented last Monday, invites amicable assurances regarding the constant strengthening of troops and fortifications near the Bulgarian frontier.

ATHENS, Feb. 25.—General Sarrahl, commander-in-chief of the French forces in the Balkans, returned to Salonica yesterday. The General said his conversation with King Constantine had to do with the question of the defense of Salonica. General Sarrahl while in Athens discussed with Premier Skoufoulis the provisioning of Salonica and the fate of eastern Macedonia.

MEANING OF ATTACK ON VERDUN



The reasons for the German Crown Prince's assaults on the French line around Verdun at present can be only surmised. The great fortress which blocked the advance of the Germans from the east at the outset of the war is 125 miles from Paris, and the route between is covered by a network of trenches and defensive works. And even if the Crown Prince captured Verdun, he would still be a considerable distance from the trunk railroad lines which connect Paris with Nancy and Toul and the Vosges front. It seems that the present attacks of the Germans have a defensive purpose, since the French salient at which Verdun stands as the high point threatens the German positions in the Argonne, which lie within the dotted-line circle just to the west, and also furnishes a starting point for possible future French attacks in the direction of the German stronghold of Metz. The circles along the battle line from west to east indicate areas in which there have been fierce struggles recently. First comes the Soissons sector, then Champagne, next Argonne, and finally the heights of the Meuse River, within which Verdun is included.

CHILD HURT; AUTOIST HELD

Prof. Miehner Failed to Sound Horn, Victim's Mother Says—He Denies Charge

Albert O. Miehner, professor of history at the Northeast High School and organist of the Grace Methodist Church, was held under \$500 bail today at the 19th and Oxford streets police station for running down with his automobile Catherine Comiskey, 10 years old, of 1110 Wallace street, shortly after midnight. Professor Miehner was unable to bring his machine to a stop until the child had been dragged several feet under the wheels, it was said by witnesses. The victim was removed in the machine to St. Joseph's Hospital, where she was found to be suffering from incipient, a possible fracture of one of her feet and probable internal injuries. The accident occurred at Broad and Master streets.

According to the testimony of the child's mother, Mrs. Mary E. Comiskey, she and her daughter, with friends were on their way home from an entertainment at Mercantile Hill, when the machine, driven by Professor Miehner, turned from Master street into Broad street on the wrong side of the street. The horn was not blown, the mother said. Professor Miehner, whose home is at 1701 North Franklin street, said he was returning from a choir rehearsal at the Grace Methodist Church, and that he failed to see the party because of the fog and the rain on his windshield. He denied he was on the wrong side of the street, and that he failed to sound his horn when he rounded the corner.

Day's Weddings in Elkton

ELKTON, Md., Feb. 25.—Six couples from Philadelphia and one Delaware couple were granted marriage licenses in Elkton today. They include David Hopkins and Rose A. McKeever, Harry H. Bunting and Ethel M. Seyphard, Joseph Ratti and Helen H. Hassler, Samuel M. Levy and Lottie Kirk, Alfred Taylor and Irene L. Hopkins, and Louis Fisherman and Virginia Batalsky, all of Philadelphia; Earl D. Rose, Wilmington, and Isabella M. Matthews, Milford, Del.

TODAY'S MARRIAGE LICENSES

Charles Richardson, 1234 Cambridge st., and William Turner, 1415 Latona st., and Ida Wilson, 2610 Gerrit st. Edward J. Shields, 521 N. Jackson st., and Marie M. Loughlin, 1212 Spring Garden st. Donald Dwyer, 224 Calowhill st., and Mary A. Quinn, 771 Fifth st. Edward A. Hirsch, 643 Spring st., and Geraldine A. Lewis, 14 N. 26th st. Joseph C. Hoskins, 2212 Diamond st., and Helene Wolf, 1322 N. Broad st. Frank J. Jackson, 1228 Ludlow st., and Susan Marie Freeman, 919 S. 3d st., and Dorothy E. Marquardt, 693 N. American st. Walter Schmalz, 1635 N. 13th st., and Gertrude Walsh, 1625 N. 11th st. Charles Moore, 1857 Park ave., and Lillian Mickle, 1217 Park ave. Charles Boyer, 340 Camas st., and Grace Lebley, 1929 Waverly st. Lewis Johnson, 2227 Harton st., and Mary Innes, 621 1/2 Vine st. Walter Bratcher, 2817 Ives st., and Beatrice Downing, 1982 Walnut st. William J. Finn, 2418 N. 25th st., and Edith M. McClure, 925 N. 2d st. John A. Moore, 2518 Waverly st., and Catherine Bricker, 2919 Spruce st. John P. E. Pinder, 517 N. Broad st., and Josephine Bricker, 347 N. Broad st. Charles Swan, 817 E. Hillon st., and Nellie G. A. McElroy, 2212 N. 2d st.

La Salle Orators to Compete

Upper classmen of La Salle College will hold their preliminary contest in oratory today.

10 in. Records 49c Bands, Xylophones, Songs, etc. EVERYBODY'S, 100 N. 10th St. Open Evenings

STAIRS Interior Alterations Get Estimates Frank C. Snedaker & Co. 9th and Tioga Streets

Advertisement for Afternoon Tea at Augler's Restaurant, Broad & Chestnut, featuring dancing and social events on Saturdays and Wednesdays from 4 to 6.

NIGHT FIGHTING SHARP IN NORTHERN RUSSIA

Women Forced to Shield Teuton Operations, Slays Declare Officially

PETROGRAD, Feb. 25.—The following official communication was issued last night:

In the region of Riga and the Dvina, on the Oger sector, German aeroplanes dropped bombs. In the region of Oger the enemy developed violent night firing, which was followed by a movement toward our trenches of scouts who were clad in white raiment and who were repulsed by our fire.

On the Dvina sector, near Ponskoye Railway and north of Czartorysk, our detachments checked the enemy and made some progress.

In the region of Poles, southwest of Olska, the enemy sent women, probably Russian, to work in the positions most exposed to our fire. In the Galicia, northwest of Tarnopol and near the village of Gliadki and Viroblevka, we exploded a small mine and occupied the crater. The enemy vainly bombarded the scene of the explosion with mines and trench

mortars, throwing projectiles which made in their flight a noise like that of a revolving propeller. Near Mikhaltska the enemy threw into a crater which we were occupying lacrymotal bombs and then attempted an attack, but was repulsed by our fire. In the Black Sea near the Bosphorus one of our submarines was twice attacked by two aeroplanes, but without result. The submarine destroyed a sailing ship loaded with coal. On the Caucasus front we continue to press the enemy successfully.

BERLIN, Feb. 25.—The repulse of Russian attacks against the Austrian advanced position northwest of Tarnopol, Galicia, is announced in the Austro-Hungarian headquarters statement.

Defends N. J. Highway Bills

TRENTON, Feb. 25.—In defense of his bills to reorganize the State road department and consolidate the motor vehicle department, Senator G. W. F. Taunt, of Gloucester, has issued a statement declaring the measures embody the very latest word in highway legislation in the United States.

Would Free Boy From Austrian Army

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—To save Stephen Matlack, 17 years old, of Passaic, N. J., from being forced into service of the Austrian Army, Representative Druk, of New Jersey, today asked the State Department to help get the boy back to the United States.

CONFIRMATION OF FLETCHER EXPECTED IN SENATE TODAY

Lack of Quorum Alone Prevented Acceptance Yesterday

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Only the lack of a quorum prevented confirmation in the Senate late yesterday of the nomination of Henry Frather Fletcher as Ambassador to the de facto Government of Mexico. On a motion to confirm the roll-call showed 34 affirmative votes and 12 in the negative. This was three short of a quorum and the Senate adjourned to take up the nomination today for a final vote. The Senate reached a vote on the nomination of Mr. Fletcher after a debate of less than an hour. Opposition speeches

were made by Senators Borah, Smith, Michigan, and Fall, of New Mexico, all of whom refused to confirm the nomination because they did not believe in the reported stability of the de facto Government. There was no opposition to Mr. Fletcher personally. Administration Senators said last night that the nomination would be confirmed without difficulty today.

IN YOUR CLOSET... The Chambers Umbrella Factory... 18 N. 6TH ST. 3931 MARKET ST.

Advertisement for Consolidated Furniture Manufacturers Inc., featuring a Davenport table and contact information at 1015-1017 Filbert St., Philadelphia.

Advertisement for Bedford Mineral Water, a daily water treatment for the liver, kidneys, and stomach, since 1804.

Advertisement for H&M Tailors, featuring a suit and the slogan 'Securing material is now the greatest problem confronting the tailor'.

Advertisement for The Reading train service, highlighting shorter travel times and best train service to the seashore.

Advertisement for Cunningham Piano Co., featuring a special to-day offer of a Weber piano for \$160.

Advertisement for Resinol, a healing household ointment for various skin conditions.

Large advertisement for C. J. Heppe & Son pianos, featuring Steinway, Weber, and Wheelock models, and the Aeolian Family of player-pianos.