

MID-EUROPE AGAINST TEUTONS

Federation of Small Anti-German Nations Finds Sanction Here

FORMATION UNDER WAY

United States Semiofficial Sponsor to Chain Affecting 60,000,000 Persons

By the United Press

Washington, Oct. 2.—Formation of a mid-European federation to consist of a chain of small States extending from the Baltic to the Black Sea is under way here, it was learned today.

The United States semiofficially will sponsor the movement. Headquarters of the committee for a mid-European federation are to be opened here this week.

Representatives of the peoples will confer tomorrow on insuperable problems presented by the scheme. This federation to fight on a reconstructed eastern front, is being organized as a step in the fulfillment of President Wilson's plan for liberating all oppressed peoples.

It is expected to block Germany's ambitions in the east during the war and will be incorporated into the world league of nations at the peace table, according to the present program.

Jugo-Slavs, Czechoslovaks, Italian irredentists, Poles, Ukrainians and Rumanians in America are uniting in the move. They hope to induce their countrymen in Europe to join them.

Later Finns, Lithuanians, Estonians, Greeks and even the Bulgarian peoples may join in the movement, its leaders say.

Sixty million people in Europe are affected. Ten million of their countrymen in the United States are being relied on to start formation of the federation.

Military participation in the war against Germany is regarded as essential to the success of the scheme. Every nationality joining the federation must recruit its legion to fight the Central Powers, according to plans now in contemplation.

President Wilson, it is understood, is opposed to dismemberment of Austria before the subject nationalities have a skeleton organization to hold them together. Colonel House, Justice Brandeis and others have been studying the plan as outlined by its leaders.

Austria would be reduced to its German-speaking population, which could unite with Germany after the southern Slav and Czechoslovak provinces were pared away, backers of the plan pointed out.

Magyars in Hungary, traditionally anti-German, could be admitted to the mid-European federation, provided they become democratized. Democratic form of government would prevail throughout the federation, though a generation of education would be necessary. Leaders admit, before democracy in its fullest degree could be instituted.

Recruits from those oppressed nations would fight on the eastern front as their native soil as possible with the object of liberating it and inducing their countrymen to forsake their German oppressors. In the United States they would fight for their freedom, may hold it more sacred—if they are to be asked to fight for it just as the United States is fighting to help set them free, it is declared.

Leaders in the movement include Professor Masaryk, of the Czechoslovak National Council; Ignace Paderewski, the pianist, representing the Poles; and Doctor Hinkovitch, of the Jugo-Slav national committee. Prof. H. A. Miller, Oberlin College, is chairman of the committee for the mid-European federation.

ITALY BENEVOLENTLY SUSPICIOUS OF SOFIA

Rome's Observers Believe Allies Should Be on Guard Against Trickery

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Rome, Oct. 2.—The Chamber and political circles here regarding Bulgaria's step in line of "reasoned but benevolent suspicion," says the Giornal d'Italia's expert on the Near East.

"We must be on our guard, keeping our eyes wide open today and tomorrow even more than yesterday."

Italians generally claim that they, from the fact that they are nearer neighbors and also because since the days of the Venetian Republic they have been always much in contact with semi-Oriental ways of thought and diplomacy, understand the tortuous points of view and the astuteness of the Bulgarians, and still more of their "Czar, better than the northern politicians who are unable to bring themselves to believe in disloyalty and systematic double dealing.

While declining to commit himself to a definite opinion as to the scope and extent of the results likely to follow from Bulgaria's move, an expert held two things to be certain. However much the German Government foresaw trouble in Bulgaria, it never expected such a painfully surprising disaster. At home, ever necessary it is to beware of expecting too much, the easy capitulation of Bulgaria at least proves the unexpectedly serious state of the anxiety.

He considers that the diplomats of the Entente will be justified in taking a firm, calm, unyielding position, and seeing to it that Bulgaria pay the price for her years of traitorous diplomacy and unprincipled grasping policy.

BRITISH CIRCLE DAMASCUS

City Virtually Surrounded by Cavalry—1000 Prisoners Taken

London, Oct. 2.—British forces marching north from Palestine virtually have surrounded the city of Damascus. They are established on the north, west and south of the city.

The troops which have effected this movement are cavalry forces. Some 1800 prisoners and five guns were taken from the enemy rear guards, it is officially announced.

BOCHE ARMY WRITHES IN VAIN DEATH FURY

Hindenburg Strikes Violently to Maintain Lines at One Point Only to Suffer Worse Defeat at Another

By WALTER DURANTY

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With the French Armies, Oct. 2.—The Allies are now reaping the profits of the terrific pressure exercised by the Franco-Americans on the right and Anglo-Americans on the left side of the battlefield. The German reserves are already so fully occupied that progress in Belgium continues irresistibly and here fair sign to turn the main line of enemy defense running southward from Lille. True to the highest principles of strategy, Foch "mailed" the enemy along nearly all the front and then made a telling lightning drive in the most unexpected quarter.

The sixth day of the battle finds the situation highly satisfactory. Every where the forward movement continues, despite the most desperate efforts of the boches leaved to the highest pitch of resistance by an order to hold out to the last. On the extreme right the Americans are plugging steadily ahead against the double obstacle of bad weather and ever-renewed German divisions in the strongest fortified positions. Gouraud has pushed to within a short distance of Challemagne, at the entrance of the valley leading to the cleft of Grand Foy, whereby a junction is possible later with the operation east of the Argonne. On Gouraud's left the army of Berthelot, which your correspondent visited yesterday, is making good progress.

Through the front the attack is comparatively limited in importance may later be considerable as Mangin advances. For the moment pressure being directed from the southwest against the main front between the Aisne and the Vesle of which Fort Saint Thierry is the center, and eliminating point at 5 o'clock the day objectives had already been attained, and an attack launched again at a line originally intended not to be tackled until the next morning. The troops now report an advance on the high plateau which leads to the center of the massif. The Germans here are resisting furiously, but on the right in this region progress is less difficult.

Abandon Elastic Defense Hindenburg's theory of "elastic retreat" has been thrown to the winds—the German watchword is now "die in your tracks rather than abandon a foot of ground." If proof lacking beyond that which is actually happening, it would be afforded by an order of the German commander in the St. Quentin region recently issued by Debeney's army.

"The idea of an elastic retreat must be eliminated from the minds of the soldiers," it says. "The position of St. Quentin must be held at all costs."

Every position where the general refers to the French yesterday and the cathedral of St. Quentin now stands on its left crest—like a rock more than half surrounded by the advancing tide.

On September 21, the following order was received by the 27th Regiment: "The outpost zone must be held at all points exactly the same as the main position. If the enemy progress at any point, the local battalion commander must make an immediate and spontaneous counter-attack." Could anything give a better idea of the desperation of the German situation? The result has been that units brought up by automobile to a sector entirely strange to them are flung into battle ten minutes after arrival, and the losses have been terrific.

Yet, even where, at one point of the huge battle, such appalling sacrifice has borne fruit, it was neutralized completely by Allied gains elsewhere. Thus, for the moment, the boches are concentrated their efforts against Gouraud and the Americans because they know that retreat here compromises fatally the communications of their force in the center. Six new divisions, including picked troops of the Guard, were hurled against the Americans, but broke up on our resistance without other result than the temporary delay of the advance.

At the same time, this divergence of force toward the rest of the Franco-American battle permitted Gouraud an advance of immense importance in the direction of Challemagne.

Then the boches tried another plan and are driving full weight at Gouraud's left, where the dominating White Mountain, 700 feet high, gives them the advantage over the whole region of St. Marcellin. Such convulsive efforts are like the death-fury of the harpessed Leviathan—they postpone, without averting the moment of defeat.

Poch's tactics are in striking contrast. Where the enemy counter-attacks, the Allied resistance is impregnable—the idea of advance is momentarily abandoned until the storm waves have broken against the rock. Where the defense seems to be weakening, pressure is maintained even more strenuously, so that the gains are to be measured in kilometers, as on the front of the Belgians.

But it is at points where the boches have orders to hold out to the end that the battle genius of the Allied generalissimo and his concern for the lives of his men are most eloquent. Poch has insisted only on the minds of his subordinates the rule that maneuver is the surest road to success where direct attacks are costly and unproductive. Local commanders have been trained to recognize the key-point of the flank that is the vital factor in their operation. Then they take measures accordingly, and the result is victory. Thus Gouraud's attack against the important heights south of Challemagne was hampered by galling fire from boche wood on the flank. Immediately the movement was suspended while a storm of high explosives was poured on the wood. Half an hour later the infantry rushed the key-point without serious loss, and then, and not till then, the main advance was successfully resumed.

It marks the difference between the Allied and enemy method from which victory will spring. The boches are wasting their reserves—their row virtually all engaged with reckless prodigality. The Allies are economizing their men everywhere. Before the week ends the inevitable consequence will be apparent.

Stock Leaves Chicago Symphony Chicago, Oct. 2.—Friedrich A. Stock, conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra since the death of Theodore Thomas, in 1905, has returned for the period necessary to be a citizen. It was announced today. This action followed a Federal investigation into charges of disloyalty against several members of the orchestra.



BELGIANS NEAR ROULERS The Allied successes in Flanders continue, with the important strongholds of Roulers and Menin on the verge of fall

GERMANY SEEN BATTLING ALONE

Berlin Newspaper Pictures Desperate Situation Soon Expected

URGE RADICAL ACTION

Editor Declares Only Hope Lies in Re-establishing Balkan Front at Once

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

The Hague, Oct. 1.—The Vossische Zeitung of Berlin points out that the Central Empires have been drawn into a serious situation through Bulgaria's demand for an armistice and that it is useless to pretend that events can change it. The paper points out that Germany's existence is at stake and she must act immediately and without hesitation.

If Bulgaria accepts a separate peace, then Turkey will surely capitulate, as she would then be cut off from Germany, and a victorious Entente army would soon be in Constantinople. The effect of this on Rumania is clear, so that the Balkan States would then be mobilized against Austria-Hungary.

The paper assumes that the capitulation of Austria-Hungary must be reckoned with in this eventuality. It points out that Burian's loyal declaration is welcome, but may soon become merely platonic by the weight of events. Germany would then have to continue the war alone and could concentrate all her forces on the west front, but the Entente would also have considerable forces free. The paper points out that the Entente moral and political position must not be forgotten. It argues that Germany would either be obliged to fight alone for an uncertain end or accept a peace of capitulation from Entente hands.

"The situation can be saved," the paper concludes, "but only with radical means. Should we succeed in re-establishing the Balkan position, then we take the Entente's biggest political trump. Von Hintze has now to show whether he can carry us through this serious crisis. He must act immediately."

Reventlow lays the blame on Kuhlmann and his policy, who, he says, is responsible for the fall of Radolawoff and his cabinet. "Radolawoff brought Bulgaria into the war on the side of the Central Powers. Moreover, he was convinced that Bulgaria's interests lay with the Central Powers, and this was the basis of the Bulgarian alliance."

From Sunday's Berlin papers it is obvious that, while realizing the seriousness of the situation, if Bulgaria broke away, there were still hopes that the tide would turn. Great stress was laid on the fact that German troops had already arrived in Sofia, where, according to a telegram from Sofia via Berlin, the troops were greeted with enthusiasm. The same telegram reports that the attitude of King Ferdinand is "correct."

FRENCH "NIBBLING" AT AISNE HEIGHTS

Recovery Proceeds by Regular Stages in Face of Stubborn Resistance

By G. H. PERRIS

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

The French Army, Oct. 2.—The new attack, which began at five o'clock Monday evening, brought the right of General Rawlinson's army into Leveguies and enabled General Debeney to cross the Cambrai road east of Gri-court.

West of St. Quentin the German trenches were very strongly held, and no ground could be won. Farther south the front was slightly advanced beyond the roads from Gissecourt to Uffliers, and thence to Vendeuil on the Oise.

The army of General Mangin is steadily clearing the south bank of the Ailette as far east as the canal reservoirs whence its front runs southeast by Ostel to the Aisne. Here a body of Italian troops has captured the village of Soupir.

The recovery of the Aisne heights is thus proceeding by regular stages, but it is to be noted that this time the enemy's retreat is taking a northeasterly, not a northerly, direction, and that to protect this movement, the hill block between Rheims and the Aisne is being vigorously defended.

I reported yesterday how General Berthelot, striking out suddenly from the Vesle, had at once got his left on top of the plateau from Reillon to Bomain. This part of the line has now been pushed further, where it is strongly opposed.

The marching wings of the Belgians, British and French and Americans in the south enjoy a somewhat freer development than the British and French in the center and open more varied prospects.

It would not be discreet to enter upon any full discussion of these possibilities, but a glance at the map will show that General Gouraud before Monthols and Challemagne and General Pershing at Vionnes, on the Meuse, are only thirty miles from Sedan and Longwy, respectively, and that the shortest line from Roulers in Belgium to Vionnes passes far behind St. Quentin and the Ailette.

The capture of Binarville and Conde, in the Aisne valley on his right, and of Marvaux, on his center, has greatly strengthened Gouraud's front and the German forces northwest of Rheims may soon find themselves in a salient difficult to hold.

French Drive For From Ridges On the left was only one long ridge to surmount, and the crest was reached in the course of the morning, a mile north of the villages of Romain and Le Grand Harneau. On the right there were three successive ridges, the first of which was carried, near Montigny. It may be supposed that the chief object of this attack is to place General Berthelot's army in an advantageous position for a rapid pursuit when, as may happen at any moment to Markowitz and Von Mudraz, the abandonment of their present position on either side of the Aisne proves to be inevitable.

This operation increases to about 110 miles the frontage of the Allied offensive. The capture, Sunday, by Debeney's left southeast of St. Quentin of the villages of Uffliers and Cerisy, with the ridge between them, puts the Germans on the west bank of the Oise from Vendeuil to Berthenicourt in a very uncomfortable position, with the valley behind them flooded to a width of a more than a mile and all their communications must soon evacuate this corner.

WALES RADIOS TO AUSTRALIA

Carnarvon Sends Messages to Sydney, 12,000 Miles Away

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London, Oct. 2.—Direct communication with Australia is the latest development of the wireless telegraph.

Connection was established when Commonwealth Premier Hughes and Sir Joseph Cook, Minister for the Navy, who are in this country, sent two messages to the Amalgamated Wireless Company of Australia at Sydney from the new Marconi station at Carnarvon, Wales, and although the distance of direct transmission was fully 12,000 miles the messages were received with perfect clearness.

MUST YIELD SOON

Paris Sees Both Turkey and Austria on Brink

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Paris, Oct. 2.—The opinion is growing here that the surrender of Turkey cannot now long be delayed. The Turks remark that "Ferdinand, in being the first to capitulate, strikes a blow at Turkey, and may, perhaps, have done a service to Austria. For Turkey is now isolated, and Austria has the excuse which up to now she has lacked."

It is reported here that the Turkish Government is very uneasy at the persistence of the Germans in insisting on appropriating the Russian Black Sea fleet. It is asserted that Tzialat, on a recent visit to Berlin, demanded the handing over of these ships to Turkey. The Turkish plan is that such powerful units in the hands of the Germans would constitute a perpetual menace for Constantinople and bring the Turkish independence to nothing. The question is only worthy of reference because it supplies yet another reason for forecasting a forthcoming breach between Turkey and the Central Empires.

Naval Dirigible Burned Pensacola, Fla., Oct. 2.—A naval dirigible was destroyed by fire at the naval training station here Monday night when it was making a landing. None of the crew was seriously hurt.

Green Bracelet Watch C. R. Smith & Son Market St. at 18th \$20 to \$75

Do you want the war to end? YOU do; everybody does; the enemy most of all. But you want it to end right; our ending, not his. You're voting right now on ending the war; you're saying in a practical way, how soon and how much you want it to end. The 4th Liberty Loan It will help end the war; right. It's the next step. Every dollar you put into Liberty Bonds is a vote to end the war as quickly as possible; every dollar you could, and don't put in, is a vote to keep the war going on. Never mind the Liberty Bonds you bought before; a good soldier doesn't let the thought of yesterday's battle make him forget today's or tomorrow's fight. The 4th Liberty Loan looks forward, not back. Vote for victory—\$100, \$1000, \$10,000 Hart Schaffner & Marx

Community Stores We Serve You Save Your buying of food and home supplies deserves the same attention, courtesy, service and assurance of values that you expect and receive with your larger purchases of clothing, furniture, etc. Every COMMUNITY GROCERY STORE displays the above window sign to assure you that there your patronage will always receive full value, both in quality foods and store service. And when a Food Product advertisement says "Sold at COMMUNITY STORES" you will know that "It is the best by test" of any other similar product—and the price is right. Buy and Try a Package of HOLLAND RUSK A wartime treat. Great with your breakfast eggs. Delightful for lunch with milk, tea or coffee. Makes everything for dinner taste better. Satisfying for the children between meals good hot or cold, with or without butter. Don't waste fuel and time making toast when you can get a big fresh package of the famous HOLLAND RUSK at any COMMUNITY STORE for 15c