

RUMANIAN ARMIES MAY HAVE ESCAPED

Further News From Berlin
Seems to Indicate This—
Bucharest Uninjured.

RUMANIAN FLEEING ON ALL THE FRONTS.

London Thinks That No "Last
Stand" Was Made, But Cap-
ital Quietly Evacuated—No
New Developments on
Franco-Belgian Front.

The brief dispatches yesterday in which the fall of Bucharest was announced left in doubt the fate of the Rumanian armies resisting the advance of the Teutonic armies, but today's German official statement, which reports that the Rumanians are retreating on all fronts, indicates that most of them escaped before the capture of Bucharest. Berlin says, however, that 9,000 Rumanians were taken in yesterday's fighting.

It has been assumed in most European quarters that there was "no last stand" by the Rumanians before the capture of their capital and such news as has trickled through from German sources indicate that Bucharest was virtually deserted when the Teutonic forces entered it.

The city is said to have been found uninjured. Military commentators in European capitals point to the probability that action just prior to the capture of Bucharest was fought merely with a view to delaying the advance of Field Marshal von Mackensen's forces and to aid the main body of Rumanians.

The German official opinion expresses the idea that the Rumanians have decided to abandon all of Wallachia, the main portion of the Rumanian kingdom, and retreat to Moldavia, their northeastern province, where their front would be materially shortened and where they would be in close touch with the Russians.

The total capture of Rumanians by the central powers is reported to have been 100,000 men.

With Bucharest lost the Rumanians are retreating all along the line in the province of Wallachia, fighting near guard actions as they retreat. The main point of interest in the Wallachia region in this campaign is the fate of the Rumanian armies and apparently there has been no wholesale bagging of prisoners as yet; at least by Field Marshal von Mackensen's troops.

The Petrograd statement announcing the evacuation of Bucharest and the retirement of the Rumanians who were holding off the Danube army, south of the capital, probably indicates an attempt was made to move virtually the entire Rumanian forces in the Bucharest region, north-west to Moldavia before entrance of the Teutonic troops into the capital.

Whatever measure of success was attained in this operation has not yet been determined.

The ninth German army is pressing eastward and north of Bucharest at apparently rapid rate, its main line of advance probably being towards Buzen from Ploechiti.

Bulgars Repulsed British.

Berlin, Dec. 7 (By Wireless to Sayville).—The Bulgarians repulsed an attack by the British yesterday in the Struma sector of the Macedonian front, it is announced officially. On the Cerna river the positions taken by the Serbians on the previous day were recaptured.

The Teutons yesterday entered the Russian province of West Lutzsk, in Volhynia, today's statement from the Russo-Galician front says. Five Russian attacks to regain the captured ground were repulsed.

Quiet in France and Belgium.

London, Dec. 7.—The war office announced today that there is nothing to report from the Franco-Belgian fronts.

MONKEY IN THE
ROLE OF A MASCOT.

Berlin, Dec. 6.—The newest addition to the Berlin zoological garden is a monkey which was the mascot of the U-35 for a considerable time.

The monkey originally, was the mascot of an English merchantman that was halted by the German submarine. He made trip after trip with the U-35 and was "in at the death" of several merchantmen. His transfer to the zoo was ordered only when it became so cold that he was likely to suffer if exposed.

BAPTISTS NEXT YEAR WILL MEET IN CITY DURHAM

Convention Decides to Assemble
In Second Church
There In 1917.

MISSIONS WERE DISCUSSED TODAY.

Secretary of Foreign Board
Lead The Discussion—Con-
vention Pledges to Raise
Amount Wanted.

Elizabeth City, N. C., Dec. 7.—The Second Baptist church, of Durham, of which J. T. Riddick is pastor, will be host of the Baptist State Convention in its session of 1917. This was the report of the committee on place and preacher this morning, who named Bruce Benton, of Rockingham, to preach the sermon with R. A. MacFarland, of Rocky Mount, as alternate.

The general topic of missions claimed the attention of the convention and the discussion was led by Dr. J. F. Love, secretary of the foreign board, at Richmond, who made a strong plea for a larger foreign mission program. While not deprecating what has been done, Dr. Love said that all this work was but preparation for the task before the Southern Baptists in foreign fields. With 20-cent cotton, any automobile-buying farmer can give a bale of cotton to foreign missions, which would support a missionary in the foreign field for twelve months.

Dr. L. B. Warren, head of the church building department of the home mission board, set forth the need of an adequate Baptist church building fund. Southern Baptist churches are spending 112,000,000 for luxuries, while 4,000 homeless churches die for lack of aid, he said.

Answering the appeal of Walter N. Johnson, corresponding secretary of the State Mission Board, the pastors and other delegates pledged themselves to use utmost endeavor to raise the \$110,000 for missions, State home and foreign, before next May, with the object of getting missions out of the way in the fall.

This morning's session closed with Dr. Mullins' address on "A Worthy Baptist Program."

GERMANY DECLARES SHIP TRANSPORT

Makes Answer to United
States About Sinking of
The Arabia.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—Germany in a note made public by the state department today contends that the British steamer, Arabia, sunk in the Mediterranean on November 6, was in reality "a transport ship for troops in the service of the British government, which is to be considered as an auxiliary warship, according to international law, and can therefore be treated like a warship."

The German government's attitude, however, is like that in the Marina case. It expresses its readiness to make amends if it can be shown that the submarine commander violated Germany's pledges to the United States. It may be said that the United States does not agree with the circumstances which the German note recites as showing justification for the sinking of the Arabia without warning or as relieving the submarine commander from establishing the status of the liner.

It may be stated authoritatively that no immediate action will be taken, as another step is regarded as too serious to be taken without complete facts. It hinges entirely on whether the pledges given by Germany in the Sussex case have been broken. The note is not regarded in official quarters as making out a strong case for Germany.

SCENE IN RUMANIAN CAPITAL NOW IN HANDS OF THE TEUTONS.



AMERICAN WAS HANGED BY ORDER OF BANDIT VILLA

Mining Man at Parral Was
Killed When Mexican Band-
its Entered Town.

NONE OTHER WAS HURT BY VILLA.

News of Tragedy Brought to
El Paso Today—American
Property Was Not
Damaged.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 7.—Howard Gray, an American mining man at Parral, Chihuahua State, was killed by Villa bandits when they entered the town November 5, according to a telegram received today by the Alvarado Mining and Milling Company.

A messenger who arrived from Parral shortly after the telegram was made public said Gray was hanged by the order of Villa.

The telegram said all other Americans were safe and that American property was not harmed.

DYNAMITER IS FOUND GUILTY

Striking Street Car Motor-
man Faces Prison
Sentence.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 7.—J. R. Gunter, a striking motorman, was convicted by jury in superior court here today of dynamiting a street car November 7 last, in which Misses Rosa and Eva Belsham and several other passengers received painful injuries. The jury recommended mercy. Sentence will be passed later, the penalty being from five to ten years imprisonment.

Twenty-seven cars have been dynamited since the motormen and conductors' strike began last spring, according to figures submitted during the trial. Most of the charges of explosives, however, have been light and resulted in only minor injuries. A number of other persons are to be tried on dynamite charges.

TRYING TO STOP EXODUS OF MINORS.

Athens, Dec. 6.—Owing to the great increase in the emigration of minors to the United States, who have not reached the age to perform their military service, the Greek government has increased the amount of deposit to be made with the government by the parents or guardians of any minor male child who leave Greece. A youth born in 1898 must deposit, or his parents must deposit for him, \$120; one born in 1899, \$100; in 1900, \$90; 1902, \$70; and 1908, \$60. Without this deposit being made it is impossible for any male Greek of the age indicated to secure a ticket on a foreign bound vessel.

OPPORTUNITY TIME IN DISPATCH BIG CONTEST

Additional Effort This Period
May Mean Success—"Bet-
ter to Have Tried and Lost
Than Not to Have Tried at
All"—Contestants Should
Not be Discouraged If an
Opponent Casts a Larger
Vote.

THE PRIZES.

\$685 Overland Automobile.
Ford Automobile.
Building Lot.
\$100 in Gold.
\$75 Victrola.
\$50 O. K. Mystic Range.
\$40 Sellers Kitchen Cabinet.
\$25 Wrist Watch.
Two \$50 Diamond Rings.

How often have you been annoyed and vexed by just a little oversight. Contestants in The Dispatch Grand Prize Contest should leave no stone unturned to make victory certain. You desire to win, and are asking how many votes it will take to insure success. No person knows. Your best policy is to get every subscription possible, and then some impossible ones. Grab every one that is loose at both ends and not nailed down in the middle.

Do not overlook an opportunity. Do not fail to see each friend who has shown a willingness to help you. Tell your friends that a new yearly subscription counts 8,100 votes. If you cannot get a long term subscription take a short one.

There is no need of you failing to win the prize that you desire, if you will exert a little additional effort. Your personal appeal often has a magic effect. Your dash of enthusiasm will win votes against the pessimism of the less active. The race is so close that it can be truthfully called anybody's race. Do not lose a moment between now and the close of the first period. At 9 o'clock p. m., December 22, the great opportunity for securing a big reserve vote will be a matter of history.

As the contest does not close until the 29th of January there is still plenty of time for contestants to enter and win. But time is flying and every one who is in the race or is thinking of entering must make hay while the sun shines. Work hard now getting subscriptions and not think when the contest is over that if you had worked a little harder that you would have won one of the Grand Prizes.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." That is just a little quotation from one of the old writers. How true it is! This is your "tide." Make the "flood" of ballots be your "fortune." Act now and you will

(Continued on Page Seven.)

The invasion of Trentino by the Italians last year broke a period of uninterrupted peace enjoyed by the Tyrol in 1814.

BRUNSWICK'S NEW BOARD ORGANIZES

Commissioners Re-elect Knox
Chairman and Taylor Attor-
ney—Fish Now Running.

Southport, N. C., Dec. 7.—The County Board of Commissioners has been in session for three days this week. The bonds of the various county officers have been received and approved. The board organized by re-electing J. J. Knox, chairman. C. Ed. Taylor was elected attorney. W. H. Walker becomes register of deeds instead of G. H. Gray. All of the officials of Brunswick are Republicans except the sheriff and the constables from two townships, North West and Smithville. The Citizens Bank, of Shallotte, has been made the depository for the county funds, the office of county treasurer having been abolished.

Southport is a fine place for the fox hunter. Charles Cotton has a fine bunch of hounds and almost every morning goes out and catches a fox. He invites his friends from up the State to come and go with him.

Large shipments of holly are being sent from Brunswick this year. The greater part is being shipped from Bolivia.

The fish factories near Southport have been running on full time for the past several weeks. Thousands of barrels of menhaden have been caught.

The Women's Betterment Association, which just recently raised \$140 for school purposes, will have its regular meeting Friday afternoon. It is expected that Dean M. C. S. Noble, of the State University, will be present and make an address.

Mrs. Robert E. Ranson, president of the North Carolina Story Tellers' League, will go to Laurinburg Saturday, where she will tell the story of The Brown Mouse before the Scotland County Teachers' Association.

DEMOCRATS MAKE THEIR FINAL REPORT.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—The final report of the Democratic National Committee was filed with the House today, giving \$1,808,348 as the total expenses. The disbursements were \$1,684,590. In addition there are ascertained liabilities, \$9,005; claims subject to audit, \$99,470 and loans to be repaid, \$32,000.

ENGLAND AGOG OVER WHO WILL BE IN NEW CABINET

Process of Formation by New
Premier Also Being
Watched.

TEST WILL COME ON THE NEW CREDIT.

Labor Party Will Be Repre-
sented in The New Gov-
ernment—Attitude of
The Liberals.

London, Dec. 7.—Political circles today are interested in the personnel of the new cabinet and the process of the new premier, David Lloyd-George, will use to forge together a combination that will have the support of a majority in the House of Commons.

Few, if any, Liberal members of Mr. Asquith's cabinet are likely to accept office under Mr. Lloyd-George and some of the Unionist members are likely to stand aside.

However, it is assumed that at the conference at Buckingham Palace they assured the new premier of their benevolent neutrality, thus making his task much simpler. Provincial Liberal newspapers, as the Manchester Guardian and the Liverpool Post, make a plea to the Liberals to give the government a fair chance, as it is generally assumed it is the embodiment of British determination to win the war.

It is believed that construction of the cabinet will be a matter of only a day or so and by Monday the new government will see the House of Commons, to learn what manner of reception will be accorded it.

A test of strength can be made on the vote of credit, which must be moved.

According to the Central News Agency the labor party has decided to accept the invitation to be represented in the new government.

VITAL MATTER TO NORTH CAROLINA

If Cuba Wins Its Suit It Would
Almost Ruin State, Says
Bickett.

(By George H. Manning.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—Attorney General Bickett, Attorney General-elect Manning and Cameron Morrison, who has been engaged as special counsel, will remain here the remainder of the week, preparing the defense of North Carolina to Cuba's carpet bag bond suit, said the Governor-elect today.

"This is the biggest thing that has confronted North Carolina since the Civil War," said Governor-elect Bickett this morning. "While this suit only involves \$2,000,000 there are a total of \$40,000,000 worth of bonds being held in scattered places upon which payment can be immediately demanded, should Cuba win this suit. I shall not leave a stone unturned to defeat this suit, which would almost ruin the State."

Secretary and Mrs. Daniels have invited all the North Carolina congressional delegation and their wives to a dinner tonight, in honor of Governor-elect and Mrs. Bickett. Judge Manning and Cameron Morrison will also be guests.

DECLARES ROADS ARE TO BLAME

Senator Chamberlain Attacks
Them For Creating Unwar-
ranted Opposition.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The railroads were charged by Senator Chamberlain, speaking today before the rivers and harbors conference, with initiating a large part of the opposition to appropriations for the improvement of rivers and harbors.

He declared that adequate water shipping facilities would furnish a panacea for high rates. He concluded by urging the delegates not to "allow the press of this country to frighten you because you are charged with being members of a band of thieves."

NEED A MINISTRY WHOLLY DEVOTED TO THE ALMIGHTY

So Declared Bishop Kilgo
Today to Methodist
Conference.

SECOND DAY IS A BUSY ONE.

Unanimous Vote in Favor of
Unification of Branches.
Other Important Matters
of The Session.

(By Susan Iden.)
Durham, N. C., Dec. 7.—"You are never going to be wise enough to advise God how to run His church or influential enough to get Him to change," Bishop Kilgo told the preachers of the North Carolina Methodist Conference in the opening service of the second day of conference in Memorial church.

"Nothing stands with God," said Bishop Kilgo, "but holiness and consecration. All we need in these times is a ministry so wholly devoted to God that they don't take their own lives into account."

"God did not inaugurate a playing, entertaining church, seized with greed of world power, but a church on its knees, in fasting and prayer," the Bishop said.

L. S. Massey read the report of the Raleigh Christian Advocate. Owing to increased cost of production M. T. Plyler, of the Board of Directors of schools and churches extension, will be instructed to appropriate \$400 each for next year to tide the Advocate over in this exigency.

On motion this was made a special hour for Friday, 10 a. m.

The Conference voted unanimously in favor of unification of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the resolution presented by L. S. Massey.

R. L. Flowers was elected a member of the Board of Education in the place of the late James Southgate. Characters of all the preachers passed except R. R. Jones, of Town Creek circuit, Wilmington district, admitted on trial at the last conference. Mr. Jones left his work in the middle of June. He was discontinued.

T. W. Lee, Junius Midgett, B. B. Slaughter, H. C. Smith, N. M. Wright, G. W. Perry, F. D. Todd, W. V. McRae, N. B. Strickland, M. W. Dargan, John E. Blalock, were elected to the order of Elders. H. M. Myers, W. M. Maness, W. C. Benson, I. T. Poole, Milton F. Hodges, W. B. Humble remain on trial, and advanced to class second year.

L. S. Massey was re-elected editor of The Raleigh Christian Advocate.

Wednesday's Session in Detail.

"It is good to be in this good town where our church college is, a college that is attractive to all Methodists and to all persons of piety; it was good to awaken this morning to the sound of its bell," said Bishop John C. Kilgo, concluding the first day's session of the North Carolina Methodist Conference, which convened in Memorial Church Wednesday evening at 8:30 o'clock. "It is good to be in this great church with its splendid auditorium, the finest in the conference and with its beautiful windows. I may tell you the significance of them some day. It is good to be here with these good people. We have started off well. He is with us and will stay with us all through the sessions if we let Him."

The characters of all nine presiding elders were passed and their reports were given at the first session of the conference. The bishop said that it had been a remarkable year in the conference, he heard it in the note in the voice of the elders. "I thank God," he said at the conclusion of the reports, "that we have still got a ministry that calls mourners to the bench and yields up saints to glory."

His questions were searching as to the spiritual life of the preachers, their joy in preaching the gospel and the piety in the homes of the people in their districts.

"Now, how many church members did you get out of a moving picture show, how many out of a circus?" Bishop Kilgo asked one of the elders. "I would not give the outcome of the work and influence of a half day's work of one Methodist preacher for all the moving picture shows, circuses and other things I might mention," he added. "They talk about the work of preachers, but it seems to me that they are doing about all there is being done."

"Have you got any preachers who don't believe in revivals? Do you notice any improvement in home piety? Are our pastors careful about nominating men of careful piety to the office of steward? were some of the questions which the bishop asked."

(Continued on Page Three.)