

BRITISH FORCE IN THE BALKANS NOW AT GRIPS WITH THE BULGARIANS

With Movements Kept Secret for Days, British Troops Are Now In the Trenches Near Strumitsa.

NOTHING MORE FROM RUSSIAN EXPEDITION

Bulgarians Are Striving to Widen Line of Communications With Hungary Up Valley of Danube River.

London, Nov. 1.—The British troops in the Balkans whose movements have been a secret since they poured into Saloniki in preparing to rush through Greece to the assistance of Serbia, are now in the trenches with their Balkan allies at grips with the Bulgarians just across the frontier near Strumitsa. Though all reports as to the allies taking this town apparently are unfounded it is along this stretch of the front that the Bulgarians are likely to receive the first hard blow from their opponents.

From Uskup north to the Danube the Bulgarian have made such progress that it seems out of the question that the Serbians can do much more than fight rear guard actions for the present. Holding Pirot, the Bulgarians are menacing Nish more seriously than the Austro-German forced based on the Save and Danube crossings.

In northeast Serbia the Bulgarians are well across the Timok, pressing forward vigorously in order to widen their line of communications with Hungary up the Danube valley.

The much discussed Russian expedition, which was reported to be on the way to the Bulgarian coast, now estimated to number 200,000 men, has not been heard from again. Recurrent reports, however, have been received of further bombardment of Bulgarian ports, which may mean that in preparing conditions for a land attack further artillery preparation was found necessary before the Russians attempted to gain a foothold on the Bulgarian coast.

At the Dardanelles the British troops are showing renewed activity. They are hammering the Turks with artillery supported by such ships of the allied fleet as are not engaged against Bulgaria.

The recapture of Taurus hill by the Germans sums up for the present the known results of the sudden sprt of heavy fighting in the Champagne district. While the contenders on the western front have not renewed general offensive movements, it is likely that there will be frequent clashes over considerable stretches of the front, while the Balkan situation is so acute, as each side desires to prevent the other from transferring troops to the near-east.

The Morava Valley. The Morava valley, along which the allied German and Austro-Hungarian troops are pushing forward to a junction with the Bulgarians, forms the core of old Serbia. The greatest part of Serbia's trade flows through this valley, and here, also, is much of the land kingdom's richest agricultural land. Moreover, it is through this narrow strip of lowland that the mountainous Balkan country has maintained its contact with the west, a contact not always advantageous.

China Refuses to Defer Changing of Government

Peking, China, Nov. 1.—The Chinese government has rejected the proposal of the Japanese, British and Russian governments for a postponement of the decision as to whether the monarchical form of government shall be established in China. The decision of the Chinese government was made known by Tsao Yulin, vice-minister of foreign affairs. He called at the British, Russian and Japanese embassies and informed the ministers that the Chinese government had been advised by provincial officials that they would be able to maintain tranquility in the event of re-establishing of the monarchy.

Bulgarians and Greeks Still On Friendly Terms

London, Nov. 1.—Continued friendly relations between Greece and Bulgaria are indicated by the success of the Greek commission which recently went to Sofia to negotiate for the purchase of wheat for Greece. According to the Times' Bucharest correspondent, the Bulgarian government decided to permit to export of wheat to Greece by way of the Deshatch-Saloniki railroad.

Plan Of War Discussed By Joffre and Kitchener

London, Nov. 1.—Field Marshal Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, who came to London yesterday, has held another conference with War Secretary Kitchener. No official information has been given out concerning the object of General Joffre's visit.

SEVERE EARTH SHOCKS SHOWN BY SEISMOGRAPH

Estimated to Have Been 4000 Miles From Washington—Lasted Three Hours.

JAPAN WANTS TO DELAY CHINA'S MONARCHY PLANS

Tokio, Nov. 1.—The Japanese government has requested the American government to support it in its representations at Peking for postponement of the re-establishment of a monarchy in China until the European war is ended.

LABOR LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Washington, Nov. 1.—The Arizona anti-alien labor law has been declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme court.

FRENCH SUBMARINE SUNK

Berlin, Nov. 1.—The French submarine Torquoise has been sunk by Turkish artillery fire, according to a Turkish official statement dated October 31, says the Overseas News agency.

STAGE SET FOR VILLA'S ATTACK

Carranza Commander Clears Agua Prieta Hospitals, Preparing for Battle With Threatening Army.

SICK AND WOUNDED BROUGHT INTO U. S.

Villa Enraged That Carranza Is Permitted to Send Troops Over U. S. Soil—Will Fight Whole Push.

GERMANY CONTENTED VESSEL STRUCK MINE

Navy Department Examined Fragment of War Engine That Sunk Liner—Facts Were Long in Doubt.

SEC'Y LANSING ANNOUNCES THAT NAVAL EXPERTS' REPORTS INDICATE THAT STEAMER WAS SUNK BY TORPEDO.

Washington, Nov. 1.—Secretary Lansing has announced that the navy department had indicated that the fragment of the engine of war which sunk the Allan line steamer Hesperian was part of a torpedo.

CHIEF JUSTICE CLARK SUGGESTS THAT WOMEN NOTARIES MIGHT BE APPOINTED BY SUPREME COURT JUDGES.

Raleigh, Nov. 1.—Special suffrage agitation for the winter with still larger emphasis upon the subject in the spring is gathered from members of the local league who find hope in a recent suggestion of Chief Justice Clark.

LEGISLATURE MAY BE ASKED TO AUTHORIZE WOULD EASE SUPREME COURT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND ALSO CONSCIENCE OF COURT—OTHER STATE NEWS.

The refusal of the court to rehear the notary case that went up last spring from Asheville, temporarily dismayed the women. They had passed the act in general assembly but its unconstitutionality had erected a tremendous barrier. They are about to discover an easy way to get the notarial commission.

STRONG APPEALS WERE MADE TO MEN AND WOMEN

Separate Services Conducted Yesterday Afternoon Drew Large Congregations to Both Meeting Places.

MANY CONVERSIONS AS RESULT OF MEETINGS

Sermon This Evening by Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman on "Is There a Hell?"

ALABAMA TOWN WIPED OUT BY A BIG FIRE

Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 30.—The entire business section of Columbiana, a town of 4,000 population and the county seat of Shelby county, has practically been wiped out by fire, according to reports received here.

WILL RECOMMEND COOKE FOR OFFICE

Greensboro, Nov. 1.—Congressman Charles M. Steadman of the fifth North Carolina district, has announced that he will recommend A. Wayland Cooke, his former law partner for postmaster of Greensboro, to succeed R. D. Douglas, whose term expires January 24, 1916.