

BULGARIA A NATION OF FIGHTING MEN

Profession of Arms Almost a Religion—Wonders in Mobilization.

ALL ARE PEASANTS THERE

Ideal of the Socialists, Where None Is Rich and None Is Poor.

Writers of the history which to the man of to-day is news will no doubt give much space in the accounts of the Balkan war of 1912 to the remarkable efficiency of the Bulgarian army, which on this side of the Atlantic at least was almost an unknown factor.

The fact that the campaign of the Balkan States against Turkey was projected long before the war began is conceded, but yet the remarkable precision with which Bulgaria has made every move and has accomplished up to the present everything she had set out to do is a source of considerable wonderment to the layman who takes only a passing interest in foreign affairs.

Up to the time of writing only one part of the Bulgarian plan has not been carried out. That is the fall of Adrianople, but Turkey for this has to thank the Committee of Union and Progress which, as is known, overthrew the Government in 1909. Whether the Young Turks, as the committee is known, have done the flogging empire any real good is a mooted question, but it is certain that they have done at least one thing, and that is to make Adrianople a formidable fortress instead of a town with crumbling defences, as it was before the inception of the present régime. The Young Turks, in the hands of their competent foreign advisers, realized that from this direction would come their most powerful enemy; that with Adrianople in the enemy's hands there would be little but the Tchataldja fortifications, also recently strengthened, between the invader and Constantinople.

To go back into the history of only the last few years one finds the reverence of the soldier in Bulgaria similar to that state of affairs existing in Germany without the Germanic worship of the sword and the brilliant uniform. The Bulgarian army is an army of peasants, soldiers and officers alike, and all make a religious study of military tactics inspired by patriotism, by the national songs which tell of Bulgaria's past glory and the in-born hatred of the Turk.

The dream of King Ferdinand, only Czar of the Bulgars since October 6, 1908, from whence he may never return, or as diplomats say, the sudden death of the "sick man of Europe." Then, as already has been hinted, Ferdinand's dream embraces the establishment of a Balkan empire, a unification of all the Slav races. This is not an idle dream, as a glance into history will show, but is the resurrection of the ancient Bulgarian policy.

The Slavs were the first to arrive in the Balkan peninsula in the third century. On their arrival they found towns and strongholds, roads and buildings of all sorts left by the Romans. The Bulgarians, originally a tribe on the banks of the Volga, migrated in the sixth century and overran the greater part of the eastern peninsula.

The history of Bulgaria is a record of constant war and strife. Twice she has seen ground under the heel of Turkey or Byzantium, each time due to her inferior internal organization. In 864 the Prince of the Bulgars, Boris, was baptized, and they became dependent for the first time on the patriarchate of Constantinople. In the following centuries the Bulgars, the usurpers in this Slavonic stronghold, made war on the Magyars and the Greeks and were victorious in both instances. Then Prince Semon assumed the title of Czar of all the Bulgars and the nation's star entered upon its ascendancy. In 976 their position had become so strong that the reigning sovereign, Shishman, allowed himself to dream of an empire of all the Slavs.

Constantly at war with the Byzantine Emperor, in which Bulgaria held her own, she in 1356 combined with her ally Serbia to make another bold bid for the unity of the peninsula, pressing down to the very walls of Constantinople, then fortifications worthy of the name and not the battered ruins that they are today. So Bulgaria and Serbia, historically speaking, are not on unknown ground to-day nor are they attempting anything new in the way of an attack on their old enemy. In their previous combined attack on the Ottoman capital the Serbians were defeated in 1389 at the decisive battle of Kosovo. Tirnovo, the Bulgarian capital, was taken four years later by the Ottomans.

Thus broken in spirit the Bulgarians confined themselves to spasmodic rebellions until their patriotism was reawakened in 1762 by Paisius, a monk of Mount Athos, by reviving memories of ancient glory and the Balkan States following the Crimean war turned their eyes toward Russia as the Power whose hands held their future.

The insurrection in Bosnia in 1875 caused sympathetic excitement in every quarter of the Balkans and the Turkish inhabitants of Bulgaria, aided by the Serb-Bulgarians, rose against the Christians. This uprising, known as the Bulgarian atrocities, caused righteous indignation throughout Europe, and leading as it did to the Russo-Turkish war almost brought about the ejection of the Turk from Europe "bag and baggage."

Returning to a discussion of Bulgaria's army, it may be remarked that her policy has always been congruous with her maxim: "Trust in Providence but keep your powder dry." No military tactics that have any degree of success elsewhere have been tried in Bulgaria, particularly where the strengthening of land defences along the frontier which faces the vilayets of Adrianople was concerned.

Particular stress has been laid upon mobilization, a most important part of warfare, which the Turks seem to have entirely forgotten. In mobilization the Bulgars have worked military miracles. They planned to strike at least one decisive blow before Turkey got the bulk of her troops to the front, and a review of the past three weeks fighting shows they have struck blow after blow which the Turkish forces fleeing helters-skelter toward the defences of Constantinople.

Bulgaria as a country is the ideal home for socialism, for it is a country of peasants, where there are no rich and very few poor. Nearly all are tillers of the

SPENT BULLET HITS CHILD.

Heavy Sweater Saves Life of Infant, Who Awakes Crying.

While asleep on the front porch of the home of his parents Thomas Wilson, 3 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Wilson of 119 Watching avenue, Montclair, was struck by a pistol bullet fired two blocks away by George E. Bennett.

The child was wrapped in a heavy sweater and the spent bullet hit him in the back, causing a slight wound over the heart. The boy awoke crying. His mother investigated and found the bullet in the folds of the sweater.

U. S. SENDS ANOTHER WARSHIP TO TURKEY

Revenue Cutter From Aden to Be Rushed to the Syrian Coast.

AMERICANS IN DANGER

Two Cruisers, Now En Route, Can't Arrive in Time, It Is Feared.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—In view of the latest developments in Turkey and the possibility of the danger to foreigners the United States revenue cutter Unalga is being despatched to the Syrian coast. The Unalga, which is on its way from the East to the Pacific coast, is now at Port Said and will proceed at once to Syria, where she is expected to arrive to-morrow. This action was taken today by direction of President Taft on account of the general seriousness of the situation and in view of the fact that

the armored cruisers Montana and Tennessee cannot reach the territory in less than three weeks.

The two cruisers are now being made ready for the cruise as rapidly as possible. Rear Admiral Austin M. Knight, commanding the Atlantic reserve fleet at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, reported to the Navy Department this afternoon that he will be ready to sail for Turkey with his squadron late Monday afternoon. He reported that his ships are in condition and that they will be able to travel at the rate of fifteen knots an hour. At this speed it will require nine or ten days to reach Gibraltar, where about two days will be required for coaling. It will then take four or five days to cross the Mediterranean sea to the points in Turkish territory.

It has not yet been decided at what ports the vessels will stop first upon reaching Turkish waters, this depending upon the situation at the time of their arrival. The Navy Department hopes to be able to place more definite instructions in the hands of Admiral Knight on his arrival at Gibraltar.

The Unalga is the newest and largest vessel in the revenue cutter service. She was but recently placed in commission and started out for the Pacific to do service in the Bering Sea on the Alaskan coast. She left Aden, Arabia, Thursday and was expected to reach Suez to-day. The cutter got through the canal before receiving the orders despatching her to the Syrian coast and was expected to leave to-night for Port Said.

The Unalga has a modern wireless

equipment, three 6 pound rapid fire guns and a crew of seventy men. The Washington authorities have no idea, however, that either these guns or those on the warships will be brought into use.

Ambassador Rockhill in a despatch to the State Department this afternoon stated that the city of Constantinople appeared perfectly quiet at the hour of reporting, but he added that in the absence of any reliable information coming from the military situation outside there is naturally considerable unrest. The Ambassador said that it was expected in Constantinople that the European Powers are despatching six more warships to Constantinople in addition to the six already anchored there.

State Department officials reiterated to-day the explanation made yesterday that the American warships are not being sent for a participation with those of the European Powers in any demonstration or military action but purely for the purpose of being at hand to offer assistance and asylum to American refugees in case they should require it. When these ships were ordered out it was intended that refugees should apply at the embassy and consulates pending their arrival, but later developments resulted in a decision to rush the Unalga to the scene at once.

ITALIANS SEND TRANSPORT.

Alarming News Received in Naples From Constantinople.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. NAPLES, Nov. 9.—A news was

received by the Italian Government this afternoon from Constantinople. The Italian transport Re d'Italia later sailed for the Ottoman capital. The vessel has aboard a large supply of rations sufficient to last 600 persons for a fortnight.

Italians who are in danger of massacre in Constantinople will be taken aboard the vessel if the situation there remains serious.

FRANCE SENDING WARSHIP.

First Class Cruiser Ordered to Leave to Protect Citizens.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. TULON, Nov. 9.—The French first class cruiser Jurien de la Graviere has been ordered to the Levant to reinforce the French division there for the protection of French citizens.

BRITISH WARSHIPS EN ROUTE.

Five Leave Malta on Way to Turkish Waters.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. MALTA, Nov. 9.—The British battleships Hibernia, Britannia, Commonwealth and Dominion, as well as the Back Prince, left here to-day for the Levant. They sailed within two hours of the receipt of the Admiralty orders.

CRUISERS BEING LOADED.

They're Expected to Leave on Monday for Turkish Waters.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 9.—Stores enough to last at least five months have been placed aboard the armored cruisers Montana and Tennessee, which are at the League Island Navy Yard here. Their bunkers are flowing over with coal and now they only await the sailing orders to proceed to Turkey.

It is probable that the cruisers will not sail until some time Monday. Most of the marines and sailors are expected to arrive by to-morrow night. Three hundred men from Newport, R. I., arrived to-night and some from Portsmouth, N. H., are expected later.

CITY JOYTINGS.

Joseph Baccaro, 16 years old, of the East Eleventh street full yesterday from the sixth floor of 214 Eubank street to the basement and was instantly killed. He stepped on the sixth floor on the way to lunch to talk with the elevator man and stepped back into an opening.

The police are still looking for the man who held up Miss Barbara Grauman and robbed her of \$1,523 at First avenue and Eleventh street Thursday afternoon. The police are unable to get any clue from Miss Graumann, who is still in a dangerous condition from the beating the footpads gave her.

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