

BALKAN STATES READY FOR BIG ROLE IN THE CONFLICT

WAR MAY UNIFY THE WAR SPLIT BALKAN LEAGUE

Menace of Turkey Inspires Small States to Stand Together Again.

SUSPECT AUSTRIA: RUSSIA THE FRIEND

Fear Ottomans May Find an Ally for Conflict With Greece.

BURYING THE FEUDS OF RECENT CLASHES

Rumania and Bulgaria See Everything to Gain by Mutual Aid.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, AUG. 16.

The Balkan League, which crushed the power of Turkey in Europe but went to pieces over the division of the spoils of war, is being revived, as Turkey is endeavoring to build her navy, taking advantage of Germany's extremity. The Balkans recognize that Turkey with an enlarged fleet would not only be in position to enforce her demands in the Aegean Sea and occupy the islands now held or claimed by Greece and Italy, but at the same time she would not be in the same helpless position that she was in the last war when she attempted the transportation of troops from Asia to European battlefields. Besides this there is the grave consideration of what alliances Turkey might form that would jeopardize the same too secure acquisitions of all these little States in the last war.

Within the Balkan area the question of the purchase of the Goeben and the Breslau is an issue between Turkey and Greece. To each the chief interest is who shall own the two contested islands of Chios and Mytilene, in the Aegean Sea. They were given to Greece by the act of the European Powers, but Turkey refused to give up her sovereignty over the islands and this brought the two nations to the verge of war.

This friction was further increased by the treatment of the subjects of each nation that remained on the soil of the other after the fixing of the boundaries by the different treaties. The Turks are leaving the dominions of King Constantine in great numbers and fleeing to Asia Minor and at the same time the Greeks are leaving Thrace and Asiatic Turkey by thousands.

The Greeks maintain that the Turks are not being persecuted and that they are going away from Greek territory willingly and declaring that they expect to return to their former homes when the Ottoman troops return in triumph.

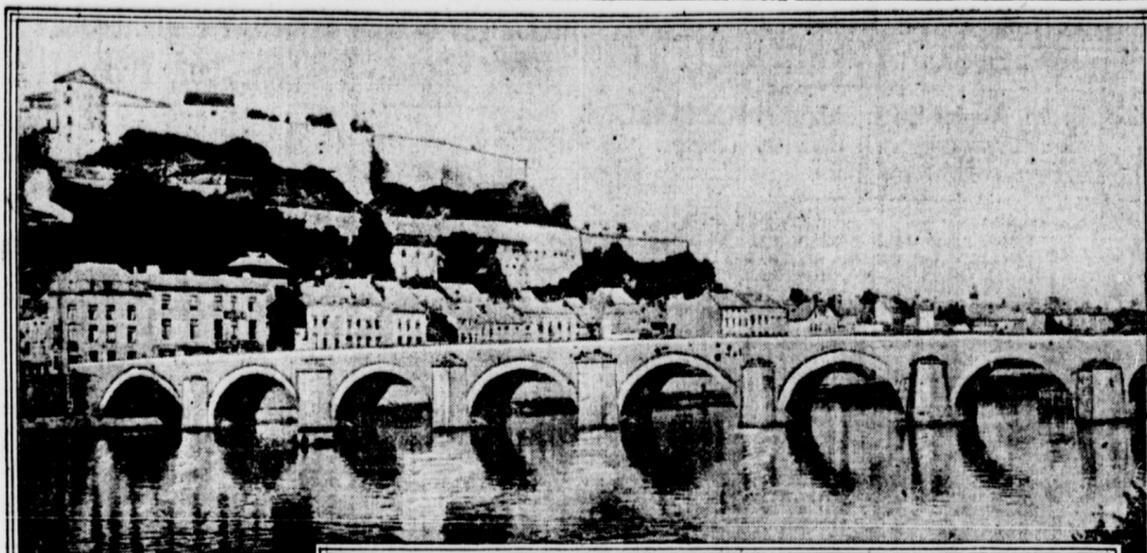
The Greeks contend that their subjects were driven from their homes, and that their possessions were confiscated and that the refugees were reduced to a state of penury through Turkish persecution. A war between the nations was avoided principally through the fact that neither was in position to go to war. Greece's evident intention was to settle the matter while she retained control of the sea. This position she easily held by the recent purchase in the United States of the two battleships Mississippi and Idaho, but she now finds herself merely an equal in strength of Turkey through the latter's purchase of the two German ships.

Whits Army Into Shape.

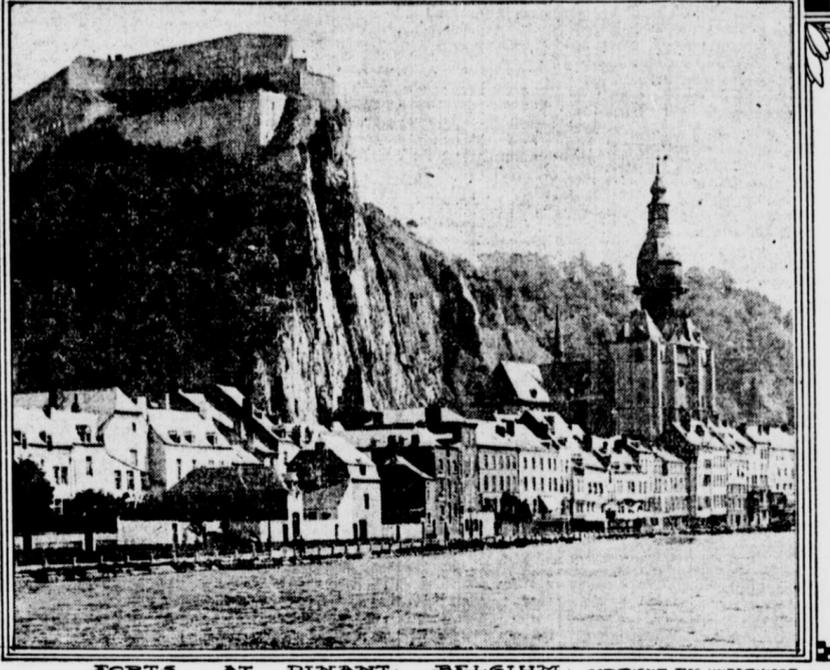
Turkey is under the control of the war wing of the Young Turk party (the Party of Union and Progress), of which Enver Pasha is the leading spirit. He has put the navy into training under able and efficient English officers and he is having the army shipped into shape by twenty officers from Germany under the direction of Gen. Lemay. The army, some experts say, is in better condition to-day than it ever was and much better fitted to give an account of itself than it was in the past war.

When Enver Pasha came into what might be called absolute control of the Ottoman Empire he made a supreme effort to revive the prestige of the waning crescent. He found Adrianople in the control of the Bulgarians, Arabia and other parts of Asiatic Turkey in revolt and the Aegean islands in possession of the Greeks. He appealed to the patriotism of the Ottomans and all races of the empire buried their grievances. Fired by the cry of "Turkey for the Turks" they agreed to support the war party. Enver Pasha recaptured Adrianople and moved the Turkish line up from the ditches of Tebataidja almost to the Bulgarian border. But he has not done all he promised. He has yet to recapture the Aegean Islands.

The situation between the two nations does not give up the islands because she holds them by right of conquest and the fact of the European Powers while Turkey cannot abandon them because of fear of the disintegration of the Ottoman empire. It is this condition that confronts the Balkan States. Bulgaria, owing to the



NAMUR, BELGIUM, SHOWING BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER MEUSE WITH FORTS IN THE DISTANCE. PHOTO BY AMERICAN TRAVEL ASSN.



FORTS AT DINANT, BELGIUM. GERMAN AND ALLIED FORCES. Two Belgian cities where the Germans are striking at the Allies.

fact that her territory touches both Turkey and Greece, would likely be drawn into the strife. So far she has maintained a strictly neutral position, evidently waiting to see what might be the results. She has no love for the Turks, because they took advantage of her war with Serbia to retake Adrianople, and she has less reason to side with Greece, having accused the Hellenic Government of robbing her of part of her conquests. The war party of Bulgaria demands the conquest of Adrianople and has announced that it will be satisfied with nothing short of that.

Austro-Bulgar Alliance.

It was reported that Bulgaria might be drawn into the great European struggle through her enmity for Serbia and her recently developed friendship for Austria-Hungary. Apparently the real situation is that the alliance with Austria is purely commercial and that her dislike for Serbia is not so intense as has been reported.

Rumania, the greatest of Balkan powers, has not defined her position in the present war further than to declare a strict neutrality. But on considering her position it must be called to mind that the recent visit of the whole Russian family to the Rumanian King and Queen at Constantza ended a feud of almost thirty years standing. After the Russo-Turkish war, in which Rumania and Russia fought side by side, Russia took over the province of Bessarabia, and Rumania turned to Austria. She concluded a military convention with the dual monarchy in 1896 which practically brought her into the Triple Alliance. The terms of this agreement were never made public, but that it was an offensive and defensive alliance has been denied.

It is generally believed that it was Russia that stood back of Rumania in her demand for territory from Bulgaria after the first Balkan war on the grounds of her neutrality, and that the Czar himself advised Bulgaria to cede to Rumania the contested strip. Rumania thus has reasons for gratitude to Russia, and while Bulgaria may smart under the loss of so much valuable territory it is not likely that she will do otherwise than yield, as she has generally done in the past.

Thus with Greece on the verge of war with the Ottoman empire, Bulgaria at least fearful of Russia's influence, and Serbia, Montenegro and Rumania all friendly to her it is easy to understand why all these little States, whatever the nature of their former grievances against one another, might be drawn into an alliance that would be favorable to Russia and the Triple Entente and force Turkey to remain inactive, even in spite of the Ottoman war party's strong pro-German sympathy.

The war began in the Balkans, and there in the final adjustment will be fought the great diplomatic battles. What will become of Albania? Who will control the strip from Bosnia to Salonica, Austria's long coveted outlet to the sea? What about the Dardanelles and Constantinople? If ever the little Balkan States need a friend it will be when these questions come up for settlement. Austria's ambitions for expansion have been the same as their own. Russia in the past has favored them and has shown herself in the present instance a friend.

GERMANS SHELTER BRITONS.

Better Classes in Berlin Treat "Enemies" Courteously.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, AUG. 16.—A score of Englishmen who left Germany on August 12 reached Leith to-day on the Danish steamer Bernstorff from Copenhagen. They had neither money nor baggage. Many British subjects are still in Berlin. They are said to be treated courteously by the better class of Germans, who often offer them the shelter of their homes. The soldiers, however, treat them as if they were so much dirt, while the common people hustle them around, beat them and spit in their faces if they venture into the street.

Leslie Osborne escaped from Stettin on an American passport. He spent four days and nights there in a police cell, where he was served with thin soup three times a day. For this he paid one mark (25 cents) a day. He travelled to the frontier on a cattle train with a dozen others, four of whom went mad on the way.

RUSSIA CLAIMS RIGHT TO USE DARDANELLES

Makes Demand on Turkey for Passage of Black Sea Fleet.

COPENHAGEN, AUGUST 16.

A Constantinople despatch to the Politikon says that Russia has made demands upon Turkey that unrestricted passage through the Dardanelles be granted to the Russian Black Sea fleet.

At the outbreak of the war Turkey proclaimed the neutrality of the Dardanelles. After that time the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau took refuge in the strait from British and French cruisers, and they have since been sold to Turkey. The allies who are fighting Germany and Austria contend that this purchase by a neutral nation was a violation of international law.

The Russian Black Sea fleet has been having everything its own way in the Black Sea and is reported to have swept it of German and Austrian commerce. This accomplished, the fleet is of little use where it is and only by passing through the Dardanelles can it join the British and French fleets in patrolling the Mediterranean and, possibly, in bombarding Austrian ports.

The Black Sea fleet comprises six pre-Dreadnought battleships ranging from 11,230 to 12,840 tons, four of them carrying four 12 inch guns each and two of them carrying six 12 inch guns each, and all with the customary secondary batteries of the pre-Dreadnought period. There is one smaller battleship besides. There also are two cruisers, sixteen destroyers, sixteen torpedo boats and five submarines.

TURKS SEIZE CARGOES.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ATHENS, AUG. 16.—Reports received here say that Turkey is requisitioning cargoes of all steamships in Turkish waters without regard to their nationality. The purchase by Turkey of the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau has caused much apprehension here. Notwithstanding the assurances given by the Turkish Ambassadors at Paris and St. Petersburg the Greeks believe the acquisition concerns both Russia and Greece.

WHY GERMANS ESCAPED.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MALTA, AUG. 16.—The German battle cruiser Goeben and the cruiser Breslau escaped attack when they were in the neighborhood of Italy because the British fleet was engaged in covering the transportation of a French army corps from Algeria to France.

BRITISH FLEET HAS SEA FOES CORNERED

Germans Trapped at Wilhelmshaven and Austrians in Adriatic.

LONDON, AUGUST 16.

At sea the enemies of Great Britain appear to be successfully cornered. The German fleet, according to reports, remains bottled up in the North Sea, presumably in the vicinity of Wilhelmshaven and under the protection of the fortress of Helgoland.

The Austrian fleet is reported to have sought refuge at Pola, where the shore defenses are said to be inadequate. The Adriatic, according to the reports, has been mined as a further protection to the Austrian ships against the combined British and French Mediterranean fleets which are seeking them.

The Admiralty has made no announcement regarding the movements of British cruisers in West Indian and American waters. There are reports of the capture of several German merchant ships in that quarter, and unconfirmed reports say that one or more British warships have had an engagement with the German cruiser Karlsruhe in Cuban waters. Both Calbarien and Guantanamo despatches tell of heavy cannonading heard off those ports.

Despatches received here from St. Petersburg say that two German cruisers approached the western end of Dago Island, between the Gulf of Finland and the Baltic, on Thursday and fired a number of shells at the lighthouse. None of the shells took effect.

A British warship captured an Austrian merchant vessel last night off the Northumberland coast. The names of the two ships have not been announced. The man-of-war chased the Austrian for some distance, finally firing three shots before getting her to stop.

In spite of the fact that floating mines have been scattered in the North Sea merchant vessels are making regular runs between the east ports of England and Scandinavian ports bringing provisions to England.

GERMAN SHIPS CAUGHT.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, AUG. 16.—The Havas agency has a despatch from Huelva, Spain, reporting the capture of two German merchant vessels, one a passenger ship and the other a freighter, by an English torpedo flotilla. News of the capture was brought to Huelva by the officers of the steamship Katherine, arriving there from Algiers. According to the report, the German passenger ship tried to get away, and stopped only after eight shots had been fired at her by the flotilla. Then the captain of the steamship refused to

take her into Gibraltar and a prize crew was put aboard from the torpedo boats. Both ships then were taken to Gibraltar.

CRUISERS IN HASTE.

HALIFAX, N. S., AUG. 16.—The two British cruisers Suffolk and Good Hope sailed hurriedly from here to-day on the receipt of orders from Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Craddock. The Good Hope was coaling when the orders were received but immediately ceased all operations and sailed away under full speed.

The British battleship Glory, which arrived to-day, will also sail as soon as she takes a supply of coal aboard.

AUSTRIA AND SERBIA BOTH CLAIM VICTORY

Fierce Fighting on East of Drina—Austrian Transports Sunk.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

AMSTERDAM, AUGUST 16. A despatch from Vienna received here says that on August 14 the Austrians drove the Serbians from a position on the east side of the Drina near Losnitz after severe fighting. The Serbians later made a fierce attack on the Austrians near Schabatz.

The Austrians, according to the despatch, continued their advance on Saturday and both sides lost heavily. The Austrians have driven back the Montenegrins everywhere and are advancing in the north on both banks of the Vistula.

AUSTRIANS DRIVEN BACK.

NISH, SERBIA, AUG. 16.—The Austrians who had succeeded after long continued attempts in crossing the River Save were driven back to-day by the Serbians with heavy losses. Two steamboats on the Danube which were being used as transports and were crowded with Austrian troops were sunk to-day by Serbian artillery and all on board were drowned.

INVASION OF RUSSIA ON.

LONDON, AUG. 16.—Despatches coming by roundabout ways from Berlin report that the Austrian armies invading Russia are continuing their advance along the Vistula River.

LONDON, AUG. 16.—The Exchange Telegraph Company has received a despatch from its correspondent at Ancona, Italy, telling of the arrival there of the British Consul at Trieste. The Consul, according to the despatch, says that after the declaration of a state of war by Great Britain against Austria all British subjects in Trieste were subjected to severe treatment and that he himself virtually had to flee for his life. Many Englishmen, he said, have been imprisoned in the Austrian port.

REDMOND TELLS OF PLAN TO ARM IRISH

Says England Is About to Equip and Drill Large Number of Volunteers.

PREDICTS UNITED NATION

Leader Declares Nationalists Will Attack Invaders, Not Countrymen.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. DUBLIN, AUG. 16.

John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, presented a set of colors to the Nationalist Volunteers at Maryborough, Queen's county, to-day and made an address in which he said he rejoiced at the hearty response Ireland had given to his speech in Parliament, in which he declared the Volunteers would assist Great Britain in resisting any foreign invasion. He said he had received assurances that the Nationalist Volunteers were ready to fulfill their duty. He intimated that he hoped he would shortly be able to present the Nationalist Volunteers with several thousand rifles. Moreover, he added, the Government was about to arm, equip and drill a large number of Irish Volunteers and he believed the day was near when every Nationalist Volunteer would possess a rifle.

The Nationalist Volunteers, Mr. Redmond said, were not to attack anybody who was a fellow countryman, but were to work shoulder to shoulder with the Ulster Volunteers if they were allowed to do so and in this way create a united nation. Mr. Redmond said he prayed that the recent incident at Enniskillen, when a body of Ulster Volunteers marched shoulder to shoulder with a force of Nationalist Volunteers in escorting the Enniskillen Fusiliers as they left for the front, was an omen of the future. He closed by saying: "You are not drilling and arming to attack anybody in your own country. God forbid that should ever happen. Your ideal is at any cost and any sacrifice to create a united nation."

ENVOY LEAVES LONDON.

LONDON, AUG. 16.—Count von Mensdorff, the Austrian Ambassador to Great Britain, left London to-night for Vienna. He is going by way of Plymouth.

FAMINE IN TRIESTE.

By the Central News of London. Rome, Aug. 16.—A despatch from Trieste to the Tribuna says the scarcity of food there is becoming serious. There is only a five days supply of flour. Dalmatia is without bread.

GERMAN DESERTERS TELL OF UNREST

Say Circulation of False War News Breeds Spirit of Indecision.

PARISIANS ARE CHEERFUL

Reports Indicate Allies Making Steady Progress Against Enemies' Works.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, AUGUST 16.

Despite the severity of the censorship, which has prevented Paris from knowing in detail what is going on on the frontier, the city awoke this morning more cheerful than it had been for a fortnight. The news from the front is emphatic that the allies are slowly but surely penetrating the labyrinth of works within works occupied by the Germans and Austrians, some 300 miles in length. Stories told by deserters from the German army say that the rank and file of that army is in a state of indecision. Dissatisfaction is caused by reports which are gradually gaining currency that the stories told Germans that President Poincare had been assassinated and a commune established in Paris are not true. Other false stories circulated in the German army, such as that the forces invading Belgium were really in France and that the enemy they were fighting was made up of Frenchmen, with the subsequent revelation that the German soldiers were being hoaxed, have caused a spirit of unrest, the deserters say. Arrangements are being made for the sending of daily wireless reports from the Eiffel Tower station to those points which through the severance of other communication are receiving war news only from German sources. Free soup stations are being established throughout Paris for the assistance of the poor.

The French Government has decreed a general amnesty for deserters who have not yet joined the colors if they report for duty at once. Marines are to be used for the increase of the garrison for the defence of Paris.

BULGARIA UNDER SIEGE.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, AUG. 16.—The Bulgarian Government has issued a proclamation announcing that Bulgaria is in a state of siege.

Saks & Company
Broadway at 34th Street
Announce, beginning this morning
A sale of Men's Shirts, Ties & Pajamas
at prices which, in many instances, are far less than the actual cost of materials.
\$1.50 & \$2 Shirts. reduced to 75c
\$3.00 Shirts. reduced to \$1.30
\$4.00 Shirts. reduced to \$1.95
Note:—This is especially interesting to men with large necks. In going through our stock we found quite a lot of big sizes, and in order to get rid of them we have made a remarkable cut in prices.
All of our silk Shirts, sizes 14 to 17, at material price reductions.
Neckwear at 25c—values 65c, 55c and 50c. Made of both silk and wash materials.
Pajamas at 98c—values up to \$2.00.
Pajamas at \$1.35—values up to \$3.
Night Shirts at 55c—special values for today.
Terry Bath Robes at \$2.85—values up to \$6.
Your attention is also called to our clearance sale of Olus Shirt Suits, at substantial price reductions.
Final clearance of Men's Low Shoes
400 pairs reduced from \$4 & \$4.50. to \$2.45
450 pairs reduced from \$5 & \$6.00. to \$3.45
450 pairs reduced from \$7 & \$8.00. to \$4.85
Embracing all incomplete assortments from our regular stock, made of tan Russia calf, wax calf, gun metal calf, black and brown vici kid, white canvas and buckskin, in the season's newest models. Fifth Floor
Men's fine Athletic Underwear at 28c
Values 50c & 75c
Made of fine Madras, in plain white, checks and self stripes, with sleeveless shirts and knee length drawers.