

BULGARIANS SUFFER A SERIOUS REVERSE

Driven Out of Florina and Reported to Be Evacuating Monastir.

MAY OPEN UP THE WAY FOR INVASION OF SERBIA

French Troops Took Florina by Storm, Supported by Serbians and Russians.

LONDON, September 19.—An Athens dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that information received there indicates that the Bulgarians are beginning the evacuation of Monastir. It is said that the Bulgarian archives are being hastily transported to Uskub.

May Open Road Into Serbia.

The reported evacuation of Monastir, in southwestern Serbia, is regarded as one of the most important developments of the Balkan campaign and as creating a highly interesting military situation. Military observers point to the possibility, in view of these developments, that the main thrust of the allies' Saloniki army may be directed from the Cerna valley, in which lie Florina and Monastir, toward Priepolje.

Bulgars Took Long Chance.

Dispatches reaching London describe the operations which resulted in the capture by the entente allied forces of Florina, Macedonia. According to Reuters' Saloniki correspondent, the Bulgarians, in extending their line so far south as the region of Lake Ostrovo with limited forces played a bold but dangerous game. Success would have compromised the whole entente allied line, but lack of success was bound to prove costly by jeopardizing the whole Bulgarian right.

Right Wing Driven Back.

The whole Bulgarian right wing fell back and the entente allies obtained command of the ranges dominating the Florina plain. An Athens dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company describes the later phases of the concentration for the attack on Florina, which was carried out with the greatest secrecy. The contingents were divided into three parties in a converging movement to connect at Florina. The Russians started from Verria, southwest of Saloniki, and proceeded by forced marches. A French column was directed against the right flank of the Bulgarians in the region of Horovitz and was ordered to repel the Bulgarians from the heights of the mountain range of the Malkanidze range, with thirty heavy guns, including two heavy guns.

Counter Attacks in Vain.

PARIS, September 18.—The Bulgarians on the Macedonian front have made two counter attacks against the Serbians, but gained no success, it was announced officially here today. The Bulgarians and Germans have not attempted a counter action against the French troops which captured Florina. There is no change on the Struma front. Florina was carried by assault by French troops, according to a war office statement. The Bulgarians are retiring in disorder in the direction of Monastir, the statement adds. Serbian troops also have gained successes in the region of Lake Ostrovo.

COBB CONCEDES BATTING TITLE TO TRIS SPEAKER

DETROIT, September 19.—Tyrus Cobb, for nine years the leading batsman of the American League, today conceded that Tris Speaker of the Cleveland club would be the 1916 champion. Speaker, who has a record of nearly thirty points over Cobb, according to unofficial averages. Cobb said it is a human impossibility for him to try to cut down this lead and at the same time to co-operate in team play to the fullest extent of his own. Cobb's individual efforts won two of Detroit's recent victories.

MAY OMIT PRAYERS FOR JEWS.

Episcopalians Also May Bar Appeals for Turks and Infidels.

NEW YORK, September 19.—A proposal to omit from the prayer book of the Protestant Episcopal Church prayers for Jews, Turks, infidels and heretics will be submitted to the Episcopal triennial general convention to be held in St. Louis in October. The proposed changes are approved by the special commission on the revision of the prayer book.

PRESIDENT PLANS TO ANSWER HUGHES

Will Plunge Into Campaign on His Arrival at Shadow Lawn.

GOES THROUGH CAPITAL ON WAY FROM SOUTH

Mr. Wilson Will Launch Attacks of His Own to Offset Criticisms of Republican Rival.

President Wilson passed through here early today on his way to Long Branch, N. J., from Columbia, S. C., where he attended the funeral of his sister, Mrs. Anne E. Howe, yesterday. The train was due to arrive at 2:30 this afternoon two miles from Shadow Lawn.

Will Launch Attacks.

From now on Mr. Wilson plans to make up for lost time and meet the criticisms of Charles E. Hughes, the republican presidential candidate, with attacks of his own. Outside of his speech of acceptance he has done no campaigning up to the present. He has mapped out several points he wants to discuss, including the legislative record of the administration, the Mexican problem and European questions, the record of the republican party and subjects affecting progressives.

Sees Boyhood Home.

COLUMBIA, S. C., September 19.—After participating in the funeral of Mrs. Howe the President yesterday afternoon took an automobile ride around Columbia, visiting relatives and the place where he spent some of his boyhood days. He was accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, Miss Margaret Wilson and Dr. C. T. Grayson.

Negro Put Under Arrest When Trying to Board President's Private Car

RALEIGH, N. C., September 19.—William Mallette, a negro, was arrested here early today by United States secret service agents aboard President Wilson's special train after he had threatened and attempted to board the private car occupied by the president and his party returning to Long Branch, N. J., from Columbia, S. C.

President to Speak Saturday.

NEW YORK, September 19.—The democratic national committee announced that President Wilson will make his first speech of the campaign at Shadow Lawn next Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock to the business men of New Jersey. Members of all chambers of commerce and business organizations in the state may be invited. The President intends, it is said, to discuss fully the provisions of the eight-hour railroad law.

HUGHES TO MEET FAIRBANKS.

Letter to Preside When Presidential Nominee Makes Speech.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., September 19.—When Charles E. Hughes, republican presidential candidate, speaks here Saturday night, Charles W. Fairbanks, the democratic nominee, will be invited to the same ticket, will preside at the meeting and act as chairman. It will be one of the few times, if not the only occasion of the campaign, that the republican presidential and vice presidential candidates will speak from the same platform at the same meeting.

German Industries Prosper.

BERLIN, September 18, via London, September 19.—Complete returns for the fiscal year of 1915 indicate that German industries, so far from suffering from the war, appear to have prospered extensively and to have gained materially over preceding years. The war in the late May was especially marked in the leather and the chemical and dye industries, both of which have enjoyed unprecedented prosperity from war orders.

BAIL FORM MEMBERS OF BLACKMAIL GANG

Federal Authorities in Chicago May Postpone Temporarily the Formal Hearing.

FIX BOND AT \$25,000 EACH FOR THREE PRINCIPALS

Rounding Up the Men and Women Who Composed Widespread Swindling Syndicate.

CHICAGO, September 19.—Release on bond of several members of the alleged blackmail syndicate arrested by federal agents here, and possible continuance of their preliminary hearing, was in prospect today as witnesses from eastern cities arrived in Chicago to testify against the seven persons under arrest.

James Christian, one of the four men arrested with three women in the raid here Saturday night, was freed on bond late last night. His bail was reduced from \$5,000 to \$2,500, when officials admitted they had little evidence to connect him with the alleged fleeing of Mrs. Regina Klipper of Philadelphia, the principal witness against the defendants. The bail of three other members of the syndicate may be reduced today. The alleged leaders, however, probably will be held under \$25,000 bonds each, unless United States Commissioner Foote, before whom they are to be arraigned, can be prevailed upon by their counsel to reduce the amount. These three are Helen Evers, Edward ("Doc") Donahue and Harry ("Slick") Russell.

Mrs. Klipper Reaches Chicago.

Four members of the alleged band of blackmailers may escape prosecution, federal officials admitted today. Mrs. Regina Klipper arrived under guard of federal agents to appear against the alleged blackmailers at the hearing this afternoon. Hinton & Claiborn, of the United States Department of Justice, said he was confident Mrs. Klipper would identify Edward Donahue, Henry Russell and Mrs. Helen Evers as members of the organization. "The case against the others under arrest," Claiborn said, "is doubtful and some of them, with our case against the first three."

Mrs. Klipper to Give Details.

Mrs. Klipper is expected to tell the full details of her alleged abduction to Montreal, federal officials said. The story of the blackmailing of the Philadelphia woman involves Frank Crocker, a member of the band, who is alleged to have fled to Montreal. Mrs. Klipper's confederates over a division of the spoils and then turned state's evidence against them. Crocker is to be given immunity. Mrs. Klipper, a divorcee, with three small children, met Crocker in a New York hotel and was taken to a rooming house for a Philadelphia concern. She and Crocker, according to the confession given by her, went to an apartment after a dinner and evening at a theater.

Impersonated U. S. Officers.

Shortly after midnight, according to the confession, Edward Donahue, William Butler and George Irwin knocked at the door. All wore badges of the government secret service. A bogus warrant was produced by them for the arrest of the couple. Crocker, who was surprised and indignation, wrote out a check for \$5,000. "There doesn't seem any way out of it except for both of us to kick in," was the advice he gave Mrs. Klipper. She accepted it.

Shrink From Publicity.

The federal authorities here, it was learned today, were besieged yesterday by several wealthy men and women, who claimed to have been victims of the syndicate and who pleaded that their names be kept out of the case. They were given to understand, it is said, that no names would be revealed unless necessary in developing convictions.

The secrets developed by a mass of letters, photographs and other alleged evidence, which were moved to have been found in the apartment where the gang was arrested will not be revealed, federal officials said.

While federal authorities here were prepared to arraign for a preliminary hearing several members of the gang, who used the Mann act as their chief weapon, detectives fortified with information obtained from the confession, made arrests in other cities and spread a dragnet for H. C. Woodward, sought as director-in-chief of the syndicate.

Expects Removal to Philadelphia.

Hinton G. Claiborn of the United States Department of Justice declared he had sufficient evidence to convict the gang without exposing the names of some of their wealthy victims. He was understood to have been moved to Philadelphia for trial without a subpoena because of the resistance before the commissioner.

Belgian Miners Threaten Strike.

AMSTERDAM, via London, September 19.—The Maatrich Lee Noudelles says a general strike of miners throughout the Belgian coal fields is in progress. The miners are asking for an increase in wages commensurate with the high price of food.



ADVISERS TO NAVY ARE ALL SWORN IN

Chief Clerk Curtis Administers Oath in Secretary Daniels' Office.

TO WATCH TARGET WORK OFF THE VIRGINIA CAPES

Thomas A. Edison Visits Mount Vernon, Plants Tree Near Tomb and Inspects Electric Wiring.

SEALING EVIDENCE IN PHILADELPHIA.

Agents of the Department of Justice have been busy here gathering further evidence against the members of the alleged blackmailing band arrested in Chicago Saturday, and have served a warrant on William Butler, alias Butte, who, federal authorities say, is one of the ringleaders of the syndicate. Other arrests are expected, and in the meantime the government officers here are withholding details of the operations of the alleged blackmailers in the eastern part of the country.

KAISER MOVES GREAT GENERAL STAFF EAST

Von Hindenburg Said to Think First Decisive Battles Will Be Fought There.

LONDON, September 19, 12:50 p.m.—The Wireless Press today gave out a Bern dispatch quoting the Sueddeutsche Zeitung to the effect that the German general staff had moved from the west to the eastern front.

Directs All Campaigns.

The great German headquarters, which directs operations on all fronts, and at which the emperor and chief of staff spend much of their time, was in Belgium in the early weeks of the war, and subsequently was moved to northern France. In the spring of 1915 it was in a town near Lille. According to unofficial reports, it was transferred later to a small village farther east.

Conference of Allies.

Last week he returned to France from the eastern front. It was reported also that Emperor William, Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and representatives of Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey were at the eastern headquarters for a conference which was to decide the shaping of the campaign in the east.

INDIA'S GREAT POET ARRIVES IN U. S.

SEATTLE, Wash., September 19.—Sir Rabindra Nath Tagore, the poet of India, who was awarded the Nobel prize for literature and was knighted by King of England in 1913, is in Seattle today, having arrived from the Orient on the steamship Canada Maru last night for a tour of the United States, but will remain in this country several weeks.

MAYOR TRIES TO AVERT BIG NEW YORK STRIKE

NEW YORK, September 19.—A definite plan for bringing about an amicable settlement of the city's transit strike, now nearing the close of its second week, was prepared but not made public today by a "committee of seven," representing the business interests, in co-operation with Mayor Mitchell.

Leaving the mayor's office after a conference lasting several hours, the committee arranged to meet Theodore P. Shonta, president of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, later in the day. On the attitude of Mr. Shonta toward the proposed settlement, it was stated on behalf of the committee, depended the next step. If the traction officials' answer was favorable it was suggested the plan would be placed before the striking employees. Meanwhile no member of the committee would divulge its attitude.

Representatives of about thirty unions united in calling upon their organizations to strike if settlement with the transit companies were not forthcoming.

The unions asked to take this action included 20,000 members of the Hebrew Trades, 8,500 stationery engine and firemen, 23,000 longshoremen, 20,000 subway builders, 1,200 messengers and pilots, 20,000 teamsters, 3,000 freshwater boatmen and 15,000 mariners.

Members of the United Hebrew Trades, the longshoremen and boatmen already have voted to strike, it is announced.

Would Negotiate With Mayor.

No plan has been proposed for the business men's committee. President Shonta of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company said it seemed absurd to negotiate further, and that the company would have no further dealings with the carmen's union, but was willing to consider any proposition from the mayor.

The street railway strike was extended to Queens county early today when conductors and motormen of the New York and Queens County railroad went out in protest against the use of their members to operate cars and break the strike in Manhattan. Union leaders asserted that fourteen street car lines in Queens were tied up, but the company claimed that 50 per cent of its cars were in service and that not more than 300 men had left their places. Thousands of Queens residents who work in Manhattan traveled by ferry and automobile.

Reviews Europe's War Problems.

He reviewed the problem which faced Europe at the beginning of the war. One of the chief difficulties which Europe had in preparing for the struggle, the Secretary said, was the need of co-operation, study and research between civilian and naval experts, engineers and scientists.

"When it seemed wise to call the civilian scientists to aid in our naval preparedness," the Secretary continued, "I appealed to Mr. Thomas A. Edison to lend his advice. The result is the organization which today becomes a legalized part of the navy."

"You have already given a new vision of American willingness to put service to country above private interest. Your unselfish and invaluable aid in the larger naval program has heartened all true Americans. You have stimulated inventive activity, taken the first step in industrial preparedness, and I congratulate you for what you have done. I believe the future will regard you as a maker of our navy and our country."

Before Mr. Edison arrived at the Navy Department for the meeting he went to Mount Vernon, made a personal inspection of the old farm mansion and planted an elm tree near Washington's tomb. Mr. Edison was asked to inspect the electrical wiring of the house, to assure it against fire, which he did, pronouncing it safe from any possibility of destruction by faulty installation.

Part of Cargo Missing.

British Steamer Reports 1,000 Packages Confiscated at Hongkong.

MANILA, September 19.—The British steamer Americe, from New York July 3, arrived here today with approximately 1,000 packages of her Manila cargo missing. The packages were confiscated at Hongkong. There will be a hearing today to decide as to the culpability of the captain in the seizure of the cargo and to discuss the question of imposing a fine on him.

EXTENDS HIS PLEA FOR ARMOR PLANT

P. T. Moran Cites Further Reasons Why U. S. Concern Should Be Located Here.

SCHEDULE OF INQUIRIES ASKED OF MR. DANIELS

Would Enable Chamber of Commerce to Reply in Regard to Features Desired by Navy Department.

Opportunity to present detailed arguments why the federal armor plate plant should be located in the District of Columbia is requested in a letter received today by Secretary Joseph Daniels of the Navy Department from President P. T. Moran of the Washington Chamber of Commerce. In this letter Mr. Moran asks that a schedule of inquiries regarding features desired by the department in assigning the location of this plant be submitted to the local Chamber of Commerce, in order that the superior advantages of Washington may be properly emphasized.

That Washington during recent years has demonstrated a rapid manufacturing growth is urged in this letter as illustrating the opportunities in the Belt and Potomac areas. To illustrate this Mr. Moran offers to compile statistics covering the experiences of the Washington Steel and Ordnance Company as having a direct bearing on the application for the federal armor plate plant location.

The matter of cost and diversibility of accessible markets is suggested as first consideration in the selection of the site, according to Mr. Moran's letter, and he points out that Washington is the one deep-water port on the Atlantic coast most accessible to iron, limestone and pig iron deposits and markets.

Letter to Secretary Daniels.

His letter to Secretary Daniels, in part, is as follows: "I have the honor to hand you, in accordance with your kind permission, following my oral presentation of the subject, some suggestions relating to the availability of city of Washington as a location for the proposed government armor plant, as the expression on the subject of the Washington Chamber of Commerce."

"While the gentlemen whom I had the honor to represent, in the National Chamber of Commerce, in the Washington Capital has a preponderance of points in its favor, they realize that their claims must be supported by investigation and comparison with the advantages offered by other locations. In this purpose of his communication, it is, therefore, to ask that an opportunity be given to the Chamber of Commerce of Washington to collate and furnish detailed information on the points deemed essential to a favorable comparison of the two locations."

"Among these points, we assume, would be the matter of cost of materials in the District of Columbia, involving as well the matter of supply and a diversity of accessible markets. The question of transportation by rail and water which, owing to changing conditions, cannot be stated with any degree of accuracy, is collated to meet each individual case."

Requests Schedule of Inquiries.

"It is among the particular functions of the Chamber of Commerce to arrange and furnish such information in behalf of the city's growth and progress, and we trust that you will direct that a schedule of inquiries be formulated upon which we may submit full information."

"Further, the Washington Chamber of Commerce urges that the natural advantages of Washington as a location for manufacturing and for a plant of this sort shall not be minimized because of the impression that Washington is an unfavorable location for transportation by rail and water which, owing to changing conditions, cannot be stated with any degree of accuracy, is collated to meet each individual case."

Close to Coal Deposits.

"Washington is the deep water port on the Atlantic coast nearest to coal and limestone deposits. It is less than 100 miles to the limestone deposits of the Harpers Ferry region and only 150 miles to the Cumberland coal deposits, with both of which Washington has both rail and water connection."

"Washington is in direct contact with all the pig iron markets of the east and south, and so placed midway between them that full advantage may be taken of favorable conditions in any of them."

"We especially desire to present to you the facts in detail with regard to capacity for handling materials and products by rail and water in any quantity and without delays, owing to the excellent communication facilities proposed and also to the fact that it is directly connected by a double-track railroad used for freight exclusively, with the great assembling and distributing yard at Benning."

"We would like to secure an opportunity to present facts which the experience of the Washington Steel and Ordnance Company has shown to be especially applicable to the present consideration."

Calls Special Meeting of Board.

President P. T. Moran of the Chamber of Commerce this afternoon called a special meeting of the board of directors of the chamber for Thursday at 12:15 p.m., to consider the proposition of having the government establish its armor plant here.

American Firm to Get B. R. Contract

CALEXICO, Cal., September 19.—Col. Esteban Cantu, military governor of Lower California, confirmed today a report that he would build a railroad soon from Mexicali, across the border from here, to San Felipe, on the Gulf of California. Government funds will be used to construct the road, he stated, and the contract will be awarded to an American firm.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE IN THE CHAMPAGNE

Paris Reports That Five Successive Attacks Were Repulsed by Russian Troops.

RAINY WEATHER CHECKS FIGHTING ON THE SOMME

Berlin Believes the Drive in Northern France Has About Exhausted Strength of British.

PARIS, September 19, 12:30 p.m.—The Germans took the offensive in Champagne last night, making five successive attacks on the Russian troops there. Today's official report says that each time they were checked by the Russian machine gun and artillery fire.

The German attack in Champagne was made in the sector between Souain and Somme-Py.

On the Somme front operations were hindered by bad weather.

Official French Report.

The text of the communication follows: "On the Somme front operations were interrupted by the bad weather, but during the night we made some progress east of Berny, taking a number of prisoners."

"A bombardment last night by the enemy, apparently carried on only east of the road between Souain and Somme-Py reached its height in the evening, but was followed by several German attacks, particularly along the Russian sector. Here five successive onslaughts were delivered. Everywhere our curtain of fire and the fire of our machine guns checked the enemy, whose losses were serious. Some prisoners were taken."

"On the left bank of the River Meuse a German surprise attack upon one of our positions was repulsed by our two counter attacks upon the trenches on the southern slope of Le Mort Huet, which occurred by yesterday, resulted in complete failure."

Bad Weather Halts Offensive.

LONDON, September 19.—Bad weather has set in along the Somme front in northern France and the Anglo-French offensive has halted. Both London and Paris report a cessation of the heavy attacks by the British and French, which during the last few days, have won them many square miles of new ground. In the Somme region, the British captured the village of Esbaum, virtually pocketed Comblès and seriously weakened the hold of the Germans on Peronnès and Chaules.

"Heavy and continuous rain has fallen during the last twenty-four hours, apparently carried on only operations on the Franco-Belgian front. The general situation is unchanged."

"In the Somme region, the British captured the village of Esbaum (northwest of La Bassée), we entered the enemy's trenches at three places, capturing a machine gun and inflicting many casualties. Our casualties were very light."

"Since last night's report five more of our aeroplanes have failed to return."

Think British Weakening.

BERLIN, September 18, via London, September 19.—The mass attack by the British along the Somme front on Friday was, according to advice reaching here, apparently carried on only by means of the concentration of the entire British force. The Germans declare that there is hardly a fresh British division left.

The Germans, nevertheless, are not at all disposed to give way to any illusion that the British army has been completely weakened, although it is asserted in official quarters that the latest Franco offensive, especially that of last week, has cost them too heavily."

Reports from the front reiterate that, little as the German troops like to retreat, this policy is preferred, if thereby lives can be saved and essential of comparatively unimportant territory.

Two Days of Somme Battle Enabled British to Strike Telling Blows at Germans

LONDON, September 19.—A British official communication gives a detailed account of the fighting in the Somme region of France of September 15-16. It says the attack was launched at 6:20 a.m. of the 15th on the front from the Leuze wood to Postieres. The enemy's position consisted of a treble line of entrenchments, connected by strong subsidiary trenches. In addition, the enemy was holding some advanced positions, with machine guns in trenches, works and shell holes behind these fortifications, and at a distance of some 7,000 yards from the British front had recently constructed and wired a fourth mine line of trenches in front of the Leuze wood, Hagauve road.

"Supported by more than a thousand guns of all calibers, the hostile defense was formidable," says the statement. "Punctually our infantry, accompanied by heavy armored cars, advanced forward to the assault close under cover of our field artillery and barrage."

German Lines Curbed.

"The front of the German line was carried everywhere except at two points, namely, on the high ground between the Leuze wood and Postieres."