

BULGARIANS AND GREEKS IN CLASH

Slavs Said to Have Crossed the Border into Epirus and Killed Several Officers.

ATHENS QUICKLY SENDS AID

PARIS, Dec. 20.—Fighting between small detachments of Greek and Bulgarian troops is reported in a dispatch from Brindisi, Italy, to the Havas News agency. It is said several Greek officers and soldiers were killed or wounded and that the Greek government is hastily forwarding reinforcements to the scene of the fighting.

The dispatch says that the disturbance occurred in the province of Epirus, at the western end of the Serbo-Greek border.

A Bulgarian advance guard is said to have penetrated Greek territory after an encounter with Greek outposts, resulting in lively fighting.

"The Greek press maintains silence in regard to these incidents," the dispatch continues, "but the government is dissembling. Greek detachments have been sent hastily to Koriza and Coragades to reinforce the garrisons there."

Say Montenegrins Treacherous.

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—(By Wireless to Sayville.) The Overseas News agency quotes the Austrian official report of December 19, as charging that the Montenegrins at some places held up their hands, waving flags and advanced near to the Austro-Hungarian lines, when they suddenly threw hand grenades. The statement is quoted as saying: "The treachery found corresponding treatment."

The agency quotes the Turkish statement for December 19, as saying that in the Mesopotamian campaign "the enemy again used dum dum bullets."

German Version of Ypres Fight.

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—(Via London.)—Contented allied monitors yesterday shelled the German positions at Westende on the Belgian coast, but were finally driven away by land batteries, says the official statement issued today by German army headquarters. The statement adds that German aviators attacked the town of Poperinghe, near Ypres, numerous hostile troops being concentrated there.

The statement follows: "Western theater: Fire from our coastal batteries drove off the enemy monitors which shelled Westende yesterday. On this front there was lively artillery activity.

"One of our air squadrons attacked Poperinghe, where numerous troops of the enemy are gathered. "An English biplane was shot down in an aerial fight near Bruges. The occupants were killed.

"Eastern theater: The situation is unchanged. "Balkan theater: In the fighting north-east of Tara, previously reported, three mountain and two field guns were captured.

"Near Mojkovac fighting continued successfully for the Austro-Hungarian troops."

French Official Report.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—The French war office this afternoon gave out a report on the progress of hostilities, reading: "In the Artois district, there has been fighting with hand grenades north of Boles-en-Hache. Between the Somme and the Oise the artillery has been active. In the region of Fay we have silenced a battery of the enemy.

"On the north bank of the river Aisne we yesterday evening evacuated the small outposts we captured on December 15.

"In the Walvre district, at the forests of Mont Mars and Le Prete, French batteries bombarded the communicating trenches of the enemy. There has been also cannonading in the sectors of Nomeny and of Bioncourt, in Lorraine."

BRITONS LEAVE TWO DISTRICTS ON DARDANELLES

(Continued from Page One.)

of warm debate. The official paper of Premier Baidonoff declares the allies must be driven from Saloniki; whether by Bulgarian or Austro-German troops is a question for the military leaders to solve. The allies in Macedonia do not expect an early attack if the advance is left to the Austrians and Germans, as airmen reported that the central powers have not yet gathered a sufficient force to undertake an offensive.

BRITONS LEAVING GALLIPOLI

Troops Withdrawn Supposed to Be on Way to Saloniki.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The British troops at the Suvla and Anzac districts of the Gallipoli peninsula, have been withdrawn. The following official statement was issued here today: "All the troops at Suvla and Anzac, together with their guns and stores, have been successfully transferred with insignificant casualties to another sphere of operations."

The Suvla Bay and Anzac Cove positions are on the north coast of Gallipoli peninsula. Anzac Cove is about sixteen miles from the tip. Suvla Bay is five miles further on.

As no mention is made in the British announcement of the allied position in the Suvla Bay position, at the tip of the peninsula, it is not clear whether the withdrawal of troops indicated a decision to abandon the effort to force the Dardanelles or mean merely a readjustment of the allied forces.

There have been no previous hints of such a move, although the question had been raised in England whether, in view of the failure of the allies to make appreciable headway at the Dardanelles and the urgent need for additional troops at Saloniki, the Dardanelles force would be withdrawn. Two official Turkish communications received today spoke of heavy firing from land and sea by the allies, but mentioned no movements out of the ordinary, although this bombardment may have been conducted to cover the withdrawal.

Macedonia or Egypt.

There are two fields of operations in the near east to which British troops withdrawn from the Gallipoli peninsula might be forwarded—Macedonia and Egypt.

London looks for an attack on the allied positions at Saloniki. There is no

official information as to the number of French and British troops in Greece, which has been estimated recently at about 50,000. Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey have at their disposal several times that number of men, and it may be assumed that every effort will be made to concentrate a considerable allied force on the Saloniki base.

This Greek port is within easy sailing distance of the Gallipoli peninsula.

If recent unofficial advice concerning the Egyptian situation are authentic Great Britain may feel the necessity of increasing her armed forces there. It has represented that the Germans and Turks are preparing a formidable expedition to invade Egypt, capture the Suez canal and cut off England from India. Some of the bitterest encounters and heavy losses of the Dardanelles have taken place at the positions now abandoned by the British. The allies have been able to achieve no striking successes at these points.

Many Expressions of Relief.

"Thank God, they are safely out of there without serious loss" is an expression frequently heard today in con-

nection with the transfer of the troops from the Suvla and Anzac zones to "another sphere of operation," although this is invariably coupled with regrets that it should have been regarded as necessary to evacuate the hard won footholds on the peninsula, obtained at such a heavy cost in casualties.

The toe of the Gallipoli peninsula, with Seddul Bahr, commanding the entrance to the Dardanelles, is apparently still to be held, as no mention is made of the transfer of troops from this region.

The war office statement leaves the public to draw its own conclusions as to the destination of those Australian and United Kingdom forces, which must be well over 100,000 strong. It is widely conjectured, however, that any southward sweep of the Teutonic or Bulgarian armies in the Balkans, whether from the north, west or east, will sooner or later come in contact with them, and that the transfer is connected with a determination on the part of the entente powers not to remain on the defensive in the near eastern theater of war longer than is requisite to assure the success of a forward march.

FINANCIAL NUT FOR KAISER TO CRACK

Vorwaerts Asks Where Interest and Principal of Great War Debt is to Come From.

IMPORT TAX IMPRACTICABLE

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 20.—Reviewing the recent speech on Germany's financial condition, which Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the treasury, made before the Reichstag, the Socialist newspaper, Vorwaerts, of Berlin, asserts the time has come for the German government and the Reichstag to indicate in what way the money necessary for payment of interest on the nation's gigantic war debts and to provide for their re-

demption, is to be raised. It says: "With the new war credit of 10,000,000,000 marks the German war debt reached 45,000,000,000 marks which, according to Dr. Helfferich, should last until the end of March. Interest on 40,000,000,000 marks amounts to 2,000,000,000 marks annually and for redemption which is necessary in order to maintain the credit of the empire, another 100,000,000 marks is needed.

* Must Double Income.

The Vorwaerts considers it essential that the empire's income be more than doubled to meet these obligations and the current expenses. Before the war, it says, the financial state of Germany was a source of anxiety to the government. In 1900, taxation was increased by 500,000,000 marks, but the budget did not balance. In 1913 the government adopted the extraordinary measure of taxing wealth and levying a non-recurrent contribution for armament in order to cover the deficit.

Maintenance of the existing financial system, the Vorwaerts continues, is impossible so far as taxation of imports is concerned. Provisions, raw materials

and many other articles may be expected to rise in price after the war and if the present tariff were continued, it would lead to an artificial increase of prices for Germany which would undermine the capability of German industry to compete in the world market.

Import Tax Impracticable.

"Therefore, the interests of consumers and producers," the Vorwaerts concludes, "demand abolition of these import taxes after the war, which would reduce Germany's income considerably; and, therefore, the time has come for the government to declare what course it is steering."

Alleged Swindlers of Iowa Farmer May Not Be Tried Again

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Lodovine Miller and J. Marion Miller, her brother, alleged swindler of Thomas ("Sentimental Tommy") Foulkes, a farmer of Danbury,

la., are scheduled to be placed on trial for the second time in the criminal court here today. They were convicted in the summer of 1911 of operating a confidence game—the alleged swindling of the farmer of \$25,000 and two farms valued at \$50,000—but were granted a new trial later. The case has been set for trial, but it is not certain whether it will be tried, in view of a letter turned over to Marvin E. Barnhart, assistant state's attorney, by Miller. The missive bears Foulkes' signature and contains an admission of perjured testimony in the first trial, but Foulkes denies writing it. A specimen of his handwriting was taken by the assistant state's attorney for the purpose of comparing it with the writing in the letter. On the report of the expert depends the second trial. If he finds the writing to be identical, Prosecutor Barnhart asserts he would dismise the charge.

Three Men Killed by Explosion.

RICH HILL, Mo., Dec. 20.—Three men employed in destroying stumps were killed today when a wagon load of dynamite exploded on W. T. Duvall's ranch, near here.

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