

HOW THE TURKS CHECKED BULGARS

Desperate Defense of Adrianople Saved the Capital.

UPSET PLANS OF THE ALLIES

Frederick Palmer Tells of the Furious Fighting by the Ottoman Armies That Bailed Demetrieff and Ivanoff.

By **FREDERICK PALMER**, Staff Correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald in the Balkan War.

Mustapha Pasha—The minarets of Sultan Selim!

Needle-like, I have seen them rise over the indistinct mass of Adrianople from the distant hills, then a substantial column from the nearby hills, and again so close from the shellproof of an advanced infantry position that I could make out the tilings on the dome of the great mosque itself.

The simple grace of the minarets dominated town, and landscape, and siege. Weary drivers of the weary oxen of the transport and still wearier artillerymen, bringing up additional guns through seas of mud, saw them for the first time as a token of defiance, of work unflinched, of battles yet to be fought, and of lives yet to be lost.

Infantrymen in the advanced trenches saw them as the goal against a foe which had fallen back without any adequate rear guard section, but which had begun to fight desperately under their shadows.

That Turkish garrison, as it withdrew into the shelter of its forts, seemed to find something of the spirit of old Sultan Selim the Magnificent, for whom the mosque was named, but with this difference: Sultan Selim was not given to falling back on forts and minarets. He stormed forts; he went ahead to plant new minarets in the soil of Christendom.

Rouses Old Turks' Spirit From the first in this war the Turk took the defensive; from the first he accepted it as his part and portion of the campaign.

In Bulgaria, where many Turks still live under Christian rule, we had seen the terrible Turk, the great fighting man of the past, whose soul was supposed to be above lowly toil, as a beaver of wood and a carrier of water. He did odd jobs in the absence of the Bulgarian at the front. The lion of the past had been trained to dog harness.

All the early victories of the Bulgarian army completed an impression of a one-time lordly race demoralized and enervated, who retained only the fatalism of "Kismet," in its lexicon.

The warrior's cry, "For Allah!" was lost forever. But at Adrianople "For Allah!" rose again to the dignity which abandoned bravery always commands.

The sheer, impetuous fearlessness of the Bulgarian, well drilled and coolly manipulated, was the first great revelation of the campaign, and the second was how, in the hour of hopelessness, his desperation aroused the old qualities of the Turk.

Every situation, every development in the war reverted to Adrianople. It was the nut to crack in the first plan of strategy of the campaign. It hovered over the first army before Tchatalja as a nightmare. It stood in the way of the prompt supplies of bread and bullets for the first army; it delayed the signing of the armistice for ten days; it has been the main subject of contention before the London peace conference; it was responsible for the treatment of the military attaches, who saw nothing of the war, and of the correspondents—who saw little.

War Hinges on Adrianople. Even our phlegmatic little English-speaking censor assistant at Mustapha would lose his temper at the very suggestion of any peace terms with Adrianople still in Turkish possession.

"We shall have a revolution if we don't get Adrianople," I have heard many officers say.

"We shall not go home without Adrianople," the wounded soldiers returning from the front kept repeating.

Such were the instructions which Dr. Daneff, the Ethru Root of the Balkans, took with him to London. Adrianople was graven on the minds of his countrymen. By diplomacy he must get a fortress which was not yet taken by force of arms.

Glance at a map and you will see that the whole success of the allies depended on bottling up the Turk on the peninsula, so that all the other Turkish forces from Scutari to Adrianople, from Kumanova to Hassana, should be cut off from communication. The Greeks, Serbs, and Montenegrins were the backs. The Bulgarians undertook to back the line.

Bulgaria did not have to consider a reserve army. European public opinion and the jealousies of the powers acted as efficient substitutes, for the Bulgarian military statesmanship understood that if Bulgaria were beaten the powers would never permit Turkey to take an inch of Bulgarian soil. It was a case of "Heads I win, tails I don't lose."

Turks Awake to Crisis. The Turks knew this, too. It was an old situation to them. Successful

war meant no aggrandisement only that no more territory would be taken from them. This is enough, after some generations, to breed the defensive instinct in any soldier.

The Turk must have his back against the wall in order to fight well. His attitude is that of the mad bull against the torador; and every mad bull, we know, sometimes gets a horn into the torador's anatomy and tosses him over the pallings. This happened in a way at Adrianople.

"Victory is to the heaviest battalions," Bonaparte said this, but after Caesar said it after some general of Egypt, Babylon or Nineveh.

The allies knew that their success depends on speed in a fall campaign—speed and the shock of masses pouring over the frontier. There was a hundred-yard-dash chance.

The Serbs at Kumanova, their critical battle, had odds of at least four to one.

The Greeks never had less favorable odds, usually much higher.

As for the Montenegrins, who had a small show, what they did in one way or another did not matter. They had work to keep them fully occupied, as it developed in the siege of Scutari.

The only one of the allies who disclaimed modern organization, their failure to make any headway again emphasizes the wide difference between a body of men with rifles and an actual army.

Bulgars Bear War's Brunt. So the Bulgarians took the great and telling work of the war on their shoulders. You have only to know the Bulgarians to understand that this was inevitable.

There is stubborn and aggressive character enough in Bulgaria to spare for all southwestern Europe.

Bulgaria made a hundred-yard dash with ex cart transportation, and made it around an obstacle—Adrianople. The main railroad line and the great Constantinople highway ran by Adrianople. It was on the direct line of communication from the center of the Bulgarian base to the center of its objective.

In the center of Thrace, it was the only real fortress on the way to Constantinople. Kirk-Killiseh, or Losen-grad, as the Bulgarians call it, despite their willingness to allow an impression of its formidability to be spread abroad, was not in any sense well fortified.

Now, the first thing was to surround Adrianople; that is, to strike at it from all sides, as the key to the position. A branch of the main Sofia-Constantinople railroad line runs to Yambol. With this as its base, Demetrieff, or the First, army swung around Kirk-Killiseh, which was taken in the first splendid ardor of the campaign. With its fall anyone can see from a staff map that any battle line of defense with Adrianople as a part of it was impossible for a force of the numbers of the Turkish main army.

Two or three hundred thousand men who were homogeneous might have held on, but not half that number when badly organized. Therefore, Nasim Pasha had to fall back to a new line and leave Adrianople to care for itself.

Reveals Bulgar Courage. The next step was the decisive battle on the line from Lule Burgas to Bunnarhislar.

There, again, superiority of numbers, as well as organization, counted; that superiority, which makes a heavy turning movement possible while the enemy's front is engaged.

In short, the Bulgarians had the Turks going. They gave the Turks no rest, and they had a sufficient numerical preponderance, in addition to the dependable courage of their infantry to guarantee success.

So there was nothing wonderful about the strategy of the campaign, nothing new, nothing startling, the old principle of the swift, turning movement had been applied to the situation in hand.

By the flank the Japanese kept putting the Russians back from the Yalu to Mukden. By the flank Grant put Lee back to Richmond.

There was just one, and only one, startling feature in this war—Bulgarian courage. That enabled Demetrieff to gain at Kirk-Killiseh and Lule Burgas in a hurry what with most armies would have required much more time.

Demetrieff had willing flesh for a necessary sacrifice. He threw his infantry against frontal positions in a cloud, into shrapnel and automatic gun fire, without waiting to silence the enemy's batteries.

Expected to Take Adrianople. And after Lule Burgas the next step would have seemed the storming of Adrianople. When peace negotiations should begin, it was a vital point in their favor in the negotiations to have Adrianople in their possession.

The Bulgarian treatment of the correspondents is one of the many indications that the Bulgarian staff did at one time expect to take Adrianople by storm.

It was argued by serious correspondents who did not feel that they ought to waste their time or the money of their papers in idleness, that the Bulgarian government ought not to have received any correspondents at all. But this was not logic to the government. The press represented public opinion. It could serve a purpose, and all the college professors in the world who speak any foreign language found their work in the common cause, no less than grandfathers found his in driving an ox cart and the women in making bread.

The plan was well thought out, and the regulations, which would fill a column, left nothing that occurred to officers or college professors out of consideration. No mention was to be made of the wounded, nor even of the weather, if it were bad, for bad weather might lead the enemy that the roads were bad.

While many an imaginary account, because it had the similitude of narrative which characterizes all convincing fiction, was hailed as real war correspondence, the Bulgarian staff, when it came to actual reports of actions (exclusive of massacres), was scrupulously exact and exasperatingly late and brief.

All praise by the press kept the ball of the prestige of victory rolling. It helped to convince the powers and the Turk that the Bulgarian army was irresistible. The stage climax of the whole campaign would be the fall of Adrianople. Therefore were the correspondents moved to Mustapha Pasha just as Lule Burgas was being won; and Constantinople, being then supposedly defended only by a demoralized army, which could not make a stand, every report from Mustapha Pasha which showed that Adrianople was on the point of capitulation added to the stage effect of Bulgarian triumph.

Turks Defy the Bulgars. As the first Bulgarian army drew near the Tchatalja lines, the mise en scene was complete; but Nasim Pasha, making use of the elapsed time to fortify the Tchatalja lines, rather than submit to the humiliating terms offered, bade the Bulgarian hosts "come on."

Success had turned the heads even of the Bulgarian staff. They had begun to think that the old fighting quality was out of the Turk, and so willing was the Bulgarian infantry to undergo slaughter that it was only a case of recording another charge of flesh against shrapnel and automatic gun fire, and the day was won.

Alas, an old principle of war, dealing with an impossibility of the same order as squaring the circle in mathematics, was now to bring generalship back from the clouds to solid earth.

You can take strong positions in front only with time by sapping and mining and all the weary operations of a siege, as the indomitable Grant learned by the failure of his first rush

under General Ivanoff, who was to have the thankless task of the operations around Adrianople. While every glory was to be the fortune of Demetrieff, who commanded the first army—until the first army had to take positions in front without any opportunity for flanking, which was the nature of Ivanoff's task from the start.

Ivanoff Wakes Up. It was Papastepe and Kartaltepe which wakened Ivanoff from his dream of a final brilliant stroke in keeping with the earlier ones of the war, just as Tchatalja brought Demetrieff down from the clouds of overconfidence. Papastepe is one of many hills in the narrowing rib of the 203 Meter Hill of the siege. With guns in position there, Adrianople would be under bombardment. The Bulgarians took it by sending in the usual cloud of infantry and losing about a thousand men. But the Turks took it back again. Four times, I am told, it changed hands in the course of those night actions which we observed only by the brilliant flashes in the sky above the hills.

Far up the valley in the mist was Kartaltepe, that other important hill which commanded the river bottom of the Arda. We took Kartaltepe in November and a month afterward, in one of their splendid sorties, the Turks, so far as I could learn, had taken it back; but it was as untenable for them as Papastepe was for the Bulgarians. Possibly because it was again ours and very evidently ours permanently, the Bulgarian censors had found it worth while to confound skepticism and persistent unfriendly rumors by allowing the correspondents to enter the promised land of their dreams, where for weeks, between the batteries on the hills and the infantry in the muddy river bottom of the Arda, hell had raged in the winter rains.

We did not know then, as we were to know a few days later, that beyond Kartaltepe in the direction of Dele-gatch was another force isolated from the Adrianople garrison and the main Turkish army, that of Taver Pasha with 10,000 men, caught in the literal flood of that 100-yard dash of the ready, informed, prepared aggressor against the unready enemy taken unaware and hastening reinforcements to the scattered garrisons and trying to adjust itself for the blow to fall with the crash of a pile driver released from its clutch.

Discloses War Secret. But Taver Pasha's 10,000 were still a force in being, with guns and full equipment—a force in a box; a force in desperation.

Do you see the Adrianople garrison (which was in touch by wireless with the Turkish main army) striking out to connect up with Taver Pasha? Do you see Taver Pasha trying out lines of least resistance in a savage effort to reach Adrianople or the main Turkish army?

Something to stir the blood, this, in the way of a war drama, while not a single foreign correspondent or attaché knew even of the existence of Taver Pasha's command until its surrender.

The news of this was conveyed with the official assurance that now no other Turkish force except that of Adrianople remained in Thrace, when we had been under the impression for over a month that it was the only one! The censors did not smile as they posted the bulletin, but some of the correspondents smiled—at themselves.

No, after the first rainbow hope of a successful general attack was over, Ivanoff was fully occupied in holding Adrianople safely in siege. That battery of old Krupps, which fired over the advanced Serbian infantry position, while a battery of Creusots in turn fired over it, added their items of evidence to the same end.

These Krupps were "aken by the Russians at Plevna in the war of 1877-'78 and given to the little army of the new nation of Bulgaria. Bulgarian recruits had dragged them through the muddy roads and over the pastures and beautifully employed them, and were working them against the enemy with boyish pride. But the world was thinking only of the modern Creusots and their brilliant showing.

The Bulgarians almost proved that you can make bricks without straw. They won the war by the bravery of their self-confidence as well as by their courage.

Adrianople, which was about to starve if it did not fall, had a month, two months' supplies when the armistice was signed. With the 19 and 20-year-old conscripts already on the way to the front, with a casualty list that is easily one-fifth of the whole army, there was no sign of weakening.

The square chin of the stoical Bulgarian was as firmly set as ever. I wonder what would happen in Europe if it included in its borders a nation of 100,000,000 Bulgarians!

Ancient Science. It is generally supposed that those who combated the opinion that the earth was a sphere when Columbus proposed his great voyage were only giving expressions to opinions that had always been entertained. But the fact is that long before the Christian era the Greek and Egyptian philosophers entertained the idea that the earth was round and knew vastly more about eclipses, the motions of the moon and other astronomical matters than many do even today. The idea of Columbus had been anticipated by the ancient philosophers by more than three centuries.

Seemingly Good Evidence. "Is your son happily married?" "Yes, I'm afraid he is. I've done my best to convince him that she isn't worthy of him, but he won't believe me."

Small Boy Again. "Bobby, do you see that bright star overhead, at the top of the big cross?" "Yes." "Well, that's Deneb. It is nearly three quadrillions of miles away." "Huh! Then how do you know its name is Deneb?"

Speak Guardedly. Speak not at all, in any wise, till you have somewhat to speak; care not for the reward of your speaking, but simply and with undivided mind for the truth of your speaking.—Carlyle.

Temacious Woman. She has her hands full keeping her temper, keeping her house, keeping her cook, keeping her youth, keeping her husband and other things.

Making Bomb-Thrower of Host. An English wit of reputation, who has been visiting New York for the last two weeks, remarked at the conclusion of a little dinner given him: "It's been excellent. I never heard older stories nor drank newer wine in my life."

Let Him Cultivate Patience. The members of a church in the southwest have given their pastor an automobile. It is hoped that no member of his congregation may be present the first time the crank handle hits him on the elbow.

That Terrible Habit of Work. Pat—"Say, Diany, what wud yez do if yez had all the money yez want?" "Diany—" "O'd be after goin' to me wurk in an automobile instead of a trolley car."—Boston Transcript.

Simplify Life. "I do believe in simplicity. It is as satisfying as well as sad, how many trivial affairs even the wisest man thinks he must attend to in a day; how singular an affair he thinks he must omit. When the mathematician would solve a difficult problem he first gives the equation of all known branches and reduces it to its simplest terms. So simplify the problem of life, distinguish the necessary and the real.—From Thoreau "Letters."

General Demetrieff.

at Vicksburg and the indomitable Nogi learned by the failure of the first rush attack at Port Arthur.

In a week, any army that has spades and a few of the resources of material which should be part of the storehouse at its base should make such a position as that of the series of rising hills back of Tchatalja futile against any but siege attack, unless there was room for a flank attack.

Turks Turn the Tables. And the breadth of the position open to infantry approach in any attempt at storming was only 16 miles, while from either sea side of the narrow strip of peninsula the Turkish navy could bring into play more powerful guns than any Demetrieff had at his disposal.

At the same time there is to be kept in view the generally accepted tenet that you must not send infantry against any well entrenched position until its batteries are silenced or it is known that they can be kept under control during the infantry attack by a well concentrated fire of your own batteries.

Demetrieff used his guns for a day in trying to develop the strength and location of the enemy's batteries. But the Turks would not be drawn. At last the tables were turned.

Meanwhile Adrianople also was telling. You may discuss as much as you please whether the original plan of the Bulgarian staff was to make this fortress or to take it by storm, the fact remains that the only result was to mask it, and the lesson was that any garrison in the rear of an advanced army, though it is held securely in investment, remains a mighty force in being for the enemy's purpose.

Nature meant Adrianople to be a fortress. Past it on the south flows the Maritza river, taking its origin in the Balkans and plowing its way across the alluvial lowlands of Thrace to the sea. A strong bridge crosses it on the line of the Constantinople highway at Mustapha Pasha, some twenty-five miles from Adrianople.

This bridge, which is not far from the Bulgarian frontier, the Turks left intact, a characteristic piece of carelessness in the earlier part of the war in keeping with all other signs of Turkish demoralization and wrongheadedness, which might easily lead the Bulgarians to think that Adrianople would not resist a brilliant onslaught.

GREATEST OF PORTSIDERS IN NATIONAL



Nap Rucker of Brooklyn.

There is no gauging a southpaw; when they are good they are very good and when bad they are very bad. The season of 1912 has furnished several illustrations and notable on the "bad" side of the argument are the cases of Harry Krause, Al Mattern and Nap Rucker. These three were rated as among the greatest portersiders in the game. Two of them have been sent to the minors, while for Rucker, before the coming of Rube Marquard held to be the best of his persuasion in the

National league, he has been a failure the past season. It may be the reaction that must come from trying to hold up one's end on a losing team. Rucker has been with Brooklyn since his entry into the majors. He has most of this time been the team's main dependence in the box—an ordeal enough to break any man's nerve. Rucker may regain his old form, but southpaws are uncertain and the fate of Al Mattern and Harry Krause looms up as a specter before him.

JEFF TESREAU GETS RECORD

New York Twirler Has High Percentage Mark in National League—New Method of Rating.

Jeff Tesreau of the New York Giants ball club is the leading hurler of the National league by the modern method of figuring percentages, although Hendrix of the Pirates had the highest percentage of victories in which he pitched. Tesreau was third in games won and lost by the Giants. Mathewson of the Gotham team is second to Tesreau under the new system, although he finished eighth according to the old.

For the basis of his new method of rating twirlers Mr. Heydler chose the actual number of runs made by the opposing team, for which each pitcher was responsible. He adopted a modification of the old "earned run," which was abolished officially many years ago. In computing the number of earned runs, each pitcher was charged with runs which resulted from safe



Jeff Tesreau.

hits, sacrifice hits, bases on balls, hit batsmen, wild pitches and balks. Runs scored as direct results of fielding errors, stolen bases and passed balls were exempted from the record and no runs were charged against pitchers, no matter how they were made, after chances had been offered, and not accepted, to retire the side.

Have Had Many Managers. The Naps and the Highlanders must be running a race to see which club can have more managers to run their teams. In the last five years the Naps have had Lajoie, McGuire, Stovall and Davis, while Griffith, Eberfeldt, Chase, Stallings and Wolverton led the Yankees.

Has Pennant See. Manager Bill Smith of the Atlanta team of the Southern league says he has visions of a pennant for the Atlanta fans. "We have a good outfield, our infield is fair and the pitching staff will be strengthened before the season opens," chirped Billy.

Gossip Among Sports

Den Hoge has been elected captain of the Army team for 1913.

The clubs in the Pacific Coast league earned \$300,000 last season.

They are terming Claude Hendrix, the Pirates' young twirler, the "gift horse."

Rube Benton of the Reds participated in 60 games—the record of the 1912 season.

Dec Walsh, the new shortstop of the St. Louis Browns, is being touted as a great find.

Pitcher Ford likes to draw cartoons, and he believes that he will take up that business some day.

The Cubs had forty men on their roster during the 1912 season. Eighteen of them were twirlers.

The Louisville Colonels won the most extra-inning games in the American association last season.

Rube Marquard seems to have missed the distinction between fame and notoriety as drawing power.

Grover Land, the popular backstop of the Toledo club, may be given another trial with the Cleveland Naps.

Harry Howell, once a big league pitcher, now an umpire in Texas, has had the nerve to ask for more salary.

Tom Downey, the ex-Cub, is likely to quit baseball next year. He owns a moving-picture show in Bridgeport.

Abe Attell has given a convincing reason for retirement from the fight game as a boxer—he can't lift one arm.

Manager Stallings will leave for the training camp about two weeks ahead of the big squad with his battery candidates.

The Detroit Tigers have bought Pitcher Herman Nichols of the Wyan-dotte (Mich.) club of the Border league.

Willie Keeler will hold his job as batting instructor on the Brooklyn team—not that he accomplished much last year.

Christy Mathewson is a many-sided player—ball player, checker player, basketball star. He's all sided except port-sided.

Bob Hedges repeats the St. Louis Browns are not for sale. This all because the Browns pulled up to seventh place.

Manager Griffith says baseball fans are fickle. They will praise a play for the home team and hoot same by the visitors.

Baseball critics claim if his young pitchers come through George Stovall will have a troublesome team down in St. Loopy.

The wet owes Walter Camp a debt of gratitude for his condescension in putting one player from its section of the woods on his pet all star American "champions."

CHANGES IN FOOTBALL RULES

Irving Bush of Wisconsin Offers Some Extremely Reasonable Suggestions For Betterment.

Irving Bush, captain of Wisconsin '04, has offered some suggestions with reference to changes in the rules of football which ought to be adopted. He sanctions the forward pass rule, but believes it should now be modified so that when used it must go beyond the lines of scrimmage. Now a foxy quarterback, knowing that his men are all covered, can simply touch the ball to the ground and thus cause an incomplete forward pass.

Mr. Bush calls attention to another matter that it is a wonder has not been seriously considered before. This he advocates is not abolishment of the try for goal after touchdown. There is nothing particularly interesting about this play. Nine times out of ten it is a lucky shot and really means, if it means anything at all, that the team making it had a little better kicker or little better opportunity or a little more luck.

Possibly the most interesting thing that Mr. Bush advocates is lengthening of the time of game, says the Milwaukee Sentinel. He calls attention to the fact that up in 1906 the game was played in two 35-minute halves, with 5-minute rests. He advocates two 30-minute quarters and two periods of 15 minutes each. In view of the recent showing that the actual strain on the players is not anywhere near as great as people have heretofore supposed, this recommendation ought to have careful consideration.

Taking them all together, he has advanced for consideration some extremely reasonable propositions.

THORPE WILL QUIT FOOTBALL

Indian Says His Intentions Are to Sever All Relations With Sport—Won Many Events.

Jim Thorpe, Indian athlete, who played as a member of the Carlisle football team, which has been a terror to all elevens in the United States, has come out with an assertion that he will quit sports. He says he will sever his athletic relations with his school and that the game with Brown Thanksgiving day positively was his last.

When the Carlisle eleven arrived in Worcester to finish its training for the Brown game Thanksgiving a big crowd surrounded the players and began to call for Thorpe. The modest Indian tried to keep in the background, but he was spied and three cheers were given for him. Some tried to shake his hand.

This demonstration so unnerved Thorpe that he lost no time in declaring that he would quit the Carlisle school and would not take part in any more sporting events. If Thorpe sticks to his declaration the athletic world will lose one of the greatest all-around athletes ever produced.

Thorpe was the most successful athlete that competed in the Olympic games at Stockholm July 4, as he won both the Decathlon and Pentathlon events. Shortly after his return to America he won the all-around championship at Celtic park, scoring more points in the different events than Martin Sheridan did when he was champion.

JIM FLYNN WILL TAKE REST

Defeated Heavyweight Will Come East Before Attempting to Recover Lost Laurels in Ring.

Jim Flynn, recently defeated in his heavyweight fight at Los Angeles by Luther McCarty, is in New York.



Jim Flynn.

where he intends to take a good long rest before attempting to fight his way back into the championship class.

DUMMY BALL FOOLED WAGNER

Jake Beckley Made Famous Pittsburg Shortstop Look Like Sucker—Caught Stealing Second.

"Jake Beckley was one of the few players who ever made me look like a sucker," said young Honus Wagner of the Pirates, a new candidate for the matrimonial league, the other day.

"It happened in Louisville years ago, and Tim Hurst was umpiring. I was on first base and saw Jake hide the ball under his arm. I told him several times I was wise to such bush league stuff, but Jake pretended he did not hear. Finally when Hurst was not looking, I grabbed the ball from under Jake's arm and threw it into right field. Then I started for second base, only to have the pitcher throw another ball to the second baseman, and I was run down between the bases. I felt so cheap I could have dropped clean through to Chna. Beckley had been holding a dummy ball."

Tiger Players for Sale. Barring Cobb, Crawford, Stange and Dubuc, President Navin of Detroit says any of his players are on the market to be sold for cash or to figure in a trade.

Weeks Is President. Frank R. Weeks of Green Bay, Wis., was recently elected president of the Wisconsin-Illinois league.