TEUTONS NEAR BUCHAREST; RUSSIANS OPEN A COUNTER

Invaders of Roumania Now Said to be Only 20 Miles From Capital

Czar's Troops' Attacks in Carpathians May Relieve the Pressure.

London Cable says—Although the Russians, probably as a diversion, have started and are carrying on with great intensity an offensive in the Carpathian region around Karlibaba, northwest of the Roumanian border, the advance of the Teutonic allies all along the line in Wallachia toward the Roumanian capital of Bucharest apparently is meeting with little impediment.

The left flank of the forces of the Central Powers have now captured the important railroad junction of Petechti, 65 miles northwest of Bucharest; in the centre the Roumanians are reported to be retreating eastward in disorder, while the right flank, composed of the army of Field Marshal von Mackensen which crossed the Danube is carrying out manoeuvres in co-operation with the other commanders to the north.

The Petrograd War Office, in admitting a continuation of the retreat of the Roumanians, says the Mackensen men operating from Alexandria have advanced along the Turnpec road to Kulugurena, the latter town being twenty miles south of Bucharest. Turks are fighting with the Germans and Austrians in this region.

The Russian official communication asserts that the Russian attack east and south of Kalibaba has resulted in the capture in both regions of ridges and the taking of 700 prisoners. The Berlin War Office admits that gains were made, but says the Russians suffered heavy casualties.

FIVE-HOUR BATTLE.

Giurgiu, on the Danube, was captured by the troops of the Central Powers advancing on the north bank of the Danube, supported by Bulgarian and Austrian monitors on the right, says to-day's Sofia War Office statement. The battle lasted five hours, and was followed by the flight of the Roumanians and the population towards Bucharest in semi-panic, says the official statement. Indications that Bulgarian artillery forces may have been thrown across the Danube from Rustchuk, opposite Giurgiu, to assist the Bulgarians on the north bank in their capture of Giurgiu, is contained in the wireless version of the Bulgarian official statement, which mentions the Bulgarian troops having among them "artillery from Rutchuk."

It was a contingent of Turkish troops, which occupied Alexandria. To-day's official War Office communication says: "Our troops who crossed the Danube occupied Alexandria Monday. They captured 140 railway cars and a large quantity of provisions." The report continues: "In Dobrudja our artillery and infantry fire repulsed enemy troops and drove them from their entrenchments. The enemy suffered heavy losses."

RETIREMENT ADMITTED.

The Russian War Office reports: "The Roumanians are retiring from Western Wallachia eastward under the pressure of the enemy. Towards Monday evening the enemy had reached the line of Darmaneschti (Darmonechti, on the Argesiu River, 80 miles northwest of Bucharest), Dragani, Vatalechti, Kosteshti and Zveru. On the Alexandria-Zimnitza front the following places were captured by the enemy: Prunaro, Topor, Vieru and Slobodzeia. In the direction of the latter place the enemy has advanced along the Turnpec Road to Kulugurena.

'In Dobrudja artillery and rifle fire is proceeding.

SUCCESS IN CARPATHIANS.

'In the wooded Carpathians (on the Eastern Transylvanian front) our detachments gained possession of a height six versts west of Vorokhta, and took prisoner two officers and 98 men. In the region of Wakahka we have taken possession of a hill ten versts southwest of this point, and captured prisoners.

"In the region of Kirlibaba our troops gained possession of a ridge of heights east of Kirlibaba, compelling the enemy to retire from his positions, and capturing 11 officers, 700 men, six machine guns, and a bomb mortar. South of Kirlibaba, in the Dovtiano Valley, we captured a ridge of heights along the whole of our front."

SEDAN OR JENA?

New York Despatch—Frank H. Simonds writes in the New York Tribune:

If you think of the Roumanians as attempting to defend a long corridor, which is Wallachia, a corridor which has not merely a door as the western end, but a number of doors opening into it from either side, you will have something of the present strategic problem in the Roumanian campaign.

Originally, when the Roumanians had been thrown back into their own country, they held all the doors, the one at the end, which is the frontier near Orsova; the doors on the north, which are the various passes from Orsova to the Predeal; the doors on the south, which actually point to where the Danube can be crossed.

But the great peril in the situation was the possibility that the enemy would force one of the side doors and thus cut off all the defenders to the west. This is exactly what Falkenhayn did when he drove south through Vulcan Pass and took Craiova. When this had happened all the Roumanians to the west were isolated.

Still the Roumanians could hope to barricade the corridor east of the door that had been forced and still hold most of it. This they did by taking a position behind the Alt River. But now Mackensen, crossing the Danube, forced a door opening on the corridor behind the barricade and threatened to cut off the Roumanians holding the barricade.

We do not not know whether these Roumanians will escape or not. If they do they unquestionably will attempt to erect another barricade, and this will be in front of Bucharest. But they will still be exposed to new attacks through other doors in their rear, one of which, the Cernavoda Bridge, is already partially open. The Germans hold the bridge, the Roumanians having failed to destroy it after their defeat in the Dobrudja.

As the situation now stands, the Roumanians who were holding the door at Orsova—the front door, if you please—are permanently lost. The Roumanians who were holding the barricade, which was the line of the Alt River, are in grave danger; they may have been cut off by Mackensen, who has broken into the corridor coming from the south across the Danube. The great problem now is whether the Roumanians can get back along the corridor.

But the next problem, whether Bucharest can be held, will depend upon exactly similar questions. It will depend upon whether the Roumanians can hold the side doors back of Bucharest, the doors in the mountains, which are the Predeal and Torzburger Passes, and the doors on the river front, the most important of which is in German hands in a measure already.

Only by the evacuation of all of Wallachia—in short, quitting the corridor—a retreat to the north and east until the line rests on one flank upon the mass of the mountains, prolonging the general north and south line of the whole eastern front from the Baltic, and on the other upon the Black Sea at the mouth of the Danube or upon the Danube at the point below Tchernavoda Bridge, where the Russians occupy the eastern bank, can the Roumanians escape from the fatal weakness of their position, the geographical weakness.

In the next few days we may see the Roumanians cut off and captured, as was MacMahon's army at Sedan; we may see them escape through the open corridor, but in the condition of the Prussians after Jena and Auerstadt, a condition which led to an immediate disintegration of the whole army and the flight of the remnant to Russian soil. Finally we may see—this is the least likely—a successful stand of the Roumanians before Bucharest and along both walls of the corridor—that is, along the Danube and the mountains.

The things to watch are the passes and the crossings of the river, which are the doors of our corridor figure. For most military men the country of Roumania now seems certain to be lost, and the chief problem is whether the Roumanians can, like the Belgians and the Serbians, get their armies away. The danger is not graver than that of King Albert's army after the evacuation of Antwerp, and their retreat does not offer such physical problems as did the Serbian retreat through the wilderness of Albania. But no one can mistake the critical situation of the Roumanian forces nor the probability that they will be captured or destroyed.

SHIPWRECKED, LONG ADRIFT

British Crew Awaited Death When Rescued.

Other Ships in Trouble On the Ocean.

New York Report.——The story of the rescue in mid-ocean of the captain and five men of a British schooner after they had suffered 23 days of hardships on their waterlogged vessel was told by the officers of the rescue ship, the American oil tanker Gold Shell, which reached this port to-day. Her arrival here marked the end of a six-months' voyage, during which she struck a mine in the war zone and was nearly sunk.

The shipwrecked vessel was the schooner Arthur H. Wight, of St. John's, Nfld., Captain Diamond, bound from Alicante, Spain, to her home port with salt.

According to Captain Hayes, of the Gold Shell, his lookout highted distress signals on a low-lying hulk in latitude 42.47 and longitude 56.28 on the morning of Nov. 28. Although a heavy sea was running, a boat was sent over the side to the distressed vessel.

The rescuers found the schooner water-logged, the bulwarks, deckhouses and lifeboats swept away, and the sails and upper spars gone. In the shelter of the mainmast the captain and crew were huddled, exhausted. The rescuers set fire to the schooner to prevent her from being a menace to navigation.

Captain Diamond said his vessel left Alicante early in September. After being buffeted by head winds for weeks, he ran into a northwest gale on Nov. 5. From that time on the crew fought hunger, thirst and the elements. They had given themselves up for lost then the tanker arrived.

SCHOONER CREW RESCUED.

Halifax Report.——A wireless received by Marine and Fisheries Agent Harvey says the crew of the schooner Arthur J. Parker, bound to this port, from Boston, with a cargo of phosphate, had been rescued by the steamer Rockingham, from Liverpool for Baltimore, in latitude 40.49, longitude 59.27. The wreck was set on fire. Captain Joseph Evans, Mate Duncan Conrod and the entire crew belonged to Liverpool, N. S.

SCHOONER PREMIER ASHORE.

Halifax Report.——A telegram from Canso to Marine and Fisheries Agent Harvey here reports that the schooner Premier ran ashore on Black Ledges last night. All hands were saved. This morning the vessel was filling with water.

AMERICAN CREW PICKED UP.

Halifax N.S., Report.——With the crew of the American schooner William P. Hood, abandoned at sea, on board, the British steamer North Cambria arrived here this morning from England. The William P. Hood, 632 tons net, owned by William M. Mills, Brooklyn, sailed from Norfolk, Va., on Oct. 13, with a cargo of 700 tons of poplar logs for Bristol, England. When about five hundred miles from the Irish coast she encountered a series of heavy gales and was severely battered about.

NOVEMBER CASUALTIES

Some Further Details of the British Losses

And a Comparison With Those of Germany.

London Cable.—British casualties on all fronts in the month of November were under 75,000, or less than 70 per cent. of the October record. The daily average was only 2,487, as compared with 3,402 in October, 3,985 in September, 4,127 in August and 1,925 in July—these being the months of the big Somme offensive. With the exception of July, the figures for November are the smallest since that offensive began. The total losses during the five months are but slightly over 490,000. A comparative table of losses follows:

	Officers.	Men.	Total.
July	7,084	52,591	59,695
August	4,711	123,234	127,945
September	5,439	114,110	119,549
October	4,794	103,471	108,255
November	2,504	72,111	74,615
Totals	24,522	465,517	490,039

The November casualties are divided as follows. Killed—Officers, 891; men, 17,741; total, 18,632. Wounded—Officers, 1,450; men, 47,613; total, 49,063. Missing—Officers, 163; men, 6,757; total, 6,920.

These losses included all land and sea casualties of British and colonial forces.

Germany published 3,755,693 casualties during the war up to the end of October, and even these do not represent the total German losses, as their lists are far in arrears. While Germany's November casualties are not yet compiled in London, a single estimate shows that since the battle of the Somme began Germany's losses on all fronts are double Britain's. Here are the casualty statistics, which, except Germany's for November, are official:

	British.	German.
July	59,695	122,540
August	127,945	240,957
September	119,549	179,884
October	108,255	199,675
November	74,615	160,000
Totals	490,039	903,056

FOR VETERANS.

Home Posts to be Filled by Returned Men.

London, Ont., Report.——Reports from Ottawa indicate an intention on the part of the Department of Militia to put into action very shortly a policy of filling all positions in this country, such as recruiting officers, heads of Military Hospitals Commission commands, etc., with returned officers and giving those officers who are medically fit now holding these positions the choice between going overseas or stepping out. It is understood that all appointments of recruiting officers, etc., will be cancelled within a short time. Several local men will be affected by such an order.

EXEMPT FROM TAXES.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Report.—That Victoria Park is Crown land and need pay no taxes on any business interests within its boundry was the decision here to-day of County Judge Livingstone. The City Assessors placed an assessment on the Refectory Building in the Park sufficient to make up $200 for the city, claiming business was being carried on there in competition with private parties and the Park Commissioners appealed.

WILL SELL SHOE PLANT.

Chatham, Report—An order was made by Judge Stanworth this morning for the sale of equipment in the plant of the defunct Chatham Shoe Company under mortgage held by the city. The Shoe Company went bankrupt shortly after moving to Chatham from London.

"What is your dog's pedigree?" "He hasn't any," replied Mr. Growcher. "That's why I keep him around. I'm shy on distinguished ancestry myself, and I enjoy having a creature at hand whom I can contemplate with supercilious superiority." — Washington Star.

BIG GUNS BUSY ALONG SOMME

Germans' Fire Particularly Severe to the South.

Otherwise Nothing to Report in West.

London Cable.——The official communication from British Headquarters in France issued to-night reads:

"There is nothing to report except artillery duels along the front. The enemy's artillery fire was particularly heavy between the Rivers Somme and Ancre."

The communication issued by the French War Office to-night reads:

"South of the Somme the enemy artillery, energetically shelled by us, bombarded our front from Bois Chaulnes to Berny. There was no infantry action.

"In Champagne the fire of our trench guns exploded an enemy munition depot in the region of Massiges.

"In the Argonne we exploded north of Four de Paris three shells, which shattered a mine work of the enemy. There is nothing to report on the rest of the front.

"Aviation—Sub-Lieut. Nungesser, it is established, has brought down his eighteenth airplane. The enemy machine crashed to the earth near Falvy (region of the Somme)."

The German statement follows:

"Army group of Field Marshal Duke Albrecht of Wurtemberg—In the Ypres bend hostile detachments after strong artillery preparation, attacked our positions along a front of about three kilometres (1.18 miles.) They were repulsed by our fire, and in some places after hand-to-hand fighting.

"Army group of Crown Prince Rupprecht—Owing to the foggy weather the artillery duel increased only between Serre and the Ancre River and on the front in the sector which includes both sides of St. Pierre-Vaast Wood."

SALONIKI TO OPEN A DRIVE

Sarrail's Great Offensive Seems About to Begin.

Famous Serbian Poet Slain in Battle.

London Cable says——The entire Struma and Vardar fronts were bombarded to-day. Unofficial despatches from the Macedonian front indicate that the long delayed general offensive of the Saloniki army is about to be launched. There has been heavy fighting to the east of Monastir for possession of the heights, which dominate the Bulgar lines.

The official communication from Serbian headquarters, issued to-day, reads:

"Yesterday local fighting was very violent in the Grunishte region. Lieut.-Colonel Voyin Popovitch, commanding a detachment of volunteers there met a heroic death at the head of his troops.

"We also deplore the death of the valiant cavalry captain Nikola Antula, the brilliant literary critic and historian, who fell gloriously."

Discussing the operations on the Macedonian front, Major-General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the War Office, said today: "Pursuing the tactics with which we have become familiar on the west front, the German official communiques have been falsely announcing that our successes at Saloniki have only obtained a partial objective, but as a matter of fact we have won the positions desired, the Serbians and French Zouaves taking a very important hill on one wing, while the Italians won their objective on the other.

THE CHANGES IN THE NAVY

London Papers View Them With Delight

As Meaning Rejuvenation of Admiralty.

London Cable.—(New York Times cable)—The appointments of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe as First Sea Lord and Vice Admiral Sir David Beatty to command the grand fleet, draw this comment from the Daily Telegraph:

"The whole nation will welcome the decision to bring fresh blood to the Admiralty Board. It has been only too apparent that the department needed strengthening, and strength from the sea. The Admiralty had exhibted for some time a lack of vigor which occasioned natural uneasiness on the part of the public, which was conscious of the vast issues involved, and felt that the time had come for an infusion of sea air. We assume that, with the advent of Admiral Jellicoe, other changes will now be made, and that at an early date the nation will learn that Mr. Balfour has determined to surround himself with a new body of expert advisers, who will view with a freshness of vision the problems which the war at sea has brought into prominence."

The Daily Chronicle's naval correspondent says:

"There has been a certain sense of disquiet in the country at a sort of quiescence that seemed to have settled upon the Admiralty. The extension of the German submarine campaign to distant waters called obviously for new dispositions. The Admiralty Board had not answered the expectations of the country, and the Admiralty was supposed to be the obstacle that resisted development. What the Admiralty had asked for was a sufficency of machines of the type required for its duties. For the solution of these and other problems, Admiral Jellicoe has had unrivalled experience."

Speaking of Jellicoe, the Chronicle says:

"There are obvious advantages in bringing to headquarters a man who has held a great war command afloat. The case is somewhat parallel to the transference of General Sir Wm. Robertson and his colleagues from the French front to the war office, for, though Robertson had not been in command, as Lord French's chief of staff, he had been at the centre of the machinery of actual warfare. Jellicoe deservedly inspires great confidence, both among the specialists and among the public. His twenty-eight months' command of the grand fleet has beyond question been a most masterly performance."

DEAD RULER LAID TO REST

Remains of Francis Joseph in Capuchin Crypt.

Ceremony Severely Plain and Simple.

Vienna Cable.—via London, Cable.—1.—In the presence of Emperor Charles, the young Crown Prince Francis Joseph Otto, the Kings of Bulgaria, Bavaria and Saxony, the German Crown Prince, and a large number of Teutonic princes and special envoys from neutral governments, the remains of the late Emperor Francis Joseph were buried this afternoon.

The services were extremely simple, and lasted only twelve minutes. Emperor Charles, the German princes, and the relatives of the late Emperor were grouped about the high altar in the cathedral, at the foot of which the coffin rested on a black catafalque. The great body of the cathedral was crowded with government officials, army representatives, members of the court and of the neutral diplomatic corps. The mourning costumes of the many women and neutral officials contrasted sharply with the splendid uniforms which most of the high mourners wore, including the new Emperor and other rulers. No flowers were used, everything connected with the ceremony being of severe plainness and simplicity.

The body was conveyed to St. Stephen's Cathedral over a long route through the city, enormous crowds lining the streets as it passed. Emperor Charles and the other high mourners awaited the coffin seated around the catafalque. They rose as it was borne into the cathedral, surrounded by eight pages bearing burning tapers, and shortly afterwards Cardinal Piffl began the brief service, which was terminated by the Kyrie Eleison. The absence of any organ accompaniment gave additional simplicity to the services.

After the cardinal had sprinkled the coffin, it was replaced in the hearse by the pall-bearers and taken to the Capuchin crypt, where it will remain. The mourners followed the hearse on foot to the crypt, where another short service terminated the ceremony. Throughout the obsequies the young Crown Prince, who is four years old stood close behind his father, dressed in ermine. Close to him were the two sons and daughters of the late Archduke and heir apparent, Francis Ferdinand, by his morganatic marriage.

BULGAR YARNS.

Fox of Balkans Talks of Ally "Treachery."

Berlin Cable (via Sayville)—"A despatch from Sofia says that Premier Radoslavoff has made sensational disclosures in the Bulgarian Parliament," says the Overseas News Agency. "The Roumanian Government in 1915, at the beginning of the war between Bulgaria and Serbia, declared it would remain neutral until the end of the European war. But it was soon evident Roumania had changed its mind.

"Toward the end of August the Roumanian Minister to Bulgaria, G. C. Derussi, who had been sent from Sofia, returned, and spread the report that the Roumanian Government, in order to further good relations with Bulgaria, was ready to give back Dobrudja if Bulgaria would observe neutrality in case of war between Austria-Hungary and Roumania. The Bulgarian Government was not deceived by this treacherous behavior. Premier Radoslavoff refused to grant an audience to the Roumanian Minister.

"Speaking of the expulsion of the Ministers of the central powers from Athens by the French Vice-Admiral Du Fournet, Premier Radoslavoff said good relations continued with the lawful Government of King Constantine. The Greek Government, he said, had no power to prevent this violation of international law.

"Premier Radoslavoff expressed the hope that in a short time the (Teutonic) allied governments would communicate good news to their Parliaments, which would be applauded by all the allied nations."

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Britain Will Not Call On Canadians Discharged Owing to Unfitness.

CENTENARIAN DEAD

McCallum Grant, Halifax, New Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia.

As an effect of the British blockade Swedish imports from America from July, 1915, to June, 1916, diminished 33.6 per cent.

The elevator at Port McNicoll has handled over 35,000,000 bushels of grain this year, and 2,000,000 floating.

One of Guelph's most esteemed citizens in the person of Frederick Hendley died at his residence.

The appointment of Mr. McCallum Grant, of Halifax, to be Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia was announced formally at Ottawa.

Stephen Collins, 60 years old, and a life-long resident of Woodstock, died suddenly at his home of heart failure, induced by shock from excitement following a fire in the house.

P. I. Toffel, ex-corporal of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, who was found guilty at Moose Jaw, Sask., of sedition, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment with hard labor.

Flight Lieut. Ernest Potter, son of W. H. Potter, Port Arthur, and formerly of the Molsons Bank, Winnipeg, has been decorated by Gen. Joffre with the White Whistle Cord, in recognition of his services as an airman on the west front.

Mr. Norman Burr Gould, one of Port Hope's most successful business men, passed away after an illness of short duration. Deceased was born in Colborne, Ont., on March 3, 1848.

John A. McKiggan, 80 years old and a pioneer resident of Woodstock, died at his home there. Mr. McKiggan was born in Scotland, and went to Woodstock when a boy.

Kitchener Court of Revision at its adjourned session made a reduction on the assessment of all of the hotel properties in the city with the exception of the Grand Union Hotel.

T. Duff Pattullo, the new Minister of Lands in Premier Brewster's British Columbia Cabinet, is a former Galtonian, having at one time been a reporter on the staff of the Galt Reformer. He went West in 1897.

Word was received in Toronto that Capt. W. G. MacKendrick, 235 East Roxboro street, had been appointed assistant deputy general director of roads in France. Capt. MacKendrick is a road engineer.

Mr. James W. Hagan, M. A., science master of the Simcoe high school, has accepted the position as inspector of schools for Manitoulin, and leaves as soon as a successor can be secured.

The Entente Allied authorities have deported from Syra to Malta aboard a warship G. Dalleggio, the German Consul, and Suleyman Bey, the Turkish Consul at Syra. The families of the consuls were also deported.

Laurie Smith, 15, a bellboy in the Empress Hotel, Peterboro, was asphyxiated by gas after retiring at his rooming house. The gas escaped from a pipe which he had plugged with cloth after taking off a joint in order that his dresser would stand close to the wall.

John Hays Hammond, mining engineer of New York, who was taken ill at Baltimore a few days ago, supposedly suffering from a cold, was reported to be in a serious condition from internal trouble.

Charles Huffman is in a precarious condition in the Brantford General Hospital, following an accident at the Brantford Carriage Company where he was employed. A piece flying out of the machinery on which he was working struck him in the stomach.

Pte. Wm. Thompson, colored, of No. 2 Construction Battalion, was found guilty in the police court at Chatham on two charges of abduction. He was sentenced to one year in the Ontario Reformatory.

The War Minister in the British Commons stated that it was not intended to call for service with the British army those with discharges certificates from the Canadian military authorities owing to illness or disablement.

Petitions bearing the names of 4,000 Londoners asking clemency for Mike Tancrede, sentenced to be hanged on Jan. 28, 1917, for shooting Raffaelo Barbado last April, were forwarded to Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice.

A campaign for subscriptions to the British sailors' relief fund in Galt has resulted in slightly more than the objective of $4,000 being reached. The total amount collected was $4,048.25. Only the business and professional men and the manufacturers were canvassed.

Catherine Fergusen, widow of Jas. Foster, is dead at the home of her son, Mr. Andrew H. Foote, Fergus, aged 101 years, 6 months and 14 days. The old woman was in possession of all her faculties up until the last, and had a wonderful memory.

Capt. F. Harry Greenless has been appointed to the command of the trench mortar battery of the First Canadian Division in France. He was practising law when the war began, and at the time of his enlistment was president of the London Liberal Club.

She—Your friend doesn't seem very happy. He—Poor chap! Just lost a pot of money. She—Through the war, I suppose. He—Yes; the girl married a soldier.—London Opinion.