NOT A SHOT FIRED WHEN CAPITAL FELL

Bucharest Was Not Defended by the Roumanians, to Save Its Ruin.

SWIFT ADVANCE

Associated Press Man With Invaders Tells of Mackensen's Drive.

London Cable.——The Roumanian army at last reports was still falling back all along the line east of Bucharest from the Transylvanian Alps to the Danube. Just where it will stop and face about, and, with its Russian Allies, make a stand against the Teutonic Allies has not yet become apparent. On the Moldavian west frontier and farther north along the Bukowina border the Russian attacks against the Austro-German forces have failed to make any impression. It is officially announced that the Roumanians evacuated Bucharest in good order, saving their army. The Roumanian rearguard was forced to fight strenuously to cover the retreat.

CITY NOT DAMAGED.

An official communication from Berlin says Bucharest was captured without any fighting, except by the Roumanian infantry north and west of the capital. This resistance was quickly overcome, it is stated, and the invaders entered the town from all sides.

The city is absolutely undamaged, not a single shot having been fired by the big guns. On Tuesday an officer of Mackensen's staff was sent into Bucharest demanding its surrender within 24 hours or bombardment would be opened. The officer returned with the reply that Bucharest was not a fortress, but an open town, and there was no intention of defending the place. Wednesday morning the German cavalry pushed forward and took possession of the west and northern forts without resistance, and the Southern Danube army then entered the city without opposition.

MADE TWENTY MILES A DAY.

In a despatch dated Pitechi, Roumania, Dec. 2nd, an Associated Press correspondent with the German army, reviewing events which led to the capture of Bucharest, says that the Teuton campaign was unparalleled in military history for rapidity. The advance, which often has averaged twenty or more miles a day, has been possible mainly for two reasons. First, is the seeming demoralization and lack of leadership of the Roumanians, evidenced by the capture of entire staffs and large-sized units, with many guns and much material, by insignificant German detachments, which often amounted only to cavalry patrols. Second, is the amazing offensive speed of the Germans, which was indicated by the fact that the correspondent frequently met close behind the front, pressing forward, troops which had been seen but a few days previously miles behind in the Transylvania passes. He continues:

The Germans ,with the aid of Austro-Hungarians, Bulgarians and Turks battered their way through western Roumania to Bucharest, within a wonderfully short time. They breasted the natural fortifications of the Transylvanian Mountains and the Danube River and beat their way through the strongest kind of scientific defences obviously prepared long in advance. They threw the Roumanian army numbering hundreds of thousands of men back in such disorder that even apparently impregnable positions such as those along the Rivers Alt and Argeshu could not be held more than a few hours.

BRIDGES OVER ARGECHU INTACT

The line of the Argechu River, with its flooded, dashing torrent 300 yards to a quarter of a mile forming a natural defence, appeared to be so strong that the Germans themselves expected this last line of defence before Bucharest would require time and a hard effort to force. But the river was crossed both to the north and to the south of the city, almost without breaking the stride of the advancing armies. The Roumanians left the bridges across the stream to the north of the city intact.

The advance of the Teutonic forces was so rapid that the military staffs have been forced to change their bases at intervals of only a few days to keep up with the troops, and to lay plans for settling in towns not yet captured. A trip of 1,000 miles by automobile in this region just completed by the Associated Press correspondent, showed how difficult it was to move as quickly as the invading forces.

The journey began at Livazeny, just within the Hungarian frontier, with Craiova as the first objective. Before the Transylvanian passes had been traversed Craiova had been captured. Bombardment of Slavina began the day after Craiova was reached. The bombardment was watched for a time from Piatra, across the Alt River from Slavina. The Germans believed the Roumanians would be able to hold for some time the almost impregnable heights along the river and the correspondent left to watch other features of the advance, but it was necessary to return at top speed to reach Slavina twenty-four hours after its evacuation and forty-eight hours after witnessing the cannonading.

The next objective was Karakulu, but it had fallen, together with Slatina, by the time the correspondent could arrive, and even the headquarters troops were moving. Hastening northward toward Tanetesti, one of the seemingly innumerable divisions of General von Falkenhayn was found to have passed already east of the line on which the Roumanians late in November attempted to make a stand, only to lose 1,000 prisoners and scores of guns.

Field Marshal von Mackensen's troops, which crossed the Danube, had come in touch with General von Falkenhayn's forces between Rochi de Velde and Alexandria, southwest of Bucharest, before the correspondent could swing southward again, meeting everywhere the premature report that Bucharest had fallen.

TO FIGHT U-BOATS.

British Merchantmen to Mount Heavy Guns.

(By Arthur S. Drpaer).

London Cable.—In an effort to suppress the German submarine menace I am informed on excellent authority that many British merchant ships are being armed with individual guns or batteries of a high calibre, in order to minimize the odds against them when attacked without warning by German submarines. If the United States Government should hold that on account of their increased armament these merchantmen were to be classed as war vessels—as it seems probable will be the case—the port of Halifax will become the chief American entrepot for transatlantic shipping during the war. British cruisers would be better able to keep the port clear of hostile submarines than the American fleet, which would be hampered by the neutrality of the United States.

Such a change is bound to have an enormous effect upon the port of New York. Arming merchant ships is, however, a difficult problem, as mounting big guns means an alteration of the structure of the vessels. It is evidently worth while, nevertheless, as recent statistics show that only one out of five victims of submarines is armed.

NO BIG ARMY AT ORSOVA

The Roumanian Detachment There Was But Small.

Hun "Captures" Include the Citizens.

London Cable.—— "The fall of Bucharest is without military significance, but I have no desire to underrate the fact that its surrender has a considerable moral and political effect," said General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British War Office, on discussing with the Associated Press to-day the latest military operations of the Entente allies.

The Roumanian army is still intact, as it was never in danger of great loss until it made the stand on the Argechu, where it was defeated. It must have lost a considerable number of men when the enemy broke through.

"In our press there has evidently been much misconception in regard to the so-called Orsova army, left in the rear of the Germans. As a matter of fact there never was a Roumanian army in Orsova. The only army in Wallacia was the First Russian army, while slightly less than a division was left at Orsova, only as a rearguard. This detachment was cut off.

"Reports from Germany of from 50,000 to 100,000 Roumanian prisoners must include the civilian population of the occupied districts. The material gains of the Germans around Bucharest are not as great as they expected, as the Roumanians succeeded in inflicting great damage on the oil fields, while much corn was removed.

"It is dangerous to prophesy where the Roumanians will make their stand, but it is reasonable to presume they will take a position on the narrow neck of Roumania, which still gives possession of the larger part of the country and provides strong positions for the flanks.

"Some reasons for the Roumanian difficulties may be summarized as follows: Faulty organization of equipment and railroads, and lack of heavy guns."

Referring to news nearer home, General Maurice said:

"It is interesting to note that the Germans when raiding London by air always assert that they bombarded the fortress of London. Therefore, it is significant that the orders we captured from occupants of an aeroplane which dropped bombs here were merely to bomb London without reference to localities."

General Maurice had nothing new to report from the western front. He dismissed this topic by stating that a new foe, in the form of fog, had been encountered in the Somme valley, preventing the use of artillery and therefore bringing operations to a standstill.

EXCHANGE CIVILIAN PRISONERS.

Stockholm, Cable.—Arrangements for the exchange of civilian prisoners by Russia and Germany have been completed. Sveral groups alread have passed through Sweden for Germany and others are on their way.

The arrangements includes all women and children of age. About 100,000 persons in Russia are affected. The number of Russian civilian prisoners in Germany is inconsiderable, but the exchange will be made regardless of the disproportion.

BREMEN LOST IN STORM.

Amsterdam, Cable.—From a statement made by Alfred Lohmann, prsident of the board of directors of the German Ocean Navigation Company, in which he declined to say anything about the German merchant submarine Bremen, except that the vessel was neither torpedoed nor captured, the Cologne Gazaved. The origin of the fire was undu during a storm in the Atlantic.

HUN REGRETS INSUFFICIENT

Washington Angry Over Excuse for Arabia Sinking.

Following Other Rebuffs, Trouble in Acute.

aWihsngton Cable.——Germany's acceptance of responsibility for the sinking without warning of the British liner Arabia, with the explanation that her submarine commander took the vessel for an auxiliary warship, has brought the issue over submarine warfare to a more serious and clear-cut basis than anything that has happened since the threat of the United States last April to break diplomatic relations after the torpedoing of the Channel liner Sussex.

Such information as the American Government now has tends to show the Arabia to have been a passenger ship of the Peninsular and Oriental Line, passing through the Mediterranean on a regular voyage. Among the many passengers was an American citizen, who was rescued.

The German note, which was made public to-day by the State Department, says if official data is furnished showing that the vessel was an ordinary passenger steamer, "this then would be a case of regrettable mistake from which the German Government would promptly draw the appropriate consequences." It is assumed here that the consequences would be an expression of regret and an offer of reparation for any injury or danger suffered by the American on board.

The note has been referred to President Wilson, who is considering personally a review of recent German submarine activities to which the Arabia case comes as a climax.

In official quarters the German explanation is regarded as weak and unsatisfactory, no weight being attached to the statements that the Arabia was painted like a transport and was following a route usually taken by transports and that the submarine commander saw many Chinese, but no women and children aboard her. It is realized, however, that if official data finally establishes the innocent character of the vessel, in view of the Sussex note, virtually only one course of action remains open to the United States, and that would not be taken until every possible consideration had been given Germany's position.

While Secretary of State Lansing refused all communication to-day beyond the mere publication of the note, it is known authoritatively that Germany's admissions in the Marna case, when six Americans were drowned, and the early facts in the sinking of the American steamer Chemung, have combined to create much anxiety. The temporary quietude in submarine operations which followed the pledges in the Sussex case apparently has been dispelled and officials are recalling the belief then announced that submarine warfare is "utterly incompatible with the principles of humanity, the long-established and incontrovertible rights of neutrals, and the sacred immunities of non-combatants."

THE REAL PRIZE FOR THE TEUTON

Oil Fields of Roumania a Godsend to Invaders.

Loss of Bucharest Comparatively Insignificant.

London Cable.—The rich oil district of Roumania lies north of Bucharest. Its great centre is Ploesci. There are other deposits in the north, in Moldavia, but these are less developed and inferior in importance.

For the most part the main wells lie in the Prahova Valley, between Ploesci and the Predeal Pass, which the Teutons have not been able to force. There are also some outlying wells near Tergovistea.

How important the possession of this district will be to the Germans is apparent from the figures of last year's oil yield. It is no exaggeration to say that the fall of Bucharest, though the loss of its capital is a moral blow to any country, is of less serious consequence to the Allied cause than the conquest of the oil-bearing zone.

In 1915 1,500,000 tons of oil were treated through the refineries. This gave 25 per cent. petrol. Of the total Roumania exported 439,000 tons of refined products. 98 per cent. of which went to Germany and Austria. Of that 98 per cent. only 3 per cent, was petrol, the Roumanian Government having decided to treat petrol as contraband.

There is, therefore, a considerable stock of petrol in Roumania. In all probability it is not far short of 1,000,000 tons. If Germany can get possession of the oil it will be of more importance than the granaries, as she has been practically dependent upon Roumanian oil during the war. It is true there was oil in Galicia, but these fields were out of German hands for some time, and a considerable amount of destruction was done there by the Russians when they evacuated the oil district.

It is hoped here that the Roumanian authorities, realizing the main purpose of the German invasion have taken measures to destroy these large stocks. If the Roumanians have thoroughly demolished all the wells and machinery it will be six months before the wells are again in working order.

Ploesci contains many refineries and large stocks of oil. It is the chief pumping and storage station of the Government. The pipe line is also situated here. Northwest of Ploesci lies the most important oil field in Roumania from the point of view of production. It is at Moreni, which is reached by a road from Ploesci, a distance of 25 miles.

FOR LIBERTY.

Ex-U. S. Amb. to Holland Shows His Views.

New York Des.—Dr. Henry Van Dyke, whose resignation as United States Minister to the Netherlands was announced last Monday, contributes to the current number of The Art World, under the title "The Name of France," a three-versed poem glorifying France and concluding with these lines:

"A name that calls the world to share
The burden of sacrificial strife,
Where the cause at stake is the world's free life,
And the rule of people everywhere:
A name like a vow, a name like a prayer,
I give you, France."

In a statement to the correspondent of the Associated Press at The Hague announcing his resignation, Dr. Van Dyke said:

"The main reason was my wish to return as a writer with full freedom to say what I think and feel."

MORE FIRSTS FOR CANADA

At Live Stock Exhibition at Chicago,

In Clydesdales, Cattle and Sheep.

Chicago, Report.—Canadian horses cattle and sheep were awarded several first prizes to-day by the judges of the International Live Stock Exposition, which closes on Saturday. Peer, a Clydesdale two-year-old, owned by Graham Bros., of Claremont, Ont., was placed at the head of its class by the judges. This firm of breeders also took second with Examiner and third with Reminder. They took third place with a stallion four years old and over, and the same position with a stallion 3 and over. In the open class for Clydesdale mares the Claremont firm was awarded fifth prize with Diana's Choice.

There were nineteen contenders for the prize in the aged Shorthorn bull class and the blue ribbon went to Burnbrae Sultan, owned by A. F. and G. Auld, of Guelph. He is a 6-year-old, weighing 2,800 pounds, and was conceded from the start to be a dangerous contender for the honors against the pick of the best herds in the United States. Sentiment on the part of the United States breeders might have switched the award to Pride of Algion, a bull owned by F. R. Edwards, of Tiffin, Ohio, which had won prizes everywhere, he was shown in this country, but the great scale, better back quarters and walk of the Ontario entry weighed heavily with the judge.

Burnbrae Sultan, though a stranger to the United States show rings, has by his triumph here, only added another stellar award to his long list of winnings. He has won at every big show in aCnada in 1915 ,exceptin gat Toronto, where he was beaten by Gainsford Marquis. In 1916 he showed at almost every big fair in Canada and won the sweepstakes. This was his first try in the Chicago show.

Canada again came to the fore in the senior yearling heifer class, when the Aulds furnished the winner. There were 14 entries in this class.

The judges of sheep finished their work to-day. Peter Arkell & Son, of Teeswater, Ont., were the chief exhibitors of Oxfords, carrying off both championships and first honors in most of the classes. In the aged and yearling ram classes and in the flock class Arkell was the only exhibitor. They had an excellent group of sheep and in the opinion of the judges would have beaten anything that could have been produced by American exhibitors.

Ontario also had a clear field in the Leicester class. The judging was simplified as Robert Taylor, of Abbott, Nebraska, failed to appear with his sheep, leaving John Kelly & Son, of Shakespeare, Ont., the only exhibitors.

The exhibit by Ontario sheep men this year was reduced because of the war.

California Favorite, grand champion steer of the show, was sold at auction to-day. He brought $1,960, or $1.75 per pound. He was purchased by the Sullivan Packing Co., of Detroit.

SALE OF SHORTHORNS.

The Shorthorn sale was a whirlwind and established new records, the average roughly approximated at the close was $997.

The highest price paid was $6,000 for Maxwalton Pride II., owned and bred by Carpenter and Ross. This bull was bought by Mrs. Miller, of the Maxwell Miller Cattle Co., of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Mrs. Miller did her own bidding. Of the fifty-six head sold the only one that was located as coming to Canada was Victoria Princess 8th, bought by A. G. Fraser, of Oakville, Ont., for $1,235. The second highest-priced animal of the sale was Royal Silver, bought by Boyle, of Hennepin, for $4,000.

Many a woman is blind to her husband's faults when she can't even see through his jokes.

THE COURSE OF LLOYD GEORGE

Believed Present Methods Would Never Win War.

Smashed Cabinet to Secure More Action.

London Cable.——(Montreal Gazette cable.)—Sir W. Robertson Nicoll, who has frequently expressed in the columns of the British Weekly what was generally accepted as Lloyd George's views, gives in this week's issue of that paper the following history of the crisis:

"Lloyd George was not anxious to accept the office of the War Secretaryship. Although at once confronted with difficulties, he was able to effect something, but under the present system, under which everything has to be referred to the Cabinet, he was continually thwarted. Remonstrances and memoranda were ignored. The war went from bad to worse. Every day brought its story of humiliation, of indecision, and of disaster.

"Lloyd George became convinced that we were not winning the war, and that with present methods we never should win it. Everything was stagnant, and the Government was apparently unable to do anything. Even when verbal concessions were made to the popular demands, they were not carried into effect. The country in the emergency was willing to follow any direction, and it had none.

"At last, on Friday, Lloyd George wrote to the Prime Minister, demanding that the direction of the war should be taken from the Cabinet and committed to a council of two or three, with Sir William Robertson and Sir John Jellicoe. The Prime Minister was to have a vote, and also the right to be present when he wished to be.

"Asquith replied at once, and a very friendly conference was held between the two statesmen, after which it seemed likely that matters might be arranged. Then on Saturday the Prime Minister went to see the King, and afterwards proceeded to Walmer, thinking the matter might rest till Monday. But he was informed by telegram that the business would brook no delay, and he came back on Sunday.

"There was another interview, also of a friendly character, in which the Prime Minister agreed the methods for the conduct of the war required reformation, and agreed, with certain modifications, to Lloyd George's proposal. On Sunday night at 11.45 he issued a statement to the nation, containing the announcement that the Government was to be reconstructed.

"On Monday symptoms of a change in the Prime Minister were visible, and on Tuesday a letter was received from him, in which he rejected the proposals to which he had agreed by letter and by word of mouth. To this course, no doubt, certain members of the Cabinet urged him.

"On this Lloyd George's resignation followed immediately. No alternative was left to him."

The Westminster Gazette's Parliamentary correspondent says:

"Criticism of the new Government will be reasoned and sober, and without the venom and malice with which the coalition Government was attacked in a section of the press.

"Let Lloyd George be given a full chance to show what he can do, is the spirit reflected in every quarter, even in those quarters which most regret the fall of Premier Asquith, and particularly resent the manner of it."

ALLIED POWERS ARE UNDAUNTED

Reverse in Roumania Stiffens Great Britain,

While France Sets Teeth in Grimmer Earnest.

London Cable.——The Roumanian Government still withholds announcement regarding the latest events, and the only news available respecting the Roumanian situation comes from Roumania's enemies.

Pending further information, the London morning papers print second thoughts on the Central Powers' successes by the military critics and editorial writers. The gist of these opinions is that, while it would be useless to seek to accentuate the moral advantage and considerable accession of useful supplies obtained by the Central Powers it would be easy to exaggerate the evil consequences for the Entente.

The Times says:

"German commentators discuss the Roumanian campaign in chastened spirit. They know the truth about the internal condition of Germany and know that it can never be adequately ameliorated from the Danube. Germany has won Bucharest for the time being only to realize that she has not found salvation. The available food supplies in Roumania are limited and even enemy reports acknowledge that much of them have been destroyed. The oil fields are a gain, but oil will not feed troops or the pinched civil population of Germany. The Germans boast they have greatly shortened their line across Roumania, but they must be conscious that this latest campaign has imposed a severe strain on their diminishing resources of men and material. They have gained a great advertisement and found a means to fight for some time longer, but they are no nearer victory.

"Around the countries of Central Europe the Allied nations are ranged, armed, aggressive and determined to fight unceasingly, and as confident as ever of the ultimate outcome.'

FRANCE MORE DETERMINED.

New York Report.—A New York Times cable from Paris says:

If Germany hopes that her recent Roumanian victory has been a sufficiently crushing blow to the Allies to make them amenable to peace overtures, a perusal of French newspapers will show her that she is grievously mistaken. While there is no attempt to belittle the importance of Germany's success, the immediate effect on public opinion has been that of a stinging blow which electrifies every energy and stiffens every muscle for a counter. This and "the flourish of hired assassins' daggers at Athens" has stung France to the quick. She is setting her teeth in grimmer earnest than ever.

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

French Chamber of Deputies Votes Confidence in Government.

BRITISH TRADE BOOM

Turks Still Determined to Make a Raid On Suez Canal.

Ald. Sam McBride announced his candidature for the Toronto Board of Control.

Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, speaking at Mimico, said Britain was satisfied with Canada's nickel policy, and we should be satisfied.

Edward Agnew, of Toronto, may die from injuries which he received when he was struck by a C. P. R. Telegraph Co.'s motor car.

Helen Hadgraft, of Toronto, a pupil of the Parkdale Collegiate Institute, died suddenly while taking part in an oral examination.

Representatives of the International Garment Workers' Union are to meet in Toronto next week to draw a new schedule of wages and hours affecting Montreal and Toronto.

A deputation proposed to the Toronto Board of Education that $100 per annum be paid for each pupil given instruction at the institutions for the care of the feeble-minded.

Extraordinarily heavy snowfalls in the Alps have blocked roads and railways. The Milan-Paris express has been snowbound.

The condition of Mr. William Gray, M. P. for London, Ont., is extremely serious.

The Brantford Trades and Labor Council has endorsed the efforts of the women to obtain equal franchise.

Another increase in the price of milk went into effect at Chatham when the price was advanced from nine to ten cents a quart.

The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and their daughters, Lady Maude and Lady Blanche Cavendish, will pay Montreal a visit next week.

J. Russ, of Yarmouth township, lost his barns and drive house by fire. The origin of the fire is unknown. The loss is $2,000, hardly covered by insurance.

Fire gutted the bakery conducted by M. McCartin, Brockville. A large quantity of bread and flour, valued at $1,500 was destroyed. The owner carried a small insurance.

The French Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 344 to 160 passed a resolution expressing confidence in the Government in its conduct of the war.

Carranza troops have regained possession of Barral, according to the U. S. State Department advices from El Paso, which say all Americans who were in the city while it was held by Villa's forces are safe.

The British Board of Trade figures for November show increases in imports of £17,300,000 and increase in exports of £6,840,000 over the import and export figures of October.

The Separate Schools Commission which has been administering the bilingual and other separate schools of Ottawa for the Ontario Government handed over the reins of office to the Separate Schools Board.

The Turkish offensive against the Suez Canal has not been given up, and the Egyptian campaign will be resumed at the right moment. This was the statement made by War Minister Enver Pasha in a recent speech before Parliament, giving a summary of the general situation.

Charles Veniza, gentleman crook, long under suspicion by the police, was sent to the St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary for seven years by Judge Bazin at Montreal, on a charge of conspiring to defraud A. Corbell out of a grocery business valued at $2,000.

A Reuter despatch from Amsterdam says that from a number of Dutch steam trawlers towed into Cuxhaven the German authorities took 35 per cent. of their fish, on the ground of contraband, as that proportion of the total Dutch catch had been assigned to England.

Stratford City Council decided to submit to the ratepayers on Jan. 1 the proposal to have the municipalities own the proposed new power plant at Chippawa Creek.

The water of a St. Louis swimming pool is kept in good condition by an application of the germ-killing violet rays.