

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19

Editorial Notes and Clippings

"NO TRADE WITH THE YANKEES."

Fate seems to be unfavorable to the Borden government. Again it has been necessary to go to the United States Interstate Commerce Commission and make arrangements for the transportation of Canadian grain through United States territory and by the partial favor of American railways. While everyone will rejoice that measures are being taken

to remove the grain blockade in the Canadian West, it seems nothing short of ridiculous to contend that we must not increase our trade relations with the United States by any fair and businesslike understanding as to tariff regulations. Some politicians would rather go on their knees for a favor than make a straight business deal, and the Borden government seems to be constituted that way.—Victoria Times.

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NOTES OF INTEREST OF THE BALKAN WAR AND THE ALLIES

There is no pauperism in Serbia, in the sense in which it is understood in the west. The poorest have some sort of freehold property. There are a few poor people in Belgrade, the capital, but neither their poverty nor their number has necessitated an institution like a workhouse.

Serbia is an agricultural country, where almost every peasant cultivates his own freehold. The holdings vary in size from ten to thirty acres mostly. Of the total area (11,930,740 acres) 4,607,520 acres were cultivated in 1904, and 3,816,620 were under woods and forests.

Carpet weaving is one of the oldest industries in Serbia. The product is manufactured principally at Pirot, in Southeastern Serbia, and the carpets are named after this place. The chief characteristics of these carpets are that they are made of pure wool, dyed with natural colors by local dyers, who pride themselves that the process of dyeing and color mixing is a secret transmitted by father to son, and is known only to the inhabitants of Pirot.

The area of Montenegro, who opened the campaign, is officially given as 3,255 square miles, considerably less than the size of Wales.

From 1389, when they first successfully maintained their independence against Turkey, the Montenegrins—fierce and implacable foes—have waged almost incessant war against the Turks, their hereditary enemies.

Montenegro is allied to Italy by marriage, Princess Helena, the third daughter of the reigning king, Nicholas I (he has three sons and six daughters), having married the present King of Italy in 1896.

The population of Turkey consists of an extraordinary mixture of races. In European Turkey the Turks are about 2,000,000, the Greeks and Bulgarians 1,300,000 and the Albanians 1,500,000. In Asia the Turks are about 7,000,000, the Kurds 1,000,000, the Greeks 1,000,000 and the Armenians over 2,000,000, while the rest is made up of Syrians, Jews, Franks, Gipsies, Tartars, Circassians, etc.

In Turkey elementary education is nominally obligatory for boys from six to eleven years of age, and for girls from six to ten years of age, education being free. All schools are under government control, but there is no interference with the religious education of the different communities.

Macedonia, which is the centre of the whole trouble—for Bulgaria, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece believe that Turkey is so weakened by the war with Italy and by internal dissensions that the moment is favorable to throw off the Turkish yoke under which their kinsmen and fellow Christians in Macedonia have been chafing and suffering for many years—fell into the hands of the Turks in the sixteenth century.

To the north of Macedonia lie

Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro, with Greece on the south. The population of the coast districts are Greeks, whilst in the interior Christian Bulgarians greatly preponderate. The agitation in Macedonia for reforms in government and the brutal oppression of the Christians in 1902-3 by Albanians, secretly supported by the Turkish authorities, led to open revolution. In its suppression terrible atrocities were perpetrated by Turkish soldiers, whole villages were massacred and a fierce vendetta kept up on both sides. And, in spite of a scheme of partial reform drawn up by the powers, the state of Macedonia is still very bad.

Turkey's army is outnumbered in the field against the Balkan states. Her total land fighting force is 300,000. Bulgaria can place 350,000 men in the field, Serbia 110,000, Montenegro 30,000 and Greece 50,000; but it should be mentioned that Turkey has great reserves of efficient men.

Bulgaria is a very small country, with a total population of only a little over 4,000,000, or rather less than Ireland, which it only slightly exceeds in area.

The Balkans is the name given to the Balkan peninsula, which includes the following countries: Turkey in Europe, with its possessions, Macedonia and Albania; Bulgaria, with Eastern Rumelia; Serbia, Montenegro and Greece.

It is the Balkan league which has been formed by Bulgaria, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece to free their kinsmen and fellow Christians in Macedonia from Turkish oppression. The league hopes to take advantage of Turkey's weakness after her unsuccessful war with Italy. The countries of the league are bound to make war together and may not conclude peace individually.

The Ottoman navy has been in the course of reorganization for the last two years under British admirals and a British staff of navigating torpedo boat and gunnery officers. The navy at the present time consists of a dozen men-of-war, eight destroyers and fourteen torpedo boats.

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