

FALL OF SALONIKA.

The Bulgarians after a fierce struggle have pierced the Lines of Tchataldja. The correspondent of the *Reichspost* telegraphs that the Bulgarian Army had attacked the whole front of the position and had turned it on the north, capturing the fort of Delijunus and making through in the neighbourhood of Derkos. The rapid progress of the Bulgarians towards Constantinople has raised the question of the future of the Turkish capital, which is now eagerly discussed. In our leading article we explain the reasons for which the Bulgarians should hesitate to seize the tempting prize which their victories have brought almost within their grasp.

While the Bulgarians are marching from victory to victory in Thrace their allies are completing the conquest of Macedonia. Salonika yesterday surrendered to the Crown Prince of Greece, and the great seaport of the Levant, the interest and importance of which we explain in a special article on page 7, has ceased to be the headquarters of the Committee of Union and Progress to become that of the Greek Army.

From Belgrade comes the serious news that the Servians, disregarding the warnings addressed to them from Vienna, are sending a column to seize Durazzo on the Albanian coast. This step is likely to render even more acute the difference between Serbia and the Triple Alliance Powers, which we discuss in the article on the immediate problems of diplomacy. This difference is now causing considerable anxiety, which will not be relieved by the interviews that the Servian Prime Minister has given to some Vienna newspapers; but our Paris Correspondent has reason to believe that a solution will be found for the difficulties created by it.

As we go to press news reaches us that the Sheikh-ul-Islam has called upon the Ulema to preach a Holy War.

SALONIKA TAKEN.

APPOINTMENT OF A GREEK GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ATHENS, Nov. 8.

Salonika was occupied by the Greek troops to-day.

All Athens is *en fête* over the capture of the town. As soon as the news had been received the church bells proclaimed the happy event, which, but a month ago, would have seemed only a dream. In spite of the bad weather the principal streets, which are illuminated and beflagged, are filled with crowds singing the National Hymn. A demonstration, marked by the most unbounded popular enthusiasm, was made in front of the Ministry of War. M. Venezelos, who was there, was greeted with frenzied acclamation.

M. Ractivan, the Minister of Justice, who is a native of Veria, will apparently be appointed Governor-General of Salonika, with M. Papadimantopoulos, the former Greek Consul-General in Salonika, as his secretary.

NOVEMBER 9, 1.20 A.M.

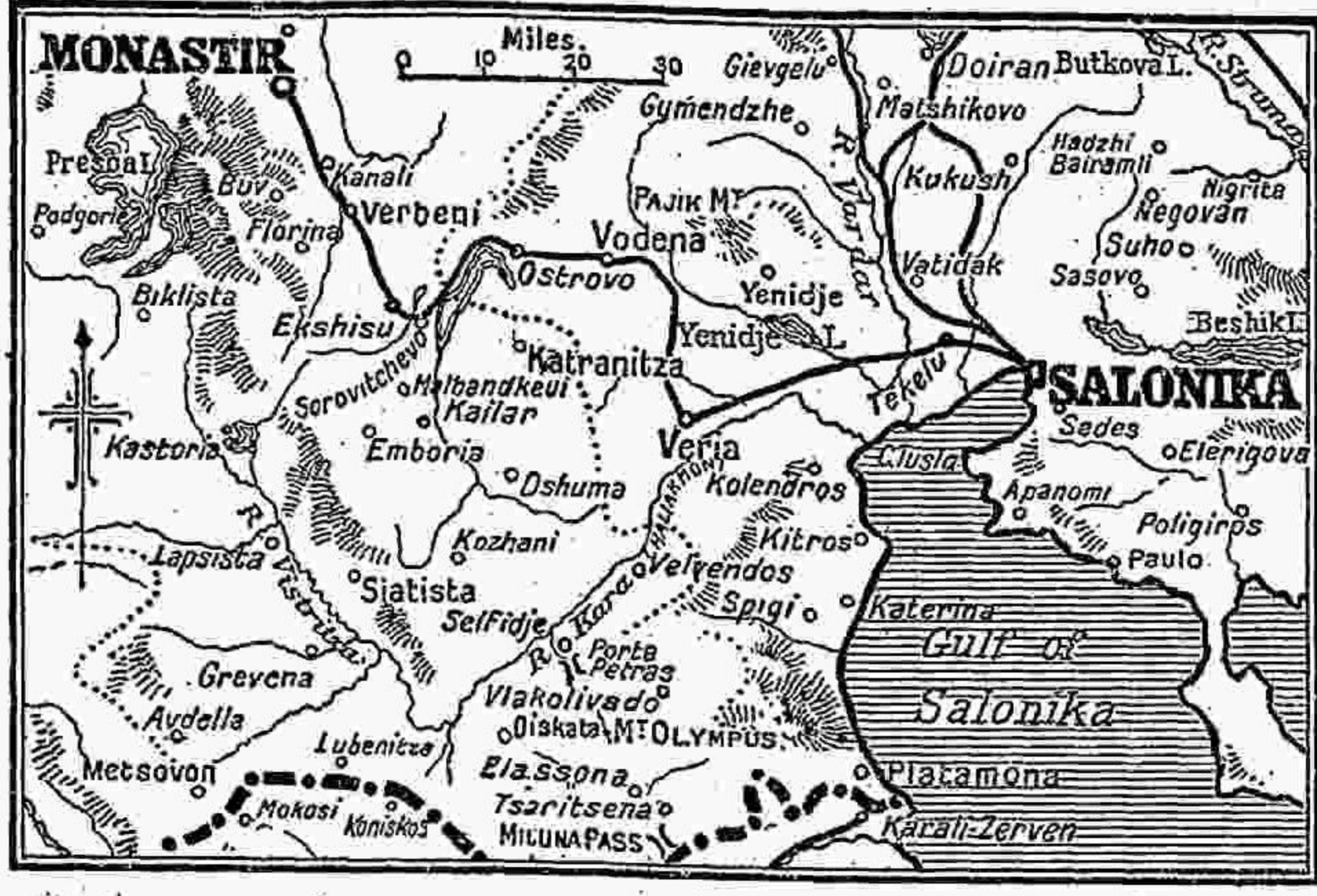
The news of the capture of Salonika was contained in a telegram from the telegraphic office at Gida to the Minister of War. The Government has not received official confirmation of the news up to this hour.

ATHENS, Nov. 8.

The King of the Hellenes received the news of the capture of Salonika by the Greek Army in a telegram from the Crown Prince shortly after noon to-day. His Majesty, who was at Gida, immediately left for Salonika by special train.

It is remarked that the occupation took place on the Feast of St. Demetrius, the patron saint of Salonika.—*Reuter*.

THE GREEK MARCH TO SALONIKA.



THE CITY OF SALONIKA.

ITS RACES, CREEDS, AND POLITICS.

The capture of Salonika by the Greek Army, the announcement of which appears on page 8, constitutes one of the most interesting reversals of fortune in the history of the East. The second greatest city in the Turkish Empire, it has been in recent years at once a great military centre and the headquarters of the Committee of Union and Progress, and its long and eventful history, its polyglot and cosmopolitan population, and the strong European and non-Turkish influences to which it is continually subjected, are all points of resemblance with the capital.

The most conspicuous element in the population are the Sephardic Jews, numbering some 60,000 to 80,000 out of a total 150,000 whose ancestors fled to Salonika in the 16th century in order to escape religious persecution in Spain and Portugal. Other writers on Macedonia and its problems have pointed out the extent to which interest and sympathy alike dictate to the Jews an alliance with the Turks. The reaction of this attitude of mind upon politics and the international Press has been manifest and notorious. In Salonika the Jews are everywhere. Mr. Brailsford in a book on "Macedonia" observes:—

They monopolize the commerce, control the shipping, and eclipse the Greeks not only in business, but in "society" as well. Their showy and hideous villas, designed in Rococo fashion to produce a maximum of display, give to Salonika's suburb an air of quite European vulgarity. Within the town the middle classes throng the narrow lanes and the forbidding and mysterious courtyards with their projecting upper storeys and protruding eaves. They patrol the streets in their long gabardines, and their women retain their medieval costume, garish and décolletée. They are conspicuous and at their ease. They dominate the town, managing Turks and overawing Christians. This Jewish predominance makes Salonika unique among Levantine seaports, where it is usually the Greek element which impresses its character on the town.

Salonika has the moral squalor of Europe with the physical squalor of the East. Picturesque it may be, with its beautiful Byzantine churches, its Roman triumphal arch, and its castles and bastions which recall the brief empire of the Crusaders. But the main impression is one of ugliness and materialism. The place seems oddly isolated, and when caged within its walls it becomes a sort of puzzle, by what magic one reached a place so different from the idyllic Macedonian valleys to the north, or the fairy Gulf of Volo to the south. Olympus across the bay dwarfs and rebukes it and makes it trivial. It is a town of contradictions where men buy by telegraph in the costumes of the ghetto and turn the stately Castilian of the Middle Ages into a *palois* for nasty pleasures and petty gains.

The important part played by members of the Salonika Donmeh in recent Turkish politics recalls one of the most extraordinary movements of the 17th century. This sect owed its origin to the Hebrew Shabbethai Zebi, who for years was implicitly believed to be the Messiah. Born in Smyrna in 1626, Shabbethai was of Spanish-Jewish extraction. His father, Mordecai, was a wealthy and pious Jew, the trusted agent of a London firm of merchants. As was recalled in *The Times* on May 12, 1911, in a remarkable article on "The Origin of the Donmeh," Shabbethai, after wandering and proclaiming his doctrine throughout the East, suddenly adopted the Moslem faith. Many of his followers believed in him to the end of their lives, and from these faithful ones are descended the modern sect of the Donmeh, their Turkish title, which signifies "turncoats." A few of the sect are found in Adrianople; the majority, however, are settled in Salonika. They are sharply divided into three sub-sects, and not only do they forbid marriage with Jews or with Mahomedans, but each sub-sect marries only within itself.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

Salonika lies on the west side of the Chalcidic peninsula, at the head of the Gulf of Salonika, on a fine bay, the southern edge of which is formed by the Calamarian Heights, while its northern and western side is the broad alluvial plain created by the discharge of the Vardar and the Bistritza, the principal rivers of Western Macedonia. Built partly on the low ground along the edge of the bay, flanked by the Tower of Blood, and partly on the hill to the north, the city, with its white houses enclosed by white walls, runs up along natural ravines to the Castle of Heptapyrgion, or Seven Towers, and is rendered picturesque by numerous domes and minarets and the foliage of elms, cypresses, and mulberry trees. The commercial quarter of the town, lying to the north-west, towards the great valleys by which the inland traffic is conveyed, is pierced by broad and straight streets paved with lava. There are electric tramways and a good water-supply, but most of the older houses are fragile wooden structures coated with lime or mud, and the sanitation is defective. Apart from churches, mosques, and synagogues, there are a few noteworthy modern buildings, but the chief architectural interest of Salonika is centred in its Roman and Byzantine remains.

The history of a number of these memorials goes back to the fourth century B.C., when Thessalonika first became the capital of Macedonia. Founded in 315 B.C. on the site of the still more ancient Therma, the city was named by Cassander after his wife, a sister of Alexander the Great. It had reached its zenith long before the seat of Empire was transferred to Constantinople, and it was destined to become famous in connexion with the early history of Christianity by the two Epistles which St. Paul addressed to the local Christian community, which had become "an ensample to all that believe in Macedonia and in Achaia." Theodosius massacred 7,000 of its citizens; the Iconoclasts, the Macedonian Slavs, the Bulgarians, and the Normans of Sicily, each of them in turn took their toll of blood and destroyed the works of Constantine, who had endowed the city with many splendid buildings.

Throughout the ages the Via Egnatia of the Romans has traversed the city from east to west, and survives to this day as the Grand Rue de Vardar. Among the architectural glories of the city are the remains of the two Roman Imperial arches that have spanned this highway for over 1,500 years. Another example of Roman architecture, the remains of a white marble portico, supposed to have formed the entrance to the Hippodrome, is known by the Judæo-Spanish name of Las

Incantades, from the eight Caryatides in the upper part of the structure. A baker has burrowed himself into the foundations of this Imperial relic, and the ruins of the old Venetian citadel have been turned into a prison and a slum.

The new harbour which was built ten years ago enables the port to do a trade of about 1,000,000 tons. Such manufacturing industries as there are show a tendency to become stationary. Nevertheless Salonika would, in any circumstances, be bound to maintain its commercial standing, if only because it is the principal Aegean port in the Balkan peninsula, the centre of the import trade of all Macedonia and two-thirds of Albania, the natural port of shipment for the products of an even larger area, and the terminus of railway lines from Constantinople, Nish, Mitrovitza, and Monastir.

The Greeks, the Bulgars, and the Serbs can each of them put forward historic claims to the possession of Salonika. Ethnographically the city lies in debatable territory. Bulgarian influence has striven hard to assert itself over the Servian tendencies that have survived. But, as in the case of many other districts along the coast, Hellenism has remained strong. The rivalry between these contending forces will lend special interest to the impending settlement. The questions which will naturally be asked will be whether the Greeks, now that they have come as conquerors, will be welcomed by their brethren; and whether Greek and Serb together will have the courage to say to their confederate in the historic words of the Turkish Vali at Uskub to the local Bulgarian Bishop:—"O Bulgarian, sit upon the eggs you have, and do not burst your belly by trying to lay more."

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

DONATION FROM THE KING.

The King has sent a donation of £100 to the British Red Cross Society's Balkan Relief Fund. It is to be again noted that the Society affords aid to all the belligerents equally without regard to nationality or creed.

Our Correspondent in Sofia telegraphs that the British Red Cross mission of 38 persons, which arrived there on Thursday, will proceed to-day to Stara Zagora. The Red Crescent Mission is expected to arrive soon. The Bulgarian Red Cross Society will place at its disposal one of the military schools in the suburbs. This school is being fitted up as a hospital. A special kitchen has been installed for the Turkish wounded, of whom there are more than 150 now in Sofia. Two trains bringing a large number of wounded arrived yesterday.

The Queen of Bulgaria has sent to Mme. Mincoff, wife of the First Secretary to the Bulgarian Legation in London, who is acting as secretary and treasurer of the Bulgarian Relief Fund, a telegraphic message expressing her deep gratitude to all those who have subscribed towards the fund for the relief of the sick, wounded, destitute, and refugees. The Queen also states that under her supervision committees have been formed in the principal parts of Bulgaria which are distributing food and giving employment to those whom the war has left without any means of support. Her Majesty says that the need of further help is urgently felt. Up to last evening the total amount of the Bulgarian Relief Fund amounted to £1,050.

The Committee of the Foreign Press Association has decided to devote the entire proceeds of the Arabian Nights Ball at Covent Garden on December 12 to the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies. Last year the profits of the first ball were devoted to the funds of the Foreign Press Benevolent Association. Applications for tickets should be made to Mrs. Carl Leyel, The Ferry House, Twickenham.

A Reuter message from Bombay states that the Bombay Moslems are subscribing over £1,000 a day to the Red Crescent funds, and they have already sent £17,000 to Constantinople. A contribution by the Viceroy has greatly stimulated the local efforts.

CALENDAR OF THE WAR.

- September 30.—Bulgaria, Servia, Greece, and Montenegro mobilized.
- October 1.—Turkey mobilized.
- October 2.—The allies concentrated their forces.
- October 7.—Austro-Russian Note to the allies.
- October 8.—Montenegro declared war.
- October 10.—Collective Note presented to Turkey.
- October 13.—Græco-Serbo-Bulgarian Note to Turkey.
- October 14.—Montenegrin capture of Tuzi.
- October 15.—Peace signed between Turkey and Italy.
- October 16.—Berane captured by the Montenegrins.
- October 17.—Turkey declared war on Bulgaria and Servia, who accepted the challenge. Greece declared war on Turkey.
- October 18.—Mustafa Pasha captured. Ellassona occupied.
- October 20.—Bulgarian advance on Adrianople.
- October 21.—Greek landing in Lemnos.
- October 22.—Prishtina captured by Servians.
- October 23.—Novi bazar captured by Servians. Heavy fighting at Adrianople.
- October 24.—Fall of Kirk Kilisse. Capture of Kumanovo.
- October 25.—Bombardment of Adrianople.
- October 26.—Capture of Uskub.
- October 27.—Capture of Ishtip.
- October 28.—Capture of Veria by Greeks.
- October 29.—Battle in Thrace begun.
- October 30.—Capture of Thasos by Greeks.
- October 31.—Rout of the Turks. Capture of Rodosto by the Bulgarians. Capture of Ipek by Montenegrins. Capture of Prizrend by Servians.
- November 3.—Capture of Plevna by Greeks.
- November 4.—Turkish appeal for mediation.

A NEW MAP OF THRACE.

Messrs. Stanford, of 12, Long-acre, W.O., have published a new map of the seat of war in Thrace. It consists of a single sheet, about 43in. by 23in. in size, on a scale of six miles to the inch. This renders it more adaptable for reference than the War Office maps, which are composed of a number of sheets. It appears to be based on the British and Austrian Staff maps and combines the virtues of both. The railways include the Baba Eski-Kirk Kilisse line, and the forts both of Adrianople and the Lines of Tchataldja are indicated and named. The prices are 6s. for the sheet; mounted in case, 8s. 6d.; on a card, 10s.; mounted on rollers and varnished, 11s. 6d.

The latest telegrams from the theatre of war, together with a map of the Lines of Tchataldja, will be found on page 8.

Mr. Borden has approved the proposal of the Montreal Chamber of Commerce to send a large deputation of Canadian business men to England and the Continent next summer.

THE SURRENDER OF SALONIKA. REJOICINGS THROUGHOUT GREECE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ATHENS, Nov. 10.

The confirmation of the surrender of Salonika and the fort on Kara Burun, with 25,000 prisoners, has evoked frenzied enthusiasm throughout Hellas. The Hellenic nation, with its proverbial patriotism in forgetting all party divisions, pays a tribute of gratitude and respect to M. Venezelos, the Prime Minister. The same attitude is adopted in Crete, where the municipality of Canea has renamed the principal square in his honour. A *Te Deum* was sung this morning in the Cathedral in the presence of the municipal authorities, when, in spite of the rain, an immense crowd collected. After the ceremony an imposing demonstration led by the Mayor was held in front of the Prime Minister's house. M. Venezelos was accorded a most enthusiastic ovation. The Mayor expressed the gratitude and admiration of the people of the capital for his noble work, to which were due the capture of Salonika and the other Greek victories.

M. Venezelos, in returning thanks, said that Greece had entered on a new path. Relying on her own strength and her valiant army, she would march forward to a brilliant future. The demonstrators then marched to the Bulgarian and Servian Legations, where the Mayor congratulated the two Ministers on the successes of the allied armies. A telegram was afterwards sent by the Municipality to the King, congratulating him on the military exploits of the Crown Prince.

The Municipal Council has decided to change the name of University-street to Salonika-street and to rename Academy-street Liberator Venezelos-street.

M. Ractivan, Minister of Justice, has left for Salonika to act as representative of the Government. Other officials and 200 Cretan gendarmes under Major Momferratos have also been despatched.

THANKSGIVING IN CRETE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CANDIA, Nov. 9.

The news of the occupation of Salonika by the Greek Army caused an outburst of the wildest joy among the Christian population here. A thanksgiving service was held in the Cathedral. The Metropolitan of Crete officiated and the whole population attended. It was an impressive demonstration.

It is worthy of note that, notwithstanding the high pitch of enthusiasm, the attitude of the Christians is exemplary; there is no molestation of the Mahomedans.

SALONIKA.

JOINT OCCUPATION BY THREE BALKAN POWERS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SOFIA, Nov. 11.

Although Salonika fell on Friday no information was issued here regarding the Bulgarian army operating in the neighbourhood of the Macedonian capital till to-day. A despatch dated November 9 from General Todoroff, at whose headquarters Prince Boris and Prince Cyril had already arrived, states that on the morning of that day Turkish troops issuing from Salonika took up a strong position on the heights near the villages of Aivatovo [Aivali] and Ilo about four miles from the city, but after a battle lasting three hours retreated on Salonika, followed by Bulgarian troops. By this time General Todoroff had received information from the commander of the second Greek division that the garrison of Salonika had surrendered to the Greek army. As the force opposing the Bulgarians had not surrendered General Todoroff determined to continue his advance. Princes Boris and Cyril were present at the battle.

NOVEMBER 12.

According to official information Prince Boris and Prince Cyril entered Salonika at 9 a.m. on Saturday with a division of Bulgarian troops under General Todoroff. A Servian regiment entered the city at the same time.

The civil administration will be carried on by functionaries appointed by the three allied States.

The bulletin issued from the Ministry for War to-day contains little not already known. It states that the following telegram was addressed by General Todoroff to King Ferdinand on November 9:—"The town of Salonika is from to-day under the sceptre of your Majesty." The text of this telegram was known here on Sunday, but was obliterated from the journals by the censorship.

It will be remembered that the Greek Army occupied Salonika about midday on Friday last.

THE ARRIVAL OF KING GEORGE.

ATHENS, Nov. 12.*

An official telegram from Salonika states that the King, Prince George, and Princess Alice arrived from Gida in a special train shortly after 10 o'clock this morning. They were met at the station by the Crown Prince Constantine, the other Princes, and the Metropolitan.

THE ENTRY OF THE GREEKS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SALONIKA, Nov. 9.

To-day, after 470 years of Turkish domination, the Greek Army once more trod the streets of Salonika. It has been a great day for the Hellenes, their goal is reached, their dream realized. And no ancient army returning victorious to its native Athens ever received a more tumultuous welcome than Salonika accorded to the conquering hosts to-day. In the morning the camp of the Seventh Division under General Kleomenes was the rendezvous of all the Greek and half the Jewish population of the town. The General Commanding is himself installed in the railway station. Here he was joined by the Chief of Staff, Major Nigroponte, and we lived the recent battles over again. Our conversation was continually interrupted by the arrival of enthusiastic Greeks longing to kiss the commander's hand, and leaving personal objects of value as offerings to the idol of the hour, for, in the absence of the Crown Prince, the General is the darling of the populace.

To one who has practically lived in the Turkish lines during the past ten days, a visit to the Greek camp was refreshing, and did much to explain the speedy and overpowering advance of the invaders. From their appearance the troops might have left Athens yesterday. Here were batteries of artillery drawn up in orderly array, spick and span machine-gun companies, well-mounted cavalry, and 15,000 small wiry, well-cared-for, well-fed soldiers, whose unshaven faces had happiness and content written all over them, every man being warmly clad and completely equipped. The town is wearing gala aspect and the Greek flag is flying everywhere, the Turkish standard having disappeared as if by magic. Favours of the winning colours are as popular as at a North-country football match.

Not until the afternoon was it generally known that the occupation had really been accomplished; then, as headed by a detachment of cavalry a regiment of Evzones tramped down the central street, pandemonium ensued. Fair Hellenes on flower-bedecked balconies showered autumn roses on the heroes below, the air was rent by cries of *Zeto Zeto*, the wildly-cheering throng pressed upon the warriors until the troops had to fight their way through in single file.

I spent the evening observing exultant human nature from a point of vantage in the principal café, where a huge Greek flag had replaced the Turkish red and white. The appearance of officers in uniform was the signal for the crowd to rise and give vent to more *Zetos*. Then a priest, turned warrior, harangued the numerous auditors with the story of his battles. Excitement was rising fast when the famous Athenian street-poet Matsoukas mounted a table and discharged an endless flow of patriotic poesy until his compatriots shrieked themselves hoarse with delight. Greek blood was now up, orator after orator mounted the tribune, each carrying the enthusiasm to a higher pitch, until the crowd gave itself up to the wildest exultation. Meantime a recently suspended Greek journal reappeared with its front page smothered under a reproduction of the national flag and was sold at a premium.

This was not the return home of a victorious army, but its entry into the second city of the enemy's country. Surely no stranger sight has ever been seen. Thousands of the noisiest demonstrators were befezzed Ottoman subjects rejoicing at the downfall of the country to which they owe allegiance; hundreds more were Jews whom the Sultan ever counted among the most devoted of his vassals. It was all very strange and, very instructive, and like so many other things, possible only in Turkey. A Turkish opinion of this demonstration would have been very interesting, but Moslems remained indoors. Some few soldiers walked aimlessly about, paying little heed to the jubilation of their enemies. Order is still being maintained in the streets by patrols of armed Turkish *gendarmérie*.