

Latest News From the Seat of War

A Resume of the Events of the Past Week Gathered For Our Busy Readers Showing the Leading Events of the War in Europe

LULL OCCURS IN WAR GAME

FIRST GREAT BATTLE IS YET TO BE FOUGHT BY ARMIES OF EUROPE.

SITUATION AT LIEGE UNIQUE

German Forces Continue to Occupy City—France and Austria Officially Declare Hostilities, Ambassadors Having Left for Their Homes.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. London.—No great battle has yet been fought on land or sea in the war of seven nations, unless the German assaults upon the fortress at Liege eventually assume the proportions of a battle in history.

Both combatants claim the victory there, with the Belgians still holding the forts and the Germans occupying the city. The situation is a unique one. There is no confirmation to the Daily Mail's report that the French have engaged the Germans and cut off their retreat, inflicting a loss of 4,000 men. The Belgians claim that they have taken 8,000 prisoners on Belgian soil, but military men regard all the estimates of the belligerents as greatly exaggerated.

A report from Liege of the fighting at the first week, when resolved to the proper perspective eventually, doubtless will be considered insignificant.

One of the most important developments in the eyes of experts is the general testimony that the German infantry formation is obsolete and ineffective against weapons of today, and means an enormous slaughter if retained.

France and Austria finally are officially at war, the ambassadors having left their respective capitals. The French government broke off diplomatic relations with Austria, and Austrian troops are reinforcing the Germans.

The Austrians seem to have abandoned the advance on Serbia for a time, and apparently are co-operating with Germany in the supposed strategy of attempting to crush France before Russia can mobilize.

WAR CRAFT REAR AMERICAN COAST

Authorities Place Embargo on Wireless Apparatus of Every Foreign Ship in New York Harbor—Cruisers at Sea Suspected of Communication.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. London.—The Hamburg-American line steamer Capt. Ortel, with \$5,000,000 in specie aboard, has been captured by the British, according to the Daily Mail. The liner sailed from Buenos Ayres on July 16 for Southampton.

New York.—While incoming ocean liners brought confirmation that foreign warships are cruising off the American coast, strict censorship over the cables leading out of Bermuda perhaps, kept hidden from public knowledge the fate of the North German Lloyd steamer Kronprinz Wilhelm, which took 4,000 tons of coal out of this port under cover of darkness last week before the battleship Florida began its enforcement of neutrality laws.

The British cruiser Essex has captured the German liner and is taking her a prize of war, into Hamilton, Bermuda, according to wireless messages declared to have been overheard at sea.

The port authorities have put into effect the most rigid enforcement of the neutrality laws, almost simultaneously with the arrival of the Atlantic transport liner Minnetonka with a story that a warship, nationality not learned, had pursued her during the closing hours of her voyage to American waters. An embargo was placed on the wireless apparatus of every foreign ship in New York harbor. This step was taken after the authorities began to suspect foreign cruisers at sea might be communicating with ships of their nationality in port.

More Funds for Tourists.

Large sums were cabled by the state department for the immediate use of its diplomatic officers in aiding Americans in various capitals.

Efforts will be made to secure the release of Americans arrested in Germany on a charge of spying, the offer of a wireless station at Tuckerton, N. J., furnishing the American government its first means of communication with isolated Germany.

ENGLAND'S FOOD SUPPLY.

How Enough Breadstuffs to Last for Five Months.

London.—Of most bread, fish and other foodstuffs there are abundant supplies at present. In many shops the shortage of such is due to inability to receive supplies from the wholesale houses, owing to the commandeering of ships and motor vehicles by the government. It is expected that the situation will be remedied in a few days, according to the terms of the ancient treaty.

WAR DEVELOPMENTS AT A GLANCE

Below will be found a brief summary of the war's development from day to day. This gives, in a brief manner, the principal news events as they are happening, and really forms a synopsis of the week's events:

TUESDAY.

Diplomatic relations between France and Austria have been broken and the ambassadors have left the capitals. The French foreign office in a statement says the initiative was taken by France because Austrian troops were aiding the Germans.

The Germans occupy the city of Liege, while the Belgian troops hold the forts. The Belgian official view is that the situation is quite satisfactory. Strong forces guard all the approaches to Brussels.

The Austrians before Serbia are still bombarding Belgrade, while part of the Serbian army is taking the offensive in Bosnia.

The North sea is again closed to the fishing fleets, which is regarded as significant in view of the fact that there are large British and German fleets in that water.

The German cruiser Karlsruhe, which arrived at San Juan Porto Rico, reported an engagement Friday night off the Bahamas with four British and French cruisers.

The French government forbids the publication of the French casualty list, so that Germany may note the movement of the French troops.

Queen Wilhelmina has published a proclamation regretting the disturbance to commerce and industry and calling upon everybody to assist those in need. She suggests the formation of a general benevolent committee, with the minister of commerce as president.

MONDAY.

A junction of Belgian, British and French troops in Belgium is reported to have been effected and a clash between German and French cavalry south of Namur is said to have taken place.

Athens dispatches say large Turkish forces are being concentrated on Bulgarian territory by agreement with Bulgaria.

Emperor William is reported to have left for the Alaskan frontier to join the German general staff.

The British admiral announced that German submarines attacked a British cruiser squadron, but that the British ships escaped undamaged, while one German submarine was sunk.

France has requested the Austrian ambassador to explain Austria's intentions in an alleged movement of Austrians across Germany to the French frontier.

Cholera is said to have broken out among the Austrian and Serbian troops.

Paris dispatches say the Germans in Belgium are short of provisions.

A cablegram from Peking says serious "conversations" are proceeding between the Tokio and London governments concerning whether Japan will participate in an attack on the German colony of Tsing Tau.

The French and Belgian governments have directed that the resources of the two countries shall be the common property of France and Belgium.

Austrian cruisers bombarded Antivari, Montenegro, Saturday morning, destroying the wireless station, according to advices brought to Biarritz, near Brindisi, by steamer.

AMERICANS NOT SO UNEASY.

Many Express Their Desire to Remain in Europe.

Washington, D. C.—Americans in Europe have about stopped clamoring to return home, according to reports to the state department from Ambassador Page at London. The ambassador claimed that while steamers sailing for the United States carried 5,000 Americans, since the treasury cruisers started across the Atlantic and banks began advancing cash on demand many of those who at first besieged the embassy with appeals for transportation now express a willingness to remain indefinitely.

Secretary Garrison estimated that the number of Americans stranded in Europe who really desire to return home has dropped to 30,000. Mr. Garrison now doubts whether it will be necessary to send any vessels across to bring these people to the United States, as commercial lines appear to be able to take care of them all.

Russian Attack Repeated.

Berlin, via London.—A Russian cavalry brigade Friday morning attacked the German troops near Soldan, in East Prussia. The attack was repulsed with considerable losses. Russian cavalry Thursday attacked the town of Klibarty, near Wirballen, in the government of Suwalki, Russian Poland.

PORTUGAL WITH BRITAIN.

Lisbon, Portugal.—Portugal's decision to support Great Britain in the general European war was announced after Germany had demanded information of her intentions. A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Lisbon says that at a special meeting of parliament the declaration was made that Portugal would place herself unconditionally on the side of England, according to the terms of her ancient treaty.

RULES ARE MODIFIED

UNCLE SAM RESCINDS DRASTIC CLEARANCE ORDER FOR OTHER RIGID RULES.

ALLOWS RESERVISTS TO SAIL

Status of Vaterland and All Other Ships of Belligerent Countries Fixed by New Regulations—More Funds Go to Aid of Tourists.

EUROPE'S ARMIES.

(Official estimate prepared this year in Great Britain.)

	Standing Armies.	Immediate War Strength.
Germany	672,000	2,250,000
Austria-Hungary	425,000	810,000
Italy	306,000	750,000
Great Britain	413,446	805,000
France	620,000	1,250,000
Russia	1,500,000	1,905,000
Belgium	43,000	340,000
Spain	135,000	140,000
Sweden	14,000	195,000
Norway	24,000	120,000
Denmark	13,000	90,000
Greece	29,000	120,000
Holland	47,000	125,000
Portugal	32,000	100,000
Rumania	98,000	420,000
Bulgaria	135,000	350,000
Turkey	65,000	340,000
	220,000	360,000

Note—France in addition has aside from its territories an organized reserve of 650,000 and unorganized reserves numbering 500,000 men.

Germany had estimated that by 1915 she would have available for war service some 5,400,000 full trained men.

ITALY IS THREATENED

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA WANT HELP OF THAT NATION.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Rome.—Germany and Austria threaten Italy with the declaration that if the latter persists in its stand of neutrality they will consider themselves free to declare war and Austria will invade Venetia and Lombardy.

Rome.—Germany and Austria have renewed the strongest pressure on the Italian government and King Victor Emmanuel to secure Italy's help in the war, even to the extent of promising territorial compensations.

Italy has firmly refused, on the ground that it is impossible to oppose the national will, which, it is pointed out, will never permit hostilities against Great Britain and France.

Germany is using its utmost efforts to bring about a change in Italy's attitude in the present European situation. Direct appeals have been made to King Victor Emmanuel, but in vain.

It is asserted that Italy, having declared her neutrality, intends to maintain it. Italy's position as a member of the triple alliance, and therefore an ally of Germany under certain conditions, has been discussed in every phase and the general consent of opinion seems to be that the Italian people would never permit an act of hostility against France and Great Britain.

Because Italy is neutral, all manifestations for or against the belligerents are being rigorously repressed. Yet everywhere spontaneous outbursts of enthusiasm for France have occurred. In Rome there have been frequent cries of "Long live France! Long live our Latin brothers!" and the Marseillaise is being sung in the streets.

The French embassy here and the French consulate in other cities of Italy are daily receiving offers from men who wish to join the French forces.

A statement attributed by King Victor Emmanuel in reply to the insistence of the representatives of Germany and Austria-Hungary, who continually augmented their efforts in order to obtain the active cooperation of Italy in the politics of two Teutonic empires, has aroused much discussion in political circles here. The king of Italy is said to have burst out with the exclamation: "Neither friendship for my allies nor offers made by them, no matter how advantageous, would persuade me to sell my honor and that of my country."

Queen Helena, with her children, returned to the quinal, as her majesty desired to be near the king during the present grave situation. She said: "My place in case of danger is beside my husband." She was accompanied by her sister-in-law, Princess Natalie, of Montenegro, and her three children.

An English Appeal.

London.—The Standard, Daily Mail and other papers appeal to Italy to abandon her neutrality and come to the assistance of England and France against "the common enemy of Europe."

Washington, D. C.—Rapid progress was made toward the relief of Americans in Europe. President Wilson issued an executive order constituting a board of relief to consist of the secretaries of state, treasury, war and navy, which will have general charge of the distribution of \$2,500,000 authorized by congress.

British sailors and four German prisoners who were injured when the cruiser Amphion was struck by a mine have died in a hospital.

The American embassy has arranged with the government to permit Americans from Havre to land at Southampton, although that is a closed port. This will enable a large number of Americans who have been held up in Normandy to come to England to get a steamer home. They must, however, get a certificate of citizenship from the consul at Havre.

RESPONSE TO BRITISH PLEA.

English Raising Big Sum for These in Need.

London.—The appeal for funds which are being raised in England for the wives and children of those called to the colors and those thrown out of work, and to care for the sick and wounded, has aroused an unprecedented response, and hundreds of thousands of pounds have been subscribed. The prince of Wales fund has already reached \$3,000,000. Four

CRUP YIELD NORMAL

BEST YIELD REPORTED SHOWS WHEAT WENT 25 BUSHELS TO THE ACRE.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

From the Capital City, the Various State Institutions and from Many Different Parts of the Sunshine State.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Aberdeen.—Crop conditions, as the thresher returns begin to come in in South Dakota, can be better judged now than was possible when farming experts and farmers themselves were guessing as to the amount of possible damage from rust or hot winds, and even now conditions vary according to local conditions, farming methods, etc. However, the yields reported average normal or better. The best yield reported so far was from a farm near Spearhead, in the southern part of Brown county, when wheat went 25 bushels to the acre, graded No. 1 northern and weighed 67 pounds to the bushel. Gottlieb Reber, near Bath, east of Aberdeen, threshed 72 acres that yielded 950 bushels, or over 13 bushels to the acre, part of which graded No. 1 and the rest No. 2 northern. Crop experts who traveled through Day county estimate a damage by hot winds and rust of 20 per cent. The estimate for Day county on July 1 was 17 bushels to the acre. If the reported damage holds out, the average yield will be in the neighborhood of 13 to 14 bushels per acre.

Threshing returns in the vicinity of Mellette show yields of from 17 to 21 bushels to the acre.

David Williams of Duluth, formerly of Webster, while on a visit to his Day county holdings, expressed himself as convinced the damage from black rust on his farms and others in that section of the state was very light.

Near Bridgewater thresher yields are running from 8 to 15 bushels for wheat and oats from 30 to 40 bushels. Blue stem wheat is damaged by black rust, and the grain is of inferior quality. At Herried wheat is running from 10 to 12 bushels.

In the vicinity of Harrold, Frank town, states that wheat in that section is going from 20 to 25 bushels to the acre. Corn needed rain, but that condition was later relieved.

At Spearhead wheat is running poor, yielding from 5 to 10 bushels to the acre being reported. This is in the south central part of the state. Oats in that section are averaging from 40 to 50 bushels.

West of the river, in Corson, Ziebach and Dewey counties, wheat is reported in excellent shape, the yields running as high as 20 bushels to the acre.

At McIntosh, in Corson county, a probable damage of 15 per cent is reported, but this leaves a good crop. Near McIntosh wheat yielded 21 bushels. J. E. McDonald of near Morrilton reports 25 bushels of oats to the acre, and Adolph Isdo reports a yield of 50 bushels to the acre. Splendid hay crops are reported in all sections of the state.

Advocates greater Alfalfa Crops.

Gettysburg.—Hon. W. D. McKee, Polo, Mo., who has had five years' experience campaigning the state of South Dakota in the interest of better agriculture under the auspices of the farmers' institutes, and who has recently been lecturing in Potter county on "Alfalfa and Better Farming," gave a reporter his impression of his five years' work in this state. Mr. McKee said in part: "The alfalfa plant has already done much for you in South Dakota, and is destined to do vastly more good in the future than it has done in the past. Alfalfa on every farm will furnish you with a feeding material that is rich in protein to balance up the many tons of bright wheat and oat straw that so low in bone and muscle building element. It is also exceedingly comforting to me after campaigning this state in almost every county, nook and corner for six years in farmers' institute work to find the farmers growing corn and alfalfa and following mixed and diversified farming. This kind of farming will enable them to practice a sane, rational crop rotation and manufacture the raw materials of the farm into the finished product, keep up the humus content of the soil, and thereby maintain its fertility."

Customer City.—With the carrying out of the project by the forest service for the construction of a big reservoir near the Gillette canyon and the development of springs in that vicinity, it is estimated that there will be sufficient water available to supply between 500 and 600 head of cattle that can be grazed in that district.

Stocking With Dairy Cattle.

Dupree.—Banks all over the western county have been carrying on the project of stocking up the homesteads with dairy cattle during the past year, and with the abundance of forage crops this year, this movement is proving to have been a very profitable one all around, enabling the homesteaders to realize on their investments, and many of them being able to pay off a large per cent of the cost of their stock from the profits derived from the sale of butter fat.

An Inventive Genius.

Northville.—Another railroad man in overalls may win a fortune through his inventive genius. Ernest Braun, section foreman for the Chicago and Northwestern here, has invented a weed cutter to be used on railroad ditches. His earlier attempts at operation by attaching it to a handcar drawn by a horse, proved it successful. He has been called to Huron by the company to superintend the operation of the device on a trial with a locomotive.

FIVE NEW COUNTIES.

Votes, Authorized by County Commissioners, May Make New Counties.

Pierre.—Five new counties may be created for the state by the votes which have been authorized by boards of county commissioners of different counties in the western part of the state.

Two of these will be Jackson and Haakon, the first carved out of the southwest corner of Stanley county, and covering the territory which was set aside as Jackson county before the county consolidation scheme which wiped out so many of the county names from the west half of the state, with the northwest corner of about 50 townships organized into Haakon county, leaving Stanley with its old original borders.

Another vote authorized is that in Pennington county to cut off all that part of the county east of Cheyenne river, to be known as Howard county, this part of Pennington having been known as Washington county in the old days.

The Meade county commissioners have granted two petitions for division, one to cut off that part of Meade county north of the township line between townships 8 and 9, to be called Delano county, this territory having been known as Delano in the old days of the state. The other petition which was granted by a county to be known as White Owl, which would be bounded by all the present part of Meade county east of a line extending in a southeasterly direction from the southeast corner of Butte county, to the Belle Fourche river, and then down that stream to its junction with Cheyenne river, and down the Cheyenne to the present east boundary of Meade county. If by any chance both these propositions should carry, it would leave the boundaries of Meade county so uncertain that litigation would certainly follow, as would also be the case as to what would be White Owl county, and what would not be such, as White Owl county includes all which is being asked as Delano, and a large section in addition.

Besides these division issues, Stanley county commissioners granted a petition for a county seat location contest in which Midland is especially interested. A vote has been granted on the matter of division of Lyman county on the line between the old eastern survey, an Black Hills survey in that county, which divides the county practically in the middle, the west half to be known as Jones county. As the county records of that county have always been kept in separate record books, for the different surveys, there will not be much trouble in getting the records in shape for the new county in case of division.

Movies to Advertise South Dakota.

Sioux Falls.—A unique method of raising funds for the maintenance of the South Dakota building at the Panama-Pacific exposition has been adopted by the South Dakota commission. Contracts were closed for the production of a South Dakota feature moving picture film, showing all the business, commercial and industrial activities of the state. This film will be shown at the exposition each day of the nine months' exposition, and will also be shown in the principal cities of the United States as an educational feature film. The arrangements were made by W. C. Cook, chairman of the commission, with the Animated Producing company, for the entire production. Space in the film will be allotted to cities and industries, according to their population and relative importance. The offices of the Panama-Pacific Exposition commission in Sioux Falls, are now receiving applications for space in this feature from commercial clubs and booster organizations of the various towns. A representative of the commission will call upon the various cities and industries with a corps of camera men and produce the pictures at the same time the contracts are closed for space. On account of the fact that only a certain number of feet of film can be run in a day, it is anticipated the demand for space will far exceed the amount of footage to be allotted to various localities.

Grass and Alfalfa Promising.

Pierre.—Miles of deep green grass and acres of thick alfalfa west of the Missouri in the northwest section of the state is reported by immigration commissioner and land commissioner who returned from an auto trip covering the reservation out from Forest City to the Moreau river. Hepperle and MacCaffree both say they were absolutely amazed at the green stretch of country, and found it beyond their biggest expectations for good crops. Good corn and much alfalfa, with acres of marvelous grazing has made that portion of the state this year (especially prosperous). The only fear is that of prairie fires, which would destroy the unusual crop of grass, but with continued rains as they have had the fires have less chance.

Ferryboat for Forest City.

Pierre.—The new ferryboat which will operate at Forest City for the Indian reservation and government officials has begun its long journey of more than 1,200 miles, from Grafton, Ill. Word was sent to the Forest City government officials of the craft starting on its way.

The Smallest Fire Loss.

Pierre.—The fire loss in South Dakota has been smaller the past year than ever before, according to the insurance commissioner's report.

The barn on the farm of J. Marks, living northwest of Manchester, was destroyed by fire when it was struck by a bolt of lightning during a storm. A horse and cow were killed by the same bolt that started the fire.

Timber Lake, the county seat of Dewey county, and one of the several flourishing towns that sprang up with the opening of the Cheyenne reservation to settlement, will celebrate the fourth anniversary of the establishment of the town on August 27 and 28.

NEWS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Veblen boasts the first cement street crossing in the history of the town.

William Cox of Brayton, S. D., was killed by a stroke of lightning. He was 40 years old and single.

A shortage in ice at Pierpont has made it necessary to have semi-weekly shipments brought in from Britton.

At a special election held at Veblen, bonds in the sum of \$25,000 were voted for the construction of a new school house.

J. H. Thomas, who secured the contract for the construction of the large dam on the experimental farm at Cottonwood, has begun work.

The State Bank and Trust company of Sioux Falls has been changed to a national bank, to be known as the Security National bank.

Using a hoe for a weapon, Mrs. Ed. Brasfield of Owanka killed a rattlesnake which she found in her doorway. The snake had 14 rattles.

A gasoline tractor motor, being used by two track inspectors on work in the canyon near Spearfish, caught fire and was destroyed while the men were obliged to walk on their return trip to town.

The county commissioners of Custer county have instructed the auditor to have plans and specifications submitted for the construction of up-to-date vaults in which to safeguard the county records.

A small burglary, presumed to have been pulled off by some of the transients hanging about, occurred at the Dan Busen elevator office in Pierre. Entrance was made by breaking a glass and raising a window.

Six vendors of meat sandwiches on the streets of Mitchell were arrested on complaint of Guy G. Fray, state food and dairy commissioner, that the condition of their meats was a violation of the state pure food law.

The farmers of Yankton county are donating large sums to the Hill endowment fund for Yankton college. A committee of Yankton business men is canvassing the rural districts and expects to raise over \$15,000 in a week.

Sparks from the engine of a passenger train set fire to a stubble field on the farm of Knud Severson, west of Vermillion, and destroyed a large amount of wheat in the shock, together with three wheat wagons and machinery. The loss amounted to about \$2,000.

The assessed valuation of farming lands in McPherson county average \$17 an acre, the total acreage being 576,621, and the total valuation \$6,801,526. There were 9,618 horses of all ages in the county, 21,855 head of cattle, 8,181 head of sheep, 3,812 head of hogs, and farm machinery to the value of \$70,913.

The Williams elevator at Andover was set on fire during the night, evidently by an incendiary, but the blaze was discovered before it had made much headway and was extinguished before the elevator was destroyed. It was found some waste had been saturated with kerosene and placed under the foundation.

A carload of woven and barbed wire has been received at Custer City for the north and west portions of the eight-foot fence that is being built around the state game preserve. Two more carloads are due. The 40-mile fence around the preserve is already half completed, the south and east sides being finished.

Wildcats within the city limits of Miller are furnishing dog-day excitement for the residents of that district. Many have reported seeing the bobcat cat, but whether there is actually only one animal seen by different people or several which have come up from the Missouri river timber is not definitely known, as the only one that has been shot in the hunt have yet been able to make a killing.

The South Dakota General railway will build from Watertown as far as the Mark Jones place in Blooming Valley township, Grant county, this summer, according to plans announced at Summit. Work will begin immediately and the road will be in shape to haul out the wheat crop this fall. The survey has been made and the right of way secured so that all that remains is to get the contractors on the ground. The road will follow the Sioux valley from Watertown north.

Belle Fourche reports receipts of wool for this year are larger than any time in the past four years and prices were also much higher. The total receipts for 1914 were 1,606,000 pounds, which brought an average of 17 1/2 cents per pound, or a total of \$281,050, as against 1,336,000 and a total of \$207,098 last year. The highest price paid this year was 20 1/2 cents per pound. Wools were light but of better quality and as there are over 20,000 more sheep on the range tributary to that point this year than last, it is estimated that next year's crop will reach the 2,000,000 pound mark.

Archie Hubbell, a tramp from Missouri, 82 years of age, is in a hospital at Yankton in a serious condition as the result of a fall from a train. Hubbell received terrible gashes in the accident, but is expected to recover.

"The Opening of Panama Canal" will be a special feature of the night pageant to be shown at the South Dakota state fair by the Pan Fireworks Display Company of America. A two-hour display of brilliant pyrotechnics will bring each night's entertainment to a close.

Paul M. Young, who won the singles championship title in the James River Valley tennis tournament at Aberdeen, defeated Ora Wells in three straight sets and won the Mitchell tennis tournament. The scores were 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

While driving cattle on a farm northeast of Plankinton, Arthur Dunn was kicked in the abdomen by a steer and severely injured. An operation was necessary when the physicians' examination discovered that his intestines had been ruptured by the blow. He will probably recover.