

MAMMOTH CONFLICT IMMINENT

Immense Armies Are in Contact.

GERMAN LEGIONS ARE INVESTING BRUSSELS

Naval Activities Are Also Admitted Taking Place in the North Sea.

London, Aug. 19.—Many rumors of important occurrences in the theater of war have been flooding London in the past twenty-four hours.

Stories that Brussels has been invested by the German army, that the forts at Liege were evacuated and dynamited by the Belgians and that the Austrians have suffered a severe defeat at the hands of the Servians reached here from unofficial sources.

There was a significant silence as to the progress of the battle said to have been begun Monday near the historic field of Waterloo.

"The French troops are in contact with the Germans in Belgium, but there is no important engagement to report," reads an official announcement issued at the French embassy in London.

The reports of the dynamiting of the forts at Liege reached London from Rotterdam. The message says that the action of the Belgians was due to the arrival of Germany's heavy motor batteries.

A Brussels dispatch to the Mail says it is learned on the highest authority that on Monday the Liege forts were holding out. They were cut off from the Franco-Belgian field forces and surrounded by Germans, but continued their heroic resistance, the message said.

Naval Engagement Occurs.

A naval engagement occurred early Tuesday morning in the North sea 100 miles off Harwich, according to a dispatch from that port. The statement was not confirmed by the official press bureau, which, however, declared that a "certain liveliness is apparent in the southern area of the North sea."

In spite of official assurances that the big battle has not begun there came from the Brussels correspondent of the Daily Express, telegraphing from Ostend, what purports to be a description of a gigantic conflict. He had been expelled from Brussels when the allies' order against war correspondents was put into effect and left the scene Monday.

"The great battle may be said to have begun on Saturday when an attack was made on the French positions south of the river Meuse near Dinant. This feat attack, without much weight, was beaten back.

"On Sunday the real German attack began in an attempt to strike toward Waterloo and France. The battle started with the pushing forward of cavalry supported by infantry and artillery.

Advance Guard Wiped Out.

"This entire force, as soon as it came in contact with the Belgians, was virtually surrounded and its advance guards exterminated. The shattered fragments fell back on the massed German armies, waiting to attack.

"Later on Sunday the main German attack began from Saint Trond, eleven miles east of Tirlemont. The fighting was tremendous, great execution being done on both sides.

"My sheer weight of numbers the Germans finally forced the Belgians back in their second line. Then the French came up and heavy firing was heard all along the line all day Tuesday at Wavre.

"The German advance did not follow any of the main highways. They cut across these, using the smaller roads. The Germans were unable to operate their heavier field artillery.

Encounters, which military historians a month from now may describe as "reconnaissance in force," are proceeding all along the border. They are heralded by both sides as battles and victories. In history most of them will rank as incidents.

Waiting for Real Battle.

Two acutely uncertain factors remain to be weighed and determined and until some real battle shall have given some light on them there will be no settled frame of mind in this country. These are whether the French army is better than it was in 1870 and whether the Russian army is better than it was in the Japanese war.

There is great confidence here in the French general staff and great re-

KING CONSTANTINE.

Greek Ruler Who May Help Serbia in War.



spect for the enterprise which Frenchmen have developed in the last decade in sports, particularly in aviation, and keen respect for the bravery and hot headed dash of French blood. So far as their own progress is concerned the British feel deep satisfaction that the navy has proved sufficiently equal to its work up to date to make it possible to land on the continent a large army before a naval battle has been fought, with the same precision and lack of casualties as if it had been maneuvers instead of actual warfare, and to clear the Atlantic so that commerce can pursue its peaceful way and food supplies can be brought from the Scandinavian countries over the North sea.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE.

From the war zone come only brief reports of the activities of the vast German and allied armies opposing each other.

The French officially report that the Germans have abandoned Saarebourg. The Liege forts are said still to be intact and a Brussels dispatch says that the German movement toward the Belgian center seems to have been checked.

"The French troops are in contact with the Germans, but there is no important engagement to report," says an official announcement of the French embassy in London.

A British expeditionary force numbering more than 100,000 has made a safe landing at French and Belgian ports and is doubtless well on its way to form a junction with its allies.

A significant statement is issued by the British official bureau to the effect that desultory fighting has occurred between the British patrolling squadrons and flotillas and German reconnoitering cruisers.

"A certain liveliness is apparent in the southern area of the North sea," the statement adds.

There are rumors of a naval engagement about 100 miles off Harwich, in the North sea.

GERMANS DISCOUNT FRENCH SUCCESS

News Agency Account of Fighting at Mulhausen.

Berlin, via Copenhagen and London, Aug. 19.—The Wolff bureau, the semi-official German news agency, gave out the following account of the battle of Mulhausen:

"One and a half French army corps entered Upper Alsace while our troops were still concentrating. Nevertheless, we attacked the enemy, who was thrown back toward Belfort, but whose march afterward continued.

"A small section of artillery from Strassburg was defeated and two batteries, which had been rendered useless, were taken by the enemy, who then marched toward Schirmeck, eight miles from Saales, Alsace."

PRESIDENT SIGNS MEASURE

Foreign Built Ships Can Secure American Registry.

Washington, Aug. 19.—President Wilson signed the amendment to the Panama canal act under which foreign built ships may be added to American registry for the over seas trade. The measure becomes effective at once and is expected to aid materially in solving the problem of handling American exports while the European nations are at war.

The president also signed the bill to regulate dealings in cotton futures.

SAY LIEGE FORTS ARE DESTROYED

Germans Use Heavy Artillery.

EMPHATIC DENIAL COMES FROM LONDON

French Embassy Insists Belgians Are Still Holding All Strongholds.

London, Aug. 19.—An official statement issued by the French embassy in London says: "The Liege forts are still holding out. None of them has been taken."

Berlin, Aug. 19, via Copenhagen and London.—A series of statements on the Liege enigma is published from the headquarters of General Stein, according to which French officers and perhaps also French soldiers, were sent to Liege before the war to instruct the Belgian troops in the defense of the fortifications.

"It was impossible to protest against this," General Stein says, "but after the war began this conduct had to be regarded as an infraction of Belgian neutrality by France. We had to act with all speed and mobilized. Regiments were sent to the frontier and marched on Liege. Six weak brigades on a peace footing, with some cavalry and artillery, took Liege.

"The brigades were mobilized at Liege and there received as first reinforcement their own reserves. Two other regiments came later. Our mobilization has just finished. Our enemies thought that 100,000 Germans were at Liege and, owing to difficulties with the commissariat, were unable to advance. This, however, was a mistake. There was another reason for the pause.

"Now the forward march can begin and our enemies will have an opportunity to convince themselves that the German force is well supplied with food and arms. The emperor has given the word not to sacrifice another drop of blood to capture the Liege forts.

"The enemy did not know our methods of attack and believed themselves secure in the forts, but already the fire of our weakest big guns had forced the forts which they shelled to surrender, or quickly demolished them, burying the garrisons in the ruins. The Liege fortifications no longer will serve our enemies, but will be a support to the German army.

JOFFRE REPORTS TO PARIS

French Commander Claims Important Successes.

London, Aug. 19.—In a dispatch from Paris the Daily Telegraph's correspondent sends a communication of General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French forces, to the French minister of war, describing the recent actions in Alsace.

"Summing up," the communication says, "we thus have obtained in the course of a few days several important successes which reflect the greatest honor on our troops, whose eagerness is incomparable.

"In all the actions of the last few days the Germans have suffered important losses. Our artillery has the effect of demoralizing and crushing the enemy."

COMES FROM TWO SOURCES

Rumor of Naval Engagement in the North Sea.

London, Aug. 19.—A dispatch to the Central News from Harwich says that a naval engagement occurred early Tuesday morning in the North sea about 100 miles off Harwich.

The statement of the correspondent is not confirmed by the official bureau.

The Amsterdam correspondent of the Post says a telegram has been received there from Texel island reporting heavy gun firing in a western direction.

Texel island is in the North sea and is the southwesternmost of the Frisian islands, forming part of the province of North Holland.

Saarebourg Abandoned.

London, Aug. 19.—An official dispatch to the French embassy says: "The Germans have abandoned Saarebourg, where they were strongly established with heavy artillery."

KING GEORGE V.

Sends Stirring Message to Departing Soldiers.



SENDS STIRRING MESSAGE

King George Blesses His Departing Soldiers.

London, Aug. 19.—A stirring message from King George to the expeditionary force was read out to each regiment as it left its port for departure under sealed orders. It was as follows:

"You are leaving home to fight for the safety and honor of my empire.

"Belgium, whose country we are pledged to defend, has been attacked and France is about to be invaded by the same powerful force.

"I have implicit confidence in you, my soldiers. Duty is your watchword and I know your duty will be nobly done. I shall follow your every movement with the deepest interest and shall mark with eager satisfaction your daily progress. Indeed, your welfare will never be absent from my thoughts.

"I pray to God to bless and guard you and to bring you back victorious."

OPEN MUTINY AMONG AUSTRIAN SOLDIERS

Sensational News Given Out Officially at Paris.

London, Aug. 19.—It is announced officially in Paris that the mobilization of the Austrian army was accompanied by much disorder and even open mutiny in many places, owing to the unpopularity of the war among many classes of people.

This information is conveyed in a Paris dispatch to the Daily Telegraph, which continues:

"In many parts of Austria enthusiasm for the war is lacking completely and the people complain bitterly against spending blood and money in a useless cause."

The official statement adds that a large number of Czech soldiers have been shot at Prague for refusing to fight and that during the night of Aug. 9 a whole Serb regiment of the Fifteenth Austrian army corps mutinied. A similar mutiny occurred in Bohemia.

ARRIVAL OF FRENCH SAVES LIFE OF MAYOR.

Paris, Aug. 19.—The following official statement was issued here:

"When our troops entered Blamont, department of Meur-et-Moselle, France, a few days ago, they found notices posted on the walls that the next morning the mayor and prominent residents of the town would be shot. The sudden arrival of the French and the disorderly retreat of the Germans, however, saved these persons from death."

ONLY NAME MADE PUBLIC

War Office Announces First French Soldier Killed.

Paris, Aug. 19.—The name of the first French soldier killed in the war was announced, but neither his residence nor the place he was killed was mentioned, following the military administration's rule for absolute secrecy.

It was through the publication of lists of dead and wounded in the Franco-Prussian war that the Germans learned the location of the fighting units of the French army and determined the positions of the various regiments of artillery, infantry and cavalry.

Fighting at Sea.

London, Aug. 19.—The British official press bureau announces that some desultory fighting occurred Tuesday between the British patrolling squadrons and flotilla and German cruisers, which were reconnoitering. No losses are reported.

KAISER IS GRATEFUL TO WILSON

Appreciates Offer of Mediation.

POINTS OUT CAUSES OF EUROPEAN WAR

Contents of Message to President Are Being Closely Guarded.

Washington, Aug. 19.—Germany's appreciation for the tender of good offices made by the United States was contained in a long message to President Wilson, transmitted through Ambassador Gerard.

The contents of the message were guarded closely, but officials admitted that there is nothing in it which can be construed as an indication of whether the emperor will accept the offer.

The German emperor in addition took occasion to point out at some length the cause of the present war and argued, it is understood, that at the very time he was trying to mediate between Austria and Serbia the Russian mobilization began. His statement is said to follow the line of previous official utterances from Berlin. It was this message which Emperor William wrote while sitting with Ambassador Gerard in the picturesque palace garden in the midst of his war maps.

The earnest determination of the United States government to keep this country from becoming involved in European war and its controversies was manifested in other ways than President Wilson's appeal to the American people, in which he called on them studiously to refrain from any expression or act that might reveal the slightest partisanship toward the nations in conflict.

Vexing Censorship Problem.

For nearly three hours the president and his cabinet wrestled with the vexing cableless censorship situation, striving to reach a decision equitable to all concerned. The matter is still under consideration.

Official information came from Berlin that the Japanese ultimatum has been delivered to the German government and it was intimated in the diplomatic dispatches that war between Japan and Germany is not unlikely.

The Japanese minister at Berlin, apparently foreseeing such an eventuality, asked Ambassador Gerard to be prepared to take over the Japanese interests in Germany.

The Japanese ultimatum demanding that Germany evacuate Kiaochow and withdraw her fleet from the Orient was uppermost in the attention of official Washington.

Discussion was general as to how the interests of the United States might be affected ultimately and while there was a careful reticence on all sides it was obvious that a feeling of relief followed the assurances given at London that should Japan take action against Germany such activity will be confined to the China seas and German territory in Eastern Asia and not against German insular possessions in the middle Pacific, where also the United States has islands of strategic importance.

There is no information thus far as to what Germany's course will be on the Japanese ultimatum. But the prevailing view in the best posted official and diplomatic quarters is that Germany cannot and will not accede to the demands.

VIEWING AFFAIRS CALMLY

Londoners Learn That British Soldiers Are in France.

London, Aug. 19.—London displayed little excitement when it became known that British troops were in France. There were no crowds about the bulletins and no rush for newspapers. The general routine is little disturbed, except for the unceasing movement through the streets of troops, ammunition trains and hospital corps. Tailors and saddlers are rushed with business. The sign, "Swords and Bayonets Sharpened," appears in the cutlers' windows.

The attendance at the music halls and theaters shows no diminution and many Americans spend their afternoons or evenings at the playhouses. "Briannella Rules the Waves," the "Marsellaise" and the Russian national anthem are played by the orchestras, the audience standing.

As one Highlander regiment went through the streets its band played "Marching Through Georgia."

PARIS ACCEPTS CONDITIONS

Residents Becoming Used to Different Mode of Life.

Paris, Aug. 19.—Paris is beginning to accept the conditions of living that have come into being since war was declared and in some respects life here is more comfortable than it was during the first days of mobilization.

While there is little movement on the streets after dark conditions in this respect are improving. Some of the subway lines are permitted to run up to 8:30 p. m. and the tramways up to 10 p. m. It is believed that on some suburban lines commuters, in two or three days, may be allowed to leave the city for their homes even as late as 11 o'clock.

In the day time the streets of the capital are quieter. Such tranquillity has not been known here in years. The reason is that more than one-half of the vehicle traffic has disappeared.

GERMAN SHIPS IN BALTIC

Twenty Warships Are Said to Have Been Located.

London, Aug. 19.—The Daily Mail's Copenhagen correspondent, in a dispatch dated Aug. 16, says:

"The Berlingske Tidende says that part of the German fleet is in the Baltic sea off the Swedish island of Gotland. Twenty German ships have been located. They probably belong to the reserve fleet from Danzig.

"Near Kiel is a flotilla of torpedo boat destroyers and one cruiser and in the Kattegat is another torpedo boat flotilla, with three small cruisers. The rest of the German fleet is understood to be in sight of Helgoland."

FRENCH TROOPS BRING DOWN GERMAN PLANE.

Paris, Aug. 19.—French troops brought down a German aeroplane near Dinant, fourteen miles south of Namur, Belgium. The pilot is reported to have been killed and the observation officer taken prisoner. The machine was not damaged.

RESULTS ON THE DIAMOND

American Association.

Columbus 2, Cleveland 1. Kansas City 3, Milwaukee 3.

National League.

Pittsburg 3, New York 1. Cincinnati 3, Boston 1. Chicago 8, Brooklyn 6.

American League.

St. Louis 6, Philadelphia 2. Detroit 3, 1; Philadelphia 2, 2. Cleveland 4, New York 3. Washington 8, St. Louis 2.

Federal League.

Kansas City 4, 5; Brooklyn 1, 0. Baltimore 5, Chicago 4. Buffalo 8, St. Louis 1. Indianapolis 4, Pittsburg 3.

Northern League.

Grand Forks 2, Duluth 5. Winnipeg 1, Virginia 4. Fargo 0, Winona 1. Superior 3, Fort William 3.

GRAIN AND PROVISION PRICES

Duluth Wheat and Flax.

Duluth, Aug. 19.—Wheat—On track and to arrive, No. 1 hard, \$1.14; No. 1 Northern, \$1.13; No. 2 Northern, \$1.11. Flax—On track and to arrive, \$1.66.

South St. Paul Live Stock.

South St. Paul, Aug. 19.—Cattle—Steers, \$6.00@9.00; cows and heifers, \$4.75@8.00; calves, \$6.50@10.25; stockers and feeders, \$4.75@7.25. Hogs—\$8.45@8.65. Sheep—Lambs, \$4.00@7.75; wethers, \$4.50@5.50; ewes, \$2.00@5.35.

Chicago Grain and Provisions.

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Wheat—Sept., 94c; Dec., 99c; May, \$1.08 $\frac{1}{2}$. Corn—Sept., 79 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Dec., 79c; May, 71c. Oats—Sept., 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Dec., 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; May, 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Pork—Sept., \$22.27; Jan., \$21.45. Butter—Creameries, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ @30c. Eggs—17@20c. Poultry—Springs, 15@16c; fowls, 14c.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Cattle—Beeves, \$7.15@10.50; steers, \$6.30@9.20; stockers and feeders, \$5.50@8.20; cows and heifers, \$3.60@9.20; calves, \$8.25@11.50. Hogs—Light, \$8.65@9.15; mixed, \$8.50@9.10; heavy, \$8.25@9.00; rough, \$8.25@8.40; pigs, \$6.75@8.40. Sheep—Native, \$5.00@6.00; yearlings, \$6.00@7.00.

Minneapolis Grain.

Minneapolis, Aug. 19.—Wheat—Sept., \$1.02 $\frac{1}{2}$; Dec., \$1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cash close on track: No. 1 hard, \$1.13 $\frac{1}{2}$; No. 1 Northern, \$1.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ @\$1.11 $\frac{1}{2}$; to arrive, \$1.03 $\frac{1}{2}$ @\$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$; No. 2 Northern, \$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$ @\$1.09 $\frac{1}{2}$; No. 3 Northern, \$1.02 $\frac{1}{2}$ @\$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$; No. 3 yellow corn, 78@78 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; No. 3 white oats, 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; flax, \$1.70 $\frac{1}{2}$.

St. Paul Hay.

St. Paul, Aug. 19.—Hay—Choice timothy, \$15.50; No. 1 timothy, \$14.00@14.75; No. 1 clover mixed, \$11.00@11.75; No. 1 mixed, different grasses, \$11.00@11.75; No. 1 mixed, timothy and wild, \$11.50@12.25; choice upland, \$12.75@13.25; No. 1 upland, \$11.00@12.00; No. 1 midland, \$7.75@8.25; No. 1 alfalfa, \$12.00@12.75.