



GERMANS HELD IN CHECK AT TWO POINTS;
ARMY'S DEAD USED FOR INTRENCHMENTS;
DUTCH MASS TROOPS AND FLOOD LAND

FRENCH ARTILLERY
SURPASSES GERMAN;
NEW BATTLE IS NEAR

Fight Near Nancy, in Which French Press
Advantage and Take 1,000 Prisoners,
Shows Invaders' Weakness.

FRENCH IN ALSACE WILDLY BRAVE

Recklessly Advance Over Open Ground to Certain Death
in Muelhausen Battle. Some Even Without Rifles
—Immense Armies Close to Grips.

Paris, Aug. 13.—An official report of the fighting between
the French and Germans in the vicinity of Pont-a-Mousson, north
of Nancy, issued to-day, says:

"The fighting which started on August 11 was continued
on August 12 under thrilling conditions for the French. It may be
summed up as follows:

"The first phase was an attack on two French battalions by
German forces greatly superior in number. The two French
battalions fell back, but, being reinforced during the night, as-
sumed the offensive, well supported by artillery.

"This counter attack caused the Germans to retreat precipi-
tately, leaving behind them a large number of killed, wounded and
prisoners.

"The Germans abandoned a battery of artillery, three ma-
chine guns and several wagonloads of ammunition.

"The French troops followed up their advantage, and on
Wednesday a French battery surprised the 21st Baden Dragoon
Regiment while the men were dismounted. In a few minutes the
regiment was destroyed.

"The effect of this double success was immediately percepti-
ble. Not only was the forward movement of the German troops
stopped, but their columns fell back, closely followed by the
French. In the course of this pursuit the French found on a hill
and in neighboring villages many German soldiers who had been
wounded in the fight on August 11.

"Nine German officers and 1,000 wounded men fell into
the French hands as prisoners.

"The poor quality of the projectiles used by the German
heavy artillery was convincingly demonstrated during the bom-
bardment of Pont-a-Mousson. More than one hundred shells
containing enormous charges of explosives weighing altogether
220 pounds each were fired from a battery of 21-centimetre mor-
tars at a distance of about six and a quarter miles. The total re-
sult of this avalanche of iron explosives was four killed and twelve
wounded in the town."

The following official communication from the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs has been sent to the embassies in London and St.
Petersburg:

"At no point, notwithstanding repeated efforts, have the
Germans been able to break the French line of defence. In out-
post fighting the superiority of the French artillery continues to
assert itself."

On the eastern frontier the immense forces now gathered
within a square represented by Montmedy, Verdun, Luxemburg
and Metz appear to be coming to close grips.

The French army here holds strong positions between
Wocore forest and the River Tothain, a small tributary. Horses
are harnessed to machine guns and stand in readiness day and
night.

Dutch Mass Troops;
Flood Land 3 Feet

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
Amsterdam, Aug. 13.—Dutch troops are massed on the frontier, as it
is feared the Germans, worsted at Tongres, will be driven into an angle
formed by the south frontier of Dutch Brabant and the western frontier
of Dutch Limburg.

Fighting in the neighborhood of the Belgian town of Tongres, to the
north of Liege, was resumed to-day, according to the correspondent of
the "Telegraaf" at Maestricht, who says that after a quiet night an arti-
llery duel was recommenced this morning in that direction.

Rotterdam, Aug. 13.—Sixty thousand Dutch troops are on the line of
the frontier. Large areas of land have been flooded to a depth of three
feet as a precautionary measure.

The Landsturm has been warned to be prepared for a sudden call to
military service. This is the last line of the Dutch Army.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

THE EUROPEAN WAR.
Miscellaneous.
Shipping and Weather.
Woman's Varied Interests.
Editorial.
Literary.
Obituary.
Society.
Sports.
Police and Fire Departments.
Arrivals of Buyers.
Court Calendar.
Real Estate.
Army and Navy.
Financial and Markets.
GREAT BEAR SPRING WATER.
GENERAL.
New Revolution Threatens Mexico.

LATEST NEWS OF THE WAR.

Paris, Aug. 14.—The engagement at Pont-a-Mousson proved the French artillery decidedly
superior to the German. The French victory was complete, 1,000 prisoners being taken. Despite
Berlin reports, it is denied that the French were checked at Mulhausen.

Brussels, Aug. 14.—Germans lose all along the Belgian frontier. Men and horses fall like
flies in great battle at Diest.

London, Aug. 13.—With the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau out of action, being re-
ported sold to Turkey, the Admiralty is convinced there is no menace to British commerce on the
high seas anywhere now. Traders are urged to dispatch their vessels without fear.

Rome, Aug. 13.—King Victor Emmanuel has called home for consultation his envoys to the
warring nations.

Washington, Aug. 13.—President Wilson ordered a federal investigation of the recent
abrupt increases in prices of foodstuffs.

Mayor Mitchel and District Attorney Whitman began an inquiry into the food situation in
this city.

WILSON IN BATTLE
FOR CHEAPER FOOD

President Plans to Go After Any Conspiracy to
Raise Prices—Mayor and District Attorney
Begin Campaign Here.

President Wilson set at work the entire legal machinery of the
government yesterday in the nation-wide fight against "the rapid and
unwarranted increase in the prices of foodstuffs in the United States on
the pretext of conditions existing in Europe."

In this city Mayor Mitchel and District Attorney Whitman began
investigations. Executives in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Boston and
other cities took similar action.

Mr. Whitman and District Attorneys in neighboring counties have
grand jury inquiries under way to discover whether or not conspiracies
exist among the retail grocers and butchers to boost up prices.

Similar action has been taken by United States Attorney Marshall,
who is seeking to prosecute the offenders under the Sherman anti-
trust law.

Mayor Mitchel appointed a committee of 133 prominent citizens,
with George W. Perkins as chairman, to investigate the high prices for
groceries, meats and other foods in the city. This committee will meet
at 11 o'clock this morning in the City Hall.

The President's characterization of the increase in the price of food-
stuffs as "unwarranted," was borne out by an investigation conducted by
The Tribune yesterday.

Wholesalers Have Explanation.
Only in the case of sugar, coffee, flour and other cereals was any at-

DR. LIEBKNECHT SHOT;
WOULDN'T GO TO WAR

London, Aug. 13.—"The Daily Citizen," an organ of the Labor party,
says it has learned from a trustworthy source that Dr. Karl Liebknecht,
the German Socialist leader, has been shot for refusing to do military
service.

"The Daily Citizen" says the story was brought to London by a
German refugee, who reported that Berlin, owing to the shortage of
food, was in a virtual state of revolution.

Dr. Liebknecht was an officer of the reserves and, called upon for
service, he refused to respond on conscientious grounds, whereupon,
according to the story, a detachment of soldiers was sent to his resi-
dence, whence he was taken to the barracks, court martialed, convicted
after a short trial, and shot by a platoon of infantrymen.

It is also reported that Rosa Luxemburg, the noted Socialist writer,
who declared that soldiers were maltreated in the army, has been shot.

Pursuit of Air Scout
Ended by Darkness

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Brussels, Aug. 13.—An exciting aeroplane chase was witnessed yester-
day evening close to Namur. A German aeroplane which for three
days had persistently reconnoitered the Belgian position was observed
hovering over an important fortified position on the banks of the Meuse.

Two Belgian biplanes immediately gave chase, and the enemy's
aerial scout, finding itself pursued, turned and fled at full speed toward
Huy and Liege. One of the Belgian machines had risen high above the
German air scout, when darkness fell, leaving the result of the chase, as
far as could be seen, undecided.

Stray bands of Uhlans are still being captured at various points
east and south of Brussels.

Germans Use the Rope End
for Civilian Offenders

(Special Correspondent New York Tribune and "London Standard.")
Maestricht, Aug. 13.—The Germans, it appears, are hanging instead
of shooting civilians accused of firing on them, spying on them or for
other offences against their drastic military code.

A fugitive from Glons says that he saw three Belgian peasants hang-
ing on a branch of a tree. They were accused of firing on the invading
German troops from the windows of a cottage.

Similar executions are witnessed in almost every village the Ger-
mans enter. The inhabitants of the region of Belgium now occupied by
the German troops are terrorized completely and abstaining from any
molestation of the invaders.

CRUISER BRISTOL
FIGHTS KARLSRUHE

German Warship, Caught Coaling from Kronprinz
Wilhelm, Is Chased by Two British Men-of-War
and Escapes After Half Hour Battle.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 13.—When H. M. S. Suffolk arrived here this
afternoon, her captain told of a thrilling chase of the German cruiser
Karlsruhe and of a half hour's running fight between the Karlsruhe and
the British cruiser Bristol.

The fight took place off Bermuda last Thursday night. The Karls-
ruhe escaped in the direction of San Juan, Porto Rico.

"We were steaming north last Thursday morning, and the crew had
just been ordered to general stations, when from the foremast head came
the hail: 'Enemy on the port bow!'" said the flag captain of the Suffolk.

"Off the port bow, about eleven or twelve miles away, we saw the Karls-
ruhe, coaling from the North German Lloyd ship Kronprinz Wilhelm.

"As soon as the Germans sighted us, they took to their heels. The
Karlsruhe did not even stop to pick up her boats. Her men clambered
aboard as best they could and she hustled away to the northward, while
the Kronprinz Wilhelm steered off to the east. Both had the heels of us.

"The Bristol was to the north of us, and the Berwick to the south.
We called both of them up by wireless. The Berwick tried to cut off
the Kronprinz Wilhelm. The Bristol took a position to intercept the
Karlsruhe.

"At 9 o'clock that night the welcome news came through the air to
us from the Bristol, 'Enemy in sight!' A few minutes later came the
message, 'We are engaging the enemy!'

"Although we must have been fully a hundred miles astern by then,
we raced for all we were worth.

"For a few minutes the German stood up and the ships fought broad-
side to broadside. After a few minutes, however, the Karlsruhe turned
and ran. The Bristol chased her, firing her forward six-inchers.

"It was pitch dark and the sea was heavy. In long range fighting
under those conditions it is pretty difficult to do much, and the Karls-
ruhe's speed saved her again.

"We got a prize last Saturday morning off Bermuda, the German
oil tanker Leda, which was coming up from Baton Rouge for New York.
She did not know that war had been declared and was very much sur-
prised when we ordered her to stop with a blank shot across her bows.
However, they took their capture with a very good grace."

The story of the battle between the Bristol and the Karlsruhe dis-
closes for the first time the purpose of the North German Lloyd steam-
ship Kronprinz Wilhelm in her unannounced dash from this port under
cover of darkness ten days ago bearing 6,000 tons of coal.

Coal Schooner Brings Tale
of Two Warships in Battle

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 13.—When the coal schooner Northland hove
to off the Isles of Shoals late this afternoon, her captain told of a sea fight
about forty miles from here between two warships Wednesday afternoon.

"We were about forty miles from Portsmouth," he said, "when I
heard the booming of a heavy gun. Then it increased, and pretty soon I
saw two warships, one fleeing from the other, about five miles from me.

"Both of them were going at top speed, and when they were about
opposite me the pursuer fired eleven shots. I don't know if any of them
hit, as the distance was so great, but, anyway, the other kept on southward.

"I followed them with my glasses till they went out of sight. The
ship that was being chased fired several shots from her small guns, but
I do not know what effect they had on her pursuer."

The Northland reported here that while off the South Shoals second
lightship Tuesday afternoon she saw a cruiser resembling the one being
chased going north.

Austria Has to Shoot
Mutineers in Her Army

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Aug. 13.—Though news of the operations on the southern
frontier of Austria still comes in slowly, there is sufficient to show that
the Servians are holding their own with vigor and persistence. There is
also evidence that the Austrians are feeling an unexpected strain.

Very significant reports have been received of grave insubordination
in Austrian regiments in Bosnia. According to fugitives who have reached
Nish, numerous soldiers have been shot for refusal to obey orders, and
in the Slav, Rumanian, Czech and Italian districts generally many troops
are becoming mutinous.

It is stated in an official telegram from Nish that 500 Germans at Scu-
tari have been ordered to take places in the first line of the Austrian army
against the Servians.

GERMANS FIGHT LOSING
BATTLE BEHIND THEIR
DEAD PILED IN HEAPS

Horses and Riders Fall Like Flies Before
Terrific Fire of Intrenched
Belgians at Diest.

REPULSE TURNED INTO A ROUT

Marksmanship of Invaders Proves Unskilful, While Oppos-
ing Army Mows Down Their Cavalry at 2,000 Metres
—Defeated Also in Second Attack.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Brussels, Aug. 13 (From the Army Headquarters in the
Field).—German invaders, who renewed their attempt to-day to
penetrate the Belgian defensive screen which shields Brussels, were
again repulsed with severe loss.

A double attempt was made yesterday in the vicinity of Tirle-
mont, southeast of Louvain, and at Diest, to the northeast of the
same place. The advance upon Tirlemont was probably a feint,
intended to keep the Belgians busy while the attack on Diest was
being developed. A large force of cavalry, estimated at 5,000,
accompanied by horse artillery and machine guns, having crossed
the River Meethe, flung itself upon Diest and Haelen, which lies
just to the south.

Preparations had been made for blowing up the bridge over
the Esthe, but the German attack developed so suddenly that the
Belgian engineers scarcely had time to complete their task and
retire before the enemy had reached the river.

The advance of the German cavalry was covered by a heavy
artillery fire, to which the Belgian guns, advantageously posted,
replied, causing considerable loss to the invaders.

PRUSSIAN DRAGOONS MOWED DOWN.
A force consisting of dragoons, two field guns and four ma-
chine guns made a bold dash upon Diest, hoping no doubt to sur-
prise the town. They would probably have succeeded but for the
splendid bravery of the military, assisted by the civil guards.

A German column advancing at full gallop reached a small
village about a mile and a half from Diest. Here had been erected
a barricade of farm wagons, while the road immediately in front
had been torn up, making any advance of cavalry impossible. Be-
hind this hasty fortification a mixed force of Belgians with ma-
chine guns was entrenched and a murderous fire was opened on
the Prussian dragoons, who, being absolutely without cover of any
kind, were speedily decimated under the rain of Belgian bullets.

The surviving Germans, be it said, fought with great bravery.
They entrenched themselves behind a rampart of dead horses and
dead comrades. They fought with desperate courage, as will
men who are driven to bay and are selling their lives as dearly as
possible.

The Belgians, believing the enemy's resistance was at end,
impulsively pushed from behind their barricades and were imme-
diately subjected to a hot fire, which occasioned some losses.

However, a field gun was brought up and trained on the enemy
behind their carcasses and corpses and in a few minutes all the
other surviving Germans were killed or wounded or put to flight.

MORE THAN 10,000 GERMANS IN FIELD.
Details of the battle at Diest, where the advantage was gained
by the Belgian left yesterday, show that the Germans had in the
field more than 10,000 men, composed of cavalry, artillery and
a small force of infantry.

The Belgians opposed to them were a cavalry division and a
mixed brigade with several mitrailleuses to reply those of the
Germans. The Belgian effectives amounted to about 7,000 men.

The probable aim of the Germans was to hurl themselves to
the north of the St. Trond road to Tirlemont in order to turn the
Belgian army. Early yesterday they drew up between Hasselt
and St. Trond and proceeded in the direction of Diest, for the
most part toward Viastvoort and Herck-la-Ville. Their wings,
however, came up from different ways over a front from St. Trond
to Herck-la-Ville.

On the one hand, with their left they guarded the road from
St. Trond to Tirlemont and the heights of Orsmael and Gussen-
hoven. On the other hand, with their right they protected the
road from Hasselt to Diest.

The Belgian commander, made aware of this movement
through cavalry reconnaissances, permitted the enemy to advance
while he disposed the Belgian troops in the most favorable po-
sitions.

The country in this region is divided by three tributaries of
the River Demer, the Herck, Gethe and Velve, flowing south to
north. To reach Diest it is necessary for the enemy to cross the
Gethe at Haelen, and it was before this place that the Belgians
took up their principal position. It seemed certain that the main
body of the Germans must come that way against the Belgians.

Beyond where the horse artillery was stationed the Belgians
erected barricades and intrenchments and guns were placed ready
to turn upon the enemy at the right moment. Toward 11 o'clock
the enemy appeared on the road from Stevoort to Haelen, and