



WEATHER			
SHOWERS	TO-DAY	TO-MORROW	
	PROBABLY	FAIR	
Yesterday's temperatures:			
High	82	Low	70
Full report on Page 9.			

Allies Take Offensive Against Whole German Army in 100-Mile Battle Line; Russians Win 5-Day Fight, Menace Dantzic

CZAR'S TROOPS HURL KAISER'S FORCES BACK IN EASTERN PRUSSIA

Three German Army Corps Are Severely Defeated and Russia Secures Insterburg, an Important Strategic Railroad Centre.

RETREAT OF FAMOUS 20TH A ROUT

Royal Palace at Konigsburg and Great German Arsenal at Dantzic Are Now Threatened in Sweeping March of Russians Toward Berlin.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, Aug. 24, 2 A. M.—"The Times" correspondent at St. Petersburg telegraphs:

"I have just received news that the Russian left has completely enveloped the remnants of the Germans holding the lake region. The Russians have occupied Johannsburg, in the south-east of East Prussia, and Ortelsburg, twenty miles southeast of Allentien, in the centre of East Prussia.

"The line of the German retreat toward the River Angerapp and the Mazur Lakes is in Russian hands. The Russians are even now sweeping the environs of Insterburg and have occupied Darkehmen, twenty miles south of Insterburg.

"I learn from an authoritative source that the German forces engaged lost two-thirds of their effectives.

"A glance at the map will show that the line from Thorn, on the southern German frontier, to Dantzic, on the north, including the whole of East Prussia and part of West Prussia, is now within the sphere of the Russian operations."

"Unless the Germans are able to bring up strong reinforcements, which," continues the dispatch, "is doubtful, owing to the seizure of the important railway and road communications by the Russians, the latter may now proceed to the investment of Koenigsberg.

"The flight of the inhabitants from Willenberg, ninety-one miles southeast of Koenigsberg, is believed to be due to another Russian movement from Poland toward Allenstein, sixty-five miles south of Koenigsberg, which, if substantiated, threatens serious consequences for the German forces in Northern Prussia.

"The 'Novoe Vremya' critic points out that the Russian army advanced sixteen miles within two days on the march from Bildersweitschen to Gumbinnen, which might be regarded as a remarkable achievement even in times of peace."

A dispatch from the Reuter correspondent in St. Petersburg adds:

"Soldau, fifty-eight miles northeast of Thorn, was occupied to-day. The inhabitants fled. The Germans evacuated Neidenburg, seventy miles southeast of Elbing, after setting the place on fire.

"The battle of Gumbinnen is claimed to have decided the fate of Prussia on this side of the Vistula River."

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

St. Petersburg, Aug. 23.—The Russian northern army is now fully concentrated and has revealed remarkable striking force. After an energetic advance against the German lines along the eastern frontier of Prussia, it has succeeded in capturing Insterburg, thus striking at and paralyzing one of the main centres of the East Prussian strategic railways.

The men advanced resolutely in face of the enemy's fire across a long stretch of dried marsh land and broke through barbed entanglements which, like a vast net, surrounded the German positions. The infantry especially exhibited wonderful steadiness and this was an important factor of the Russian success.

The entire German position up to Dantzic and the line of the River Vistula is now jeopardized.

Grand Duke Nicholas, commander in chief of the Russian army, to-day issued the following statement:

"Battles in East Prussia on the 17th, 18th, 19 and 20th of August were fought with the utmost desperation. The spirit of the troops is excellent. Our battle front extends for a distance of more than forty versts (about twenty-six miles).

"The Russian troops occupied Goldap and Arys. The retreat on the 20th of the German army corps near Lyck resembled a rout. The money confiscated in the treasury amounted to 50,000 marks (\$10,000). The enemy's troops are evacuating the frontier in the vicinity of Willenberg. The German population is abandoning the villages and fleeing northward.

THREE ARMY CORPS CUT UP.

"On the Austrian frontier up to August 20 no serious collision occurred. The Russians forced an Austrian battalion to evacuate Burgade and Ravarusse.

"On August 20 the Germans near Gumbinnen engaged three army corps and tried to envelope the Russian right wing, where the fighting was intensely fierce. The Russians took the offensive in the centre and captured many guns. The enemy demanded an

JAPAN DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY

Mikado's Proclamation Promptly Followed by Order to Begin Operations for Conquest of Kiao-chau.

Tokio, Aug. 23.—The Emperor of Japan to-day declared war on Germany.

This action was taken at the expiration of the time limit of Japan's ultimatum to Germany demanding the surrender of Kiao-chau.

The Japanese government has ordered the beginning of operations on land and sea.

The imperial rescript, or proclamation, of the Emperor sent a thrill through the country, for Japan's entrance upon the fulfillment of her obligations to her ally, Great Britain, responds to the popular will from one end of the land to the other.

Cheering crowds assembled to-day before the buildings occupied by the Department of Foreign Affairs and the administration of the navy, and lantern processions filled the streets this evening. The popular manifestations, however, do not approach the enthusiasm which preceded the war with Russia.

Count von Rex, the German Ambassador in Tokio, has received his passports. He probably will leave here for America, either on the Minnesota, sailing August 27, or the Manchuria, which departs August 29. George W. Guthrie, the American Ambassador, will represent Germany. The Diet has been convoked in special session for September 3.

Austrian Cruiser Leaves Tsing-Tau.

The Austrian cruiser Kaiserin Elizabeth, which latterly was at Tsing-Tau, the seaport of Kiao-chau, is reported to have sailed. She perhaps will go to a neutral port and disarm. It is believed that this action will keep Austria out of the war in the Orient, although unforeseen circumstances may force Japan to change her policy in this regard. No action yet has been taken relative to Austria, and the Foreign Office has explained that Japan will remain friendly to Austria unless Austria adopts an attitude which it regards as offensive.

It is reported here that Germany has been trying to transfer the

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FIELD OF BATTLE PICKED BY ALLIES

Tribune Correspondent, Who Was Made Prisoner of War and Who Saw Fighting at Dinant, Says French Artillery Will Repel Germans.

By CAPTAIN GRANVILLE FORTESCUE. (Special Correspondent of The New York Tribune.)

Paris, Aug. 23.—Before being made a prisoner of war for three days at Givet, for not having French military papers, I had passed down the French advance lines where the allied armies and Germans will meet in the greatest battle since the world began.

Like a great tidal wave the Germans are sweeping up from the east, but the French are in a strong position, in a country admirably suited for defence, and stand ready to stem the German tide. The battleground selected by the allies for the gigantic test of armed superiority covers a broad, rolling country. The crops have been harvested, there is little forest land and the country forms a splendid battleground. The allied armies have selected this ground on which to receive the enemy, and every advantage of position rests with them.

What has impressed me more than anything else is the French artillery. It is the finest in the world. I saw two batteries in action at the battle of Dinant, and the way those guns were handled was a joy to see. Every manoeuvre was carried out with clocklike precision, and when these batteries began shelling the German position projectile after projectile burst fair in the face of the enemy's firing lines. With such artillery practice the boasted German sweep across France will be quickly halted.

Austrian Emperor Reported by Rome Papers To Be Dying

Paris, Aug. 23.—A dispatch received here this afternoon from Rome quotes the "Messaggero," of that city, to the effect that Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria is dying and that Prince William of Wied has fled from Albania.

A Havas dispatch from Rome says the Foreign Office there denies the report that it has received news of the grave illness of Emperor Francis Joseph.

The Havas correspondent adds that he has learned from an authoritative source that Prince William of Wied has not left Durazzo, but that two of his sons have departed.

Russians Defeat Austrians and Advance Into Galicia

London, Aug. 24, 4 a. m.—A Reuter dispatch from St. Petersburg says:

"On Saturday nine Russian squadrons attacked near the station of Pluhov, between Zlotcheff and Shoroff, a force of double their strength. The Austrians accepted battle, but were rolled over. Two mounted batteries and 160 prisoners were captured.

"The Austrian forces which attacked the town of Vladimir-Volynski, near the Galician frontier, now is in headlong retreat toward Sokal, Austria, forty-five miles northeast of Lemberg. The Russians are occupying some of the roads across the river Seret. The Russian offensive movement in Eastern Galicia is being carried on successfully."

Zeppelin Airship No. 8 Destroyed by French Shells

Paris, Aug. 23.—Zeppelin airship No. 8, according to official announcement to-day, has been destroyed by French shells at a point between Celles and Badonviller. The airship was coming from the direction of Strassburg.

Badonviller is in Muerthe and Moselle, nineteen miles southeast of Luneville.

STRUGGLE ON FROM MONS TO LUXEMBURG FRONTIER

Invaders' Main Advance Turns to Southwest, Toward Point Between Valenciennes and Maubeuge—Cavalry Column of Kaiser's Army Believed To Be Making Dash for Lille.

Paris, Aug. 23, 11 P. M.—The following official announcement was issued to-night:

"A great battle is now in progress along a vast line extending from Mons to the frontier of Luxemburg. Our troops, in conjunction with the British, have assumed everywhere the offensive. We are faced by almost the whole German army, both active and reserve.

"The ground, especially on our right, is thickly wooded and difficult. The battle is likely to last several days.

"The enormous extent of the front and the great number of forces involved makes it impossible to follow step by step the movements of each of our armies. We must await the result of the first phase of the combat before we can form any conclusion as to the situation. Otherwise we should be giving to the press divergent and contradictory news, since such a battle naturally is made up of actions and reactions which follow and connect in a continuous manner.

"The forts at Liege still hold. Fort Chaudfontaine has been the scene of an act of heroism which affirms once more the brilliant valor of the Belgian army.

GERMANS ATTEMPT BOLD FLANK MOVE

Great Bodies of Troops Try to Skirt Extreme Left of Allies in Dash for France—Battle Now On Near Namur and Lille.

By V. SIESTEEN.

(Special Correspondent of The New York Tribune and London Standard.)
Bruges, Aug. 23.—The outstanding fact of the new situation in Belgium is that large bodies of German troops are marching in a southerly direction along the roads leading from Louvain and Brussels, apparently for the purpose of invading France.

There is so far no reliable information to indicate the number of German forces undertaking this great movement, which is intended to outflank the extreme left of the allied armies. The greater part of these troops have not passed through Brussels at all, but left the capital on their right and proceeded in a southwesterly direction toward their next destination.

At various points between Namur and Lille the allied armies and Germans are already in contact, and a colossal struggle is either imminent or actually proceeding. Meanwhile the German cavalry is scouring the western regions of Belgium to make sure that no force of Belgians.

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SAW GERMAN ARMY ROLL ON LIKE FOG

Richard Harding Davis Cables Vivid Picture of the Kaiser's Great Gray Force, Which Was 26 Hours in Passing Through Brussels.

By RICHARD HARDING DAVIS. (Special Correspondent of The Tribune.)

Brussels, Friday, Aug. 21, 2 p. m.—The entrance of the German army into Brussels has lost the human quality. It was lost as soon as the three soldiers who led the army bicycled into the Boulevard du Regent and asked the way to the Gare du Nord. When they passed the human note passed with them.

What came after them, and twenty-four hours later is still coming, is not men marching, but a force of nature like a tidal wave, an avalanche or a river flooding its banks. At this minute it is rolling through Brussels as the swollen waters of the Conemaugh Valley swept through Johnstown.

At the sight of the first few regiments of the enemy we were thrilled with interest. After for three hours they had passed in one unbroken steel gray column we were bored. But when hour after hour passed and there was no halt, no breathing time, no open spaces in the ranks, the thing became unexciting, inhuman. You returned to watch it, fascinated. It held the mystery and menace of fog rolling toward you across the sea.

The gray of the uniforms worn by both officers and men helped this air of mystery. Only the sharpest eye could detect among the thousands that passed the slightest difference. All moved under a cloak of invisibility. Only after the most numerous and severe tests at all distances, with all materials and combinations of colors that give forth no color could this gray have been discovered. That it was selected to clothe and disguise

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WHY GERMANY WENT TO WAR. REAL WAR NEWS IN THE TRIBUNE. Full Text of the Berlin Foreign Office's "White Paper," setting forth Germany's case, in to-day's New York Times.—Advt.