

GERMANS INVADE FRANCE VIA BELGIUM

GERMANS POSSESS THREE FRENCH TOWNS

IMPORTANT MANUFACTURING CITIES OF REPUBLIC OCCUPIED BY INVADERS.

LILLE EVACUATED AND NO RESISTANCE MADE BY FRENCH

German Soldiers Finally Reach French Soil After Fighting Way Entirely Thru Belgium—Roubaix and Valenciennes, Unfortified Cities, Also Occupied—Paris Reports Progress.

London, Aug. 27.—A dispatch received here from Ostend says the Germans have occupied Lille, Roubaix and Valenciennes, all in France.

The Ostend correspondent of the London Daily Express in a dispatch published in London this morning quoted a Belgian officer to the effect that it had been decided last Monday not to defend Lille and that on Tuesday the mayor published a proclamation announcing the evacuation of the city.

The towns of Roubaix, Lille and Valenciennes are close to the Belgian frontier, Lille and Valenciennes being ten miles from the line and Roubaix five. Valenciennes is thirty miles southeast of the same city.

Lille is the most important from a military point of view. It has a fortress of the first class and the circle of its forts is thirty miles. Recent dispatches from Paris said Lille was held by French reservists. Roubaix would appear not to be fortified. It is a manufacturing center.

Valenciennes also is a manufacturing city and is an important military point. It has an arsenal and extensive barracks.

To Prevent Young Officers. A dispatch to the Reuters Telegram Company from Paris announces that President Poincare has signed a decree permitting the nomination of officers to a superior grade for the duration of the war, without any conditions as to seniority.

Under this decree it will be possible to replace immediately on the field officers killed or wounded by young officers who by their bravery and zeal prove themselves worthy of high commands. The order will not cause future difficulties as all such nominations will be subject to obligatory revision after the war.

British Fight Splendidly. Premier Asquith announced in the house of commons today that Field Marshal Sir John French, commander of the British expeditionary forces, reports that yesterday he was engaged against superior German forces. The British fought splendidly.

PARIS REPORTS PROGRESS. France Not Disturbed by Apparent Reverses in North. Paris, Aug. 27.—An official statement issued this afternoon, says: "The events of yesterday in the region of the north have neither impeded nor modified the arrangements made in view of the future development of operations in the region of Vosges and Nancy. Our troops continue to progress."

The lack of news today was generally attributed to the supposed inaction of the Germans, who were thought to have been too hard hit to sustain a general advance.

The French take their check in Belgium quietly and seem to have gained confidence by the reinforcement of the ministry as announced last night, as well as the strong stand taken by the French forces in Lorraine.

Fourth Belgian division, at Namur, has fulfilled its task, arresting the German column and allowing the Belgians to retire on the French line.

Belgian Army Strong One. Details of the combat show conclusively that Belgium has an army capable of strong offensiveness. It was no mere skirmish, as the number of wounded on the Belgian side shows without any doubt.

The Germans were driven back with horse, foot and artillery. The combat began at dawn yesterday, when the Belgian forces moved out from Malines to the south and attacked the German forces entrenched between the villages.

This German force had advanced from the south during the last three days. The German position was along the line of the canal to Louvain.

In artillery work the Belgians showed superiority. The infantry drove back the Germans once with a bayonet charge.

The next battle in the Belgian theater of war is expected between Bruges and Blandenburg, where there have been skirmishes with the outposts. The country southwest of Antwerp has been cleared of the enemy.

BOMB ATTACK CONFIRMED. Women and Children Killed and Foreign Diplomats Injured.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Official advice to the United States government confirmed today the dropping of eight bombs in the city of Antwerp by a German Zeppelin, killing many women and children. Diplomatic representatives of several neutral governments had narrow escapes.

The bombs were aimed at the royal palace, it is stated, but struck the royal military hospital filled with wounded, and demolished several private dwellings, in the early hours of the morning of Aug. 28. It is said the bombs contained shrapnel. Several diplomats, including one of the secretaries of the American legation, were stopping at a hotel less than 200 yards from a point where one of the bombs wrought its destruction.

Washington officials said today that if American Minister Whitlock had sent a protest to the German government against the dropping of bombs the fact has not been communicated here.

JAPS BLOCKADE KIAO CHOU. No Troops Yet Landed But Naval Vessels Are on Guard.

Tsing Tau, Aug. 27.—There is no evidence here today of the landing of Japanese troops in the Kiao Chou territory. It is believed the heavy rains will deter any Japanese attack for many days.

All native shipping in Kiao Chou bay has been suspended. Vice Admiral Sadakichi Kato, from his flagship, the battleship Suwo, sent a wireless message to Governor Meyer Waldeck this morning declaring a blockade of the leased territory of Kiao Chou.

Later the Japanese warships shelled outside the harbor, and shelled a small island off the coast which was not occupied by the Germans.

The German governor notified Willis B. Peck, American consul at Kiao Chou, that he had twenty-four hours to leave if he so desired. Mr. Peck, however, elected to remain.

FRENCH SOCIALISTS UNIFIED. Will Assist in Country's Defense Under Leadership of Guesde.

Paris, Aug. 27.—The entry of Jules Guesde and Marcel Sembat, the former a socialist and the latter a united socialist deputy, to the leadership of the socialists of France, in succession of the late Jean Jaures, has unified the party. The change is favorably commented on today by all parties in France, and particularly the socialists themselves.

Guesde and Sembat are also members of the new cabinet, the former being without portfolio and the latter holding the post of minister of public works. The socialists say they desire to collaborate in the defense of the nation, altho under the leadership of Guesde they always will be opposed to participation as a party in the government.

M. Guesde in an interview in the Paris Midi today says: "I go into the cabinet as an envoy of my party, not to govern but to fight. If I were younger I would have shouldered a gun, but as my age does not permit this, I will nevertheless face the enemy and defend the cause of humanity."

"I am confident of final victory and without hesitation as to its subsequent role in France the party will never deviate from the line of conduct laid out by the solidarity of workmen does not shut out the right; to defend themselves against traitor workmen so international solidarity does not exclude the right of one nation to defend itself against a government traitor to the peace of Europe."

France has been attacked and she will have no more ardent defenders than the workmen's party."

Paris Preparing For Possible Siege and Entrenched Camp

Paris, Aug. 27.—Paris is officially announced today, is preparing for a possible siege. The matter was discussed by the new minister of war and the subordinates of his department and steps were taken to determine the exact measures necessary to place the city in a state to withstand an attack or invasion. Mr. Millerand will meet with other officials of the war office every morning for consideration of developments and every possible phase of an entrenched camp such as the capital will become.

Germans Retreat to River Oder to Make Defense of Berlin

The Hague, Aug. 26.—The correspondent of the Nieuwe Courant declares it is able to state on trustworthy authority that the Germans plan to abandon temporarily East and West Prussia and Pomerania to the Russians and withdraw to the River Oder, where the main defenses of Berlin lie.

Germany appears to have undertaken the measure to give time to her army operating against France to try and deal death blows to the armies of Great Britain and France and then march to Paris, the distance between Mons and Paris being only a quarter of the distance between St. Petersburg and Berlin.

GERMANS IN FLIGHT. St. Petersburg, Aug. 26, 10:20 p. m.—The German army in the Elbing district of West Prussia near the Vistula river are fleeing westward before the Russian advances.

GERMANS GIVE UP TOGOLAND. London, Aug. 26.—It was announced officially tonight that the German military forces in Togoland, a German possession on the west coast of Africa, had unconditionally surrendered to the allied forces of France and Belgium. The allies will enter Kamina, the capital, Thursday morning. This is the first colonial possession of any of the warring nations to fall into the hands of an enemy since the war began.

RIGHT WING OF ALLIES FALLS BACK. Paris, Aug. 26, 11:50 p. m.—An official statement issued by the war department tonight says: "In the north the France-British lines have been moved back a short distance. In general our offensive between Nancy and Vosges makes headway. Our right, however, has been obliged to fall back slightly near St. Bie."

BELGIANS FULFILLING THEIR PART WELL

OPERATIONS AGAINST GERMANS DECLARED TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL.

AGGRESSIVENESS IN NORTH DRAWS FROM KAISER'S ARMY

Southward Advance of Germans From Namur Said to Have Been Completely Checked—All But Two of Namur Forts Declared to Be Intact and Still Fighting Despite Claims to Contrary.

Antwerp, Aug. 27.—It is officially announced that the Belgian operations have been completely successful. They have the double object of reducing German entrenchments and drawing the Germans from the line at Mechlin and Brussels so as to relieve the pressure on the French positions. Four Belgian divisions from Namur stopped the southward advance of the German fourth division by obliging it to retrace its steps. The Belgian troops then retreated on the French line. The forts at Namur are still holding out.

NAMUR FORTS STILL INTACT. All But Two Holding Out Against German Attack.

London, Aug. 27.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Namur credits a Belgian officer with the statement that the forts there are still holding out with the exception of Marchevette and Cogneeles, which were destroyed by the bombardment. The Belgians fought for two days, this office says, and there is still a large force of Germans before Namur.

The foregoing dispatch is in contradiction to the dispatch this morning which declared that all the forts at Namur have fallen and that Longwy has been captured by the Germans.

Germans Dispute Claims. Berlin, via wireless to the Associated Press, via Havre, L. I., Aug. 27.—All the forts at Namur have fallen and Longwy, near the Luxembourg border, has been captured after a resolute defense. The French forces which attacked the German crown prince's army have been repulsed. Upper Alsace is free of the enemy except at points to the westward of Kolmar.

Airmen Take Prominent Part. London, Aug. 27.—Refugees from the scene of the fighting around Mons report that airmen took a prominent part in directing the German artillery, says the Times correspondent in Paris. Aeroplanes hovered over the British position and their pilots signalled the German batteries by means of a diad swung at the end of a line.

Bomb Dropping Methods. London, Aug. 27.—The methods used by Zeppelin airships in dropping bombs has been described as follows by a British refugee who has just arrived. "The dirigible hovers over its objective at a sufficient altitude to keep it out of range of the enemy's guns. At the same time it lowers a steel cage

Latest Bulletins From Scene of War

London, Aug. 27.—A dispatch to the Havas Agency at Kragujevac, Serbia, declared that the Austrian army has evacuated the Sanjak of Novi-pazar.

Tokyo, Japan, Aug. 27.—The Austrian ambassador, Baron Muller de Szentgyorgy, has been recalled.

Seoul, Korea, via Tokio, Aug. 27.—Dr. Krueger, the German consul here, and his staff, left for Yokohama today and sail on Aug. 29 with Count von Rex, the German ambassador to Japan and other German consuls. The official Gazette asks the people to accord German residents the fullest protection.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Secretary Daniels today called the captain of the New York navy yard for a full report of the circumstances under which the battleship Florida halted the British liner Franconia in New York harbor. Officials are at a loss to understand why the Florida held the steamer up as she was said to have had proper clearance papers.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Official reports from Antwerp to the state department today say the city was quiet but communication had been cut off from all points except Ghent and Bruges and certain points on the coast.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Ambassador Dumba, of Austria, today formally notified the United States that diplomatic relations between Austria and Japan had been severed but made no reference to any declaration of war.

attached to a steel wire rope 2,000 or 3,000 feet long. This cage is divided into compartments and it carries one man whose duty it is to throw down the bomb. The cage is sufficiently strong to keep the rifle fire against it ineffective and because of its small size and the fact that it is kept constantly in motion it is very difficult for heavy guns to hit it."

Belgians Fulfilling Part. London, Aug. 27.—In an editorial comment on the military situation the Times this morning says: "There is little fresh news from France. Inside its frontier the Belgian army is filling its correct function by moving out of Antwerp and detaining a certain portion of the German forces."

Spy Betrays Belgians. Paris, Aug. 27.—A refugee from Merbes le Chateau, a town thirteen miles from Mons, said on his arrival here that 300 Belgian riflemen posted in this town kept several thousand Germans at bay for three days until a German spy, disguised in a Belgian uniform, showed them a path which enabled the Germans to take the riflemen in their rear. All were killed except twelve villagers.

PROTECT BRITISH INTERESTS. Three Warships Ordered to Mexican Waters to Regulate Traffic. Galveston, Texas, Aug. 27.—An official statement from the British consulate here today said three British warships had been sent full speed to protect oil and cotton industry in the Gulf of Mexico.

HUERTA REACHES SPAIN. Former Mexican Dictator Enroute to Asturias. Santander, Spain, via London, Aug. 27.—General Victoriano Huerta, until recently provisional president of Mexico, landed from a steamer here today. He will proceed shortly to Asturias.

WILHELM DER GROSSE SUNK BY HIGHFLIER

CONVERTED NORTH GERMAN LLOYD STEAMER DESTROYED BY BRITISH CRUISER.

GREAT VESSEL GOES DOWN OFF AFRICAN COAST

Norwegian Steamer Gottfried Blown Up in North Sea by Floating Mine—Survivors of Crew, Including Boat's Master, Picked Up by Fishing Boat—Dead Litterly Blown to Pieces.

London, Aug. 27.—The Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse has been sunk off the west coast of Africa by the British cruiser Highflyer.

The Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse was one of the palatial steamers of the North German Lloyd line. At the outbreak of the war she was converted into an armed cruiser and since has been reported active in searching for British merchantmen. She had a tonnage of 14,349 and was built in 1897. She was 626 feet long, with a beam of 66 feet.

Survivors Are Landed. Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, announced the sinking of the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse to the house of commons today. He said: "The admiralty has just received intelligence that the German armed merchant cruiser Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, 14,000 tons, and armed with ten four-inch guns, has been sunk by the H. M. S. Highflyer, off the west coast of Africa."

"This is the vessel which has been interfering with traffic between this country and the cape and is one of the very few German armed auxiliary cruisers which succeeded in getting to sea. The survivors were landed before the vessel sank. The Highflyer had one killed and five wounded."

Norwegian Steamer Destroyed. London, Aug. 27.—The Norwegian steamer Gottfried has been blown up in the North sea by a floating mine. Eight members of her crew lost their lives.

The captain of the trawler and three others were picked up from floating wreckage and brought into Shields by the fishing boat Norden. Officers of the latter say they were alarmed all thru the night by distant explosions which followed each other at intervals from 9 p. m. to 4 a. m. At about 6 o'clock in the morning the lookout on the Norden sighted and picked up a man floating on a plank. He declared that the Gottfried had been blown up three hours earlier and had gone down immediately with eight members of her crew. The dead men had been litterly blown to pieces.

Later the captain of the Gottfried was found floating in a life belt and two others of her complement were rescued from floating wreckage.

The Norwegian steamer Gottfried was built at Stockholm in 1886 and had a gross tonnage of 425 and was 140 feet long. She was owned in Haugeund, Norway.

T-R. BULLETIN NEWS OF THE DAY

The Weather. Sun rises Aug. 25 at 5:21, sets at 6:41. Iowa—Unsettled weather tonight and Friday; probably local showers tonight; warmer Friday and in north-west portion tonight.

PAGE ONE. Telegraphic News: Germans Occupy Lille and Valenciennes. Push Way Into France From Belgium. Belgians Keeping Kaiser's Men Busy in North. Prussians Fleeing as Russians Advance.

British Sink Steamship Kaiser Wilhelm Der Grosse. PAGES TWO, THREE AND FOUR. Iowa and General News: Japs Seize Island Near Guam. A Woman of Mystery. Joke on City of Fort Madison. Saloonist Fined \$1,000. Shippers Seek Change. Two Fatally Hurt at Chelsea. Train Hits Auto, Driver Dead. Physician Dying.

PAGE FIVE. Story: Wallingford in His Prime. PAGE SIX. Editorial: Prevention or Ineffectual Reform? The Way Out of the Blind Alley. Business Will Be Stimulated. Farm Column. PAGES EIGHT, NINE, TEN, ELEVEN City News: Ringling Circus Visits City. Last Day of Service: New Cases Filed. Ans. Divide Double Bill With Sunnies. Lad Lost: Spends Night Locked in Ice Box. Arrested, Charged With Chicken Theft.

PAGE TWELVE. Markets and General: May Wheat Soars to \$1.25. Corn Market Neglected. Cattle Steady. Hogs Trade Slow. European Upheaval Disturbs Congress.

JAPAN'S ATTITUDE EXPLAINED. Minister of Justice Says Germany Must Be Driven From Orient.

Tokio, Aug. 27.—The emperor is occupied daily in making bandages for the Red Cross workers. She is ably assisted by the court ladies.

Patriotic lantern processions are being held in various cities and such is the interest in the war that the people are crowding moving picture shows where battle scenes are produced.

The Official Gazette publishes an official decree announcing that the services of officers has been extended indefinitely.

Y. K. Ozaki, minister of justice, in speaking of the disinterestedness of Japan in the war other than in conditions in Kiao Chou and the China sea, said: "When Japan captures Kiao Chou and the hostilities in the China and Japan seas are over, Japan will stand aside and become an onlooker if the war in Europe is in progress."

"If, however, the Germans still retain a standing in the South seas which would be a menace to the peace, Japan in accordance with the alliance, would consult Great Britain and might co-operate in driving the Germans out of the Orient."

Reports from Vienna yesterday stated that it had been announced there that the Austrian government Tuesday had handed passports to the Japanese ambassador. Other reports from Vienna stated that Austria considered herself at war with Japan because of the latter's declaration of war against Germany, Austria's ally.

Iowa Postmasters. Special to Times-Republican. Washington, Aug. 27.—The president today nominated the following Iowa postmasters:

John E. Verwickken, Grundy Center. John E. McFush, Lisbon. Richard O'Connor, Neola.

Great Britain Feels Encouraged By the Developments in War

London, Aug. 27.—From both sea and land there came today official reports considered here to be a promising augur for the future.

The German trans-Atlantic liner, Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, at one time one of the most popular vessels of the North German Lloyd line sailing from New York, and one of the few armed German merchantmen which have been worrying Great Britain trade routes, was sunk off the African coast by the cruiser Highflyer.

From the continent Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British forces, has been able to set at rest much of the anxiety caused in England by the vagueness of French official statements regarding the movement of the armies in the localities where the British force was known to be operating. His dispatch takes a roseate view of the battle now in progress and pays a tribute to the mettle of his French allies.

Much of the apprehension felt here can be traced to the rigid censorship maintained by the British authorities. Two million men have been grappling in a Tiber attack for days past a few hours journey from London, yet so complete is the silence that the public is in all but complete ignorance.

GERMANS FLEE FROM ADVANCING RUSSIANS

INVASION OF PRUSSIA BY CZAR ARMY PROCEEDS WITH IRRESISTIBLE FORCE.

TRAINS REACHING BERLIN CROWDED WITH FUGITIVE

Sensational Advance of Russians Continues to Be Marvel of Military Situation—Large Force of German Soldiers Believed to Be Botted Up at Konigsberg—Retreating on Danzig.

London, Aug. 27.—It is officially announced, says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company, that the Russian advance is proceeding in Prussia with irresistible force. The Germans have retreated to Osterode, a town of East Prussia, 104 miles west of Cumbinnen.

A merchant who arrived yesterday from Berlin, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Chronicle says that trains from Konigsberg reaching Berlin are crowded with refugees, who state that civilians have been strongly advised to leave.

Advance Marvel of War. Russia's sensational advance continues to be the marvel of the military situation. Just as the allies were outnumbered a few days ago in Belgium, so are the Germans outnumbered by the Russians.

It is believed here this is the key to the Kaiser's downfall, as the czar is moving toward Berlin faster than the Kaiser is moving toward France, either from the east or north.

Russia will put 3,000,000 men into Germany and 2,000,000 into Austria within ten of fifteen days, according to the Russian General Spivich, who is quoted to that effect in a dispatch from Rome.

Bottle Up Kaiser's Men. A big German force is now believed bottled up in Konigsberg. The Times prints a dispatch from its St. Petersburg correspondent saying that the Germans, who retreated by forced marches after their defeat by the Russians at Gumbinnen, are assembling their forces at Konigsberg. The German fortified position on the River Angerab was abandoned without fighting.

"The roads beyond the Angerab are strewn with cartridges, knapsacks and equipment cast aside in the hasty flight of the German troops," the correspondent says.

"North of Neidenburg Sunday and Monday there was stubborn fighting in which the Russians were again victorious, largely thru their superb use of the bayonet. The enemy here had assembled the entire twentieth army corps in a fortified position. The Russians had to negotiate pits and barbed wire. Hand grenades were used, the Russians finally carrying the positions at the point of bayonet. The Germans retreated toward Osterode, leaving behind many guns, machine guns, caissons and prisoners.

Vilna Army Victorious. "Meanwhile the Vilna army is driving the first German army corps toward Danzig. The question now is whether the German forces can escape and how long the Russians will take in occupying the territory east of the river Vistula. There they will find stronger German defenses.

"The Germans at Gumbinnen had all the advantages of numbers and position. It was a clear case of the better man winning.

"The Russian losses include representatives of all the noblest families in the empire.

"The Grand Duke Dmitri Pavlovitch and the Princes John and Oleg Constantinevich, who are substitutes in the horse guards, rode in the terrible charge which will forever be a glory to their regiment and the Russian army."

German Troops Retire. Paris, Aug. 27.—An official statement from the war office late today says: "The German troops retired from the region of Masuren in East Prussia after the Russian victory. A Russian advance is unretarded in that country, which presents difficulties, and the outlet of which to the west was occupied yesterday. It is confirmed that 100 caissons were taken from the enemy."

AUSTRIAN VICTORY IN POLAND. Reports From Vienna Tell of Repulse of Large Force of Enemy.

Berlin, via London, Aug. 27.—The correspondents of the Lokal Anzeiger and the Tagblatt at Austrian headquarters estimate the strength of the Russian forces beaten at Krasnik, a town of Russian Poland, at four or five army corps, or possibly 200,000 men.

Two Russian corps which formed the advance guard were, on Aug. 25, ejected from the heights of Krasnik and Frampol.

Sanguinary battles occurred on the route to Lubin and on the heights and in the forests along the small river Chodol, which were only finally decided on Aug. 25. The battle was fought in a difficult country which was full of forests.

Gen. Josias von Heeringen, former minister of war, has received the decoration of the Iron cross of the first class for distinguished services.