

Aug. 26—Better news to-day. The military situation in France and Belgium is rapidly changing, and while it is still extremely critical, and at the best will remain so for several days to come, it is clear that the allied armies were not overwhelmingly defeated in the first great battle. Nancy has been saved from German attack; a French Army Corps that disgraced itself in the last battle has re-habilitated itself near Luneville, and that town has been taken from the Germans. The successes in Eastern Prussia are important, nearly two-thirds of that province having been overrun. Perhaps Berliners are already beginning to tell one another in awed whispers "The Russians are coming." But while their fears are not without some foundation, it will be two or three months, at the earliest, before the Russian horde can reach Berlin.

Aug. 27—The French official bureau of Tuesday said: "Every Frenchman will deplore the temporary abandonment of portions of Alsace-Lorraine, which we had occupied, and certain parts of the national territory will suffer from events of which they will be the theatre. The ordeal is inevitable. Thus detachments of German cavalry belonging to an unattached division operating on the extreme right have penetrated to Roubaix, six miles north of Lille and the Turcoing district, which are defended only by territorial reservists. In telling to the country the whole truth, the Government and military authorities give the strongest proof of their absolute confidence in victory."

Aug. 28—With German soldiers little more than a hundred miles from Paris on the northeast, and no important fortifications barring the way, the situation in France looks serious. It is to be feared that the allied line along the whole front has been withdrawn a distance of about 25 miles, and that it now extends from Toul to Verdun, to Sedan, to Mezieres, to Hirson, to Le Cateau, to Cambrai, to Arras. Premier Asquith intimated in the Commons to-day that the British, who possibly number 150,000 men, were attacked on Wednesday near Cambrai by five army corps and cavalry, which probably means about 250,000 men.

Aug. 29—The splendid daring and success of the dash made by the British warships past the guns of Heligo-