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SHOWERY.

The Journal of Commerce

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MONTREAL, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1914

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STRENGTHENING OF FORTRESSES AROUND PARIS THE PROBLEM

Col. Repington, of the London Times, sums up the Situation in Northern France as Still Very Much in Doubt.

London, September 1.—Colonel Charles Repington, the military expert of the Times, in discussing the French situation says: "Closing up of the German right toward La Perre, tends to show that enveloping movement on this flank has not even been adequately met and that the general outcome of the fighting in the north is still in doubt. If the Allies thrust back the German advance, or if both sides maintain their position, the situation is clear enough, but if we are not so fortunate and further retirement is necessary, then our position becomes most difficult, and strengthening of the fortresses around Paris looms up as the most important factor.

"If Paris is invested, the line held by the enemy will not be less than 100 miles long, and if this line is held in the same strength as it was in 1870, no less than 500,000 men will be required to occupy it. Such numbers will materially weaken the German army, to such an extent that it is possible that instead of attacking the whole line of the French defense the Kaiser's forces will concentrate on some section of the line which they think is the weakest.

WESTERN TROOPS HERE TO-NIGHT.

The 5th Light Horse, a fine body of men recruited in Winnipeg, are due in Montreal late to-night on their way to Valenciennes. Locally known in their home city as the "Fort Garry Horse," the regiment, 700 strong, left Winnipeg by the Grand Trunk Pacific route for Montreal, travelling in two special trains. Many men prominent in the business and social life of Winnipeg have enlisted under the command of Lt. Col. R. W. Paterson.

VON BERNSTORFF'S CORRECTED STATEMENT.

New York, September 1.—Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the United States, was quoted as saying that Germany was ready for peace, that the war was won, that the coalition had been defeated in Western Europe, and that the aim of the German staff had been attained.

The Ambassador corrected this by declaring what he did say was that it had always been the intention of the German general staff to withdraw troops from France, when the French troops were beaten, and added that he had no official information about the reported withdrawal of troops from Belgium. He does not expect Italy to go to war.

TO CHANGE NAME OF ST. PETERSBURG.

London, September 1.—A dispatch to the Reuter Telegram Company from St. Petersburg says that by an imperial order the city of St. Petersburg, capital of the Russian Empire since 1712 will henceforth be known as Petrograd.

This change eliminates the teutonic construction in name by which the chief city of Russia has been known since it was founded by Peter the Great in 1703.

GERMAN LOSSES HEAVY.

Amsterdam, September 1.—A Red Cross physician who arrived at Middleberke to-day, declared that a German officer told him the German losses in one day's fighting at Cambrai were 25,000 in killed alone.

RIGHT WING HOLDS CENTRE GIVES WAY

Allies Unable to Withstand the
Terrific Onslaught of German
Right and Centre

ONLY 70 MILES TO PARIS

Certain Points to Which the Germans Have Penetrated are Comparatively Near the French Capital—Russians Defeat Austrians but Germans Claim Victory.

(Special to Journal of Commerce)
Paris, September 1.—Desperate fighting was in progress to-day along the entire front of the Allies' line. The Kaiser's soldiers hurled themselves against the centre and left wing of the Allies in a desperate endeavor to break through.

The War Office reports that the right wing of the Allies is fighting on the offensive in Lorraine, and is said to be waging a successful campaign. Only on the right wing, however, is there anything that gives France any confidence of success. In the centre and on the left the defenders are trying desperately to hold their lines against the overwhelming forces of Germans hurled upon them. In the centre and on the left where the British and French have for days been steadily forced back, the fighting has assumed the proportions of a general engagement. Apparently the Allies' left wing is trying desperately to hold the lines near Rheims to La Perre. The fighting on this line is at points less than 70 miles from Paris.

The attention of Paris turned to-day from the battered left wing of the Allies to the centre, where the German army led by the Crown Prince began a desperate attack. Apparently the Crown Prince has sent his army through Luxemburg and the gap of Treves. Moreover, a French fortress of the second rank, has been getting into position for the big battle now raging.

The Crown Prince has thrown his full force upon the French centre determined apparently that it shall be kept too busy to send any assistance to the battered left wing.

No news as to the fortunes of the battle in the centre has been received as yet. The War Office made this announcement concerning the battle in the centre: "A general action is now proceeding in the Rubaix district. The final result of this operation is impossible to foresee."

According to despatches received at Rome from the scene of the fighting in East Prussia, the German garrisons at the fortresses of Thorn and Graulitz have failed to check the advance of the Russians. At Galicia, the Austrians, despite reinforcements, have been obliged to retire, being unable to withstand the continuous bayonet attacks of the Russians. Numerous prisoners, guns and flags have been taken by the Russians.

Copenhagen dispatches announce that the following official statement has been issued in Berlin: "In the great battles fought in East Prussia, the Germans surrounded the Russians on three sides and forced them back to the lakes, and swamps of the Mauer region. There is great jubilation here over this glorious result, which is due to the ability of our staff."

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: "The Russians have crushingly defeated the Austrians. Twenty thousand Austrians are hors de combat."

Other St. Petersburg despatches state that the Austrians lost 3,000 prisoners and many guns.

AUSTRIANS DRIVEN BACK.

London, September 1.—Reuter's correspondent at St. Petersburg states that the Russian advance into Galicia continues and that the Austrians are retreated across the Viattula after their Hungarian division had been badly whipped.

General Joffre has told the Minister of War that he does not believe the Germans will get within 50 miles of Paris.

OFFICERS SHOT MEN.

London, September 1.—The Times Naval Expert says that German officers shot their sailors in the water after the battle of Heligoland, to prevent their falling into the hands of the British and the expert asserts that 39 German sailors on a sinking cruiser cut their own throats to escape capture.

The English and German sailors killed in the battle were buried Monday at Shotley. The British and German flags were draped together over the 39 coffins and the last "post" was sounded alike for the dead of both nations.

"THE TIMES" MAKES REPLY.

London, September 1.—Premier Asquith's rebuke to The Times for publishing yesterday a despatch from an Amiens correspondent saying that the Allies had not enough men on the battle line, and that the British forces in France had been "broken," was unwarranted, according to a statement in that paper to-day. The special article, which brought forth the Premier's criticism, according to The Times, was submitted to the censor, and was published in accordance with official request.

WILL SEND ARMY ONLY ON BRITISH REQUEST

Washington, September 1.—The Japanese Embassy denied any intention on the part of its government to despatch an army to India for the protection of British interests except at the express invitation of the British Government and in the unlikely event of serious uprising there.

UNCONFIRMED VICTORY.

London, September 1.—Reuter's correspondent at Antwerp has sent the following dispatch: "It is reported that General Pau has been successful in a brilliant engagement at Peronne and that 50,000 Germans were killed and wounded. Confirmation is unobtainable."

JAPS CANNOT GO TO EUROPE BUT CAN HELP IN EAST

Japanese Consul in New York Explains the Position of His Nation as Regards the British Alliance.

New York, September 1.—Japan cannot send troops to Europe to assist the Allies in the fighting there, although she stands ready to help them in the Far East, according to the Japanese Consul here, Takashi Nakamura. This statement was made in reply to questions as to whether Japan would send soldiers to Europe to aid the Allies or organize an expedition to help to keep Turkey at bay.

"Our agreement with Great Britain," said the Consul-General, "is that she need have no fear of removing her troops from India to the war zone. That agreement binds us to protect the interests of Great Britain in just such an emergency, and the agreement includes India and China.

"In the event of Turkey getting into this war, which is not so promising as it may seem, Japan would send to India a sufficient force to keep down any uprising of the natives that may be fomented by Turkish or German interests. Such a movement of Japanese troops is covered in the agreement.

"On the other hand, we cannot send troops to the war in Europe, so matter what the fortunes of the Allies may be. In the first place, our agreement does not call for aid in that direction; in the second place, it would be almost impossible to get enough troops into the war zone to be of any service at the last desperate cry for help."

HOME RULE BILL WILL BE RESURRECTED, SEPTEMBER 9TH

Former Premier Balfour Warns Government That Such a Course Will Incite Heated Controversy.

London, September 1.—The Home Rule controversy, which has been dormant since the war broke out, cropped out again yesterday when Premier Asquith announced that on reassembling on September 9, the Government would proceed with the Home Rule and Welsh Dis-establishment Bills.

Former Premier A. J. Balfour declared that if the Government again introduced Home Rule, its course would arouse a torrent of abuse. This pronouncement brought an angry roar from the Ministerialists during which Mr. Balfour stood unmoved. When quiet was resumed, he said that to introduce the bill while many members were serving at the front, could only arouse a most heated controversy.

Again the Ministerialists roared "same," which cry was met with angry counter-cries from the Opposition.

There was another angry shout from the Nationalists and Ministerialists when the House proceeded with other business.

THREATEN TO DESTROY TOWN.

Butte, September 1.—Terror prevails throughout Butte on intimations that the miners have threatened to dynamite and burn the town if an attempt is made to bring troops here.

"We have quantities of dynamite," said a leader, "and the troops will find ashes."

Advice from Helena said a second regiment consisting of 600 men was being held in readiness to depart for Butte, the instant Governor Stewart gave the order.

MAY MEAN REAR ATTACK ON GERMANS.

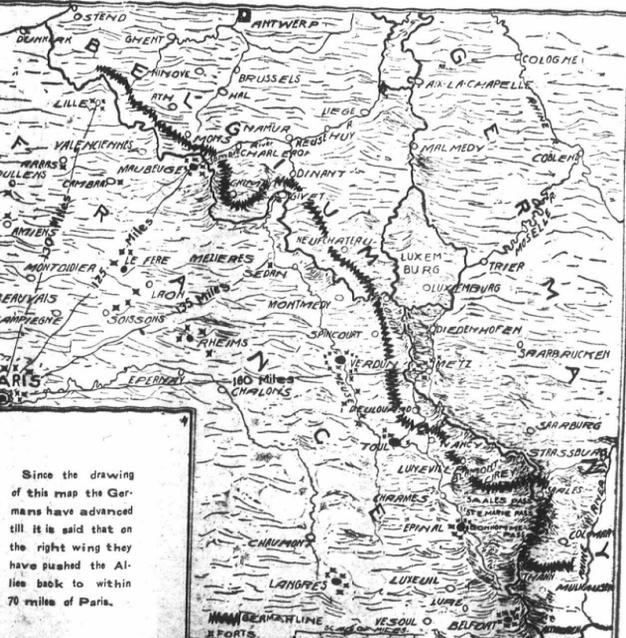
London, September 1.—Censorship was suddenly tightened at noon, without any warning. Numerous dispatches relating to operations in France and Belgium were held up by the Government's orders.

Note.—Foreign dispatch is highly significant, "operations in Belgium" may relate to a rear attack on the Germans by British troops reported to have landed at Ostend.

RUSSIANS DEFEAT AUSTRIANS.

London, September 1.—Copenhagen dispatches announce that the following official statement has been issued in Berlin: "In the great battles fought in East Prussia, the Germans surrounded the Russians on three sides and forced them back to the lakes and swamps of the Mauer region."

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: "Russians have crushingly defeated the Austrians."



Since the drawing of this map the Germans have advanced till it is said that on the right wing they have pushed the Allies back to within 70 miles of Paris.

TURN ATTENTION TO CAPTURING TRADE

A Sure Sign of Returning Confidence
Shown in Efforts Which Are
Being Made

GAIN OVERBALANCES LOSS

Total Value of Markets Definitely Lost to Great Britain is \$205,000,000, While There is Domestic Market For Goods Aggregating \$440,000,000.

(Special Correspondent W. E. Dowding)
London, August 19.—A sure sign of the returning confidence of the commercial community over here is the general interest that is being shown in the practical question of capturing the German foreign trade. Though the finance difficulty remains the outstanding obstacle in regard to both import and export trade, the solution of that problem is at hand and monetary stringency decreases with comparative regularity.

As far as the trade of Great Britain herself is concerned the total value of the markets definitely lost is \$205,000,000, while there remains a market here for goods to the value of \$440,000,000, solely in the hands of Germany and Austria—a large proportion of which cannot, for a variety of reasons, be supplied from domestic sources.

There is little doubt that the Dominions in common with the U. S. A. and the rest of the "neutral" world can secure a share in some of it, if they tackle the problem with practical earnestness. But obviously, the most important question both as regards the Motherland and the Dominions overseas is whether the vast world commerce which Germany and Austria have succeeded in building up is to be captured by the Empire or its rival competitors. This question is exceedingly the minds not only of the British Board of Trade and the Colonial Office, but of organized effort elsewhere.

The British Empire Industrial League has made a special feature of preparing data and statistics bearing upon trade openings in the Dominions due to the extinction of German and Austrian exports.

The British Board of Trade, in a circular signed by the permanent Under Secretary, draws special attention to the fact that the present dislocation of German and Austrian industry offers a unique opportunity for bringing the producers in Great Britain and the consumers in the Dominions in closest touch, with one another and for communicating to the Interstate trade of the Empire a gigantic impulse unobtainable in other circumstances. To facilitate this "getting into touch" process, the Secretary for the Colonies has announced the Government's intention to collect samples of produce and of data concerning them from different parts of the Empire, and to gather all possible information regarding the requirements and possibilities of the Dominions as markets for potential British produce. He proposes to give the traders and manufacturers of the United Kingdom an opportunity of inspecting this mass of evidence by assembling it in a Central Exhibition, perhaps at the Imperial Institute. The process of collection is to begin in the immediate future. The opening in the Canadian markets for additional British produce is a large one.

In 1913, Canada imported \$18,000,000 worth of German goods, the larger items of which may be classified as under—

Cotton and manufactures of cotton	\$1,040,438
Wool and manufactures of	1079,952
Fancy goods	1,127,726
Furs and manufactures of	1,648,133
Paper and manufactures of	282,177
Iron and steel and manufactures of	2,123,064
Silk and manufactures of	274,649
Other metals, minerals, manufactures of	880,301

Much if not all of these can be supplied by British manufacturers as cheaply and as efficiently as the German manufacturers have supplied them and far more cheaply than they will be able to produce them for a considerable period in the future. When once Canadian traders and British merchants have thoroughly realized the position the collapse of the German supply will serve as a much-needed stimulus to British industry in these directions.

ENGLISH NOT DEFEATED.

Rome, September 1.—The English forces have not been defeated, says an official message received by the Italian Government from London.

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MAY NOT HAVE TO MOVE GOVERNMENT FROM PARIS

French Become More Hopeful of Outcome, but Parisians Still Stream Out of the City to Avoid Possible Siege.

(Special to The Journal of Commerce.)

Paris, September 1.—Meeting in extraordinary session, the Cabinet considered the question of removing seat of the Government from Paris in case the capital is besieged. The matter was left undecided, because of an encouraging report from Minister of War Millerand, who stated the situation seemed to have improved at the front.

If it is decided that the Government will be taken from Paris, it will be shifted to either Marseilles or Bordeaux.

At the conclusion of the Cabinet meeting, M. Malvy, Minister of Interior, said: "Thinking looks brighter. Paris is now passing through a period of suspense unparalleled for more than 40 years, but it is quietly hoping for the best. It will be a long war and we must make the greatest sacrifices, but we shall win in the end."

Progress of the Germans toward Paris has led to striking changes in the aspect of the city. During the last 24 hours, more than 10,000 Parisians have left the city. To facilitate the departure of residents, the War Department to-day turned over to M. Malvy sixty trains that had been used for transportation of troops. About 100 more will be available to-morrow.

The rush to escape the ordeal of siege was resumed at 8 o'clock to-day when the gates of the railroad stations were opened.

U.S. HAS NOT DECIDED ABOUT GERMAN SHIP YET

Representations Made By Ambassadors of Great Britain, France and Russia are Still Under Consideration.

Washington, September 1.—Great Britain, France and Russia have advised the United States informally, they would look with disfavor on the purchase by this government of the German merchant steamships to relieve conditions growing out of the European war, and also to build up an American merchant marine. While not conveyed in any diplomatic correspondence, their position nevertheless, has been vigorously set forth to President Wilson and Secretary Bryan. Secretary Bryan's only comment on the reception of the ship purchase plan was: "We have not yet reached the point of purchase."

France took the initiative, Ambassador Jusserand carrying his objections to President Wilson in his recent interview at the White House.

George Bakmeister, the Russian Ambassador, conferred with the British and French Ambassadors to-day, and later saw Secretary Bryan. All three diplomats held that there was no precedent in international law for the purchase by a neutral nation of any great quantity of ships from a belligerent.

The chief objection urged is that the transaction would establish a large gold credit in the hands of Germany. The diplomats point out that German steamship companies are closely affiliated with the German Government, and to buy their ships, now marooned in American ports, would be tantamount to furnishing Germany with a large loan. Should the American Government, however, distribute its purchase of ships among the belligerent nations, they do not believe there would be any objection from any quarter.

H. R. H. VISITS ST. JOHN.

St. John, N.B., September 1.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught arrived here from Halifax this morning at ten o'clock to inspect the St. John defences. His Highness inspected the garrisons of the city and the regiments on duty here. He was met at the station by Mayor Frink, who welcomed him to the city, and he also talked for a few moments with Col. J. R. Armstrong and Col. H. H. McLean, M.P. He left for Montreal at one o'clock.

FRENCH HEARS OF GERMAN ADVANCE.

Washington, September 1.—Progress of the German right wing continues, was the news contained in a brief dispatch from the French War Office to Ambassador Jusserand.