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FATE OF PARIS HANGS IN BALANCE

Three Million Troops Are Engaged in Battle Along Line To-day

GERMANS IN ALARM OVER THREATENED INVASION OF BERLIN

News That Kaiser Has Left for West is Taken Seriously--Reports that Berlin is to be Burned Causes Terror in the Fatherland.

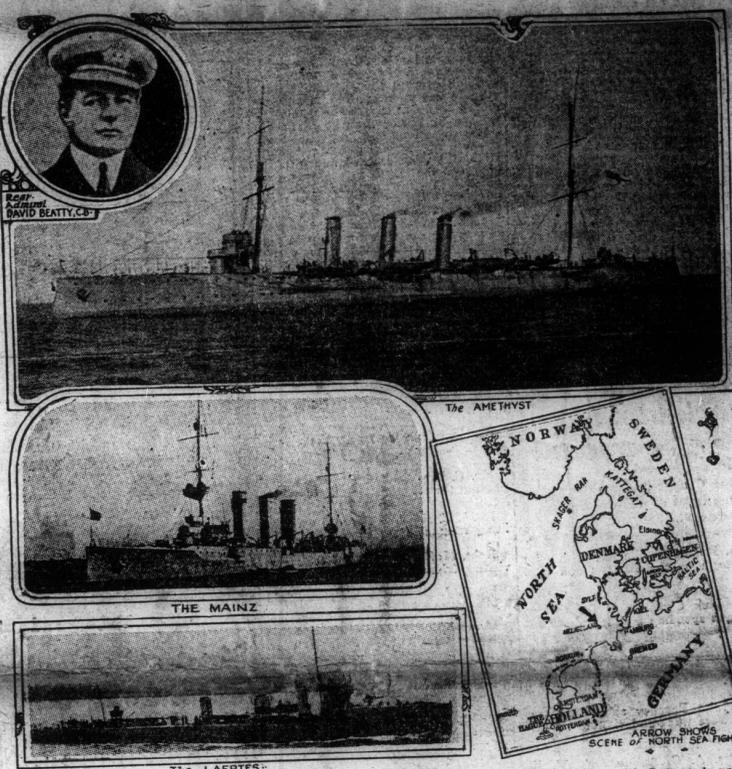
[By Special Wire to the Courier.] LONDON, Sept. 1.--The correspondent of the Express, telegraphing from The Hague, says: "There is the greatest alarm in Berlin over the advance of the Russian troops. The news that the Emperor has left the western headquarters and moved to the Russian front has shown the residents of the capital where the immediate peril to their safety lies."

"A story has been circulated that the Russians are preparing to invade Louvain by treating the city of Berlin in the same way as the Germans treated that city. Many of the populace who can get away are going to Norway, Denmark and Switzerland. The city of Liege is said here that the German artillery experts, after vainly trying every type of field gun at their command against the Krupp factory, sent to the Krupp factory for a new 14-inch naval gun, which was set down four miles from the nearest Liege fort. The first shot fired from it hit the officers' mess house inside the Belgian fortifications, killing 125 men."

A DECISIVE VICTORY

LONDON, Sept. 1.--A despatch to The Times from St. Petersburg gives the following comment on the Russian operations against the Austrians: "The Russian operations against the Austrians are considered by recognized military writers to have reached the stage when decisive victories may be within reach. The capture of the railroad centre forty miles south of Lemberg involves the rupture of railway communication with the Austrian fortresses on the Dniester and in Bukovina. Thus the southern part of Galicia, as well as Bukovina is severed from the remaining portions of Galicia, except by a circuitous route across the Carpathians. As a result the iron ring is closing around Lemberg. According to the Russo-Slovene losses suffered by the Austrians in their desperate attempt to strike at the vitals of the Russian position in Poland, aggregate tens of thousands of men, including the sixth Austrian corps, which, on its retreat between the western Bug and the Wiprz Rivers, was almost annihilated."

BRITISH WIN FIRST BIG SEA FIGHT IN WORLD'S GREATEST WAR



Britannia still rules the waves. Her grim, gray war ships came to grips in the North Sea with Germany's navy, and as a result of what the British Admiralty terms "an operation of some importance" off the Blight of Heligoland on the morning of August 28, two German cruisers, one of them the Mainz, launched in 1910 and the fastest cruiser in the Kaiser's navy, and two destroyers of the Koin class, were sunk, and one battle ship left the scene in flames and in a sinking condition.

The enemy, which had been in hiding since the war began, stole out in a heavy mist at daybreak to attack the British fleet, but the Britons, who were not to be caught napping, soon sighted the oncoming Germans, waded right in and won the first substantial victory on the sea in the world's greatest war. All the German cruisers which were engaged were thus disposed of. The battle-cruiser squadron, although attacked by submarines and floating mines, successfully evaded them and was not damaged. The light cruiser squadron suffered no casualties. The flotilla cruiser Amethyst and the destroyer Laertes were damaged, but no other vessels were seriously injured. The British loss of life was not heavy. Rear Admiral Beatty was one of the commanding officers concerned in the skilfully handled operations.

Three Million Troops are Battling on Frontier--Headlong German Effort

[By Special Wire to the Courier.] LONDON, Sept. 1, 1.37 p.m. --To-day of the anniversary of the capitulation of Sedan, 3,000,000 troops are battling on the French frontier--the Germans in a headlong effort to celebrate the day with a dramatic success; the French, backed by their British allies to avenge their defeat of 44 years ago.

That the Germans have gained ground in their encircling movement on the French left is admitted by the French foreign office but it also is asserted that after a three days' battle in this region the Anglo-French, although pushed back, still remains unbroken. This is described as the "wearing down" policy on the part of the allied armies, and it

is claimed that the losses of the attacking forces have been enormously greater than have those of the defenders. French troops alone thus far are available and nothing is reaching the public in London to enable even admitted experts to form an opinion of their real value.

The heaviest fighting appears to be taking place along the line from Oxyeronne, in the Department of Verme, in the north of the flower of Emperor William's army is trying to pierce the British defence. Further to the east the forces of the German crown Prince still are attacking the French in the region about Mezieres, the capital of the Department of Ardennes. The only points where the French claim to have gained posi-

tive successes are in the Vosges Mountains and in Lorraine, where the Germans are said to be in retreat.

The statement that Emperor William has gone to the Russian frontier cannot as yet be confirmed. Independent views of the fierce fighting now going on in East Prussia and in Galicia are entirely lacking so it is a case of one taking his choice between the German, Austrian and Russian versions of the battles.

The thirty of friends of Millcent-Duchess of Sutherland, was alleged this morning by the receipt of a despatch from the American Ambassador at Berlin, who telegraphed that he had definitely ascertained that the Duchess and her whole ambulance staff were all well and working at Namur.

WAR SUMMARY

[By Special Wire to the Courier.] The absence of news concerning the progress of the European war is to-day most marked. Not since the early days of August when military operations first took serious form, has there been such a dearth of intelligence, official or otherwise. It is evident that there is a concerted effort on the part of both the British and French authorities to keep the world at large in absolute ignorance of what is transpiring in northern France.

No official statements have been issued in either London, Paris or Berlin, and such news as has come to hand is decidedly fragmentary, unsubstantiated, of minor importance and without real significance.

This veil of secrecy, drawn tighter to-day than at any time in the last thirty days, may be taken as an indication that events are transpiring in northern France. A similar silence was observed during the fighting around Mons, Cambrai and Leateau last week.

The latest official report on the situation north of Paris was issued last night. It was said that the French left, owing to the progress of the German right wing, had been forced to mark a "new retirement." Explaining this announcement, the French embassy in London to-day said: "The Anglo-French army corps have had to give ground, but nowhere have they been broken through. The fighting to-day in which the Allies are believed to be opposing the German advance, is thought to be centered around Le Fere, a strongly fortified French position on the River Oise, and 75 miles northeast of Paris. The fate of the French capital may hang on the outcome of these operations."

It is not definitely known whether the British troops in France have been engaged again or not. A news despatch from Dieppe says a great battle has been fought at Croisilles, and is probably still in progress. No details

are given nor has this report been received from any other source.

Croisilles is 10 miles southeast of Arras, in the Department of Pas De Calais, and is about fifteen miles from Cambrai.

Persons reaching Paris from the north, describe the preparations of the allies for a defensive fight. A Frenchman, who reached the capital to-day, says there are no Germans in Lille, Roubaix or Tourcoing, a group of towns near the Belgian frontier, which were occupied by Germans last week.

To-day is the anniversary of the battle of Sedan, which was fought with disastrous results to the French, September 1, 1870. This coincidence draws particular attention to the outcome of the present operations concerning which such an impenetrable silence is being maintained in London, Paris and Berlin.

Rome has received a report from so many that the Russians have inflicted a crushing defeat on the Austrians in Galicia, the troops of Emperor Francis Joseph suffering losses declared to amount to 200,000.

A news despatch from St. Petersburg makes a similar claim, making the Austrians in Poland having lost tens of thousands of men. Nevertheless reports from the eastern theatre of war continue to be conflicting. Both St. Petersburg and Berlin claim important victories.

By imperial order the city of St. Petersburg will henceforth be known as Petrograd, the change eliminating the Teuton construction in the name of the chief city of Russia.

An official communication given out at Antwerp says the situation throughout Belgium is satisfactory. The Germans are declared to have evacuated Aerschot, and railroad communication has been restored in the Campine county.

(Continued on Page 8)

Crushing Defeat

[By Special Wire to the Courier.] LONDON, Sept. 1.--A despatch to the Daily News from Rome declares that news has been received there from Bucharest, Rumania, setting forth that the Russians have inflicted a crushing defeat on the Austrians in Galicia. They inflicted a loss of 200,000 on their enemy, who sought to cross the Vistula.

THE BRITISH FLEET SAVED THE SERVIANS

[By Special Wire to the Courier.] LONDON, Sept. 1, 81 a.m. --A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Cetinje states that the Austrians, supported by the Cattaro batteries and their fleet on Sunday re-attacked Mount Lovchen and Budva. The Montenegrin positions were being seriously damaged when the English and French fleet put in a timely appearance, silenced the batteries and forced the Austrian ships to beat a hasty retreat. The Montenegrins under Prince Peter immediately began a counter attack on the Austrian forces and repulsed them. They killed 450 men and took many prisoners, including several officers. Two pieces of artillery were also captured.

PICKED UP SHELLS AND THREW THEM OVER

[By Special Wire to the Courier.] LONDON, Sept. 1.--The Harwich correspondent of the Telegraph gives interviews with wounded sailors and speaks of the plucky way in which the English handled live shells. Many of the German shells which made hits, it appears, did not burst. "There were five shells in the boiler of one of the destroyers," he quotes one of the sailors as saying, and if one had burst it would have been all up with the ship. "What did you do with them?"

"Oh, just shied them overboard. There was no room for such rubbish aboard our yacht." In another instance, the correspondent says, it is related that a shell fell on a British ship, and as there was no immediate explosion the sailors rushed at it and pitched it into the sea with naked hands. The Germans also showed considerable grit, it is said. As one of the cruisers was going down with decks ablaze and the flag and mast shot away, the only man left in the forecastle hoisted the flag and then went down with the ship. Proof that some of the Germans were shot by their own officers, the correspondent says, is given by one of the wounded Germans landed at Shotley, who has seven revolver bullets in him, which he could only have come by on his own ship.

WORLD WIDE GLIMPSES OF THE WAR

[By Special Wire to the Courier.] SAVED BIG HOEL LONDON, Sept. 1.--An Oxford undergraduate, who escaped from the German lines, has arrived in London after a trip through Louvain and Brussels. He says the Hotel De Ville, the beautiful fifteenth century structure, had not been set on fire or damaged by the Germans. In fact they took precautions to preserve it, and the officers said it was their intention to save the building. The cathedral, however, he says, was not allowed to go scot free,

as all the windows were knocked in. The fabric was still intact when he left, but was filled with refugees. BRUSSELS NOT GUARDED Paris, France, Sept. 1.--Belgians, who are constantly arriving in Paris, say that the Germans have only from 20,000 to 30,000 men in Brussels, and that it is very easy to get in or out of the city. North of Brussels there has been constant minor engagements the Belgians from Antwerp harassing the German rear.

Refugees from Laon, a few miles from La Fere, say that there are no Germans there. Many refugees have also arrived from La Fere and Guise, where there was sharp fighting yesterday. A mother and her children made the distance of fifty miles from Guise to Laon on foot. They received food from the soldiers on the way.

FOOD IS SCARCE THERE LONDON, Sept. 1.--A Belgian business man who has just arrived (Continued on Page Four.)