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Belgians and the Germans Fighting Mighty Battle

Pope of Rome is Dead, Heartbroken by this War

GERMANY'S TRIUMPH DEPENDS ON DEALING A SMASHING BLOW TO THE ALLIES IN BELGIUM

A Drawn or an Indecisive Action Would Really Spell Defeat For the Germans and Victory For the Allied Forces

WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME DEFENSIVE

Both Armies Experiencing Great Difficulties in Manoeuvring the Millions of Men and in Providing Them With Food

London, Aug. 17.—No one must expect the decisive defeat of the Germans in the present stage of the war. The battle on the Meuse will decide whether in the future the Germans shall be placed purely on the defensive, both against France and Russia, or whether they will be able to continue their offensive movements through Belgium to France. The armies are so enormous and the front occupied by them is so great that many days fighting and manoeuvring must take place before the tide slowly rolls back or slowly rolls forward.

Would Spell Defeat. Anything in the nature of drawn

DYING PONTIFF BEWAILED THE WAR AND HIS INABILITY TO FORBID IT

"In Ancient Times," he Said, "The Pope By a Word Might Have Stayed the Slaughter, But Now He Is Impotent."

Rome, Aug. 20.—The Pope died at 120 o'clock this morning. He had been ill several days, but alarming symptoms did not develop until Wednesday morning. Throat the day Doctors Marchisava

BELGIAN SOLDIERS KEEP UP FIGHT UNTIL THEY DROP FROM EXHAUSTION

Modern War Conditions Impose a Terrible Strain On the Combatants

Brussels, Aug. 17.—I have had an opportunity in the past few days of visiting several British hospitals and seeing the wounded. Two facts struck me very forcibly: First of the large number of Belgian soldiers wounded only in the legs, and secondly the many soldiers who seemed to have collapsed through sheer exhaustion.

Extreme Exhaustion. In peace times one sees or hears little or nothing of extreme exhaustion because in peace the almost super-physical is not demanded. War brings new conditions. These Belgian soldiers were at work on the march during two stupendous days, practically without a moment's respite. They went literally until they dropped. As a medical man their condition interested me enormously. What force of will to fight and struggle until the last gasp!

Triumph of Spirit. Exhaustion one sees often, and heat stroke in hot climates is common—but this type of exhaustion is by itself a final triumph of brave spirits. The victims present a very alarm

or indecisive battle is defeat for the would constitute victory for the allies. Every inch of Belgium will be fought for, foot for foot, before the allies' armies are driven back from the Antwerp-Louvain-Namur line.

This war is purely an experiment entered into on a scale never before attempted. No general staff has ever tried to handle more than five army corps on manoeuvres. Now something like forty army corps have to be handled in a restricted area. It will be found that such a task will be beyond the human bounds of human organization if they are to be manoeuvred quickly and fed. Human nature cannot be changed. The large numbers of mankind are so constituted that they can only support the strain of war, especially under modern rifle and artillery fire, for a short time.

Country Over-Run. The whole country will be overrun with blackguards and deserters determined to escape at any cost from the field of death. We saw in the Balkan War in its later stages innumerable men, who preferred to maim themselves by some injury to the hands, rather than continue to fight.

The fact that the French are fighting for hearths and homes gives them an enormous moral superiority over their enemies.

and Amici devoted their utmost energies to stimulating the patient and keeping him alive. The Cardinals were notified of the Pope's grave condition and some of them who entered the sick room described the impressive and heart rending scenes that occurred, especially when the Pontiff, rousing himself from time to time, spoke. Once he said: "In ancient times the Pope, by a word, might have stayed the slaughter, but now he is impotent."

FORCED GERMAN BOAT TO DISARM

London, Aug. 19.—A despatch from Rome says, the German gunboat Vaterland has been forced to disarm at Nanking, China.

BANK OF ENGLAND IS DISCOUNTING

London, Aug. 19.—The Bank of England has resumed discounting bills on a large scale.

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Moderate to fresh N.W. to W. winds; fine today and on Friday.

Fierce Battle In Progress Between Germans And Belgians ; British Have Captured Two Hundred German Ships

London, August 19.—A despatch from Brussels says: "A fierce battle is in progress between the Belgian and German troops along an extended front."

The Daily Express estimates that 200 German ships have been captured at sea by the British, French and Russians. They are valued at three hundred million dollars.

London, August 20.—At last there is definite news from the front in Belgium. The Kaiser's legions are being hurled in full force against the Allies' lines of defence, north-east and south of Brussels.

The attack, which began last night, started at Tirlemont, 29 miles E.S.E. from the Belgian capital. The German forces simultaneously attacked the Belgian army headquarters at Louvain, 18 miles E. and N.E. from Brussels, and at Dinant, 20 miles south of Namur on the Meuse.

The Germans began their advance at Tirlemont with a heavy artillery fire, under cover of which their infantry moved from their entrenchments to meet the Belgians. A fierce hand-to-hand conflict ensued, the immediate result of which, the Belgian War Office announces, was that the Germans were hurled back.

A despatch to The London Times from Belgium, the exact origin of which was stricken out by the censor, says:

"The Germans continue to push forward their patrols in that part of the country where the allied armies are ready to receive them.

"The damage to the German detachments is invariably great. German scouting parties have been seen all around Namur, and two forts at Maizent and Dave were engaged for the better part of the day; the former particularly extracting heavy toil from the invaders.

"Some of the exploits of the French are nothing short of amazing. There would appear to be little exaggeration in the accounts already published.

"The German prisoners had beetroot and carrots in their knapsacks. They declared they had been living upon these for several days."

London, August 20.—The advance of the German troops around and above Brussels, even into what are practically the suburbs of Antwerp is indicated in Reuter despatches from Antwerp which report that German cavalry have been encountered near Herenthals, fifteen miles East of Antwerp.

London, August 20.—A despatch to The Daily Express from the Hague, says a bulletin posted here, states that the Germans and Belgians are fighting bitterly at Diest and Aerschot, on their way to Antwerp.

This news is causing the greatest uneasiness here and for the first time in the present crisis the Dutch realize the terrible peril which the Germans have brought to their very doors, for the German advance on Brussels can have no other object than an attack on Antwerp.

Russian Troops Repulse The Forces Of Austria And Latter Also Have Several Ships Cudtured

London, August 19.—A St. Petersburg correspondent tells of the repulse of Austrian attacks on the town of Vladimer with heavy Austrian casualties.

Havre, August 19.—The Austrian steamer Dinorah, barley laden, was captured off Guernsey by the French dispatch boat Cron.

Algiers, August 19.—The Austrian steamer Emila for Trieste has been brought in here as a prize.

Mutiny And Disorder Mark Mobilisation In Austria Where The War Is Unpopular With Many Classes

London, August 19.—It is officially stated in Paris that the mobilization of the Austrian army is accomplished with much disorder, and even mutiny, owing to the unpopularity of the war among many classes.

Belgian Army Occupies An Excellent Situation And Afford Effective Protection To The Capital

Brussels, August 19.—It is officially announced that the situation of the Belgian army continues excellent. There is no chance of any incursion of Germans towards Brussels.

There are no Germans in or around Laden. German cavalry camps are in Lemblouse region, but there is no movement of troops in that district.

German Guard Fired On Crowd Of 3,000 Men At Magdeburg, Who Shouted "Hurrah For Italy!"

London, August 19.—A despatch from Rome to The Star says that refugees from Magdeburg, Germany, report that German soldiers fired on 3,000 Italians confined in the barracks there, killing seven and wounding sixteen, because some of them shouted "Hurrah for Italy."

MILLIONS OF RUSSIAN SOLDIERS WILL SWARM OVER THE FRONTIER INTO GERMANY BY SEPTEMBER 1

Germany in Very Grave Peril Unless She Can Gain Decisive Victory in Belgium Before Russia Has Completely Mobilised

OUTSIDE PUBLIC KEPT IN IGNORANCE

Of Chief Military Operations and Those Whose Friends Are at the Front Know Absolutely Nothing of Their Fate

London, Aug. 17.—The insuperable millions of Russians should be in Eastern Germany by September 1st. St. Petersburg messages say that Germany has 25 reserve divisions, each of 20,000 men and

six batteries, with 31 reserve cavalry regiments, to meet the gigantic Russian advance. Other Russian armies are preparing to strike against Austria. Thus the best authorities agree that Germany runs the gravest risks all round, unless she is able to make, within the next week, a completely smashing blow in Belgium.

The news cordon drawn round the fighting area is so effective that Londoners are getting only the meagrest scrap of news. British war correspondents have been, or are being, expelled from Germany. The latest is the Munich correspondent of the Times, who has been sent to Berne. Moreover, British war correspondents with French forces are being most effectively muzzled. Neither France or Germany mean to take any chances.

British men and women are bearing as best they can their complete ignorance of the whereabouts of their fighting sons and relatives.

BIG MASSES OF GERMAN TROOPS ARE ENGAGING THE BELGIAN ARMY

Are Preceded by a Dense Screen of Cavalry, Acting As Scouts and Numerous Clashes Are Continually Taking Place

London, Aug. 19.—The big fight is understood to be in progress somewhere along the line extending through Belgium and Luxemburg. The despatches give evidence of the presence of masses of German troops pushing their way to the front behind an impenetrable screen of cavalry whose dashes in search of information as to the whereabouts of the troops of the allies have resulted in sharp clashes and heavy casualties.

Close Censorship. The Commander of the allied forces of France, Britain and Belgium, will not permit anything about their positions to be made public, and since the official note made known the presence of a large expeditionary force on the continent, its movements have been hidden from the outside world.

At Brussels, it is said, the position has not changed since yesterday, when it was reported from Brussels to be excellent for the allies. The fate of the Liege forts

is not definitely known. German despatches describe them as being in the hands of the German army since the arrival of heavy artillery while the Belgian military authorities assert that they are still intact and holding out bravely.

Progressing Favorably. In Alsace-Lorraine, the French turning movement through southern Alsace appears from French reports to be progressing favorably for the French, and this seems to receive confirmation in the despatch sent out by the Wolf Bureau, the German Official news agency, saying that two batteries of guns were captured by the French who continued their forward march. All these reports, however, refer to preliminary meetings of opposing bodies of troops leading up to the great battle.

Even leading Frenchmen take occasion to point out to their countrymen that the decisive conflict is yet to come, and that too much reliance is not to be placed on reports of demoralization among the German troops.

On the sea it is reported that a naval encounter on the North Sea has occurred, but this is without official confirmation.

On the Russo-German-Austria frontier, fights of small importance are recorded.

PLACE WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN FOREFRONT

Terrible Stories Told of the Barbarity of the Germans

BREAK RULES OF WAR

And Are Exhibiting Most Fiendish Cruelty

London, Aug. 17.—Detailed reports have been received in London showing that the Germans are disregarding the laws of war and placing women and children in the front of their advancing troops.

The Daily Telegraph's Brussels correspondent says he believes these reports are true. He says that fiendish savagery is likely to develop in the campaign and that neither side may take prisoners. He ascribes the stories to "level-headed clergymen, mayors and foreigners."

German newspapers confirm the report that General Karl Von Buelow, brother of Prince Von Buelow, formerly Imperial Chancellor, has been killed in action.

ENGINE DRIVER CAPTURED SQUAD OF THE UHLANS

Was Moving the German Troops To the Border

DIVERTED THE CARS

And Ran Train Into France Where They Were Captured

London, Aug. 17.—A despatch to the Morning Post from Paris tells of the capture of 700 German Uhlans single handed by an Alsatian locomotive driver. He was moving a train carrying Uhlans to the frontier and purposely diverting it to another track ran the cars at full speed into France. He stopped at the first French station and handed over the whole train load of Germans with their horse equipment to the French soldiers.