

Canadians From Coast to Coast Rally to Aid of Empire Germany Makes War Declaration Against Belgium

CANADA IN THE CRISIS

BY ARTHUR HAWKES.

The high feeling that already ennobles Canada in presence of the conflict is the proof that deep answers to deep whenever the appeal is heard. Those who have always insisted that there is no need for a written bond between the old land and the new lands see the rich vindication of their faith in these perilous days. It must be magnificent to be in Britain today—not to share in any orgy of blood-lust, or to speak of foes as if they were unworthy of our quality, but to share in the restraint and confidence with which our folk are facing risks which have been strange to them for a hundred years.

We quarrel and seem to set the vertices at naught; but when the cloud that was no bigger than a streak of vapor grows black across the sky and lowers into our very households—then we learn afresh that the character which all our follies have not been able to impair, justifies with matchless nobility the demand made upon it.

From Ireland, the supposed seat of our acutest woe, there has come assurance of the unity that is beneath all and above all. "John Redmond electrified the house of commons," says the despatch. We do not need to have been there to thank God for the Irish.

At the foreign office is a man, quiet, reserved, almost indifferent, as we used to reckon him; to whom the tennis racket and the fishing fly were the truest symbols of his prowess. He moves before the world strong, equipped, moderate without shadow of turning.

In the councils of the King there is wisdom and courage, vision and reserve, and an abounding honor. What they do they do because they can no other. And with one voice, their fellows, scattered thru all the seven seas, say, "God help them and defend the right."

"We shall suffer terribly by this war," Sir Edward Grey warned the house of commons. It is well to be told the truth. There is no hunger for this war in Britain or in Greater Britain. Those who speak for us in the gate have striven, till the going down of the sun, for peace in all our time.

We find ourselves beside those with whom our kinship is not usually near in mind, body or estate.

The chances of politics have never made such an assembly of allies. Some among us fear that if the cause which has become our own is victorious it will give the mastery of European civilization to the Muscovite, who is not so much of Europe as he is of Asia. If he should succeed in making new boundaries in Eastern Europe as the is of Asia. If he should succeed in making new boundaries in Eastern Europe as the is of Asia.

Even if there were danger of such an outcome, it is not less imperative that the military despotism which has been associated with the rise of the German people to an unequalled scientific and industrial efficiency, shall pass away before the true democracy which is nowhere more potently striven after than by a mighty, growing minority of the Kaiser's subjects.

When you find yourself in Berlin, ready to set out on an admiring examination of a wonderful city that is possessed by a more wonderful people, you find the policeman and soldier barring your liberty in a way that, in countries like our own, is the very negation of freedom.

Germany was regarded as the friend of the Boers during a war that we do not often now discuss. When it was all over and King Edward's coronation procession passed thru Fleet street, at my window was a Dutch pastor whose soul had been burned by experience in the concentration camps, and who had been for months in Berlin. He told me that the most remarkable thing in London was the policeman, who controlled a roaring flood of traffic with a wave of his hand, and who was as gentle as a sister in seeing women and children across the divided stream. "So different from the police in Berlin," he said, "who do not know how to treat human beings."

The Boer minister had put his finger on the essential difference between the British and the German ideas of authority—the difference between the success that has attended the subjugation of vast places of the earth by the British and the failure of the German method almost everywhere that it has attempted colonization—the difference between the joyful certainty with which we rally to our distant brethren and the reluctance with which the Austrian immigrant, whose capital is the German city of Vienna, hears the roll of the drum which faint would call him to gird the sword.

It may sound paradoxical, but it is true, that the most telling service that many of us can render the empire now is not by fixing our attention upon Britain, or by magnifying our blood relation with those on whom the most honorable strain falls today.

Canada aids the empire best when she is truest to herself. Her first duty is to let all men know that her flag courts the fiercest storm, and to dispose her men and spend her treasure where they can be of most avail. But these things are so elementary, so much a matter of course, that we must look at home for more exacting tests of our vision and our will. And even as we are sure of ourselves, we are doubly sure of the rising of our kin to the last peak of the emergency.

To make Canada tell in the scale where the rifle tips the beam is a matter of dry organization which most of us must passively regard. The day may come, all too quickly, when the polyglottous peoples who have the honor to call themselves Canadians, will need all the fortitude and unity of which they are capable; and when the aid that our brethren across the sea most grievously need may be the spiritual aid which comes from relentless resolve and unshakeable cheer.

Is it possible to carry with us, to the uttermost, those who were not born within the circle of the British name, to whom the islands in the northern sea are not their first motherland? If we can do this then shall we be happy indeed; then shall we have proved that in the identity of Canadian nationality and British imperialism there is indestructible might.

Of that aspect of the situation I shall take leave to speak tomorrow.

POSSESSION OF BELGIUM VITAL TO GERMAN PLAN OF ATTACK

Invaders Enabled to Avoid Strong Line of French Fortifications by Pressing Over Belgian Frontier — An "Around the End" Movement.

The vital importance of Belgium in a war between France and Germany lies in the fact that unless Germany may move across Belgian territory, neutralized by treaty, an invasion of France would have to be thru the heavily fortified French frontier proper. The entire northeastern frontier of France is, roughly, 440 miles in length. For a distance of about 200 miles this frontier line separates France from Belgium and Luxembourg, the remainder, about 190 miles, separates France from German territory.

With the neutrality of Belgium observed, the scene of action would be reduced to the splendidly fortified Franco-German frontier proper. This line of defence runs, broadly speaking, from Verdun to Nancy, to Epinal, to Belfort, and to Besancon. Each one of these cities is the centre of a group of fortifications extending northwest

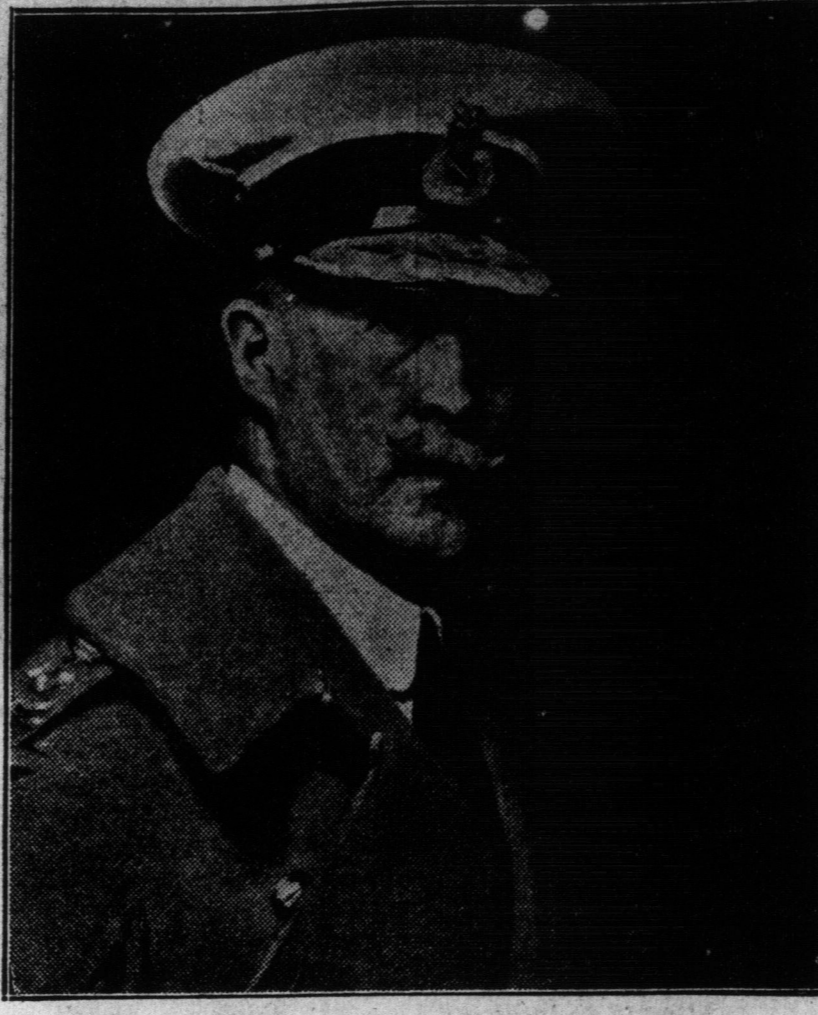
and southwest, and all facing the German border. Each has its outposts and its flanking protection, and the line is said to be virtually continuous for the greater part of the entire distance between Luxembourg and the Swiss border.

Second Defence Line.

Behind this line of fortifications France has a second line of defence, broadly speaking, running parallel from Rheims to Chalons and to Verdun, and from Chalons to Langres, to Dijon and to Besancon. This second line of protection is from 80 to 150 miles from Paris, and the first frontier line of fortifications is, roughly speaking, from 140 to 200 miles from the French capital. The French frontier from the Straits of Dover to German territory, the line which separates France from Belgium and Luxembourg, also is well protected.

Thus, a German advance thru Belgium is in effect "going around the end."

CHIEF OF IMPERIAL STAFF



General Sir Charles W. H. Douglas, G.C.B., who has succeeded Sir John French. He is a famous British soldier.

HAMILTON NURSES PREPARE FOR WAR

Many at City Hospital Volunteer Services as Nursing Sisters.

MANY TO JOIN FORCES

Two Hundred Germans Make Arrangements to Set Out for Home.

AMERICANS STILL TRYING TO LEAVE

Berths in Steerage Are Eagerly Bought by Rich Travelers.

TETANUS SERUM WANTED FOR AUSTRIAN SOLDIERS

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—A rush order for fifty litres of tetanus serum for use in gunshot wounds among the Austrian soldiers has been received by the city health authorities from the Vienna serum institute, it was announced today. The health department has not had that quantity on hand, and orders were issued to the physicians at the city's laboratories at Ottaville, N.Y., to have serum extracted from horses at once. The fluid is expected to be ready by Saturday.

HALLAM SISTERS SAFE

Douglas Hallam of Toronto received a cable yesterday from his three sisters, who are at present in Paris, to the effect that they were safe, comfortable and happy. The three ladies left Toronto some time ago for a trip to Europe and were in Paris when the war broke out, and are now unable to return.

OLD QUEBEC RINGS WITH PATRIOTISM

French, Irish and English Stand as One in Present Crisis.

GERMANY'S AMBITION

Kaiser Would Place His Iron Heel on Dominion, Says Sevigny.

WOMEN ANXIOUS TO SERVE AS NURSES

Hundreds Attend Lecture of Capt. Collins, St. John's Ambulance Corps.

Fraught with the anticipation of being sent to Europe to engage in nursing, hundreds of Toronto women thronged to the armories last night to attend the lecture given by Capt. Collins, the district chief superintendent of the St. John's Ambulance Corps, to register on the list being prepared by the corps, and to show certificates showing the experience which they have had. Mrs. E. L. Collins of 73 Dugan avenue, who is the ladies' superintendent of the St. John's Ambulance Corps, stated to The World that 75 graduates nurses have offered their services, expressing their willingness to go to any part of Europe to which they are ordered. All the nursing sisters of the ambulance corps, 65 in number, have placed their names on

ULTIMATUM SENT TO GERMANY MADE NECESSARY, SAID ASQUITH BY GROSS BREACH OF COMPACT

Premier of Britain, Addressing Crowded House, Told of Fruitless Negotiations With War-Crazed Kaiser—Britain Was Forced To Take Belligerent Attitude.

LONDON, Aug. 4.—Premier Asquith, in the house of commons, confirmed the sending to Germany of a request that she should give the same assurance of the neutrality of Belgium as France had done, and that her reply should be sent to England before midnight.

This first announcement that a virtual British ultimatum had been sent to Germany fixing a time limit for a reply was made by Premier Asquith in the presence of a crowded house. Mr. Asquith said that in conformity with the statement made by Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, in the house of commons yesterday a telegram had been sent early this morning to Sir Edward Goschen, British ambassador in Berlin, to the following effect:

The King of the Belgians has appealed to His Britannic Majesty's government for diplomatic intervention on behalf of Belgium. The British government is also informed that the German government has delivered to the German government a note proposing friendly neutrality pending a free passage of German troops thru Belgium, and promising to maintain the independence and integrity of the kingdom and its possessions on the conclusion of peace, threatening in case of

refusal to treat Belgium as an enemy. Sir Edward Grey, in the despatch, requested an answer within 12 hours.

Germany's Reply.

Premier Asquith then read a telegram from the German foreign minister which the German ambassador in London had sent to Sir Edward Grey today. It was as follows: "Please dispel any distrust that may subsist on the part of the British Government with regard to our intentions by repeating most positively the formal assurance that even in case of armed conflict with Belgium, Germany will under no pretensions whatever annex Belgian territory."

The reading of this telegram was greeted with derisive laughter by the members.

The premier continued: "We understand that Belgium categorically refused to assent to a flagrant violation of the law of nations.

Forced to Protest.

"His Majesty's Government was bound to protest against this violation of a treaty to which Germany was a party in common with England and must request an assurance regarding the demand made upon Belgium by Germany and we have asked for an immediate reply."

"We received this morning from our minister in Brussels the following telegram: "The German minister has this morning addressed a note to the British minister for foreign affairs stating that as the Belgian Government has decided a well-intentioned proposal submitted to it by the Imperial German Government the latter deeply to its regret will be compelled to carry out, if necessary by force of arms, the means that it has considered pensable in view of the French menace."

Further Aggression.

Mr. Asquith continued: "Immediately after we received from the Belgian minister the following telegram from the Belgian minister of foreign affairs: "

"The Belgian general staff announced that the Belgian territory had been violated at Verviers near Aix-la-Chapelle.

"Subsequent information tends to show that a German force has penetrated still further into Belgian territory."

"We also received this note this morning from the German ambassador here: "Please dispel any distrust that may subsist on the part of the British Government with regard to our intentions by repeating most positively the formal assurance that even in case of armed conflict with Belgium, Germany will under no pretensions whatever annex Belgian territory. Since this declaration is borne out by the fact that we have solemnly pledged our word to Holland strictly to respect her neutrality, it is obvious that we could not profitably annex Belgian territory without making territorial acquisitions at the expense of Holland."

"Please impress upon Sir Edward Grey that the German army could not remain exposed to a French attack across Belgium, which was planned according to absolutely unimpeachable information. Germany has, as a consequence, disregarded Belgian neutrality to prevent what means to her a question of life and death—a French advance thru Belgium."

Unsatisfactory Reply.

Premier Asquith then said: "I have to add this on behalf of His Majesty's government. We cannot regard this as in any sense a satisfactory communication. We have in reply repeated the request made last night to the German government that it should give us the same assurance regarding Belgian neutrality as was given to us by France last week."

"I have to add that the German reply to that request and a satisfactory answer to our telegram of the morning should be given before midnight. The premier concluded his grave statement amid a great outburst of cheering from all parts of the house."

KING SENDS PERSONAL MESSAGE OF CONFIDENCE TO BRITISH FLEET SAILING TOWARD GERMAN FOE

Sure Navy Will Revive Its Old Glories—Germany Took Initiative in Declaring War—Germans Sank Small Torpedo Boat Laying Mines and Chased a Destroyer Which Escaped—Location of Enemy's Fleet Known.

LONDON, Aug. 4.—England's wireless broke loose tonight. Immediately after midnight King George sent a personal message to the entire fleet of the navy. I am sure that the navy will again shield Britain in this hour of trial. It will prove the bulwark of the empire."

The king declared war on England tonight. This announcement was made at the foreign office after midnight. It is believed that the Kaiser, realizing that a conflict was inevitable, decided to take the initiative.

The announcement that Germany had assumed the responsibility for the conflict was received by officials here with relief. England was ready. Orders have already gone forth to the commander-in-chief of the British naval forces to wipe out the German fleet.

It is believed that if the fleet has not yet sailed, it will do so within the next few hours.

Kaiser Took Initiative.

The King held a privy council sitting just before midnight. A decree had been prepared declaring that a state of war existed with Germany should the answer to England's ultimatum prove

unsatisfactory. Instead, the Kaiser ignored the ultimatum and took the initiative in the war declaration.

A naval engagement is reported in the North Sea between the fleets of Great Britain and Germany, according to rumors in the streets tonight.

It is known that the British fleet has sailed to meet the German fleet, and that the exact location of the latter is known.

The greatest naval battle in the history of the world is expected to take place tonight, and may even now be on.

Reports state that the Germans earlier in the day sank a small destroyer, laying mines in the North Sea, and that a torpedo boat was chased by a German cruiser.

Two German warships have been seized at Bordeaux, says a despatch from Paris.

The admiralty offices were a blaze of light all the evening, and shortly after midnight the first lord, Winston Churchill, rushed to Buckingham Palace with Sir Edward Grey.

High admiralty and naval officers were going and coming, and it is known that wireless signals were sent out from the first fleet under Admiral Callaghan.

Position of Fleet Known.

The exact location of the Germans is known. Their action in sinking a mine-laying ship and chasing a de-

stroyer was unwisely, in the opinion of the naval experts, inasmuch as it revealed their position to the British admiralty.

England must strike on the sea in order to prevent any invasion of its shores by Germany.

It became known this morning that Germany's declaration of war against England was delivered to the premier in person by the German ambassador to England at 7 o'clock tonight. By order of the King, the German ambassador announced it with withheld until midnight in order to observe the terms of the formal ultimatum.

The German battle fleet is sweeping the North Sea. It was admitted that the admiral tonight that a British destroyer which located the Germans late today was chased by German battleship cruisers, but managed to escape. Photos were exchanged, but no damage done.

Attacked Embassy.

The worst demonstration so far took place tonight, when an enormous mob besieged the German embassy. Stones were thrown thru the windows and an attempt to storm the building was only checked by the arrival of additional police. The officers had to charge the crowd repeatedly before they could be dispersed. The attack was renewed, and mounted officers rode down the leaders of the mob. Troops have been called to defend the embassy.

that only the most efficient will be chosen, and so they are straining every nerve to show the necessary qualifications. One lady from Switzerland, who was a nurse in a military hospital there, was among the applicants. Mrs. Browning, from the Greenwith Hospital, England, which is the great naval hospital of the English navy, also proffered her aid. Dr. Brown from the Dublin Hospital, Dr. James Simpson from Avenue road, Dr. Blew, Dr. Fred Watt, and other well-known city physicians, have offered themselves for aid.

The lecture given by Capt. Collins was on "Medical Arrangements in the Field." He described where and how nurses are used from the base to the field, and how they will be formed into units of graduate nurses. Those who were unable to register last night will be able to do so at the ambulance corps headquarters at 554 Yonge street.

VOLUNTEERS AT BERLIN

BERLIN, Ont., Aug. 4.—Thirty-seven members of the squadron here volunteered their services for the empire at drill tonight. Five hundred men are awaiting the call for service.