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BELGIAN TROOPS SAID TO BE RETIRING FROM BRUSSELS

ENTIRE CHANGE IN PLAN OF CAMPAIGN MAY BE MADE NOW

Movement of Allies in Falling Back, Believed to Be Strategy on Their Part and Real Resistance Likely to Come Later—Today's News From European Centres

An entire change in the plan of campaign may be brought about by the finding of an opening to the north by the German armies in Belgium. This was admitted in an official communication from Brussels today, which said the Germans "had gained ground on both banks of the Meuse and are in contact with the allies."

Reports in Brussels asserted a battle had occurred near Charleroi, in which the Germans were persistently current in Paris, but no confirmation could be obtained. The Belgian capital was known certainly to be threatened by daring German cavalry, who had reached the forest of Soignes, flanking the city.

The forest of Soignes, which is to the southeast of Brussels, extends in the direction of Wavre, where severe fighting has been reported. Trustworthy reports have just been received of an engagement near Charleroi. It is claimed by the Belgians that 6,000 Germans were killed in this battle.

The censorship here is now so strict that no news of the war is going out of the city, except by courier.

The Belgian papers because of the rigid censorship, have ceased to be sources of war news. The mails are also being held up.

An order has just been issued prohibiting the granting of further military passes to newspaper men, and others without which it is impossible for correspondents to go outside the city.

The populace does not appear unduly excited over the prospect of fighting in their streets. The crowds seem placid and the people are attending to their business as usual.

LARGE GERMAN FORCE CROSSING THE MEUSE

London, Aug. 20.—An official communication issued at Paris last night states that very large German forces are crossing the Meuse between Liege and Namur. The statement continues: "The French army is making a rapid advance on the Sella River, and at the end of the day, have reached Demme on one side of the river, and Montagne on the other."

VICTORIOUS FRENCH ADVANCE

A despatch to the Times from Paris, says that the first point at which the Germans crossed the French frontier was at Crey-Sur-Vesouse. Since then there has been continued fighting in that region until a day or two ago, when it ended in the victorious advance of the French forces, who inflicted a decisive defeat on the enemy and drove them back across the frontier east of Luneville.

The correspondent says that the laconic reports of the French minister of war, give little idea of the desperate struggle that occurred around the handful of villages scattered along the French border.

Point after point was taken and retaken by one side or the other.

Artillery Fight Terrible

Paris, Aug. 20.—(8 a. m.)—An officer of a French rifle regiment gives the following account of the capture of the first German flag.

The engagement of the French troops with the 99th brigade of Germans lasted from 6.40 a. m. to 9 a. m.

The artillery combat was terrible. The French 75 millimetre guns made havoc among the German horses and then reduced the heavy German guns to silence.

The German machine guns from a church steeple continued to ravage the French, but the church was finally demolished.

At nightfall the French charged the enemy's defence works, with irresistible energy, and took it at the point of the bayonet. They established themselves there for the night.

In this action the Fifth Company of the first battalion captured a German flag with eight guns, ninety horses and 587 prisoners, including ten officers.

Paris, Aug. 20.—(7.15 a. m.)—There is a persistent rumor here that the Germans have occupied Brussels, but it cannot be confirmed.

Not Much Given Out

Paris, Aug. 20.—(2.30 a. m.)—The communication given out by the French war department this morning, was one of the briefest for some days. It announced only the bare facts of important developments now in progress in Belgium, and added that there was nothing new along the front in Alsace-Lorraine.

Moving on Antwerp

Paris, Aug. 20.—A portion of the Belgian army has begun to retire in the direction of Antwerp, according to an official announcement this morning, concerning the situation in Belgium.

East of Namur, the Germans have attained the line between Dinant and Neufchateau. Large German forces (Continued on page 2, fifth column)

German Move May Change Strategy On Both Sides

Paris, Aug. 20.—An official communication received from Brussels, says: "The Germans have gained ground on both banks of the river Meuse and are in contact with the armies of the allies."

120 VOLUNTEERS LEAVE TO-NIGHT FOR VALCARTIER

Local Boys Will Be Given a Rousing Send-Off—Names of Those in the Honor R. II.—Probable Line of March

The last good-byes are being said today by many local soldiers. The direct and twenty volunteers for the overseas service will entrain at the Union Depot for Valcartier, Que., whence they will be taken across the ocean to the Motherland in sustaining the glory of the empire and upholding the laudis of old England.

The Honor Roll

The honor rolls of the three units are as follows: The following are the volunteers of the Canadian Signalling Corps, No. 6 Company, from St. John—Major T. E. Powers, 2 Crescent avenue; Lieut. A. Leavitt, 48 Holly street; Serg. W. D. Henderson, Newswick, N. B.; E. O. Thompson, St. John, N. B.; Hester, Daley, 7 High street; Harry W. Adams, 18 Main street; Thos. B. Ballantyne, 30 Brittain street; Willis G. Loyd, 21 Harrison street; F. S. Spence, N. B. C. A.; Norman W. Wadd, Y. N. C. A.; Walter Somerville, 116 Melville street; Arthur D. Olive, 107 Howe street; John W. Mahoney, 62 St. Patrick street; Irving D. Appleby, Missisquoi, N. B.; Joseph Dryden, 148 Casley street; Cyril H. Murray, 148 Casley street; A. F. Bartlett, 22 Mecklenburg street; C. H. Ketter, Bank of British North America; P. H. Schooning, Bank of British North America; C. F. Keegan, Bank of British North America; Louis Lela-Shear, 101 Mecklenburg street; F. W. Shiner, Bank of British North America; M. E. Brian, 259 Main street; A. E. Dick, 58 Sewell street; Leo Harrington, 68 Waterloo street; Serg. E. T. Weeks, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; Donald Stewart, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; Vernon Macdonald, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; Serg. Robert C. Mills, Truro, N. S.; George Gardner, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; H. Whitlock, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; H. R. Large, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; Geo. J. Quigg, Fairville, N. B.; Chas. P. Humphrey, Fairville, N. B.; Geo. F. Craft, 172 Water street, St. John West; Frank Kane, St. John, N. B.; Albert Angel, 109 Metcalf street; Andrew Brown, 17 Leinster street; Louis Mc-

proposals, the committee decided that the fund should be used chiefly for the purpose of looking after the families of the soldiers, and it was suggested that the ladies who are interested in the work for the soldiers, should direct their attention to the same channel. P. E. I. C. B. Allan, E. A. Schofield, L. P. D. Tilke, and M. E. Agar were appointed a committee to divide the city into collection districts and to arrange for collectors for the fund.

\$4,440 FOR THE VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

With \$2,000 Additional For Insurance Fund—Citizens Committee Decided to Devote Themselves to Care of Families—Local Government to Consider Insuring Men

Organization was completed and the methods of work were partially decided upon at a meeting of the executive of the citizens committee this morning.

The committee decided that the funds raised should be used chiefly for the purpose of caring for the families of the volunteers, but the sum of \$2 for each man was voted to provide extra comforts on their journey.

Consideration of the suggestion to insure the lives of the men was deferred until later, as the provincial government is meeting tomorrow to discuss this matter.

A systematic campaign for funds will be begun immediately, but meanwhile, without solicitation, the fund has reached the total of \$4,440, not including \$2,000 offered for the insurance fund.

The committee met at eleven o'clock in the Board of Trade rooms, Judge Forbes presiding. A. P. Barnhill, K. C., was elected deputy chairman, R. E. Armstrong, secretary, and C. B. Allan, treasurer.

Mr. Barnhill, on behalf of the committee on insurance, reported that the provincial government will meet in St. John tomorrow with the view of discussing the various municipalities to discuss the proposal to arrange for the insurance of the lives of the volunteers. For this reason he recommended that the insurance matter be laid over for the present, and this was agreed upon.

It was decided that the name of the fund to be raised should be the Soldiers' and Families' Patriotic Fund.

After a thorough discussion of various

NOT ABLE-BODIED MAN IN BERLIN

City in Hands of Old Men and Boys, is Statement

LATTER GUARD BRIDGES

Chinese Medical Men Arrive in Rotterdam and Declare That German Women Are Being Called to Arms But That Kaiser's Soldiers Are in Fine Shape

London, Aug. 20, 6.40 a. m.—The Times correspondent at Rotterdam telegraphs a statement, which he says was made to him by a party of Chinese medical men, who have arrived in Rotterdam from Berlin.

"When we left Berlin Saturday night," says the statement, "the city was in the hands of old men and boys. Not an able bodied man was to be seen. All the bridges were guarded by boys of about fourteen years, who stood with fixed bayonets on a fortnight ago the Friedrichstrasse bridge was badly damaged by a Russian bomb. We, ourselves, saw the damage done."

"A corps of amazons is being raised in Berlin, leaflets having been distributed against the women to arms."

"A week ago an attempt was made to blow up the bridge of Zoologische Bundenstrasse. A Russian spy being sabred by an officer. The German soldiers look very fit and splendidly equipped."

SOLDIERS' AND FAMILIES PATRIOTIC FUND

Soldiers' and Families' Patriotic Fund. City of St. John \$2,000. E. A. Schofield 100. J. R. Brock 100. Dr. O. Skinner 100. J. H. Frink 100. Paul Langley 100. Boyer Smith 100. Dr. Murray McLaren 100. Sir Frederick Barker 100. H. E. I. Crawford 100. H. E. Wardrop 100. Mrs. H. E. Wardrop 100. W. Malcolm Mackay 100. Lockhart & Ritchie 100. Stewart White 100. J. Roy Campbell 100. John Sealy 100. L. P. D. Tilley 100. John Jackson 100. Mrs. R. M. Hazen 100. Miss L. Hazen 100. Frank S. White 100. Arthur W. Sharp 100. Geo. W. Ketchum 100. John P. McIntyre 100. Joseph Allison 1,000. Total to date \$4,440. This does not include subscriptions of \$1,000 each from James F. Robertson and G. S. Mayes for the insurance fund.

SURVIVORS FROM WRECKED STEAMER

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 19.—Bringing in twenty-six survivors from the wreck of the steamer Prince Albert, the Prince John docked at noon today at Prince Rupert. One life, that of a child, was lost. The opinion is that the foundered vessel is a total wreck, and is slowly ponding to pieces on the rocks. The Prince Albert was formerly the Bruno, 900 tons, plying between Hull and Antwerp and was built at Hull, England, in 1898.

FATHER WERNZ REPORTED DEAD

London, Aug. 20.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegram Company from Rome says that Father Francis Xavier Wernz, head of the Jesuit order, died in Rome this morning, almost simultaneously with Pope Pius.

A requiem mass for Pope Pius was held in Westminster Cathedral at half past eleven o'clock this morning. Cardinal Bourne officiated.

AGAINST THE AUTOMOBILE

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Aug. 20.—Yesterday forenoon from all parts of the island met and organized a provincial anti-automobile association. Strong and fiery speeches were delivered against the running of these machines, and candidates at the next provincial election are to be asked to pledge themselves to prohibit them from the province.

Senate Heartily Endorses Defense Measures of the Government

Ottawa, Aug. 20.—The Canadian senate yesterday declared its loyal adherence to the measures of defense proposed by the government and to the aid which the dominion will send to Great Britain. There was not a jarring note in any of the six speeches delivered and all the members spoke brilliantly. The address in reply to the speech from the throne was made at three o'clock and carried unanimously just an hour and a quarter later.

Sir Joseph Bolduc opened the debate. He said he was sure there would not be a dissenting voice heard. Hon. Mr. Laurier's government leader said Canada's manifest course was to contribute men and arms and food supplies. The extent to which this aid should be the correspondence which has taken place between the imperial authorities and our own government.

The address was then unanimously adopted.

Conclave For Election of Pope May Be Held In Holland

Majority of the Cardinals in Favor of Holding it in Rome, However—End of Pope Pius Came With Startling Suddenness—His Great Grief Over The War

Rome, Aug. 20.—Cardinal Della Volpe, chamberlain of the church, on the Pope's death early this morning, assumed direction of the holy see, during the interregnum. A message had been sent to the Pope's brother urging him to come to Rome as quickly as possible, while the Pope's sister, Signora Parolin, reached the Vatican before death ensued.

Confusion reigned at the Vatican because those, with the exception of the papal secretary, who takes charge of affairs in such an emergency, were out of Rome. So little was the death of the Pope expected. Outside the apostolic palace the scene was mournful. From the Pope's sister, Signora Parolin, reached the Vatican before death ensued.

The conclave, which usually opens at 12 o'clock this morning, was postponed. A few moments before he had been roused from a state of semi-consciousness and attempted to bestow a blessing upon those gathered in the chamber, but his strength failed him. After a pause, he murmured the scriptural text and did not speak again.

The change came suddenly during the forenoon yesterday, and early in the afternoon when in attendance announced that the death was imminent.

As is the practice at the Vatican, the news of the death of the Pope was withheld from the public until it had been officially announced to the various governments. Then it was made known here.

The matter of a conclave was discussed today. It is said that a majority of the cardinals are in favor of holding it in Rome, as is usual, and further because of the neutrality of Italy in the present war. Others, however, suggested that it would be better to meet in Holland, a country which they regarded as even more neutral than Italy.

The arrival of Cardinal Della Volpe, chamberlain of the church, from Innsbruck today, was anxiously awaited. As chamberlain, he will direct the holy see temporarily, and will conduct the traditional ceremony in which the Pontiff is officially pronounced dead. The arrangements for this ceremony were being perfected by Cardinal Merry Del Val, who refused to take any rest although it is said that he has not been in bed since last Saturday.

AMERICANS PLEDGE THEMSELVES TO STAND BY CANADA TO THE LAST DITCH

Canadian will find an inspiration in the action of the American citizens of Toronto who held a great meeting on Monday night to declare their sympathy with Canada in this war and to form an organization to lend assistance. The Toronto World says:—

"Already the consideration of the moving spirits has crystallized about two, viz: the financing of a flying motorcycle corps with rapid-fire guns and the supplying of X-Ray outfits to Canadian hospital camps. It is confidently expected that these measures will pass with a rush."

Here are some of the statements made by speakers as reported in the World:—

"I fought and died in the Spanish-American war, and having lived in Canada for the last ten years may yet lose a limb or two for King George," said one.

"There is nothing we will not do to support the people who are holding up the flag and keeping a roof over our heads today," declared Chas. R. McColm from the platform.

"Let us show our sympathy as we individually feel it and if we are to do anything let it be at once," urged John Callinan.

"We have but one purpose in mind, and that is to do the utmost we can. This is no spread-eagle meeting. It is a serious time and hardships are to be met. Let us strive to bear a proper part representative of citizens of the United States living in Canada. A country worth living in is a country worth fighting for," said another.

"We can be of some help to those who are fighting for the democracy of the world. We can do good in many ways. We can do much for the wives and mothers of the brave boys who go to the front. We can at least show our sympathies to the world and demonstrate that we are determined to stand by Canada to the last ditch."

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—The weather continues showery in the Peninsula of Ontario. Elsewhere in the dominion it is fine.

Fine and Warm

Maritime—Light to moderate winds, cool and warm today and on Friday.



POPE PIUS X.