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"Only a Scrap of Paper," Said the German Minister; "Means Britain's Honour," Was the Truly British Retort

British Government Issues a "White Paper" Giving Full Official Report of Negotiations With Germany Prior to the War

BRITAIN-MADE FIRM DEMAND THAT NEUTRALITY OF BELGIUM SHOULD BE FULLY RESPECTED

When Germany Refused to Promise This British Authorities at Once Notified Her That a Declaration of War Would Be Issued

"YOU WOULD WAR ON US FOR A WORD JUST FOR A SCRAP OF PAPER" SAID GERMAN

But Ambassador Goschen at Once Showed Him That Not Only Was Belgium's National Existence at Stake, so Was Britain's Honor

London, Aug. 27.—The British Foreign Office issued to-night, in a white paper form, the report of Sir William Goschen, the former ambassador at Berlin, on the rupture of diplomatic relations with Germany.

"Her, Von Jagow," the report continues, "at once replied that he was sorry to say his answer must be 'No,' as in consequence of the German troops having crossed the border that morning, Belgian neutrality had already been violated."

"I pointed out to Herr Von Jagow that this fait accompli of the violation of the Belgian frontier, rendered, as he would readily understand, the situation exceedingly grave, and I asked him whether there was still not time to draw back and avoid possible consequences which both he and I would deplore."

"He replied for reasons he had given me, it was now impossible for him to draw back."

Second Appeal Made to Germany The British ambassador proceeded to the German Foreign Office again the same afternoon, and informed the Secretary of State that unless the Imperial Government could give assurance by 12 o'clock that night that they would proceed no further with the violation of the Belgian border, and stop their advance, he had been instructed to demand his passports, and to inform the Government that His Majesty's Government would have to take steps in their power to uphold the neutrality of Belgium and the observance of the treaty to which Germany was as much a party as Great Britain.

"Herr Von Jagow," says the report, "replied that his Government could give no other answer than which he had given me earlier in the day, that the safety of the Empire rendered it absolutely necessary that the Imperial troops should advance through Belgium."

"I gave His Excellency a written summary of your telegram, and pointing out that you had mentioned twelve o'clock as the time when His Majesty's Government would expect an answer, asked him whether, in view of the terrible consequences which would necessarily ensue it was not possible, even at the last moment, that their answer should be reconsidered. He replied that if the time given were even 24 hours or more, his answer must be the same."

"I said that in that case I should have to demand my passports. The interview took place about seven o'clock. In a short conversation which ensued, Herr Von Jagow expressed his great regret at the crumbling of his entire plans and that if the Imperial Chancellor which had been to make friends with Great Britain, and then through Great Britain to get closer to France."

"I said that this sudden end to my work in Berlin was to me also a matter of deep regret and disappointment, but that he must understand that under the circumstances, and in view of our engagements, His Majesty's Government could not have acted otherwise than they had done."

Scrap of Paper a Solemn Pledge The ambassador then went to see the Imperial Chancellor, Dr. Von Bethmann Holweg, and he found him in a very excited condition. "The Chancellor," says the report, "began a harangue which lasted about twenty minutes. He said the step taken by Great Britain was terrible to a degree. Just for a word, 'neutrality'—a word, which in war time had been so often disregarded; just for a scrap of paper, Great Britain was going to make war on a kindred nation, who desired nothing better than to be friends with her. All his efforts, in that direction had been rendered useless by this terrible step, and the policy to which, as I knew, he had devoted himself since his accession to office, was tumbled down as a house of cards."

"What he had done was unthinkable. It was like striking a man from behind while he was fighting for his life against two assailants. He held Great Britain responsible for all the terrible events that might happen."

Great Britain's Honor at Stake "I protested strongly against this statement, and said that in the same way as he and Herr Von Jagow wished me to understand, that for strategic reasons it was a matter of life or death to Germany to advance through Belgium and violate the latter's neutrality, so I would wish him to understand that it was, so to speak, a matter of life or death for the honor of Great Britain that she should keep her solemn engagement to do her utmost to defend Belgium's neutrality, if attacked. A solemn compact simply had to be kept, or what confidence could any one have in engagements given by Great Britain in the future?"

"The Chancellor said: 'But at what price will that compact have been kept? Has the British Government thought of that?'"

AUSTRIA MAKES DESPERATE STAND

Her Very Existence Depends On Winning the Next Battle With the Russians in Galicia

London, Sept. 1.—A despatch from Bucharest, which reached The Central News, by way of Rome, says the Roumanian general staff considers that the battle on the Austrian frontier will be decisive.

They believe that a defeat of the Austrians would be followed by a general insurrection, and, that, therefore, whatever may be the sacrifice the Austrians cannot fall back. They are now making a strong effort and are recalling even their troops against France and Serbia.

GAVE A LITTLE BUT UNBROKEN

London, Sept. 1.—"The Anglo-French army corps have had to give ground, but nowhere have they been broken through," is the statement at the French Embassy here to-day.

ALL FRENCH RESERVES OUT

Paris, Sept. 1.—An official announcement was made this afternoon to the effect that the Minister of War had decided to call out all reservists who have not been previously summoned to the colors.

GERMAN CONSUL WAS ARRESTED

By the Italians For Inciting Tripolitans to Rise Against Italy

London, Sept. 1.—According to information reaching here, says a despatch to The Central News from Malta, Herr Von Bitzow, German Consul at Tripoli, has been removed under arrest, charged with having carried on an anti-Italian propaganda among the natives.

GERMANS LOST BIG NUMBERS

In the Fight at Konigsberg, Says a Despatch From Copenhagen

London, Sept. 1.—A despatch to The Evening News from Copenhagen says that the German casualty list gives the losses at Konigsberg as about 800 of the 43rd infantry, and that the other German regiments engaged, notably the 65th Landwehners from Colon and the Fusiliers from Roslock and Wisman lost several hundred men each.

NO WAR NEWS GIVEN AT PARIS

Strict Censorship Enforced Regarding the Military Situation

London, Sept. 1.—A despatch from Paris says the censorship of news of military operations in Northern France is exceedingly strict.

The afternoon papers came out to-day with all reference to progress of military events blocked out. There is much excitement in the French capital, but the people have faith in the ability of the allied armies to see the country safely through their present crisis.

London, Sept. 1.—A despatch says the victory over the Austrians on the Galician side was brilliant, the right wing of the Austrian army having been decisively turned and cut to pieces, leaving thirty thousand prisoners in the hands of Russians.

On the Vistula front where the Russians encountered the Austrian left wing, the result was somewhat uncertain but the arrival of important reinforcements enabled the Russians to take vigorous offensive measures and to repulse the enemy.

They captured a large number of pieces of artillery. A correspondent of The Daily Chronicle writing from a town in France under Saturday's date tells of desperate attempts Sunday and Monday by the German forces in overwhelming numbers to break through the British lines and thus turn the left of the flank allies.

Though the British troops were forced to give ground slightly on Sunday night, he says they resisted the full German attack and on Monday resumed fighting with undaunted courage.

RUSSIANS WON GREAT VICTORY FROM AUSTRIANS

Cut Right Wing of Austrian Army to Pieces and Captured 30,000 Prisoners

GERMANS TRY CRUSH BRITISH

Throw Their Whole Weight Against Our Expeditionary Force

Rome, Sept. 2.—A despatch says the victory over the Austrians on the Galician side was brilliant, the right wing of the Austrian army having been decisively turned and cut to pieces, leaving thirty thousand prisoners in the hands of Russians.

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Set on British

The despatch says: "The right wing of the northern army of the allied forces has been fiercely engaged south of Mezieres, but is against the British on the left wing that the Germans are flinging all their weight."

In spite of the enormous sacrifice of human life entailed, the enemy seems to be bent upon breaking through our defensive lines and so pushing back the allies nearer to Paris."

RUSSIANS WIN BIG VICTORY

From the Austrians in Galicia and Reports Say Latter Lost Twenty Thousand Men

London, Sept. 1.—A despatch to The Daily News from Rome declared that the Russians have inflicted a crushing defeat on the Austrians in Galicia.

The Austrians who sought to cross the Vistula are said to have suffered a loss of 20,000 men.

TURKEY HAS 200,000 MEN MOBILISED

Rome, Sept. 1.—Telegrams from Berlin announce the mobilization of the Turkish army. It is said the Turkish Government will form an army of the first line composed of two hundred thousand men, all Mohammedans.

Washington, Sept. 1.—The Turkish Ambassador here expressed doubt to-day that the Turkish army was mobilizing and about to fight on the side of Germany.

He said the Turkish army was mobilized three weeks ago.

CANADIANS EAGER TO FIGHT

Montreal, Sept. 1.—Recruiting for the new Irish Regiment being formed in Montreal will be closed on Saturday.

The promoters of the movement state that applications are pouring in so fast that they could get a thousand volunteers instead of the four hundred they started out to get.

Mr. Salt, of the Imperial Tobacco Co., left for the west coast last evening on business.

OUTPORT VOLUNTEERS BEGIN TO COME ALONG; GRAND TOTAL NOW 698

War Fever Still Unabated in the City and Scores Are Offering Their Services

THE OUTPORT CONTINGENTS

Bell Island Sends Along Twenty-Five of Her Stalwarts to do Their Share

THE greatest excitement prevailed at the C.L.B. Armoury last evening. Hundreds of citizens were present and by their attendance showed their sympathy with the movement.

A month ago in such a crowd there would no doubt be difference found, but last night every one saw through the same glass and were not divided.

It was inspiring to see the enthusiastic and ready manner in which the lads and their instructors went about their work. The spacious floor was covered with squads of volunteers who were being licked into shape.

The sprightly gait of some showed that they had early training, which had not been entirely forgotten, and that will little practice they would be up to date in the drills and marches. The orders were obeyed promptly and with precision, considering they had been out of training for some years.

Anxious to Learn

A glance at others was sufficient to show that their knowledge of matters military was extremely limited, but the spectator could not fail to be impressed with the fact that they were anxious to learn.

The instructors were from one or other of the city brigades, thoroughly qualified, and they made the most of their time.

Never before have the patriotic feelings of St. John's been so aroused. The long era of peace and of comfortable prosperity had been broken, and though we in Newfoundland had nothing to do with its cause, we are ready and willing to share our burden of the consequences.

The Empire is passing through its darkest hour, but with a people standing shoulder to shoulder victory will be ours and the dawn will be a bright and glorious one and this little Colony will be able to hold its head as high as the highest because of the valiant conduct of her sons and the forethought and sympathy of her daughters.

Anti-Christian Conduct

The savage ferocity of the Germans since the beginning of hostilities, their wanton destruction and murder of the innocent, that some are inclined to wonder of Christianity really contains the elements of virtue that we were led to believe.

The ruthless shooting of the aged and children, the pillaging and burning of private residences, the brutal conduct of the German officer to take us back to the history of the dark ages, when human lives, and particularly that of the weaker sex, was not held in as high esteem as the dumb beast is in our land to-day.

But let us look at the other side of the picture for a moment and we will see unmistakably that Christianity when not stifled by the lust of gain, contains the highest ideals.

Great Britain is not into the contest because of the spoils, no monetary gain could compensate her for the loss of her sons. Her fight is one for honor, for justice and right, and that's why her people are rallying round her, that's why Newfoundland is offering her sons to go to war.

Bell Island Lads

Great interest was centred on the Bell Island lads and their fine appearance was favorably commented on. A squad of about 250 paraded thru the city and were watched and followed by thousands of friends. Capt. O'Brien was in charge.

New volunteers came forward in large numbers, one hundred signing the roll. Of this number 64 were from St. John's, bringing the city's total up to 637, the grand total being 698.

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MEAGRE NEWS OF BIG BATTLE

Only Known That Part of the Allied Line Where Forced Back is Still Unknown by the German Onslaught

Paris, Sept. 2.—The following official statement was issued by the War Office to-night: "On our left wing as a result of a turning movement of the German army and in order not to accept battle under unfavorable conditions, our troops retired towards the South and Southwest in the region of Kethel."

Our forces have arrested the enemy momentarily. In the centre and on the right the situation remains unchanged.

Unsatisfactory News

London, Sept. 2.—With the whole world awaiting definite news from the battle line, the French War Office contents itself with the simple statement that as a result of a turning movement of the German army and in order not to accept battle under unfavorable conditions, the French troops on the left have again retired.

From the British capital no word is forthcoming regarding what are considered as the most momentous operations of war.

While Berlin claims a German victory over the Russians in East Prussia resulting in the capture of 70,000 men, the Russians claim an important victory over the Austrians on the Galician side with 30,000 prisoners.

GERMANS CLAIM A BIG VICTORY

Say They Administered Crushing Defeat to Russians at Allenstein

Washington, Sept. 1.—A despatch to the German Embassy from Berlin says the official report of the German victory at Allenstein shows that it was greater than ever known before. Three Russian army corps were annihilated, twenty thousand prisoners were taken including two commanding officers, and complete artillery of the Russian army.

The above is not confirmed.

GERMAN PLANE OVER OSTEND

Force of 80,000 Germans Due to Reach That City Shortly

London, Sept. 1.—A German aeroplane flew over Ostend to-day, according to a Reuter despatch from that city.

The despatch further adds 80,000 troops are due to arrive there, and that the German Government at Brussels have ordered the expulsion of all British subjects within 24 hours.

AVIATOR HAD NARROW SHAVE

Paris, Sept. 2.—Lieut. Campagne of the Aviation Corps while flying over the German lines at a height of 1800 yards was subjected to the enemy's fire.

A shell struck his machine and he stopped his motor. The aeroplane oscillated violently in the wind, but the Lieutenant succeeded in righting it and in volplaning into the French lines. He landed safely and gave important information concerning the German position.

Good Fishing North

The s.s. Earl of Devon arrived from the Northward today and reports good fishing along the French Shore to Quirpon. One man at Croque on Friday and Saturday last caught 200 qts. In several places caplin have struck in again and traps are doing well.

(Continued on page 6)

CHANGE OCCURS IN THE TACTICS OF THE GERMANS

Effect Defence Too Much For Them on the Right Wing of the Allies

NOW ATTACKING ALLIES' CENTRE

In an Effort to Gain Possession of the Roads Leading to Paris

London, Sept. 1.—On this the forty-fourth anniversary of the battle of Sedan the German armies are combining in one supreme effort to repeat their triumph over their old time foe.

The British censorship is absolute on all messages from France and Belgium concerning operations there, but it is known that the German left and the German centre are again attacking the French and British centre at Rocroi, and that along the Meuse from Sedan to Verdun the German army is trying to force a passage.

The French army of the Vosges is forcing the combined German armies of Alsace Lorraine steadily back. The Russian army in Poland has hurled the Austrian army back across the River Vistula on its base at Cracow with enormous losses.

RESPOND NOBLY TO THE APPEAL

Thousands Offer Their Services to the Home Authorities and Second Army of 100,000 Goes Into Training

London, Sept. 2.—The first hundred thousand recruits who responded to Kitchener's appeal have gone into training in various parts of the country.

Men are now enrolling at a much quicker rate for the second 100,000, and in London alone 10,000 joined the colors the last two days, while the response in the provinces has been equally gratifying.

In Birmingham, where recruiting was very brisk, the Lord Mayor, Col. Ernest Martineau, has resigned his office and volunteered for foreign service.

Carson, the Ulster Unionist leader, has called a meeting of the leaders of the Ulster volunteer force for Thursday, when he will submit a scheme with the concurrence of the War Office for the utilization of this force as one body.

29 R.N. CO. MEN VOLUNTEERED

Twenty-nine of the R. N. Co.'s employees have volunteered for the front.

Twenty-four are from the machine shops, three from the electrical department, one from the passenger and freight.

Yesterday a deputation interviewed Mr. H. D. Reid who gave them every encouragement and assured them their jobs will be O.K. when they return.

OUR CITIZENS DO THEIR PART

The floor coverings for the tents at Pleasantville supplied by the A.N.D. Co. at Grand Falls have arrived, and will be taken to the grounds free of charge to-day by members of the Truckmen's and Cabmen's Unions, who made this offer yesterday to Mr. H. Outerbridge, Quartermaster of the Regiment. Such acts are commendable.

'Portia' Sails

The s.s. Portia left at 11 a.m. taking a full freight and the following passengers: Misses Ryan, Skeans, Kepple, Savage, Bartlett, King, Buckley; Messrs. Bancroft, Duchaine, Campbell, Brogan, Esau, Fitzpatrick, Lukins, Rev. Brennan; Mrs. Cole, and 20 steerage.

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