

OFFICIAL REPORTS BRING STIRRING TALES OF APPALLING CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT BELGIUM

SEVEN MILLION BELGIANS WILL STARVE UNLESS FOOD IS SENT THEM FROM OUTSIDE

Sorry plight of gallant nation—Not more than two weeks food supply in cities and less in rural districts, says U. S. Consul.

Brussels, via London, Oct. 26, 4:05 p. m.—Nearly seven million people in Belgium face famine, unless they receive help from the outside at once. The American minister to Belgium says that less than two weeks supply of food remains in the cities, while conditions in the country districts are even worse. Though Germany has seized the food in some cities for her soldiers, she still disclaims responsibility for feeding the Belgians.

One hundred soup kitchens are feeding over 100,000 of the needy in Brussels. Families formerly rich are discharging their servants, because they are bankrupt. Noblemen may be seen slipping into the soup kitchens.

The factories are closed. Many stores remain open, but have no business. The railway train service has been suspended. The supplies of coffee, tea, flour and salt are practically exhausted.

Reports received by the American minister from Louvain, Liege and Namur say that the conditions in those cities are even worse than they are in Brussels. Louvain has only a few days supply of flour while Liege has no flour at all. The peasants in many districts have been forced to exist on legumes, as the crops of beets and cabbages have been ruined.

The meat and milk supply also have been cut off, the army having taken the cattle. It is declared absolutely essential that food be obtained from England, and it is hoped that the first shipment is now on the way.

Refugees Hopeless Wanderers.

Nearly half of these people who have been able to remain in Belgium are wandering helplessly from town to town, seeking shelter with friends and relatives. Many, which formerly had sixty thousand inhabitants, has but few undamaged houses standing. The same situation exists at Namur and Louvain.

The road from Antwerp to Brussels is black with processions of people, moving in either direction. Wagons and carts are filled with the belongings of their household effects. Thousands on foot are carrying bundles, or pushing dogcarts, always moving, but with no definite destination.

Other crowds are gathered about the ruins of forts and rifle pits, staring blankly at mounds that are covered with withered flowers and surrounded by wooden crosses, upon which the helmets of dead Germans have been placed to mark their graves.

Belgians are Downcast.

Belgians of all classes appear dejected. One may see a man sitting near his shattered home in Malines, nodding mutely at the cathedral, with its shattered windows and tottering walls—damaged beyond repair by shells.

Similar conditions are found in the small villages between Antwerp and Brussels. Few stores are open. These are attempting to re-establish their homes and find their roofs, which have been pierced by shells, no protection from the rain that is now falling every day. The villages that stood near contest-

GERMANS NOW ATTEMPTING TO WAKE FRIENDS WITH THE PEOPLE THEY MALTREATED

Officers and men of Kaiser's army in Antwerp are trying to allay fears of inhabitants — Holland continues to keep sharp watch for hostile air craft.

Rosendaal, Holland, Oct. 26, by way of London (5:40 p. m.)—Thousands of Belgians are arriving today, and other thousands are leaving on the Holland railway trains. The Germans issued an order on Saturday that passengers must pay one franc, (twenty cents) for passage on the Holland line, instead of riding free, but the traffic continues heavy both into Belgium and into Holland. A train each way is operated in every daylight hour and all are crowded. There are also great throngs on the highway going and coming.

The Germans have forbidden the entrance of automobiles into Antwerp. Otherwise they are doing everything possible to help the Belgians. The latter seem highly suspicious of the Germans, despite the efforts of the consuls of neutral countries to reassure them. Men and women having proper passports are permitted to go anywhere they wish. German soldiers and marines guard the railways and all the highways, scrutinizing the credentials of those who pass. The unrest among the Belgians is charged by the Germans to alarming statements about the Germans, declared to have been made in papers published by Belgian refugees in Holland.

Holland Watching For Airships

Rosendaal, Eschden, Flushing and other Dutch towns near the Belgian border, are filled with Dutch soldiers who are carefully patrolling the frontier to prevent aeroplanes entering Holland, or other violations of the country's neutrality. Great uneasiness is exhibited by the Dutch in the vicinity of the Scheldt concerning the intentions of the Germans. This feeling has tended to further disturb the Belgian refugees, many of whom are anxious to reach England, or other countries remote from the zone of the war.

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British government will allow vessel taken as prize to Halifax to continue on her voyage.

London, Oct. 26, 1:70 p. m.—The British government satisfied after an examination of the innocence of the destination of her cargo, has ordered the release of the American all tank steamer Brindilla, which will be permitted to proceed from Halifax to Alexandria. The question of the transfer of the vessel from the German to the flag of the United States will not be raised by the British government.

Without compulsory military service Belgium has rallied nobly — All men under 45 now ordered to colors.

Ostend, Oct. 16.—(Correspondence)—King Albert led a shattered and broken army when he left here. The cavalry suffered severely, having lost heavily in men and horses. But all arms were literally exhausted.

Through long service in the trenches many of the Belgian soldiers have rheumatism. Their commissary has been sadly lacking and men who were not wounded were so ill-nourished that many of them must have starved. The faded and broken Belgians told the story of their hardships. Two months of the hardest fighting, fighting which was almost constant, evoked a heavy toll of brave Belgians. Much of their fighting was in rainy weather and many of the soldiers had bad colds and hacking coughs.

Many of the Belgians now actually in the field had no training before the beginning of the war. Even some of their commissioned officers had little training. Consequently the glory of the little Belgian army is all the greater. Without conscription Belgium was able to make a marvellous defense of its fortified cities. All men under 45 have now been ordered into service, and the shattered forces which left Ostend for France will doubtless be reinforced by a gallant crowd. In spite of their reverses and misfortunes the Belgian soldiers are cheerful and unanimous in their declaration that Germany must be exterminated.

The devotion of the soldiers to King Albert is remarkable. He is their idol and none of them seems to have a word of unfavorable criticism for him. Although there is a marked difference between the Flemish and other Belgians and the Flanders people do not speak French, all seem to be acting as one in this war.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUNDS.

Montreal, Oct. 26.—The Belgian Relief Committee have received in cash up to date \$145,366.53. This does not include a subscription of \$15,000 from the province of Ontario and several other large amounts which have been promised but yet not received.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Boars the Signature of *Wm. D. Galt*

Cream of Tartar

Many people use cream of tartar for quick baking. They value its superior qualities and will not knowingly accept substitutes made of alum or lime phosphates, such as are sometimes offered.

But even the most careful cannot always know. The high price of cream of tartar has led to efforts to substitute alum and phosphate of lime compounds which are vastly inferior and not as healthful to use.

The easiest way in which the housekeeper can be sure of quality and economy is by using Royal Baking Powder, which is made from pure cream of tartar.

Royal Baking Powder gives perfect results, is less trouble to use, and has not been advanced in price.

Anyone who has once become accustomed to using Royal Baking Powder never reverts to homemade mixtures or any other product for raising biscuit, griddle-cakes, doughnuts, or cake.

BRITISH EXPERT, QUARTER CENTURY AGO, PRAISED BELGIAN FORTS USELESS

Lord Sydenham reported to King Leopold in 1890, on fortifications at Namur, Liege and Antwerp — Rough and ready defence works best for modern warfare.

London, Oct. 16.—(Correspondence)—Speaking of the fall of Antwerp, Lord Sydenham, former governor of Bombay, and the leading British fortification expert, states that when he examined Belgium's defenses in 1890, at the request of King Leopold, he strongly condemned those of Liege and Namur, and expressed disappointment in the plans then being carried out at Antwerp. These forts, Lord Sydenham says he announced at that time, could not have withstood a concentrated attack with artillery. This statement led to a controversy with the famous Belgian engineer and author of the defense plans, General Brialmont, but Brialmont was able to convince his government and carry out his plans.

As to the forts at Liege and Namur, then under construction, Lord Sydenham says of his report to Leopold: "I declared they could not hold their intervals properly, that their armaments were weak and slow in action and that if the places were to be held it could only be done by constructing field entrenchments with artillery and obstacles in the interior. The number necessary to man the field entrenchments he placed at 70,000 men, exclusive of the garrisons of the forts. It is clear that in the recent fighting the intervals were neither properly entrenched nor adequately manned. The reasons why the Germans failed at the beginning to carry Liege was only because they tried to storm the eastern front without adequate artillery preparations. Nevertheless they entered that town through undefended intervals and as soon as the artillery came up the forts fell."

Lord Sydenham does not understand why the Belgian army, following the

SOLDIERS OF KING ALBERT IN SAD WAY

Gallant Belgians Have Had Two Months of Hard and Continuous Fighting.

London, Oct. 26, 7:25 p. m.—The American Commission for the relief of sufferers from the war in Belgium will be unable to ship its first cargo, consisting of 2,500 tons of foodstuffs until Wednesday because of the delay in the Board of Trade in granting the necessary license to export food from England.

Wonderful Showing for Untrained Men

The Commission will have to replace all food now being procured in England for shipment to Belgium by an equal amount brought from some other countries. The British government has declined to promise any definite funds for the use of the Commission beyond a lump contribution, the exact amount of which is not known. The Commission therefore expects that the greater amount of the supplies for Belgium must come from neutral countries.

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WARNING ISSUED TO U. S. SHIPPERS

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice hands friendly advice from British government to American shipping men

Washington, Oct. 26.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, by instructions of Sir Edward Grey, issued a warning today to American shippers, through the State Department, to consign all cargoes bound for neutral countries to the neutral government or a specific consignee.

Two notes addressed to Acting Secretary of State Lansing, say British cruisers will not interfere with neutral commerce when shipments are properly consigned.

With respect to mineral oils and articles listed as conditional contraband the notes say Great Britain will seize no cargoes if the papers of the ship show their ultimate destination to be neutral. Only in cases where cargo has been consigned "to order," the notes point out, has the British government been exercising scrutiny.

HOW THE BADGER SUNK SUBMARINE OFF DUTCH COAST

London, Oct. 26, 4:50 p. m.—A despatch to the Evening Star from Sheerness says: "The British destroyer Badger ran into her to make sure that she had sustained no serious damage in the bow in ramming and sinking the German submarine off the Dutch coast. The destroyer's plates were flattened for about three feet back to the foremast bulkhead below the water line. The repairs will be a matter of only a few hours."

A member of the Badger's crew said: "We were cruising off the Dutch coast just before dusk when a suspicious looking object appeared ahead. The commander gave the order to ram the enemy and we raced at full speed. "The submarine went down under our bows, and as we drew off our guns fired parting shots at her."

ANOTHER KNOTTY POINT FOR THE U. S. GOVERNMENT

Did transfer of Germans to Jap warship, off Honolulu, constitute breach of neutrality?

Honolulu, Oct. 26.—Transfer of the crew of the German power schooner Acolus, sunk by the Japanese battleship Hizen off this port Saturday from that warship to a launch of the North German Lloyd refugee steamer Locksun outside the harbor yesterday, has raised questions as to the propriety of this act.

As the Locksun is interned here, and there is uncertainty as to whether her sending out a launch did not constitute a breach of neutrality; as there were Chinese among the crew of the Acolus, the possible breach of the immigration law also is involved. It is understood that the situation has been laid officially before Washington for decision.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S 25c. CATARRH POWDER

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IOWA WOMAN TELLS OTHERS

How Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Carried Her Safely Through Change of Life.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—"At the Change of Life the doctor said I would have to give up my work and take my bed for some time as there was no help for me but to lie still. I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and kept up my work and now I am over the Change and that is all I took. It was better for me than all the doctor's medicines I tried. Many people have no faith in patent medicines but I know this is good."—Mrs. E. J. RICKETS, 354 8th Avenue, West, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Such warning symptoms as sense of suffocation, hot flashes, headaches, back-aches, dread of impending evil, timidity, sounds in the ears, palpitation of the heart, sparks before the eyes, irregularities, constipation, variable appetite, weakness and inquietude, and dizziness, are promptly healed by intelligent women who are approaching the period in life when woman's great change may be expected.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound invigorates and strengthens the female organism and builds up the weakened nervous system. It has carried many women safely through this crisis.

If there are any complications you don't understand write Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass.

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