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REAL START OF GREAT BATTLE OF EUROPEAN WAR

GREAT BATTLE BELIEVED IN PROGRESS BUT NO NEWS ALLOWED OUT

Brussels Reports Welcome To British Force -- Is It a Second One? -- Belgians Say 'Well With Their Army'

Complete silence is maintained as to the fortunes of war in the big fight understood to be in progress somewhere along a line extending through Belgium and Luxembourg. 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 allies' troops have resulted in sharp clashes and heavy casualties.

The commanders 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 British 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 in the hands of the German army since the arrival of heavy artillery, while Belgian military authorities assert that they are still intact and holding out bravely.

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 a despatch sent out by the Wolf bureau, the German official news agency, saying that two batteries of guns were taken by the French, who continued their forward march.

A WORD OF CAUTION

All these reports, however, refer to the preliminary meetings of opposing bodies of troops, leading up to the great battle which may already have begun. Even prominent Frenchmen take occasion to point out to their countrymen that the decisive conflict is yet to come, and that too much reliance must not be placed on reports of demoralization among the German troops.

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

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

ANOTHER BRITISH FORCE

Brussels, Aug. 19 (via Paris, 5.05 a. m.)—The British expeditionary force complete, has been landed. The soldiers received an enthusiastic reception from the population as they marched to their allotted positions. The harness of the cavalry was decked with flowers by village maidens.

The above despatch may refer to the landing of the British troops in France, or to the landing of an expedition in Belgium, not yet announced by the British war information bureau.

BELGIANS AND GERMANS IN BATTLE

London, Aug. 19—(10 a. m.)—A despatch to Reuter's from Brussels sent at seven o'clock last night says:—

"A fierce battle is in progress, between the Belgians and Germans along an extended front. Large numbers of refugees are arriving from Tirlemont."

"ALL WELL" IS BELGIAN REPORT

Brussels, via Paris, Aug. 19, 12.45 a. m.—It is officially announced that the situation of the Belgian army continues excellent. While it is impossible to indicate the position of the troops, says a statement from the war office, it may be said now that there is no chance of any incursion towards Brussels. No Germans are in or around Liden. German cavalry camps are in the Gembloux region, but there is no movement of troops in that district.

announced yesterday, but neither his residence nor the place he was killed was mentioned.

London, Aug. 19, 2.30 a. m.—The Times military correspondent expresses the opinion today that the battle which took place at Dinant on Saturday between the French and Germans had considerably more importance than has hitherto been realized. Losses on both sides were heavy. It now seems clear that the French succeeded in forcing an attempt by the German commander to pass a large body of troops over the Meuse at Dinant.

Italians Fired On?

London, Aug. 19—(11.35 a. m.)—A despatch from Rome to the Star says that Italian soldiers fired on 8,000 Italian civilians in the barracks there, killing seven and wounding thirteen because some of them shouted "Hurrah for Italy."

Spain's Attitude

Madrid via Paris, Aug. 18—King Alfonso and Premier Dato have returned from San Sebastian and, it is said, will have important conferences with the French and English ambassadors in regard to Spain's attitude toward the European conflict.

First French Soldier Killed.

Paris, Aug. 18—The name of the first French soldier killed in the war was Phelix and Phierdinand.

WEATHER BULLETIN

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

Synopsis—Rain has fallen almost generally from the peninsula of Ontario to Atlantic coast, while in the west the weather has been fine.

Maritime—Moderate west to north winds, fair today and on Thursday. New England Forecasts—Unsettled tonight and Thursday, probably local thunder storms; gentle to moderate shifting winds.

Curt Message From Brussels Tells Of It

London, Aug. 19—The curt announcement in a telegram from Brussels, dated last night, of fierce fighting between Belgian and German troops along an extended front, is generally accepted in London to day as indicating the real beginning of the first great battle in the war of eight nations.

Canada's New Governor-General Going To The Front To Fight



A London despatch received late yesterday afternoon announced that His Royal Highness Prince Alexander of Teck, Canada's new governor-general was going to the front to fight in the European war.

ATLANTIC TRADE ROUTE NOW CLEAR

Several Ships With Food Supplies Reach England

OTHERS ON THE WAY

Large cargoes of grain landed at English ports, giving much satisfaction to Britishers—Steamer Floristan, now in Montreal, found no difficulty in crossing

Glasgow, Aug. 19—(Via London 2.45 a. m.)—The arrival of several food ships this week at English ports was the cause of considerable satisfaction to Englishmen.

This week has seen the arrival of the Columbia from New York, with 8,000 bushels of rye and the Letitia and Scandinavia from Canada with large cargoes of grain. Besides these several large ships have arrived from the Black Sea and from New Orleans with food stuffs. Other ships are on the way with fruit, dairy products, wheat and sugar, which will provide for England's wants for a considerable time.

Trade Route Clear

The Montreal Gazette, Monday, said: "The results of the British fleet's operations on the high seas are becoming apparent in the number of vessels now entering the St. Lawrence river, bound for Montreal. From a large number of signal stations, new vessels are reported on the way up, and it is evident that commerce across the waters is picking up heart. Captain Kennedy, of the S. S. Floristan, which arrived here Sunday morning from Marseilles, reports that he was signalled by the British fleet at Gibraltar that the passage across the Atlantic from that point was quite safe. He saw no hostile warships on the way across and the same story is told by others."

THE POPE'S ILLNESS

Rome, Aug. 18—The Osservatore Romano, official organ of the Vatican, publishes an official admission of the indisposition of Pope Pius, but says the trouble is a slight bronchial catarrh, of little importance.

FREDERICK READY

Moncton, N. B., Aug. 18—The 19th battery expects to be called on to enter train for Valcartier at any moment. One hundred and ten men have been recruited so far by Major Anderson, Newcastle and Woodstock artillery recruits may be included in the 19th battery.

An artillery officer is coming from Halifax to inspect the guns. There has been no difficulty in securing horses, but it is said many owners are demanding war prices.

Staff Sergeant Hobbs will leave this evening for Valcartier in response to an order received last evening. He has been acting as instructor for the recruits here.

A violent electrical storm passed over the city last evening.

CASE CONTINUED.

The case of Samuel Gregory vs. The Pundy Fox Company was continued before Mr. Justice Barry this morning. The action is to recover \$1,500 alleged to be due as salary and commission. J. B. M. Baxter, K. C., is appearing for the plaintiff and J. A. Sinclair and Dr. W. B. Wallace, K. C., for the defendants.

DIED IN OTTAWA

Death occurred in an Ottawa hospital on Saturday of Irving McLean, of Margerville, Nova Scotia. The late Mr. McLean, who was only 19 years old, went to Ottawa only three weeks ago to take up a position in the civil service. Shortly after he arrived he developed typhoid fever, and a week later succumbed.

His uncle, J. F. McLean, of Montreal, made the funeral arrangements. The remains were shipped to Margerville.

GERMANY'S DOWNFALL IN TWO OR THREE MONTHS, SAYS COUNT WITTE, NOTED RUSSIAN STATESMAN

Paris, Aug. 19—A news despatch from Tarbes quotes Count Witte, a noted Russian statesman, who is on his way from Biarritz to Russia, as declaring that the war would not last more than two or three months.

It was bound to end, he said, in the downfall of Germany, the moment had come when Russia should intervene slowly, but surely, and her army was certain to vanquish Germany, whatever might happen.

SHOT FIRED AT GUARDS AT THE C. P. R. ELEVATOR

EXHORTATION BY POPE TO THE WHOLE WORLD

Bullet Whizzes Over The Head of One of Them

Prayer That to Those Who Rule Shall Come Thoughts of Peace

Rome, Aug. 19—The pope has addressed the following exhortation to the whole world:

"At this moment, when nearly the whole of Europe is being dragged into the vortex of a most terrible war, with its present dangers and miseries and the consequences to follow, the very thought of which must strike everyone with grief and horror, we whose care is the life and well-being of so many citizens and peoples cannot but be deeply moved and our hearts wrung with the bitterest sorrow."

"From the Palace of the Vatican, the most powerful mediator between God and man."

"The pope, therefore, the Catholics of the whole world, to approach the throne of grace and mercy, each and all of them, and more especially the clergy, whose duty furthermore it will be to make in every parish, as their bishops shall deem fit, public supplication so that the merciful God may, as it were, be wearied with the prayers of His children and speedily remove the evil causes of war, giving them the peace of His Kingdom."

"From the Palace of the Vatican, the second day of August, 1914."

WAR NOTES

John Lane, the London publisher, has written to the London Chronicle, deprecating reported purchase of fifteen German liners now in New York and Boston by Americans. He thinks it would be a painful contrast to the English headship for the United States during the Philippine war when the dramatic action of Admiral Sir Edward G. Chesters towards German interference at Manila is remembered.

Because he stowed his pro-German leanings and talked belittlingly of the harbor works and other matters, a German, Hans Polshaus, who was employed by D. G. Clark in Carleton, was brought to central station yesterday by Sergeant Finley. He was given a warning about his language by Chief Clerk and later allowed to go.

George A. Kimball yesterday gave to Capt. H. E. C. Sturges, commanding the overseas infantry company from St. John, a check for \$100 to provide necessities and comforts for the men of the body.

It was reported in Fredericton yesterday that Lieut.-Col. H. F. McLeod, M. P., was to go to the front as commander of the New Brunswick contingent.

In Woodstock on Tuesday a banquet was tendered the soldiers from that vicinity who are to leave for foreign service. The banquet was arranged by and in the fight which followed was badly beaten up. Paul managed to make his escape.

The offender is well known in police circles. His last appearance in court was on a charge of stealing. He was allowed to go at this time. Judge Forbes on condition that he take the pledge for a year.

This occurrence lends additional weight to the demand that has been made for a police lock-up in Simonds. Collins felt that he would have been able to secure his man if he had had any place near at hand to take him to, and the lack of a lock-up has hampered the policemen in their work on other occasions.

THE FIELDING MATTER

In connection with the published reports concerning the matter of a complaint made to Ottawa regarding statements said to have been made by the captain of the dredge Fielding, it was said this morning that the matter had been taken up by Judge J. R. Armstrong, and not by his son, Col. B. R. Armstrong of the 3rd Regt. C. A.

BURIED TODAY

The body of James Boyd, formerly an engineer with Norton Griffiths & Co., whose death occurred in the Central Public Hospital on Monday night, was buried this morning in Fernhill. The funeral procession left the hospital at 10.30 o'clock. Ven. Archdeacon Raymond conducted the services.

SHORT MEN MAY ENLIST

Ottawa, Aug. 18—A number of volunteers for service in the artillery unit of the Canadian contingent, who have been wrongly rejected because of an error in the requirement as to the height of recruits, will be given a chance to enlist again. In some manner in the instructions to recruiting officers it was required that gunners must be 5 feet 5 inches in height. The minimum should have been 5 feet 3 inches. As a result of the error it is said that many applicants for the Hamilton battery alone were wrongly rejected. However, as recruiting is to be continued these men will have a chance to offer themselves again."

BRIGHTENING OUTLOOK IN THE FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS WORLD

London, Aug. 19—The Bank of England today resumed discounting bills on a large scale. The rush was so great in the early forenoon, however, that it was found necessary to suspend further dealings until tomorrow.

New York, N. Y., Aug. 19—The announcement from London that the English steamship service has been ordered to resume, has resulted in an easier feeling in import circles.

Lines that responded to this feeling included drugs, chemicals, olive, coconut and other oils, rubber and pig tin. The spice market also is easier, under

the belief that many cargoes now held up in the Far East will proceed to their destination in America.

Customs house reports made public today show that imports since the beginning of the European war have decreased immensely. Imports for the week of July 15 were more than three million dollars above the figures for the week of Aug. 8, the last to be compiled. It was said that complete reports for August would show a heavy falling off in imports, but increases are expected in September, when more ships are released for commerce.

Several People Hear Shot Fired About Quarter to Five O'Clock This Morning -- Foreigners Searched For Firearms But None Found

The guards on one of the C. P. R. elevators at West St. John were fired on at a quarter to five o'clock this morning. No one was struck by the bullet, although it whizzed past the head of one of the guards. No explanation is offered and no arrests have been made.

Startled by the firing of what seemed to be a revolver, the guards did not fire in the direction from which the shot came, seemingly from the beach, but some of the soldiers were sent down to investigate. Sergeant Finlay of the city police force accompanied by C. P. R. Detective Skidmore also searched but no one could be found.

A crew of foreigners were at work nearby, and an endeavor was made to find a firearm amongst them, but to no avail. Several persons heard the shot. The guards were in Protection street at the time.

A Swede employed on the concrete mixing plant, and who at first was mistaken for a German, was under suspicion for a time, but he denied any connection with the alleged attack, although he admitted having seen the flash when the shot was fired. After the guards were notified of his innocence he was allowed to go.

MAN RESISTS ARREST AND IS STILL AT LARGE

Policeman Collins Has Hard Fight at East St. John -- Need of Lock-up Felt

A murderous attack was made upon a county policeman last night by a man who is at liberty under a suspended sentence. The trouble arose in the bank house at the Courtyard Bay construction works, when Jim Paul made himself obnoxious. Policeman Collins was summoned to eject him, but Paul put up a stiff fight and refused to obey. Collins called upon other men in the place to assist him, but they refused. He then telephoned to the central police station for aid, but was unable to secure any help from that quarter. He then endeavored to take the man single handed, and in the fight which followed was badly beaten up. Paul managed to make his escape.

The offender is well known in police circles. His last appearance in court was on a charge of stealing. He was allowed to go at this time. Judge Forbes on condition that he take the pledge for a year.

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