

# WAR SUMMARY OF TODAY HINTS OF BIG BATTLE

Official Announcements However are Very Sparse --No Word Yet of Naval Engagement in North Sea --Scene of Hostilities.

[By Special Wire to The Courier]

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 Luxemburg. 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 allied troops have resulted in sharp clashes and heavy casualties.

The commanders of the allied forces of French, British and Belgians 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 Wolff Bureau, the German official news agency, saying two batteries of guns were taken by the French, who continued their forward march.

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. German troops to-day occupied Mlawa, in Russian Poland, close to the German frontier, and Russian reports relate a repulse with heavy casualties of Austrian troops who had attacked Vladimir, in the Russian province of Volhonia.

A strong force of German troops is said to have attacked Eydkuhnen, a German town on the Russian frontier, which was occupied by the Russians soon after the outbreak of hostilities.

A French official note confirms reports of a Servian victory at Shabats over an Austrian force of 80,000 men. The Austrians are said to have suffered casualties totalling 3,000 killed and 5,000 wounded.

A Montenegrin army is reported within two hours' march of the fortified Austrian seaport of Ragusa, in Dalmatia. The Montenegrins had already captured a number of towns in the vicinity.

Two large Austrian steamers were captured to-day by the French.

An exhortation to the world by the Pope calls for prayers for peace, "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 to them who rule to think the thoughts of peace."

King Alfonso of Spain, with Premier Dato, are to confer with the French and British ambassadors at Madrid concerning Spain's attitude.

## A HEAVY ARTILLERY WEAPON OF THE FRENCH ARMY ON WAY TO THE FRONT



These guns, which are intended to reply to the heavy Krupp guns of the Germans, are drawn by specially constructed motor tractors of 35-horse power, as seen in the above picture. The motors can draw a heavy gun along a good road at the rate of ten miles an hour.

## A FIERCE FIGHT IS ON NOW

Both London and Paris Hear Same Report Today.

Battle Being Waged is on Immense Scale.

LONDON, Aug. 19.—2.20 p. m.—The curt announcement in a telegram from Brussels, dated last night, of fierce fighting between Belgium 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.

The German attack is to-day again to have been made on the direct orders of Emperor William himself to his generals in the field. The exact extent of the line of fighting has not yet been revealed, but presumably it stretches in a north and south line. Beyond its definite location is virtually guess work.

Refugees from Diest, Trier, and other towns in that section of Belgium, who fled as the Germans approached, are coming into Brussels in large numbers. They declare that since the inhabitants vacated Trier, German shells have been dropping in the town and that subsequently the Belgians broke the German advance at this place at the point of the bayonet.

HEARD IN PARIS  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—1.50 p. m.—The military situation on the northern frontier leads French military observers to the conclusion that the events transpiring in Belgium to-day are the beginning of operations on an immense scale.

Germany, it is declared, is making a fresh and mightier effort to break into France through the comparatively open Belgian country.

Opinion in Paris, however, is confident that the allies will be able to meet this shock successfully and reply to it crushingly.

MOVE ON ANTWERP  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—1.50 a. m.—An official announcement this morning says the retirement of Belgian troops towards Antwerp is rumored, but not confirmed.

Commenting on this report, it is officially explained that, even were it true, it would be neither a grave symptom, nor unexpected. The defensive organization of Belgium as conceived by General Brialmont and presented in technical works, provides that Antwerp be considered as a last defense. It has been fortified with care, and is to-day a vast entrenched camp upon the flank of the enemy.

BELGIUM REPULSED THEM  
LONDON, Aug. 19.—4.50 a. m.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, from Brussels, dated Tuesday, says:

"Since Sunday there has been no movement by the German troops on our lines. The Belgians having vigorously repulsed the German attack on their central position, the enemy have pushed forward their troops in a corner between the Belgium and French forces, their aim being to cause the Belgians to fall back on Antwerp.

"These tactics, however, are dangerous, for they expose the Germans, if they fail in their object, to a flank attack. Their effort was a failure, as they have not renewed this attack on the Belgian centre. It is extremely probable that it was intended to cover their principal object, namely, an advance of the main German force, who are advancing along the banks of the Meuse toward the south of Brussels and that an attack on the central Belgian position was but the shadow of a real invasion of the country.

IN EXCELLENT CONDITION  
BRUSSELS, via Paris, Aug. 19.—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.

(Continued on Page Four.)

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## CANADIAN WOMEN ARE PREVENTING MEN FROM SERVING THEIR COUNTRY

Charge Hurlled at Them by Colonel Morrison at Ottawa—Fifty Per Cent of Volunteers are Protested by Their Wives.

[By Special Wire to The Courier]

OTTAWA, Ont., Aug. 19.—The too liberal use by the married women of Canada of the power to prevent their husbands from going to the war on the overseas contingent drew from Colonel Morrison, director of artillery, a spirited protester this morning.

Col. Morrison said that when permission was given by the militia department to married women to object to their husbands going to war, it was never expected that it would be so generally invoked. He pointed out that in one instance that he knew of nearly 50 per cent of the volunteers for active service were protested by their wives. The colonel said that many of the unpatriotic wo-

men were wives of officers. Colonel Morrison remarked that it was all right for a woman to protest if she thought that her husband was trying to desert her and her children, but in the present war the families would be cared for. He said that Canadian women should take a leaf out of the books of the European women. Much of the trouble, he thought might be due to the ignorance of the terrors of war of Canadian women. He said that Canada must be protected and married men had to play their part in this war. The women thought the danger was too remote, but he would like to ask them how they would care for this country to be invaded and perhaps invaded by men of another color.

## GIVES A WARNING

French Minister Says Hard Struggle is Yet to Come.

[By Special Wire to The Courier]

PARIS, Aug. 19, 4.15 a. m.—"Outpost combats, however interesting and characteristic, do not justify us in counting upon the certainty of a prompt and definite victory," writes former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Stephen Pichon, in The Petit Journal. "I find too much said about the Germans being demoralized. Their original over-confidence may give place to doubts, but that is all. The war now beginning is a war to the death. On it hangs the existence of Germany as well as that of France. It will be waged furiously on both sides. It will probably be long and the losses enormous.

"Let us make up our minds to the fact that we have to contend with the most redoubtable army in Europe and have need for all our material and moral forces."

GOES TO FIGHTING LINE.

LONDON, Aug. 19, 1.12 p. m.—According to advices received here today from St. Petersburg, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, a brother of Emperor Nicholas, has left St. Petersburg to join the Russian fighting line.

## IN PORTUGAL

All Differences Buried, and Public Sentiment is in Favor of Britain.

[By Special Wire to The Courier]

LONDON, Aug. 19.—The Lisbon correspondent of The Morning Post says that on account of the fear of running short of coal, only half the usual number of trains are being run through Portugal. Lighting for the streets and public buildings has been reduced to a minimum for the same reason.

The only topic of conversation in Portugal is war and the attitude of Portugal. A week ago, says the correspondent, party politicians were at each other's throats, now home politics have been laid aside and the only attacks on the government are on the grounds that it is acting too weakly in support of its ally, England.

FIRED ON ITALIANS

LONDON, Aug. 19.—A despatch from Rome to The Star says refugees from Madgeburg, Germany, report that German soldiers fired on 3,000 Italians confined in the barracks there killing 7 and wounding 16 because some of them shouted "hurrah for Italy."

Sheldon Lyons of Toronto was fatally injured by falling through a barn floor in Mono township.

## Three Hundred Million in Prizes

[By Special Wire to The Courier]

LONDON, Aug. 19, 3.55 a. m.—The Daily Express estimates that the number of large German vessels captured at sea by the British and French and Russian warships total 200, with a tonnage of 1,000,000 tons and a value of \$300,000,000. The paper says that there are still remaining at sea about 500 German ships liable to capture at any moment. These have a total tonnage of 2,700,000 tons and a value of \$700,000,000. These latter include 155 Hamburg-American vessels, 120 North German Lloyd, 65 Hansa, 45 German-Australian, 45 Hamburg-South American, 45 German Levant, 30 German-American Petroleum and 35 Woodmann.

## FOUR RESERVISTS LEFT LAST NIGHT FOR THE FRONT

Touching Scene at the Grand Trunk Depot—Mayor Gives Assurance.

There was none of the martial enthusiasm which characterized the departure of the first batch of reservists, last night at the Grand Trunk station. No bands played and only a crowd of relatives and acquaintances gathered to see them off. Those who left were Gunner J. Whiwen, R.F.A., Arthur Aston, Royal North Lancashire Regiment, married, and residing at 163 Rawdon St.; A. J. Pizzev, 2nd Essex, married, and residing at 1 Simpson street; W. Hazel, unmarried, Royal Army Medical Corps.

The last few scenes left the train pulled out, were tense and hard, relieved of their absolute bitterness alone by Mayor Spence's heartening assurance for the welfare of their wives and children, to the men.

The children clung to their fathers, who fondled them with more than love—it was the last touch of chubby fingers and baby lips for an unknown time—and who could but admire the tears that would trickle down their cheeks as they tore themselves away and leapt on board.

The departure was on time and sorrowfully some groups wended their way homewards—soldiers' wives must needs be heroines.

## HOUSE IN SESSION

But Little is Known as Yet of Dominion Government's Intentions.

[By Special Wire to The Courier]

OTTAWA, Ont., Aug. 18.—The emergency parliament of Canada opened yesterday by the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General, for the purpose of dealing with the issues arising in Canada out of the European conflict, began consideration of the address from the throne this afternoon.

Donald Sutherland, South Oxford, acted as mover of the address, and D. O. Lesperance seconded him. Both were expected to give the first parliamentary expression to the unanimous loyalty of the English and French Canadian people to Great Britain in the present war.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the Opposition, was expected to follow with an address which has been eagerly awaited, and which it is said would pledge the support of the Liberal party to the government war measures.

The Prime Minister, Sir R. L. Borden, was also named as one of today's speakers, and though most of the government's legislative intentions in regard to the war are known, he is expected to give a number of important details which can place Canada's attitude more clearly before the world.

## A RICH PRIZE

Just Managed to Escape British Cruisers in English Channel.

LONDON, Aug. 19, 5.20 a. m.—A despatch to The Daily News from Berlin via Rotterdam says that one of the last German ships to pass safely through the English Channel was the Prinzessin of the German East Africa Line, which carried a large quantity of diamonds from the Africa fields. Off the coast of Holland the vessel sighted two torpedo boats from which flight seemed impossible. According to the captain determined to beach his ship on the Dutch coast, but this proved unnecessary as the torpedo boats turned out to be Hollanders.

Vassil L. Delmage, a Merchants' Bank clerk, pleaded guilty to embezzling \$7,000.