

land should not betray the public into thinking that a great naval victory has been gained. The German light cruisers and the destroyers damaged and sunk are not vessels that go into the battle line.

Aug. 31—The news from the front to-day is vague and disquieting. The Germans have made marvelous progress during the last two weeks, advancing at an average of about eight miles a day, through Belgium and northern France. In five days the allied line, at the point where the British are operating, fell back 55 miles, that being the distance between Mons and St. Quentin. With German armies east, north and west of St. Quentin, where the Germans now claim they have won a great victory, it must be admitted the British army in that district is in a state of great peril.

Sept. 1—The best news to hand to-day is that the French and British armies are intact. Their line has been driven back, but their armies are keeping in touch with one another, and have frustrated every German attempt to isolate and destroy them *ad seriatim*. That is everything, both to the Germans and to the Allies. The investment of Paris will be profitless while the allied armies are "in being." It is a fact not altered by the obligatory nature of the allies' retreat, that if General Joffre had deliberately set about enticing the Germans to a position where a defeat to them would mean the most crushing disaster, he could not have manoeuvred them into better position. Russia is proverbially slow, and the prediction that the Russian armies would not reach Berlin for two or three months, at least, stands. The allies in France must rely on their own strength for some weeks to come. That is why troops from Canada and India should be rushed to the front without needless delays.

Sept. 4—The German army is driving at Paris like a battering-ram. Its apparent purpose is to drive between Paris and Rheims, breaking through the line of the allies and preventing the escape southward and westward of their main armies.

Sept. 7—A battle which has every appearance of being decisive, is now in progress on a line stretching eastward from Paris for a distance of one hundred and fifty miles. The allies have assumed the offensive im-