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ON TRAINS AND NEWS  
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## FRANCE FEELS SAFE SINCE BELGIANS WHIPPED GERMANY

(By William Philip Sims.)

Paris, Aug. 6.—Skirmishing was in progress today the whole length of the Franco-German frontier.

Thus far there had been no important engagement. The French were confident their border defenses were too strong for the Germans to carry. The Franco-Belgian frontier is not strongly fortified, but in Belgium, between the French and German borders, are defenses of enormous strength.

These the Belgians were holding at Liege with the utmost courage and success, slaughtering Germans by the thousands and apparently in no danger of being overwhelmed.

French troops were held in readiness, however, to go to the Belgians' aid the moment they asked it.

The whole of France was in arms. It was reported that French warships had engaged a German fighting vessel last night off the Mediterranean coast.

The belief was general that Germany will soon find itself far more heavily taxed than at present to resist a Russian invasion. It was pointed out that it took the czar with the enormous number of men at his command, considerable time to mobilize his forces.

Within about ten days it was predicted Russian soldiers would be pouring across the kaiser's eastern border in almost irresistible force.

### Big Battle Is On.

Brussels, Aug. 6.—The real battle of Liege started at dawn today. It still raged this afternoon. At that time the Belgians retained the advantage they gained in Wednesday's fighting.

The Germans had been heavily reinforced. About 100,000 were pressing the attack.

It was understood the German crown prince was in command, with several of the highest officers of the kaiser's general staff as his advisers.

The German attack was directed against the entire line of the Liege fortifications.

The Germans used the newest type of Krupp cannon, but the Belgian artillery was holding its own against them.

The Teutonic losses were enormous. Airships Great Help.

It was known positively that their casualties approached 10,000.

Still fighting behind their immensely strong defenses, the Belgians were suffering comparatively little.

Belgian aviators continued to hover over the German lines, signaling to the Belgian artillerymen how to direct their fire, with the result that nearly every shell burst just where the kaiser's soldiers were thickest.

The Germans shelled the city furiously but without serious damage.

### FRANCE FEELS SAFE.

Paris, Aug. 6.—After the brilliant showing made by the Belgian troops Wednesday in repulsing the German invaders on their way across Belgian territory toward the French frontier, military authorities expressed the opinion today that France was safe against attack from that particular quarter.

The Belgians, they said, would quickly be reinforced by French and English bodies and if they could hold their ground alone against twice their own numbers, it was considered a foregone conclusion they could do so aided by the French and English.

The estimate here was that, to be on the safe side, the combined forces in Belgium should number close to 1,000,000 men.

Belgians Surprise Them.

French officers said frankly that the desperate and effective resistance put up by the Belgians, whose army has never been considered particularly well trained, against the crack German troops surprised them, they were well satisfied that it surprised the Germans and they inclined to think it surprised the Belgians themselves.

Aside from the material advantage gained, they added, the moral effect of the victory was immense.

Three German army corps took part in the invasion. The first had previously passed across the Dutch province of Limburg and passed into Belgium.

### The Weather

Tonight and Friday cloudy, probably showers northwest portion and near the coast; southeasterly winds.



## WAR SITUATION AS IT LOOKS TO THOSE IN WASHINGTON

Washington, Aug. 6.—Government officials here were watching the European war situation closely today. Orders to enforce America's neutrality proclamation were sent to federal authorities everywhere.

The cruiser Tennessee was lying off Tompkinsville awaiting orders from Washington to sail for Europe. She carried \$10,000,000 in her strong boxes for the relief of stranded Americans.

American Ambassador Herrick cabled that all Americans in France had been cared for and suggested that the Tennessee could safely omit calling at French ports.

President Wilson anxiously awaited some word from his mediation offer, but no answer was received.

The American dreadnaught Florida was lying outside Sandy Hook with orders to prevent the vessels of any nations at war from sailing as an armored destroyer of commerce.

The German and Austrian ambassadors ordered German and Austrian consuls to obtain no more recruits as it was impossible to transport them to Europe because of America's neutrality proclamation.

The British liners Cedric and Mauritania arrived at Halifax, N. S., after escaping several German cruisers.

Pacific coast steamship companies were asked to furnish the government with lists of vessels available for the establishment of a trans-Atlantic line.

American wireless stations were ordered to censor all messages and to not accept any calculated to help the warring European nations.

All Atlantic ports were being patrolled.

The presidential yacht Mayflower was ordered to Hampton Roads to assist the patrol there.

The British embassy heard that three British cruisers had left Vera Cruz for an unknown destination.

National headquarters of the Red Cross society appealed for funds for hospital ships to send to the war zone.

The liner Brandenburg reached New York after eluding several warships.

The whereabouts of the Lusitania, which sailed from New York yesterday, was not known, and numerous reports were received, all lacking confirmation.

The liner Olympic was scheduled to leave New York for England Saturday.

New York docks and piers were crowded with reservists of various countries, who demanded that they be allowed to return to their native land to fight.

A British warship was reported patrolling the Gulf of Mexico.

Austria promised the safe transportation on special trains of Americans at Carlsbad and Marienbad.

London and Paris American relief committees cabled that transports were needed at once to take Americans home.

### CLAIM TWO GERMAN CRUISERS WERE SUNK

New York, Aug. 6.—The British consulate here was informed today by Captain Hensig of the Uranium line steamer Uranium that his wireless operator yesterday had picked up a message from the steamer Lusitania which said that two German cruisers which had pursued the Lusitania had been chased and sunk by two British warships. Captain Hensig also declared that the Lusitania was continuing her trip to England.

Paris, Aug. 6.—That French warships had been ordered to destroy five German cruisers operating in West Indian waters was announced here today.

HARWICH, Aug. 6.—British warships were surrounding the German fleet in the vicinity of Kiel today, according to advices received here. A clash it was said, was momentarily expected.

LONDON, Aug. 6.—All British coast points today reported the sound of firing at sea. It was believed a series of running fights was in progress between scout cruisers and destroyers.

LONDON, Aug. 6.—Several British merchant ships, including the Oceanic, were commandeered by the government today for naval uses.

PARIS, Aug. 6.—That a German warship had attempted a hostile movement on the French Mediterranean coast and been engaged by the French fleet was officially announced here today.

PARIS, Aug. 6.—French cavalry surprised a body of German dragons at Noroy LeBois today, killing five, wounding two and capturing one.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 6.—Hundreds of wounded German soldiers reached Maestricht today. They were cared for at a Red Cross hospital.

BRUSSELS, Aug. 6.—Two German cavalry regiments attempted a surprise

## UHLAN REGIMENT IS ANNIHILATED WHEN IT CHARGES

Storm of Bullets Sweeps Half Its Number From Their Saddles

### COUNTER CHARGE COMPELS SURRENDER

### German Artillery Fire Compels Belgians to Abandon Two of Their Forts

BRUSSELS, Aug. 6.—A regiment of Uhlans, or German cavalry, this afternoon penetrated the Belgian defenses at Liege.

They charged furiously. Belgian infantry and cavalry met them with a deadly hail of bullets and a counter charge with sabres.

At the same time the Liege forts poured a fearful artillery fire among them.

The regiment was blotted out. Fully half their men were killed or wounded. The rest were made prisoners.

The cannonade was continuous and deadly.

It was believed the Germans planned a night assault.

BATTLE IS TERRIFIC.

Brussels, Aug. 6.—Two forts, outlying Liege's main fortifications were evacuated by the Belgians this afternoon as the battle with the Germans grew hotter.

The Germans had secured the Belgian range and their fire was becoming frightfully effective. Under fire, the two forts were no longer tenable.

The battle was of terrific ferocity. Both sides seemed determined to the point of utter recklessness.

The entire German army of invasion was engaged, with all its artillery.

The Belgians were rushing reinforcements to the beleaguered Liege garrison.

Hunger Will Win.

Brussels, Aug. 6.—That the lack of food would compel a speedy abandonment of the German attack on Liege was asserted here this afternoon.

The German commissary was taxed to the limit, it was stated, and the troops were already on emergency rations.

French troops were waiting to help the Belgians as soon as the latter gave the word.

King Albert was confident, however, that his own men would win.

Belgians Are Cheerful.

Brussels, Aug. 6.—Can hold out indefinitely, the Belgian commander at Liege telegraphed to King Albert today.

The two forts the Belgians were compelled to abandon under the German fire were old, it was stated. Liege's main defenses were declared new and of vast strength.

Moreover, Belgian engineers were constructing a second line of fortifications at Namur stronger than the one at Liege. Machine guns were being mounted in the forts and the forts

(Continued on page 5.)

## MRS. WILSON DEAD --SUMMONS CAME AT FIVE O'CLOCK

Washington, Aug. 6.—Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, wife of the president of the United States, succumbed to a complication of diseases, at the White House, at five o'clock this afternoon. President Wilson, his three daughters, Mrs. Frances Bowes Sayre, Mrs. W. G. McAdoo and Miss Margaret Wilson, and a few close relatives were at the bedside when she died.

Death was not unexpected. Dr. Cary Crayson as early as 7 o'clock this morning issued a bulletin that Mrs. Wilson's condition was "very, very grave."

Oxygen and saline injections were resorted to in an effort to prolong life but they proved unavailing.

President Wilson and his three daughters are prostrated with grief.

Secretary Tumulty announced Mrs. Wilson's death when he returned weeping from the executive mansion at 5:05 o'clock.

"Mrs. Wilson died at 5 o'clock," he said in a broken voice.

Tumulty was too overcome to give any details.

It was reported that Mrs. Sayre, formerly Miss Jessie Wilson, collapsed completely and required medical attention.

Besides the members of the family, Miss Lucy Smith, Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Francis B. Sayre were in the sick room when she died.

Secretary Tumulty returned to the White House after informing the newspaper men of Mrs. Wilson's death.

Funeral arrangements will be made tomorrow.

The senate this afternoon passed the bill for the elimination of Washington's slums, written at Mrs. Wilson's request, and sent it to the house.

Professor Axson, Mrs. Wilson's brother, was en route to Washington this afternoon from Eugene, Oregon, where he is an instructor in the University of Oregon summer school.

EARLIER REPORTS.

Washington, Aug. 6.—A bulletin issued at the White House at 7 a. m. today said Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, wife of the president, had rallied slightly and had passed a fairly restful night.

Little hope for her ultimate recovery was held out, however. Another bulletin issued at 8:45 o'clock said "slight improvement" was noticeable but that the patient continually was relapsing into periods of unconsciousness. Oxygen was being used.

Mrs. Wilson's death is regarded as a matter of days, perhaps hours. Mrs. W. G. McAdoo, Mrs. Francis Bowes Sayre and Miss Margaret Wilson, Mrs. Wilson's three daughters, are at her bedside.

Dr. Cary T. Grayson, President Wilson's physician and naval aide, has been in almost constant attendance upon Mrs. Wilson. He has been in frequent consultation regarding the case with Dr. R. M. Kennedy, U. S. N., his assistant; Dr. Thomas Brown of Johns Hopkins hospital, Baltimore; Dr. E. P. Davis of Philadelphia, and Dr. F. X. Doremus of Philadelphia.

Mrs. Wilson has been suffering from a complication of nervous ailments and

(Continued on page 5.)

## MIGHTY CONFLICT DUE ANY MINUTE BETWEEN FLEETS

(By Ed L. Keen.)

London, Aug. 6.—A mighty clash between Great Britain's and Germany's main war fleets was believed a question of hours, perhaps only of minutes, today.

The German ships, at latest accounts, lay sheltered under the great land guns at Wilhelmshaven. The British vessels surrounded them, however, and Admiral Callaghan was counted on to draw them into an engagement.

The expected battle promised to furnish a test of the efficacy of dirigibles against sea craft of the dreadnaught type. A fleet of these leviathans of the air was held in readiness to aid the German squadron in its struggle with the English.

There was already much sea fighting. Hardly a British port failed to report the sound of naval guns. These engagements were supposed to be mere skirmishes between scout cruisers and destroyers. Evidently there were many of them, however, and they were not bloodless, for ships were already being sunk, and wounded sailors, both English and German, were arriving at the naval hospitals.

British warships made prizes of many German merchant vessels.

Lord Kitchener, newly appointed to the British ministry of war, was rushing army preparations.

Communication with Germany was still cut off and cable connection with Russia was also severed this afternoon.

Before the Russian connection was broken, however, messages were received saying the czar's troops were driving the Germans back along the frontier.

It was also learned that German ships were attacking the Russian Sveaborg fortifications, evidently in the hope that the kaiser's vessels might enter the Gulf of Finland and destroy the Russian fighting craft sheltered there.

The Austrians were reported shelling Belgrade again. This did not seem to mean, however, that the Austrian campaign against Serbia was progressing successfully.

Instead, it was understood Austrians were being withdrawn from the Serbian frontier, presumably to face a Russian invasion.

Servians were said to have secured at least one foothold on Austrian soil.

Sends Italy Ultimatum.

London, Aug. 6.—It was confirmed today that the kaiser had given Italy until midnight to join Germany and Austria-Hungary in the war against France.

Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy were bound by treaty in what was known as the "Triple Alliance."

This treaty required each of the three signatories to come to the aid of either or both the others in the event of an attack on them by an outside power.

It has been Germany's contention that the fatherland and Austria-Hungary were attacked by Russia, France, England, Serbia and Montenegro.

Italy has maintained that Germany and Austria-Hungary were the aggressors.

The former proposition being admitted, the Italians would be bound to lend aid to Germany and Austria-Hungary; the latter being assumed, it would be within their rights in refusing.

Many believed it would not only reject Germany's ultimatum but would help England, France, Russia and the lesser powers who are on their side.

This was because of the traditional enmity between Italy and Austria-Hungary and also because of its friendly relations with the "Triple Entente" and some of their allies.

Sentiment Against War.

Italian working peoples' sentiment is to strongly against war at all, however, that they have threatened a general strike and even a revolution unless their government kept out of the European struggle.

The first burst of excitement over the British watched the war preparations with almost phlegmatic calm.

The country was under martial law but there were no outward indications of it except for the unusual number of uniformed men seen in the street.

The Herald, a labor organ, was openly urging workmen to refuse to volunteer. Neither military nor civil authorities paid the slightest attention.

Despite the government's assurances that there was no danger of a famine, shops were generally refusing to sell more than limited quantities of provisions to their customers. The precaution was taken to prevent the rich from laying in enormous supplies, forcing prices up or bringing about a shortage from which the poor must suffer.

German Ambassador Lichnowsky, who was erroneously reported already to have left the country, really took his departure today. He had a military escort but there was no demonstration against him.

There had, up to today, been no exchange of declarations of hostilities between Great Britain and Austria-Hungary.

Attack Russian Forts.

Stockholm, Aug. 6.—German warships were attacking Russia's Sveaborg forts, at the entrance of the Gulf of Finland, today.

It was in the Gulf of Finland that the czar's fleet took refuge from the kaiser's naval force in the Baltic. It was believed the German vessels sought also to enter the gulf to destroy the Russian fighting craft.

Control of the Gulf of Finland would place Revel, Helsingfors, Kronstadt and perhaps St. Petersburg at Germany's mercy.

Denmark Isolated.

Copenhagen, Aug. 6.—Denmark was cut off today from railroad communication by the severing of the Danish-German lines and from steamship communication with the rest of the world by the German fleets in the North and Baltic seas.

Firing was heard in the North sea Wednesday.

It was reported ten German steamships, coal and timber laden, were seized by the Russians at Archangel.

News was received that Grand Duke Constantine of Russia, who was at Wildungen, a German health resort, had been detained as a prisoner of war.

Russia Cut Out.

London, Aug. 6.—The cables connecting the Russian embassy here with St. Petersburg stopped working this afternoon. It was believed the Germans had succeeded in cutting communication between England and Russia.

Italy Against Germany.

Rome, Aug. 6.—The Italian foreign office cabled to the British government this afternoon that Italy would

(Continued on Page 8.)