

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1914.

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PAVING KILLED

REMONSTRANCE AGAINST MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENT IS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL FRIDAY

PAPER SIGNED BY 44

FIVE REASONS ARE GIVEN BY SIGNERS OF PROTEST—IMPORTANT SEWER WORK COMES UP BEFORE COUNCIL

- SIGNERS OF REMONSTRANCE**
- Mrs. A. Warner, W. R. Leque, Sophia Moody, Joanna E. Hanson, Lena A. Charman, Emilie Knapp, V. Harris, G. Freiwald for L. A. Nobel, Chas. H. Caulfield, The Bank of Oregon City, Geo. A. Harding, Barlow & David, Jennie B. Harding, Arch Bishop Christie by A. Hillebrand, Mary M. Charman, T. L. Charman, H. L. Clark, A. L. Richardson by H. L. Clark, A. C. A. Barclay, J. M. Tracy, E. A. Brady, A. H. Schram trustee, J. H. Walker trustee, Mrs. Emma McDonald, Dr. G. F. Anderson, C. H. Jeremiah, Mary A. C. Jeremiah, J. J. Tobin, Multnomah Lodge No. 1, A. F. & A. M., W. H. Howell and wife, Maggie E. Burns, C. W. Kelly, Mrs. H. L. Miller by A. W. Miller, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Estate of Hon. T. L. Charman, Baptist Church by J. D. Hesser as trustee, Estate of C. W. Pape by C. W. Pape, Gambrinus by W. Pape Co., Geo. Lulhoff mgr., Congregational Church by W. M. Charman, Mary E. Stevens, W. A. White and C. H. Dye, E. F. Gadke, F. C. Gadke, M. R. Stevens.

The improvement of Main street was killed Friday night when a remonstrance, signed by 44 property owners along that street or their agents, was presented to the city council at a special meeting.

Five reasons are given in the remonstrance for the protest against the permanent street, as follows:

"First: The proposed improvement does not invite competitive bids for pavements equally as good and less expensive.

"Second: Only a few blocks are in a very bad condition and the street from Second to Seventh streets can be placed in good repair for very little expense.

"Third: Any improvement at this late date will run into the rainy season and cause unnecessary delay and make a poor street. The cross sewers should first be laid and the street allowed to settle before any improvement is made.

"Fourth: Owing to the financial stringency, high taxes and depressed conditions generally, it would be unwise to expend a large sum on any expensive improvement.

"Fifth: We believe, and are reliably informed, that the street can be repaired with a better quality of brick than is now on the street for about two dollars per square yard and it has been estimated that less than 1000 yards would put the street in good repair for several years to come and when any new improvement was decided upon the brick would still have some value."

Templeton Remarks.

The remonstrance was received by the council with but few remarks. Councilman Templeton protested against the second and fifth "reasons" in the remonstrance and asked that the clause "only a few blocks are in a very bad condition," be changed to "only a few blocks are not in a very bad condition." He then turned around quickly to T. L. Charman, who was sitting in a corner of the council chamber and asked: "That is what you meant, is it not, Mr. Charman?"

Mr. Charman smiled, then Templeton fired another question at him: "You set up this remonstrance, did you not, Mr. Charman?"

The reply was: "Yes, I did, with the help of an attorney." Templeton sat down, satisfied.

Improvement Brooked.

The remonstrance, to all practical purposes, blocks the improvement or repair of the street. The property owners clearly showed their stand in the remonstrance against any permanent improvement. They state at the beginning of their protest that they believe that this is not the time for a pavement to be laid at their own expense. It is probable that the same property owners, led by the same man or men who circulated this petition, would sign a remonstrance against any other form of improvement which would mean money from their pockets, according to the general opinion in the council.

On the other hand repair of the street is impossible under existing ordinances. On September 5, 1912, the life of Main street was set at December 31, 1912, and all repair after that date was prohibited. In order to patch up the street, as is requested in the remonstrance, it would be necessary to repeal this ordinance and the feeling of the council is clearly against such a procedure. The remark, "We will never patch up that street at the city's expense," was made by several councilmen as the meeting broke up.

COUNTY GRAVEL PITS ARE READY FOR WORK

The Portland Railway, Light & Power company will put the spur between the Katsada line and the Barton gravel pit into operation at once, so that the shipment of gravel from the plant by rail can begin within a short time.

REMONSTRANCE IS FOUND SHORT

PETITIONERS LOSE OUT IN LAST APPEAL BY MARGIN OVER ONE PER CENT

OFFICIAL CHECKING IS COMPLETED

No Names Ruled Out But City Attorney Schuebel Believes Many Are Not Qualified to Sign Protest

Main street will be improved. This was assured Monday evening when the checking of the remonstrance was completed and it was found that it represented 63.1 of the property along the street and not 65.23 per cent as is required by the charter. One more signer would probably have made up the necessary fraction over one per cent which the remonstrance lacks to become effective.

No names have been ruled out by City Attorney Schuebel although he is of the opinion that several names would not count if the case was contested before a court. The charter provides that only resident property owners can sign a remonstrance which would cancel the representation of the Weinhard estate, G. Freiwald and the Gambrinus brewing company from the list, according to the city attorney. If this opinion of Mr. Schuebel was sustained, the percentage of property represented would be cut down and the new small "margin of safety" considerably increased.

T. L. Charman, who has been leading the fight against a permanent improvement at the expense of the property owners, said Monday evening that he and the faction behind him would be represented at the next council meeting. "There is a block between Second and Third streets which must be repaired by the street car company under the terms of the franchise," he said. "Property owners along this block did not sign the remonstrance because they thought they had no interest in the matter as they would not have to pay the bills. I know the owners of the woolen mills would sign the remonstrance if it were not for that." When asked if he would seek to secure an injunction if all attempts to stop the work by remonstrance were useless, Mr. Charman refused to answer.

A special council meeting will be held either Wednesday or Friday of this week at which time the remonstrance will be referred back from the city recorder's office.

MAIN STREET PAVING IS PUT OFF AGAIN

COUNCIL WILL NOT PASS ON REMONSTRANCE UNTIL NEXT REGULAR SESSION

The improvement of Main street received a severe setback Wednesday night when the city council delayed final action on the remonstrance until September 2, when the regular meeting of that month will be held.

It was planned to dispose of the remonstrance Wednesday evening so that the council could advertise for bids at once and work could be begun by September 1. Representatives of Portland paving companies have stated that the work could be done in 30 days, so that if the paving began September 1 it would be completed by the first of the month following. If the improvement is made it cannot now begin before the middle of September, owing to the council's action.

V. Harris and T. L. Charman were at the council meeting and the latter advised the council to patch up the street with "a few loads of crushed rock." He said that the street was becoming impassable and that some action from the council toward a repair was necessary. He also advised the council to patch the street with brick. A motion to adjourn was made as soon as Mr. Charman finished his talk and the council did not take any action of his recommendations.

BOYS SWIM OVER RAPIDS

Joseph Miller, Donald Silcox, Bert Lageson and Ted Sheahan, local boys had a narrow escape from death Friday afternoon, while shooting the swimming in the Clackamas near Gladstone, when they started to wade across the river. When they reached the middle of the stream the current was too strong for them, and they were carried over the rapids. They managed to swim to safety.

COUNTY'S CROPS IN NEED OF RAIN

IN OVER TWO MONTHS TOTAL RAINFALL HAS BEEN .02 OF AN INCH

HOP YIELD IS SERIOUSLY AFFECTED

Winter Oats Unaffected But Spring Planting Is Cut 40 Per Cent, According to Fruit Inspector Freytag

Clackamas county, like the rest of the Willamette valley, is suffering from the longest dry spell which has hit Oregon in 29 years and needs rain badly, according to O. E. Freytag, county fruit inspector. From July and to date the rain has totaled only .02 of an inch and there is no evidence in sight of a change.

The weather, however, has been ideal for harvesting the grain and clover seed crops in the county, and the yield in these products in all parts of the county has been reported as excellent.

The hop crop will be one of the worse sufferers and it is expected that the 1914 yield will be cut down from one-fourth to one-fifth of last year's output. This is the estimate of conservative growers in the southern part of the county. The hops are small and show poor growth.

Clackamas county ranks first in the production of grapes in the state and is one of the most profitable crops for the specialty farmer, but this year the yield will represent a loss unless there is rain in the next few weeks. While the yield of winter oats will be heavy, from present indications, the crop of spring oats will be only about 60 per cent of last year, according to Mr. Freytag. In some sections of the county there has not been a rain since the crop of spring oats was planted.

Truck produce also feels the effect of the dry weather. Many of the large gardens, which supply Portland and Oregon City with vegetables, are not irrigated and are suffering from the lack of rain. The tomato crop is almost a failure and the onion crop will be reduced unless there is rain before the end of the month, says Mr. Freytag. The effect on the potato yield is uncertain, some claiming that it is greatly affected while others maintain that the effect is not material.

"One of the greatest dangers at the present time is the cold nights," said Mr. Freytag. "A little later in the year the farmers had better look out for frost for I find that frost comes early after a summer like this."

Captain W. H. Pope, a pioneer river pilot, says that in the summer of 1883 the conditions were very similar to those at present. Smoke from forest fires was even thicker in the city then than it is now. The records of the weather bureau led Captain Pope, showing that there was a stretch of 56 days during the summer of 1884 when no rain fell in the northern part of the valley. This arid period was from June 5 to August 1, inclusive. Showers following brought about a rainfall for August of .19 of an inch. In June of that year the precipitation was .08 of an inch.

From September 1, the beginning of the weather bureau's year, there has been a deficiency in the precipitation at Portland of 5.30 inches.

The temperatures also have been averaging well the last few days with any of the hot spells during the corresponding period of other seasons.

NOT GUILTY IS PLEA OF MANAGER TEVIS

OFFICIAL OF MENELEE LUMBER COMPANY WILL BE TRIED AUGUST 28

S. C. Tevis, of Portland, vice-president and general manager of the L. B. Menelee Lumber company, appeared before Justice of the Peace Slevers Wednesday and entered a plea of not guilty to the charge made by the state labor department of not making certain changes in the Milwaukee mill as the department had ordered. The trial was set for August 28.

In a statement to Justice Slevers the defendant said that the changes in the machinery, which are said to have been ordered, were not made because of a misunderstanding. Several mills of the Menelee Lumber company were inspected by the labor commissioners, but a board of arbitration afterwards held that the Milwaukee mill was safe, declares attorneys for Tevis. The state charges that the plant was inspected June 10 by the state officials and it was found that certain changes should be made to protect the health of the employees. August 1 was set as the time for the changes to be made, claims the state, but the work was never done. B. N. Hicks, in the absence of District Attorney Hedges, is representing the state.

HOURS OF FARM LABORERS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 18.—The farm laborers of Oregon work on an average of 9 hours and 44 minutes per day, according to a report which has just been issued by the United States department of agriculture. More than 27,000 laborers are employed on the farms of Oregon and the average monthly compensation is \$31.00 with board and \$44.50 if the laborer boards himself. These figures relate to the year 1913. The average wage for farm labor in Continental United States is \$13.85 per month with board and \$19.9, without board.

LOCK DEED AT CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—The deed to the Oregon City locks has been received by the war department which promises to act on it with the greatest possible expedition.

DEED TO LOCKS IS SENT TO CAPITAL

DOCUMENT IS MODIFIED AND IS EXPECTED TO MEET WITH OFFICIAL APPROVAL

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 14.—Containing charges which it is believed will obviate the objections of the United States attorney general, the deed conveying the Oregon City locks and canal to the federal government was sent by Lieutenant Colonel Charles H. McKinstry, corps of engineers, U. S. A., to the chief of engineers Wednesday evening. The chief will refer it to the department of justice for approval.

This is the third time the deed, twice in altered form or wording, has passed between Portland and Washington, D. C. The part covering water rights was not looked upon with favor by the United States attorney general. If the present form of the abstract should be approved, Colonel McKinstry is expected to be notified and the toll system of the locks will be eliminated.

Jointly the state of Oregon and the federal government purchased the locks and canal from the Portland Railway, Light & Power company, each paying something like \$350,000, or a total of \$700,000. On the approval of the deed the property will be under the direct operation of the United States engineers.

Under private ownership a toll of about 25 cents a ton was collected on freight passing through the locks. A less sum was collected on livestock carried by the steamers. The agitation started several years ago for the acquisition of the property by the United States, so that it might be made free to the passage of boats.

FARMERS BRING WIDE VARIETY OF PRODUCE

COOKED CRAWFISH, GRAPE JUICE, HONEY, PLUMS, APPLES, ALL FOR SALE

Market day Friday was decidedly better than a week ago and nearly all the farmers sold out and went home by 11 o'clock.

T. Howard had a fine lot of crawfish cooked, spiced, ready for eating, and will be on hand regularly as long as they can be caught. Mr. Christenson, of Mt. Pleasant, had plenty of his famous grape juice on hand, neatly put up in pints and quarts at 15 and 25c. O. Schmitter had excellent honey in the comb at 15c a box. J. T. Boyd had a fine quality of plums at 40c per box and will be in with fine potatoes and fruit next week. N. Elchner made a decided hit with his fine Gravenstein apples, nicely sorted and boxed.

Maple Lane was well represented by G. F. Mighella who had fine peaches at 60c, eggs at 2 dozen for 55c, and sweet corn at 12 and 15 cents. Many others were present with a good assortment of vegetables and farm produce.

Many farmers will deliver the heavier produce after selling hours.

INJUNCTION HALTS WORK OF W. V. S.

RIGHT TO BUILD LINE ON WATER STREET IS CONTESTED BY GEORGE GRIFFITH

A temporary injunction restraining the Willamette Valley Southern from constructing its line on Water street, has been secured by George Griffith, who owns water front property, from Circuit Judge Campbell. The injunction is based largely on a technical point.

The city council has granted a franchise to the railway company to operate on Water street. For a part of the way the track would rest on a trestle in the river and the complaint alleges that at these points there is no street and the council had no right to grant a franchise.

This is the second injunction secured by property owners along the river bank to stop the construction of the Willamette Valley Southern but each are based on a different theory. When the first temporary injunction was instituted by C. T. Toose the company moved its pile driver and other equipment to other parts of the line. Recently the work of assembling the equipment was begun and it was planned to complete the track up Water street when this second injunction was secured. The permanent injunction will be argued before Judge Campbell at the next regular session of the circuit court.

\$69.80 RAISED

Oregon City merchants and several residents living south of town subscribed a total of \$69.80 for a new wooden walk at Twilight. It connects with the walk at Twilight schoolhouse and will extend westerly along the county road.

CITY TO AID IN LIBRARY CONTROL

MAYOR MADE MEMBER OF BOARD AT SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY

ACTION MADE AT BOARD'S REQUEST

Amusement Company Asks to Stage Carnival Here — Complaint Comes From Families Near Tennis Court

The entrance of the city into the affairs of the library board was marked Wednesday night when at the request of the board the council appointed the mayor as a member of that body. Mayor Linn E. Jones will be the first man to represent the council in the ruling body of the city library.

There has been a feeling among the members of the library board for some time that there should be some connecting link between the council and the library board. An amendment to the city charter provides that a special tax shall be levied each year to help pay the expenses of operating the institution and the building is located on municipal property but until the move Wednesday night the city council had no representation on the board.

To what extent the influence of the city will be felt in the affairs of the board is not certain at the present time and at the session of the council Wednesday night no views were expressed in this regard by the councilmen. The action probably follows the published interview of Secretary J. E. Hedges in which he advocated city representation in the board.

Through the fire department the Arnold Amusement company applied for permission to operate their street carnival here September 9, 10, 11 and 12, under the auspices of the firemen. A certain percentage of the gross receipts will be turned over to the treasury of the fire department. The matter was left with Mr. Toose who will work with the committee on fire and police and members of the fire companies.

Councilman Templeton said that he had heard complaint from families living near the city's tennis court on the library block but there was too much noise from the court early in the morning. The matter was referred to the street committee to prepare a set of rules for the court.

The crossing of the Southern Pacific on Eleventh street was reported as in a bad condition, due to certain changes which the railway company had been making in the track. The street committee will take up the matter with the company.

A telephone was ordered placed in the city jail for the use of the police.

HIGH COST OF FOOD TO BE PROBED BY U. S.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—President Wilson today personally wrote to Attorney General McReynolds asking him to investigate the apparently abnormal inflation of food prices and ascertain whether there was any conspiracy to boost prices.

The department of justice started an investigation into the cause for the sudden rise of foodstuffs prices immediately upon receipt today of President Wilson's letter. The president this afternoon asked the department of commerce to aid the department of justice in its investigation.

President Wilson's letter to Attorney General McReynolds follows: "The rapid and unwarranted increase in the prices of foodstuffs in this country on the pretext of conditions existing in Europe is so serious and vital a matter that I take the liberty of calling your attention to it. I would be greatly obliged if you would advise me whether, under existing laws, there is any action the department of justice could take by way of investigation or legal process, and what federal legislation, if any, in your judgment, is justifiable under the circumstances."

FOOD PRICES STILL MOUNTING HIGHER

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 17.—Prices on commodities are still rising fast. The war influence was more than ever apparent in Oregon with the opening of the new week yesterday.

There were two important advances in foodstuffs. One was in sugar, which at \$8.05 a hundred, a rise of 50 cents, touched a new high mark, topping by half a cent a pound the previous high figure in the local market, attained in 1911. Dealers say that the three principal factors in this heavy increase are the heavy foreign demand, the 7 per cent exacted for war risks and the high cost of exchange in addition to the fact that sugar is hard to get at any price.

The other large advance was in oatmeal. It had gone up 50 cents a barrel last week, but yesterday a further rise of 25 cents was quoted.

SUES TO QUIET TITLE

J. G. Mumpower has brought a suit in the circuit court against F. M. Bailey et al. to quiet title to property in section 13, township two south, range two east.

VALUABLE DOG POISONED

Oswald West, the Scotch Collie belonging to Miss Edith Smith of Gladstone, was poisoned last Saturday. Miss Smith says she has good evidence of the guilty persons and expects to prosecute the parties.

CONTRACT LET FOR AURORA BUILDING

AURORA, Ore., Aug. 12.—The contract for the new concrete building for Kraus & Ron has been let to Contractor Kinnear, of Portland. The price is said to be in the neighborhood of \$10,000. Work will begin next week.

In connection with this contract Mr. Kraus had gravel from the bed of Pudding river analyzed and found that it is especially well adapted to use in concrete work. Use of his material will mean a saving of several hundred dollars in the construction of the new building. This gravel contains only 2 per cent of impurities, it is claimed. It has been used in roadmaking to a slight extent in the surrounding road district and has made smooth, hard roads wherever used.

CITY WINS CASE FROM MRS. CHASE

JUDGE CAMPBELL SUSTAINS DEMURRER FILED AGAINST INJUNCTION SUIT

CRISIS COMES IN COMPROMISE PLAN

Action is Forced Within This Week by Work on High Street—Attorney Hedges Would Fight Decision

Circuit Judge Campbell sustained a demurrer Monday filed by the city against an injunction suit filed recently by Mrs. Sarah Chase to prevent the city from going on her property on the bluff. The demurrer alleged that the complaint did not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action.

Judge Campbell gave Mrs. Chase 10 days in which to prepare an amended complaint and Attorney J. E. Hedges, who with C. D. Latourette, represents Mrs. Chase, said Monday evening that they would fight the decision to the supreme court.

That the time had come for an end to the long litigation over the property and the city's project should be finished at once was the statement of Judge Campbell, according to City Attorney Schuebel.

It is expected that the fate of the proposed compromise will be decided sometime this week. The city officials are known to favor the plan and Mr. Schuebel said Monday he would recommend the plan to the council at any time. Mrs. Chase has not made public her views in the matter and the success or failure of the plan rest largely with her.

The location of the sidewalk on High street enters into the compromise plan largely and the concrete gang of Contractor Shea is nearing her property so that if a favorable decision is not reached in a few days, it will be too late, according to the opinion of city officials. Mrs. Chase asks that the parking be placed next to her property line so that the foundation to her home may be thoroughly braced.

MRS. S. CHASE WOULD HELP MOVE ELEVATOR

OFFER MADE TO PAY LARGE PART OF EXPENSES FOR ITS REMOVAL

An offer of Mrs. Sarah Chase to pay a large part of the expense of moving the Seventh street elevator to some other street has been made.

In a statement issued Saturday evening, Mr. Gilbert Hedges said: "Mrs. S. A. Chase has told me that she would be willing to pay a considerable portion of the expense of moving the elevator to another street in order to prevent the ruin of her home site. This would save the city nearly \$2000 which would otherwise be expended if the elevator were completed where it now stands. I have talked to a number of leading citizens on this matter and they think that such a change would benefit all concerned, especially the taxpayers." Mr. Gilbert Hedges is not an attorney for Mrs. Chase.

"Impossible," was the word used by City Attorney Schuebel when told of the offer. He believes that such a move would be illegal after a special district assessment had been collected to pay for the structure.

Circuit Judge Campbell will come in from Willhoit Monday to hear the arguments filed by the city against the injunction suit of Mrs. Chase. The demurrer alleges that the complaint for the injunction suit does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause.

BROWNELL WILL TALK AT CLARK'S SUNDAY

As a part of the series of live prohibition campaign meetings being held in every part of the county, George C. Brownell will talk Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Clarks Grange hall. His subject will be "Should Oregon Go Dry in November?" The Allredge quartette will furnish music for the meeting.

DEATH OF POPE HASTENED BY WAR

EXHORTATION TO CATHOLICS OF WORLD TO PRAY FOR PEACE ALMOST LAST ACT

CRISIS DEVELOPES VERY RAPIDLY

Sudden Collapse Attributed to Age and Gouty Affection Combined With Catarrh—Old Affliction Recurs

ROME, Aug. 20.—Pope Pius X died at 1:20 o'clock this morning. He had been ill for several days, but alarming symptoms did not develop until Wednesday morning.

Throughout the day Drs. Marchiafava and Amici devoted their utmost energies to stimulating their patient and keeping him alive. The cardinals were informed of the pope's grave condition and some of them who entered the sick room describe the impressive scenes, especially when the pontiff, rousing himself from time to time, spoke.

"In ancient times the pope by a word might have stayed the slaughter, but now he is impotent," he said once. Prayers were said by thousands and the bells of the churches sounded when the sacrament was exposed upon all the altars. When the court learned of the pope's condition there was the deepest concern. King Victor Emmanuel personally informed Queen Helena and the news was communicated to the queen mother.

Extremeunction was administered by Monsignor Zampini, sacristan to His Holiness. The sisters of his pope and his niece were overcome with grief. Cardinal Merry del Val knelt by the side of his bed, where other cardinals joined in, the members of the household in joining prayers.

The dying pope, in a moment of lucidity, said: "Now I begin to think as the end is approaching that the Almighty in his inexhaustible goodness wishes to spare me the horrors Europe is undergoing."

On Tuesday Dr. Marchiafava announced that the pope was suffering from a simple cold and that possibly complete rest for a week would restore him to his usual health. The bronchial condition spread, however, and on Wednesday it was announced that the pope's condition was serious.

A bulletin issued at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, signed by Doctors Marchiafava and Amici, gave the following explanation: "The pope's condition grew worse during the night. This was due to the diffusion of the bronchitis to the lower lobe of the left lung. Symptoms of heart weakness became so threatening at 10:30 o'clock this morning that it was believed the pontiff's life was endangered. At 10:30 p. m., the symptoms were slightly improved, but still grave. The temperature is now 103.1; pulse uneven at 130; respiration 50."

BIG FORTS AT LIEGE STILL RESIST GERMANS

HEAVY ARTILLERY OF INVADERS IS NOW PUT TO USE—BRUSSELS EXPECTS CAPTURE

MAASTRICHT, Holland, Aug. 19.—Germany's heavy artillery is in action at Liege, and the booming of big guns is loud in Maastricht.

Each of the kaiser's siege guns requires 12 horses to draw it, and the discharge of these terrible weapons causes the houses in Maastricht, 19 miles from Liege, to shake to their foundations. Fugitives from the region of Liege report that some of the smaller forts have fallen, but that the principal ones are intact.

From Liege to the Dutch border the air is full with the stench of decomposing bodies of horses and men. The dead, when buried at all, are only lightly covered with earth. Carcasses of cattle and horses lie everywhere in the fields. It also is said that there are many dead in the houses left standing on or near the scenes of conflict.

LONDON, Aug. 19.—An American military expert, reviewing the situation in Belgium, said tonight: "I left Brussels today. There was a good deal of agitation there, as the people thought the Germans were near, and there had been fighting at Trelieumont. A good many refugees are coming from Trelieumont and Louvain."

"The people kept quiet, though they were filled with suspense, owing to the numerous rumors. The impression was that the Germans, after making reconnaissances in force and scouting the country to the north of Brussels with cavalry, were about to advance in force on Brussels. The population had been told by the burzomaster that if the Germans came, they should remain indoors and go on as far as possible with their usual vocations."

CANAL AT PANAMA IS OPEN TO THE WORLD

PANAMA, Aug. 15.—The Panama canal is open to the commerce of the world. Henceforth ships may pass to and fro through the great waterway which establishes a new ocean highway for trade.

The steamship Ancon, owned by the United States war department, with many notable passengers on board, made the official passage today which signalled the opening of the canal. She left Colon at 4 o'clock this morning and reached Balboa, on the Pacific end, at 4 o'clock this afternoon, having navigated the waterway in nine hours.