

# Coos Bay Times

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VOL XXXVII. Established 1878 as The Coast Mail. MARSHFIELD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1914.—EVENING EDITION. A Consolidation of Times, Coast Mail and Coos Bay Advertiser No. 30

## FIRST GREAT BATTLE OF EUROPEAN WAR IS ON TODAY

### GERMANS MAKING EFFORT TO REACH FRANCE THROUGH BELGIUM

Fierce Fighting Between Belgian and German Troops Indicates First Great Battle of the War Has Commenced.

### EMPEROR WILLIAM HIMSELF ISSUES ORDERS TO GENERALS IN THE FIELD

Report Confirming the News Comes From London and Paris Sources—Many Conflicting Rumors of the Situation.

**FEAR LIEGE FORTS HAVE FALLEN**  
(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Aug. 19.—Nothing definite has been received as to the fate of Liege, but it is presumed that the Germans have captured all forts that were not blown up by Belgians before evacuation.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, AUG. 19.—THE CURT ANNOUNCEMENT IN A TELEGRAM FROM BRUSSELS DATED LAST NIGHT TELLING OF FIERCE FIGHTING BETWEEN BELGIAN AND GERMAN TROOPS ALONG AN EXTENDED FRONT IS GENERALLY ACCEPTED HERE TODAY AS INDICATING THE REAL BEGINNING OF THE FIRST GREAT BATTLE OF THE WAR. THE GERMAN ATTACK IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN MADE ON THE DIRECT ORDERS OF EMPEROR WILLIAM HIMSELF TO THE GENERALS IN THE FIELD. THE EXACT EXTENT OF THE FIGHTING LINE IS NOT YET REVEALED, BUT PRESUMABLY STRETCHES IN A NORTH AND SOUTH LINE, BEYOND THIS ITS LOCATION IS VIRTUALLY GUESS WORK. REFUGEES FROM DIEST, TIRLEMONT AND OTHER TOWNS IN THAT SECTION OF BELGIUM, WHO FLED AS THE GERMANS APPEARED, ARE COMING INTO BRUSSELS IN GREAT NUMBERS. THEY DECLARE THAT SINCE THE INHABITANTS VACATED TIRLEMONT, GERMAN SHELLS HAVE BEEN DROPPING INTO THE TOWN AND THAT SUBSEQUENTLY THE BELGIANS BROKE THE GERMAN ADVANCE THERE AT POINT OF BAYONET.

**CONFIRMED FROM FRANCE.**  
(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—A careful study of the military situation on the northern frontier leads the French military observers to the conclusion that events transpiring in Belgium today are the beginning of operations on an immense scale. Germany is making a fresh and mightier effort to break into France through the comparatively open Belgium country.

**AUSTRIA HURRIES REINFORCEMENTS.**  
(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
ROTTERDAM, Aug. 19.—Large contingents of Austrian troops, including mountain artillery, which the German army is without, have passed points along the Rhine on their way to the front.

**TERRIBLE CARNAGE IN DINANT.**  
(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—Details of the fighting at Dinant between French and German troops show terrible carnage. The first French company, although decimated, held their position until another company came up with artillery, which destroyed the bridge. The French cavalry then advanced and pushed the German attackers into the River Meuse.

### SEAT OF BELGIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN MOVED TO ANTWERP

Transfer Made to Prevent Possible Interruption of Government Business at Brussels—Queen and Princes Are Now at Antwerp Palace.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—An official communication from Brussels gives the details of the transfer of the seat of the Belgian government from Brussels to Antwerp. The transfer is not an immediate necessity, it is asserted, but it is deferred to effect it now in a normal manner rather than risk interruption to government business. The Queen and Princes are at the Antwerp Palace while the King is with the army.

**SAY GERMANS ARE GOING FORWARD.**  
ROTTERDAM, Aug. 19.—The Cologne Gazette asserts that the advance of the German troops, while slow, has not been seriously checked anywhere.

**GERMANS IN RUSSIAN POLAND.**  
BERLIN, Aug. 19.—German troops today occupied the town of Mlawa, in Russian Poland, close to the German frontier, on the Warsaw Railroad.

**MAKES PESSIMISTIC PREDICTION.**  
(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—"Outpost combats, however interesting, do not justify us on counting, with any certainty, on prompt and definite victory," writes Former Minister of Foreign Affairs Pichon, in Le 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 war to the death. It probably will be long and the losses will be enormous."

### SERVIAN TROOPS GAIN VICTORY OVER 80,000 AUSTRIANS

Heavy Losses in Killed and Wounded in Terrific Battle—Montenegrin Army is Short Distance From Important Austro-Hungarian Seaport.  
(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Aug. 19.—An official communication received here from Paris declares that confirmation has been received of a Servian victory at Shabats over 80,000 Austrians. Shabats is in Servia, forty miles west of Belgrade. The Austrians suffered heavy losses in men and munitions. The casualties amounted to 3000 killed and 5000 wounded.

### GERMAN ADVANCE POSTS ARE BEING REPULSED BY BELGIANS

Conflicting Rumors Tell of Advance and Retreat of Kaiser's Army in Attack on Brussels—Many Rumors Current, But Few Confirmed.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Aug. 19.—A dispatch from Brussels claims that the German advance posts covering the region between Gembloux and Jodoigne, just east of Waterloo, are being gradually pushed back before the advance of the Belgian and French forces. The Belgians and French armies are now in close junction with the advance lines of the Germans.

### GERMAN ARMY MARCHING ON BRUSSELS.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—A dispatch from Brussels says that cannonading was distinctly heard in Brussels this morning. The correspondent adds that it is understood that the German army is marching on Brussels by way of Huy and Jodoigne.

### BELGIAN RETIREMENT RUMORED.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
PARIS, Aug. 19.—An official announcement says that the retirement of the Belgian troops toward Antwerp is rumored but not confirmed.

### NAVAL BATTLES RUMORED.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
LONDON, Aug. 19.—It is reported that a naval encounter has occurred in the North Sea, but it is not yet confirmed.

### BROTHER OF KING IN DANGER.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
ROME, Aug. 19.—A message from Cetinje states that the Montenegrin army is within two hours' march of Ragusa, a fortified seaport of Austria-Hungary. King Nicholas of Montenegro has been notified by the Austrian commander that if the Montenegrins attack the town the Servians and Montenegrins held as hostages will be shot, among them being Count Vopiovic, a brother of King Nicholas.

### UNITED STATES TO ACT FOR JAPAN.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Japan has asked the United States to take over her embassy in Berlin "in case of emergency." Charge Barclay of the British embassy formally presented to Secretary Bryan England's declaration that Japan's action would be limited to the German possessions in eastern Asia.

### GERMANS FIRE ON ITALIAN BARRACKS.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
ROME, Aug. 19.—Refugees from Magdeburg, Germany, say that German soldiers fired on 3000 Italians confined in barracks there, killing seven and wounding sixteen, because some of them shouted "Hurrah for Italy."

### POPE PLEADS FOR PEACE.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
ROME, Aug. 19.—The Pope has addressed an exhortation to the world, in which he says: "In the midst of this universal peril, we know that both fatherly love and apostolic ministry demand of us that we should with all earnestness turn the thoughts of Christendom thither, whence comes the help, to Christ, Prince of Peace and most powerful Mediator between God and man."

### CANADIAN TROOPS TO MOVE.

OTTAWA, Aug. 19.—On Thursday the Canadian government will begin moving its 25,000 volunteers of the Over-Seas Division to the assembly camp at Valcartier.

### FIRST STORIES OF FIGHTING AT LIEGE REACHES AMERICA

Many Americans Caught Between Lines of Belgian and German Armies Have Narrow Escapes From Death.

### MANY SAVED BY LYING IN TRENCHES WHILE BULLETS FLEW OVER THEM

Arrive on Steamer Finland That Flies American Flag But Was Stopped by Many Foreign Warships.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)  
NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—First-hand tales of the fight at Liege and grim narratives of the war came into this port on the lips of American refugees aboard the Red Star liner Finland. Several Americans were caught between the fire of the Belgian and German armies and were saved by lying in the trenches while bullets flew over their heads. The Finland steered through a little used channel out of Antwerp to the North Sea, where she found the horizon smudged with the smoke of British battleships in perilous passage through mine-strewn waters where there were no buoys to guide them. The way lay over shallows and all ballast had to be thrown overboard. Time after time the Finland was stopped by warships, although she flew the American flag.

### FIRST EYE WITNESS TELLS OF BELGIUM BATTLEFIELD SCENES

Clusters of Corpses Strew Gory Field and Moans of Dying Assail Ears of Man Who Visited Battlefield in Auto.

### MARY BOYLE O'REILLY PAINTS GRAPHIC PICTURE OF THE FIRST GREAT BATTLE

An Amsterdam Merchant, a Non-Combatant, Tells of the Terrible Carnage, Horrible Scenes of War, and Thousands and Thousands of Dead.

The following first eye-witness account to visit them—after the wounded had come of a battle in the present European war from Mary Boyle O'Reilly, is thoroughly authentic and was called from Europe. The interview has spared the fearful picture of field and is full of tragic interest; my mind in horror forever.  
Brussels, Belgium, Aug. 12.—When first the German army began its invasion of Belgium I hurried over to London to be as near as possible to the scene of battle.  
At Brussels I halted, for I could not get nearer Liege, which the German army was shelling.  
Here I have talked to a man who has been in and about Liege since the city was first besieged. From him I have first hand reports of the fighting. They all agree that there was terrible carnage, horrible scenes of war—bloodshed, trailing wounded and the dead—thousands and thousands.  
An Amsterdam merchant, one of the first non-combatants to visit the battlefields of Visé and Liege, told me what he himself had seen.  
"I never want to set my feet upon another battlefield," he said, "and I hope to God there will never be another battlefield any place on the globe again."  
"Why?" I asked, though I more than half suspected what the answer would be.  
"Non-Combatant Talks."  
Well, here is just one reason—a blue-eyed boy lies dying in agony alone, out on the country road beyond Visé; pierced by a bullet and mangled beneath the wheels of on-rushing artillery.  
"He had fired upon passing German soldiers from his father's cottage. The soldiers had dragged him out, together with his father, and left the one unconscious, the other dead, in the path of the guns that followed."  
"Perhaps death has blessed the boy by now. Pray God it be so. He was moaning pitifully for it, as we passed in our motor only a few hours ago. But we did not stop. Horror to confess, I hardly noticed his suffering. I had seen so much like it, and worse. All feeling was gone, after the time I had spent on a charnel field, where writhing wounded lie compressed in the bloody mass of the dead."  
"Yes, when I started out in the motor for a run along the battlefield, from Visé to Liege, I rather expected the trip would be exciting. It would be glorious to be one of the first on those fields where the Belgians had been so valiantly fighting for hearth and home, against the invaders."  
"Would that I had been the last!"

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