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# FALLS CITY NEWS

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## FALLS CITY SUSTAINS LOSS BY FIRE

**J. C. Talbott & Co., Hardware and Furniture Store Destroyed by Fire Monday Morning.**

About 7:00 o'clock Monday morning a fire was discovered in the back part of J. C. Talbott & Co., hardware and furniture store. An alarm was turned in and the city volunteer fire department responded quickly and the water turned on. Unfortunately the hose on the cart was too short for effective fire fighting and some time was lost thereby before another cart arrived. In the meantime the fire had spread rapidly through the back rooms where the mattresses and other light and inflammable material was kept and into the garret. The roof was covered with rubberoid and it was difficult to get water on the fire. A hole was finally cut through the front and water turned on and the fire checked. The stoves and heavy hardware did not suffer greatly, but the furniture, carpets, rugs and mattresses were damaged badly by fire and water. The stock is estimated to have been worth \$9,000 and the building \$3,000. The insurance is said to have been very small. The cause of the fire is unexplained. There was no one in the building at the time the fire was discovered.

This is not only a loss to the owners, but also to the town and community. It being the only hardware and furniture store in town, the loss will be felt. The fact that there was no wind accounts for the department being able to control the fire and prevent its spreading to

adjacent buildings. Everything was dry as tinder and but a puff of wind would have sent the flames leaping skyward and in all probabilities the block would have been a mass of smoking ruins. The telephone office was located just east of the Talbott building, over the Persey Jewelry store, with only a narrow stairway between. Miss Ivy DeWitte and Miss Pearl Titus, telephone girls bravely remained at their posts until the flames were lapping across the stairway. They then climbed out at a window and down a ladder. The confectionery of R. B. Harrington was on the west. The roof caught fire in several places but watchers put it out. The goods and fixtures were removed to a safe distance. We can also be very thankful that the water supply held out, and but for the timely action of the water board some weeks ago in limiting the time for irrigation it might have so happened that the water would have run short. The fire was a heavy drain up on the water supply and it behooves everyone to conserve the water as best they may for emergencies.

The company will open for business as soon as the loss can be adjusted by the insurance company. Some of the furniture and stoves were moved across the street into another building where they could be better cared for.

## MINERS THREATEN TO SET BUTTE AFIRE

**"Troops Will Find Ashes, for We Have Dynamite and Oil," Says Leader.**

Butte, Mont., Aug. 31.—Miners openly threatened tonight to lay the town in ashes if either state or Federal troops attempted to enter Butte. One of the leaders of the miners declared that they do not intend to fight, but would wreak vengeance upon the business men for having been instrumental in bringing soldiers to Butte.

"We have quantities of dynamite and oil," said one leader, "and the troops will find ashes."

### Soldiers Coming Startles.

Until today the majority of the miners did not credit the reports that the militia was being mobilized, as the Butte newspapers withheld the news on request of business men, who feared that the news would excite the miners. A Helena newspaper editor, however, this morning brought an auto load of newspapers to Butte for sale, and the newsboys soon began crying the news of the mobilization of the militia.

Calls immediately went forth from President "Muckie" McDonald and the other leaders for a meeting of the miners, which was held in secret to discuss the coming of the soldiers. Later a committee of miners was hurriedly sent to the railroad depots to determine whether the troops had arrived.

### Plants Under Guard.

The miners have called a meet-

ing tonight. The electric light plant and all the larger stores are guarded by many armed men, as are the mines. On the attic floor of the Courthouse there are 50 guards armed with rifles.

County Attorney MacCaffery issued a warrant for the arrest of the Helena editor on a charge of inciting a disturbance, but the editor was said to have left the city early and the officers could not find him.

All ammunition in the hardware stores has been removed, and firing-pins have been taken from the rifles.

### TROOPS ARE NOW MOBILIZING

**Time Not Set for Action at Butte, Says Governor.**

Helena, Mont., Aug. 31.—No time has been specified for the sending of the National Guard to Butte, said Governor Stewart today.

The Second Regiment, 600 strong, will be mobilized here by night. Four companies, one each from Miles City, Bozeman, Billings and Roundup, detrained this morning, and the remaining six companies, one each from Libby, Shelby, Choteau, Valier and two from Kalispell, will arrive on a special train this afternoon.

Camp has been pitched at the State Armory. The troops are equipped for field service.

### Lafferty Is Docked Five Days in Pay

Washington, Sept. 2.—Representative A. Walter Lafferty has suffered the loss of five days' pay on account of absence, but says he will return to Oregon October 1, whether congress adjourns or not.

"If they want me then, they can arrest me," he said.

## SIEGE PREPARATIONS ARE MADE IN PARIS

**Four Days' Notice Given to Remove Buildings Obstructing View of Forts.**

Paris.—It is officially announced that the military governor has ordered all residents of the zone within action of the city's defending forts to evacuate and destroy their houses within four days.

The order for the clearing of the zone for the guns of the three lines of forts comprising the defenses of the French capital, is regarded by military observers as decidedly ominous coming as it does on the heels of reports of unexpected gains by the German invaders in the north and rumored advance of another German column through Alsace in the direction of Belfort.

The unexpected strength displayed by the Germans, the wonderful celerity of their movements, the unaccountable abandonment of Lille, the intimations of evacuation of Boulogne, together with many other developments have led military men to believe that unless fresh forces are brought into the field in the north by the allies the Germans will make further rapid progress in the direction of the capital.

Paris defenses cover a zone of 400 square miles. They include some of the most beautiful suburbs in the world.

## GERMAN CRUELTY IS DENIED

**Diplomat Calls Accusations of Cruelty of German Army Shameful.**

New York.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, while here from Washington, issued the following statement in reference to the alleged atrocities of the German army:

"The campaign of our enemies charging the German army with cruelty is absolutely shameful. The traditions of the German army are above all attacks in this respect. Nobody can regret more than I do if women and children have been killed during the fighting. This is, however, unavoidable if the civilian population of a country join in the fighting, as is the case in Belgium, where German soldiers have been shot in the back, where German wounded have been

inutilated and doctors and nurses shot at."

**Austrians Defeated in Russian Poland.**  
Rome.—The Messagero publishes a telegram from Sofia, Bulgaria, which says the Austrians have suffered an irreparable defeat at Zamoste, in Russian Poland, 50 miles southeast of Lublin.

**Germans Reported Defeated in Somme.**  
London.—An Antwerp dispatch to the Reuter company says:

"It is reported here that General Pau has won a brilliant victory over 50,000 Germans near Perennes, in the department of Somme."

## GERMANS ANNOUNCE CAPTURE OF RUSSIANS

Washington.—A German victory at Altenstein, in which three Russian corps were defeated and 70,000 prisoners, including two Russian commanding generals, were taken, was reported to the German embassy from Berlin by wireless via Sayville, L. I. The dispatch says:

"Official report of the victory at Altenstein shows that it was even greater than known before. Three Russian army corps were annihilated. Seventy thousand prisoners were taken, including two commanding generals, 300 officers and the complete artillery of the Russian army."

The statement of the big German victory against the Russians attracted wide attention. Military observers pointed out that if the number of Russians taken prisoner had been estimated at 70,000 there must have been great losses, no mention of which is made. The statement conflicts to some extent with one issued by the French embassy, which speaks of the progress of the Russian offensive army.

London.—The Russian general staff frankly acknowledges a disastrous conflict with the Germans in which they lost two army corps and three generals.

### First Canadian Troops Sail.

Montreal.—The Princess Patricia Canadian light infantry, first troops from North America to leave for the European war, sailed, 1000 strong, aboard the White Star liner Megantic, amid gala scenes, for a secret destination.

## GERMAN CROWN PRINCE



Crown Prince Frederick Wilhelm, the Kaiser's eldest son, who commands one of the German armies invading France.

## BRIEF WAR NEWS

During the past week the whole force of the German army was thrown against the allied troops and a desperate effort made to break through the Franco-British lines. The offensive movements of the allies were abandoned and defensive strategy adopted in an effort to delay as much as possible what now seems to be an inevitable advance on Paris.

It is already realized that the terrible struggle on land is only at its beginning and that the German plan of campaign to strike the swiftest and strongest blow at France, regardless of Belgian neutrality or any other hindrance, and then, when France is at Germany's feet, for Germany to turn her attention to the Russian attack, is being carried through ruthlessly.

Little can be gathered from either British or French official accounts of the great battles of the last week. In fact, more is learned from what is omitted than from what is told. The only thing that is clear is that the allies are fighting on the defensive on

ever-receding lines. Both French and British are calling upon all their men to join in the defense of the French lines, which apparently are dropping back gradually.

Most significant is the official announcement by the French war office that the military governor of Paris has ordered all residents within the zone of action of the forts around Paris to evacuate and raze their houses within four days.

The Russian army in east Prussia and Galicia continues its march through east Prussia and confirms the statement it has invested Koenigsberg and taken Allenstein. Russian troops on the Austrian frontier are engaged in a general battle on a front of 156 miles between the Vistula and Lemberg, the capital of Galicia.

The steady advance of the vast Russian armies through eastern Prussia is giving concern to the German general staff. That the Kaiser's empire is really menaced by the hordes pouring into Prussia and Galicia is practically admitted by the military commanders if reports received from Amsterdam are true.

These reports declare that troops in great numbers are being withdrawn from the lines along the French frontier and are being rushed northward through Belgium. Messages declare that 150 train loads of Germans passed through Belgium. It is presumed that they are being hurried toward Prussia to meet the Russian advance.

News of a British victory in a sea battle off Heligoland, the German naval stronghold in the North sea, is confirmed. The Germans are reported to have lost two cruisers and two torpedo-boats sunk, while another of their cruisers and many of their destroyers were badly battered in a fight with British warships. This announcement comes from British official sources and the assertion is added that the British navy did not lose a vessel and that fatalities were two officers and 27 men killed, 19 men seriously injured and 19 others slightly wounded.

In oriental waters, the Japanese began the bombardment of the concession of Kiau-Chau, by firing on an unoccupied island. It is said the Japanese are experiencing difficulty in their land operations, owing to muddy roads following recent rains, and that the investment of the German possession may require some time.

Louvain, a Belgian town of 45,000 inhabitants and with many historic buildings, is reported to have been burned by the Germans as an act of reprisal, alleging Belgian citizens fired on German soldiers. The Belgians contended, however, that the people of Louvain did not commit the hostile act charged, but that it was the Germans themselves who fired on their fellow countrymen.

## KAISER MAKES PROTEST

**Japan Charged With Violating Chinese Neutrality.**

Pekin, Sept. 2.—The German legation has protested to the foreign office against an infringement of China's neutrality by Japan. The protest followed the landing of a Japanese division at the newly opened Chinese port of Lung-Kow, 100 miles north of Tsing-Tau.

News of the Japanese landing caused no surprise here, as the Japanese legation several days ago requested the foreign office to remove the limit of the 50 kilometers (about 30 miles) radius prescribed by the Chinese as the fighting area around Tsing-Tau.

The foreign office did not comply with the request, but it was understood that the Chinese troops would be instructed not to oppose the Japanese. The Chinese officials are described as incensed, but afraid of doing anything that might afford the Japanese a cause for territorial or other exactions.

Whether British forces will cross Shan-Tung with the Japanese is not divulged, but the point is much discussed here.

Washington, Sept. 2.—Chinese officials have called the attention of American Consular officers at Chee Foo to the landing of several thousand troops by Japan on Chinese territory at Lung-Kow, near Hual-Tsien. The Chinese officials assert, is a distinct violation of neutrality.

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