

BELGIANS DEFEAT GERMANS AT HACLEN

BATTLE RAGES ALL DAY WITH HEAVY LOSSES

Invading Army Forced Back and the Country Cleared of Germans—Losses Estimated at 2000—Germans in Belgian Luxembourg Reported Starving.

BRUSSELS, via London, Aug. 13, 3:05 p. m.—An official communique issued today confirms yesterday's success of the Belgian troops over the Germans at Haelen. It says the German casualties were very heavy, three-fifths of their troops engaged in the encounter being killed or wounded, while the Belgian casualties are reported as relatively small.

Chronicle a Defeat

PARIS, Aug. 13, 10:17 a. m.—An official communication published here today says:

"A division of Belgian cavalry supported by a brigade of infantry and by artillery engaged and defeated near the fortress of Diest, eighteen miles southeast of Louvain, a division of German cavalry, also supported by infantry and artillery.

"The fighting was extremely fierce and resulted in the Germans being thrown back toward Hasselt and St. Trond."

Battle of Haelen

BRUSSELS, via London, Aug. 13, 11:45 a. m.—The fighting yesterday between the Belgian and German armies in the vicinity of Diest lasted the entire day and constituted the first considerable battle of the war. It will be known as the battle of Haelen. Shells were still falling at 7:30 in the evening on the roads around Diest.

The battle centered around Haelen, in the Belgian province of Limbourg, extending to Diest, in the north of the province of Brabant, after passing round Zeelhem.

Heavy German Loss

At 7 o'clock last evening all the country between the three towns mentioned had been cleared of German troops except the dead and wounded, who were thickly strewn about the fire zone.

Upwards of 200 dead German soldiers were counted in a space of fifty yards square.

A church, a brewery and some houses in Haelen were set afire and two bridges over the Demer were destroyed by Belgian engineers.

Great quantities of booty were collected on the battlefield and this has

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FIRST STEAMER THROUGH CANAL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The first steamship to pass through the Panama canal—the Cristobal—made the trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific in eleven and one-half hours.

The return trip, however, was made in eight and one-half hours, which probably marks the average time that will be consumed by merchantmen when all of the machinery of the canal is in smooth operation. The Cristobal made this experimental voyage August 3 and 4, and at the time was drawing twenty-five feet of water.

Last Sunday, Governor Goethals, in recognition of their services, allowed a number of the old employees to traverse the canal from one ocean to the other on the steamer Advance, and it is reported that everything is in perfect order for the formal opening of the canal next Saturday, when the Ancon, sister ship to the Cristobal, belonging to the Panama Canal Railway company, and of 9000 tons, will make the official trial trip.

M. Freeman of Gold Hill is in the city today.

WAR DECLARED ON AUSTRIA BY GREAT BRITAIN

France Also Officially Declares Hostilities Against Dual Empire, Which is Held at Fault for Declaring War Upon Russia and France Without Provocation.

PARIS, Aug. 13, 1:20 p. m.—The official declaration of war by France on Austria-Hungary was made public here today.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—It is officially announced that a state of war has existed between Great Britain and Austria-Hungary since midnight. The British foreign office later issued the following statement:

"Diplomatic relations between France and Austria-Hungary being broken off, the French government requested his majesty's government to communicate to the Austria-Hungary ambassador in London the following declaration:

Same Upon Austria

"Having declared war on Serbia and thus taken the initiative in hostilities in Europe, the Austria-Hungarian government has placed itself without any provocation from France in a state of war with France, and after Germany had successively declared war against Russia and France, Austria-Hungary has interfered in the conflict by declaring war on Russia, who already was fighting on the side of France.

"According to information worthy of belief, Austria-Hungary has sent troops over the German frontier in such a manner as to constitute a direct menace against France. In face of these facts, the French government finds itself obliged to declare to the Austria-Hungarian government that it will take all measures permitted to it to reply to these acts and menaces."

State of War Exists

"In communicating this declaration, accordingly, to the Austria-Hungarian ambassador in London, his Britannic majesty's government has declared to his excellency that the rupture with France having been brought about in this way, it feels itself obliged to announce that a state of war exists between Great Britain and Austria-Hungary as from midnight."

WHEAT RALLIES AFTER DECLINE; CORN WOBBLER

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—Wheat rallied today after a decline due to exporters cancelling contracts and to assertions that British buyers were refusing to purchase except under conditions of payment that prevailed before the war. The recovery resulted from resting orders to take off offerings on any substantial break. It was said also that there was hope of arrangements at Washington whereby exporters would be able to collect payment more promptly for shipments sold by the British government. After opening 1/4 to 1/2 lower and suffering a slight further decline, the market rose above last night's level all around.

Corn swayed with wheat. Transactions were only in small lots. The opening, which ranged from 1/4 off to a like advance, was followed by a general setback and then a material upturn.

Steadiness ruled in oats. There was a fairly good miscellaneous trade, about evenly divided. Provisions showed a firm tone, influenced by an advance in the price of hogs. Selling became more plentiful, however, when the market made a slight bulge.



A BRITISH DREADNOUGHT FIRING HER AFT TURRET GUNS

RUSSIANS VICTORS IN SKIRMISHES IN RUSSIAN POLAND

ST. PETERSBURG, via London, Aug. 13, 4:50 a. m.—According to a semi-official dispatch the German troops before Kalisz, Russian Poland, have issued a proclamation stating that every tenth inhabitant of Kalisz will be shot, in the event of further resistance.

The Austrian garrison consisted of two infantry battalions, a regiment of lancers and a regiment of hussars. After dislodging them, the Russian cavalry pursued the Austrians across the river Bug and blew up two bridges and a viaduct.

Several houses in Sekat, which is forty-five miles northeast of Lemberg, were set on fire and burned by the Russian troops because civilians had fired from them on the attacking force.

A mass was celebrated today at the Russian ministry of finance in memory of M. Nokol, the city treasurer of Kalisz, said to have been shot by the German troops while at his post.

The Grand Duke Constantine Constantinovich has given the famous marble palace in St. Petersburg as a hospital.

PARIS, Aug. 13, 12:40 p. m.—The first German prisoners passed through Paris today on their way to Poitiers. The men were mostly Uhlans. The trains conveying them passed around the city on the belt railroad, so that few of the general public saw them.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS AS PASSED BY CENSORS

The first despatch direct from Berlin uncensored by the authorities of the nations at war with Germany was received today by the Associated Press through the medium of the Goldschmidt Wireless company's station at Tuckerton, N. J. The message contained the important information that during the fighting at Muelhausen considerably more than 1000 French officers and soldiers were taken prisoners by the Germans, who also captured four cannon, while in another fight with the French on the border of Lorraine, further to the north, the Germans also took 1000 prisoners. The despatch also adds that German soil has been cleared of French troops.

Developments in the war zone, which appears chiefly confined to Belgian territory are made vague owing to the strict censorship over news relating to military movements.

Positions occupied by the main French, Belgian and British forces are not permitted to be disclosed, even approximately, so that their plan of campaign cannot be assumed. As to the German forces, indications from various sources point to the concentration of the main body with its right wing in Belgium and its left wing in the Duchy of Luxembourg. The German staff is said to have gathered 26 army corps along the eastern frontier facing Belgium.

CENSORSHIP FOR ALL CABLE LINES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—It has been decided to impose the same censorship on French and English cables as is now imposed on German-owned wireless stations at Saville, L. I., and Tuckerton, N. J.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—Officials of the Commercial Cable company refused to believe that the government would extend its censorship to its lines.

"It is utterly incredible; I know of no authority in law for such action," said George Clapperton, traffic manager.

Another official of a large cable company said:

"If true, it is illegal. We'll fight it."

WAR PARALYZES MEXICO MINING

EL PASO, Tex., Aug. 13.—Further paralysis of the mining industry in the southwest and Mexico is threatened by the European war. The copper industry is said virtually to have been killed by the suspension of demand for crude metal in Europe.

Now the gold mining industry is threatened. This is due, mining men here said today, to the shortage of potassium cyanide, a necessary element in the extraction of gold. Practically the entire supply of this material comes from Germany.

BELGIUM APPEALS NEUTRAL POWERS AGAINST GERMANY

BRUSSELS, via Paris, Aug. 13, 1:25 p. m.—It is stated here today that the intervention of the neutral powers is to be asked for by the Belgian foreign minister, through their diplomatic representatives in the Belgian capital in reference to alleged reported violation by the German troops in Belgium of the Geneva and The Hague conventions.

M. Davignon, the Belgian foreign minister, has drawn up a long list of cases, declared to be fully attested, of the killing of the wounded, the abuse of the white flag, the killing of civilians and the seizure of private and public funds.

AMERICAN CONSULATE AT LIEGE ENDANGERED

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Minister Rand Whitlock at Brussels reported to the state department today that the United States consulate at Liege was exposed to fire and if the Germans decide to bombard the city it will be necessary to move it. As yet no damage has been done.

Reports from Lisbon say all Americans in Portugal have been concentrated at the capital, and that they so far have not suffered any want and have lodged no requests for assistance from the consul.

INCREASED COST OF FOOD STUFF TO BE PROBED

President Wilson Orders Investigation of Rapid Rise in Prices and Punishment of Those Implicated—All Federal District Attorneys Instructed to Proceed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—President Wilson today directed Attorney General McReynolds to investigate recent increases in prices of foodstuffs and to take up the question whether any persons responsible can be prosecuted.

The president sent the following letter to the attorney general:

"The rapid and unwarranted increase in the prices of foodstuffs in this country on the pretext of the conditions existing in Europe is so serious and vital a matter that I take the liberty of calling your attention to it.

Defend the Country

"I will be very much obliged if you would advise me whether there is under existing law any action which the department of justice could take, either by way of investigation or legal process, and what federal legislation, if any, would in your judgment be justifiable and warrantable in the circumstances."

"I feel that this is a matter which we cannot let pass by without trying to serve the country."

"Certainly the country ought to be defended, if possible, against men who would take advantage of such circumstances to increase the price of food and the difficulties of living. Faithfully yours,

(Signed) "WOODROW WILSON."

Increase Unwarranted

The president took up the question of increasing prices the first thing today and was impressed by the pressure of the situation. He at once decided that legal action should be taken, if possible, and that if there were no law covering the question, new legislation should be passed.

Officials said the president considered that in many cases the increases were wholly unjustifiable. When he returned from Mrs. Wilson's burial at Rome, Ga., resolutions already had been introduced in the house calling on the department

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KILLS WIFE UPON OPERATING TABLE

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 13.—Mrs. Tillie Rolfe, 29 years old, laid in the room adjoining the operating table at the Swedish hospital today, preparatory to an operation for appendicitis. John Rolfe, 40 years old, her husband, a wealthy farmer of Randolph, Kan., drove up to the hospital in a motor car.

"Oh, John, why don't you quit drinking?" Mrs. Rolfe said as he entered her room. Then the door closed.

Five minutes later five shots were heard. Three bullets had entered Mrs. Rolfe's body and Rolfe lay on the floor, a revolver grasped in his hands and two wounds in his head. He had shot his wife and himself. Both will die.

SIX VESSELS FOR REFUGEES CHARTERED

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Immediate charter of six vessels to go to Europe for Americans was agreed on today by Secretaries McAdoo, Garrison and Daniels and Assistant Secretary Phillips of the state department. They will carry eight thousand passengers at as reasonable rates of passage as possible.

GERMANS TAKE 2000 PRISONERS AT MUELHAUSER

First Wireless Direct From Germany Asserts German Victory in Alsace—German Soil Claimed Free of French Troops—Contrary Version Comes From Paris.

BERLIN, Aug. 13.—(By direct wireless from Nauen, Germany, to the Goldschmidt Wireless company's station at Tuckerton, N. J.)—The German troops took 1200 French officers and 1110 French soldiers prisoners in the fighting at Muelhausen, Alsace. They also captured four French cannon.

Another 1000 French officers and men were taken prisoners by the Germans in the fight near Longwy. German soil is now entirely cleared of French troops.

Hospitals Overflowing

LONDON, Aug. 13, 7:30 a. m.—A despatch to the Exchange News Telegraph company from Basel, Switzerland says:

"Following a terrible battle at Muelhausen the hospital facilities proved absolutely inadequate to care for the almost incredible number of wounded. Not only are all the hospitals filled, but schools, churches and hotels are occupied to their capacity. Even then it has been found necessary to charter special trains to convey the wounded to Mulheim and St. Ludwig and other towns."

"The latest estimates place the German losses at from 8000 to 10,000."

French Not Retreating

LONDON, Aug. 13, 12:15 p. m.—A despatch from the French foreign minister issued by the French embassy here today reiterates that the French troops behind Muelhausen, Alsace "have not retired but have victoriously resisted an entire German army corps."

The minister adds:

"The Belgian army and the forts around Liege are intact and are prepared to resist all attacks. There has been no important change in Lorraine and there is no truth in the report that the sixteenth regiment of French infantry was taken prisoners by the Germans at Briey, in the department of Meurthe-et-Moselle."

At the end of his communication the French minister says: "France is gratified by the attitude of America."

CARBAJAL OFF FOR VERA CRUZ

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 13.—Provisional President Carvajal left Mexico City on a special train early today for Vera Cruz. The city is quiet.

EL PASO, Texas, Aug. 13.—General Carranza arrived today at Tula, Hidalgo, less than 50 miles north of Mexico City, according to an official report received today by constitutionalist agents here. He was reported as having joined there his eastern and western zone chiefs preparatory to entering the national capital.

General Villa, the northern commander, meanwhile is visiting several points in the zone which his troops dominate. He did not arrive today at Juarez as was expected but left for a visit at Nieves, a town near Parral. It was announced officially that Villa would return north and soon would issue an important statement bearing on his relation with Carranza.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—House and senate conferees on the emergency shipping bill today reached a complete agreement, recommending to congress that foreign built vessels registered under the act be permitted to engage in the coastwise trade within two years from its passage.