

GERMANS AT BRUSSELS

BELGIANS' RETREAT FORCED OCCUPATION OF BRUSSELS BY Foe Imminent KAISER MAKES CHANGE IN PLAN OF Campaign

Burgomaster Orders Civic Guard to Disarm—Belgian Field Army, Confronted by Superior Numbers, Falls Back, Having Delayed Hostile Advance.

Opening Fought to North by Germans, Who Gain Ground on Both Banks of the Meuse and Are in Contact With the Allies—Antwerp Apparently Temporary Goal of Germans.

LONDON, Aug. 20, 7:50 p. m.—The correspondent at Ghent of the Exchange Telegram company has sent in a dispatch saying that troops of the allies have inflicted a defeat on the Germans who retired last night from Tienen with heavy losses.

LONDON, Aug. 20, 6:45 p. m.—A despatch to the Star from Brussels says the German occupation of Brussels is imminent.

The burgomaster of the Belgian capital has ordered the civic guard to disarm.

LONDON, Aug. 20, 5:33 p. m.—The following information was given out by the official bureau this afternoon:

"The Belgian field army, confronted by superior numbers, has fallen back.

"The Belgian troops have admirably performed their duty in delaying the hostile advance and enabling their allies to complete their concentration."

LONDON, Aug. 20, 4:20 p. m.—The almost complete absence of news from the theater of war today is the best evidence that big events are in progress which will test the real caliber of the battalions today engaged in the "new Waterloo" or the "new Sedan."

That the great German advance is being pushed with vigor and determination can be safely asserted, judging from the intelligence permitted to the outside world. On both banks of the Meuse the Germans are crowding southward toward the entrenched French army waiting to stem their progress toward Sedan and Paris.

The invaders already have reached a line between Dinant and Neufchateau, the latter point being less than 25 miles from Sedan as the crow flies. To the northward their advance troops have reached the River Dyle, near Malmes, almost midway between Brussels and Antwerp.

Before this northward rush the Belgian forces are retiring to Antwerp. In Brussels they call the retirement a strategic retreat.

Whether the movement is strategic or forced, the Germans have gained much ground in the direction of Brussels. Should they, however, take advantage of this tempting opening for a raid on the Belgians they may find the new retreating army swooping down upon them from behind.

"All is going well for our arms," continues to the tenor of official French dispatches concerning the situation in Alsace-Lorraine.

The official information bureau announced that communication with Brussels since early this morning has been disrupted.

PHILIPPINE BILL FAVORABLY REPORTED

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—The Jones bill for Philippine independence was favorably reported to the house today by the insular affairs committee. Representative Jones of Virginia, its author, announced his purpose to press it during the present session of congress.

BOXER UPRISING FEARED IN CHINA

PARIS, Aug. 20.—In the belief that those classes from whom the Boxers sprang might succeed in forming small groups which take advantage of the war to attempt once more to expel foreigners from China, the government instructed today the provincial authorities to afford foreigners all necessary protection. The press was at the same time warned against exciting the people by articles on the war, while discussions on the war are forbidden in public places. Further measures have been taken against the revolutionists, who have begun to renew their activities in several places.

WHERE THE ALLIES AND GERMAN FORCES ARE OPERATING.



MAP SHOWING POSITIONS OF CONTENDING FORCES IN BELGIUM AND ON THE FRENCH AND GERMAN FRONTIERS

MEUSE CROSSED BY GERMAN ARMY; FRENCH ADVANCING

LONDON, Aug. 20, 5:50 a. m.—An official communication statement issued at Paris last night states that German forces are crossing the Meuse between Liege and Namur. The statement continues: "The French army is making a rapid advance on the Sambre river and at the end of the day have reached Delm on one side of the river and Morhange on the other." A dispatch to the Times from Paris says that the first point at which the Germans crossed the French frontier was at Cirey-Sur-Vesouz. Since then there has been continued fighting in that region until a day or two ago when it ended in the victorious advance of the French forces, who inflicted a decisive defeat on the enemy and drove them back across the frontier east of Luneville.

ASSASSIN OF JUARES PROBABLY LUNATIC

PARIS, Aug. 19, 11:35 p. m.—Raoul Villain, the assassin of the French socialist leader, Jean Leon Juarez, denied at a preliminary hearing today that he had accomplices in the crime. He reiterated that Juarez had betrayed and wronged the country. Villain, slight of build and with his blond hair brushed back so that he looked like a student, told how he had sought the socialist leader after buying revolvers and said he would have shot him on the streets or wherever he found him. Extras announcing mobilization had incited him to anger and he declared that he spoke to no one of his intention. Villain will probably be submitted to a mental examination later.

WAR DRAWING NEAR BRUSSELS; HOSPITALS FILLED

BRUSSELS, Aug. 19, (Tuesday), via London, Aug. 20, 6:30 a. m.—The war evidently is rapidly drawing nearer this city. Already four hospitals are filled with wounded soldiers. German aeroplanes have been seen scouting above the city after sundown. German cavalry is reported frequently in the region on the farther side of the forest of Soignes, which flanks the city. This forest is the point from which the attack is most likely to come in the opinion of many here and a network of trenches has been thrown up along the woods. The trenches are occupied by burghers and a few civil guards. The forest of Soignes, southeast of Brussels extended in the direction of Wavre, where fighting has been reported. Trustworthy reports have been received of an engagement near Charleroi. It is asserted by Belgians that 6000 Germans were killed in this battle. The censorship here is now so strict that no news of the war is let out of the city except by courier.

FRENCH CABINET CONSIDERS PROBLEM

PARIS, Aug. 20, 10:30 a. m.—The problem of providing work for the large number of unemployed in France today occupied the cabinet council presided over by President Poincare at the palace of the Elysee. Louis Malvy, minister of the interior, reported that steps had been taken in collaboration with the local authorities and large employers to start work shops and labor yards. Arrangements are being made at the Bank of France to discount commercial paper freely and all the banks are doing their best to assist business interests.

GERMAN'S GAIN GROUND IN ADVANCE THROUGH BELGIUM

PARIS, Aug. 20, 11:40 a. m.—An official communication received here from Brussels says: "The Germans have gained ground on both banks of the River Meuse and are in contact with the armies of the allies. The enemy finding the routes to the southward strongly held by French and Belgians, discovered an opening to the north. This may entirely change the strategy on both sides. The Belgians, having held the invaders in check for 15 days, have done all that could be expected. Belgian strategy will now be merged into the general plan of the allied armies. The retrograde movement does not mean defeat."

BELGIAN PAPERS QUIT WAR NEWS

BRUSSELS, Aug. 20, (Tuesday) via London, Aug. 20, 6:30 a. m.—The Belgian papers, because of the rigid censorship, have ceased to be sources of war news. They are publishing chiefly local matters unconnected with the war. The mails also are being held up. An order has been just issued prohibiting the granting of further military passes to newspapers or others and without these it is impossible for correspondents to go outside the city. The populace does not appear unduly excited over the prospect of fighting in the streets. The crowds seem placid and the people are attending to their business as usual.

MUELHAUSEN RECAPTURED LIEGE DEFENSE ENABLED ALLIES TO CONCENTRATE

Belgian Resistance Has Perfected Mobilization of Powers—British Navy Safeguarding Trade Routes—German Fleet Cooped Up in Baltic or Confined to Harbors.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—The British embassy here today received from its foreign office a summary of the naval and military situation to date. Colville Barclay, the charge, sent a copy to Secretary Bryan. It follows:

"Since the declaration of war the fleet has been responsible for the safety of the expeditionary force which completed its disembarkation in France on August 18, which was effected in perfect order and without a casualty."

Work of the Navy

"The work of the navy in the Atlantic and elsewhere in safeguarding the trade routes is best exemplified by the fact that at Lloyd yesterday the war risk rate fell to 40 shillings per cent for almost any voyage of British vessels, whereas the rate to insure freight of corn, paid by the steamers from the United States to a British port, is 30 shillings per cent. The German fleet outside the Baltic is confined to harbors. English commerce is almost normal. German sea-borne commerce is paralyzed. The only casualty is the loss of the light cruiser Amphion, blown up by a mine after having sunk the German mine layer Koenigin Louise. One German submarine has been sunk in the North sea. The military position is as follows:

Military Position

"The German forces at present north of the neighborhood of Basle, through Liege to a point in Belgium to the east of Antwerp and near the Dutch frontier. Outstanding features of the operations up to the present has been delay caused to the German offensive across the Meuse by the defense of Liege, where the forts still are intact. It has permitted the orderly mobilization and concentration of the French army and the British expeditionary force. German troops have now crossed the Meuse both above and below Liege, and are gaining some ground slowly westward, but their advance cavalry has been continually checked by the Belgians. In the south where the German armies were apparently on the defensive, the French are advancing on a long line into Alsace and Lorraine, a great extent of which they now occupy after driving back in several engagements the troops opposed to them."

Military Position

"The German forces at present north of the neighborhood of Basle, through Liege to a point in Belgium to the east of Antwerp and near the Dutch frontier. Outstanding features of the operations up to the present has been delay caused to the German offensive across the Meuse by the defense of Liege, where the forts still are intact. It has permitted the orderly mobilization and concentration of the French army and the British expeditionary force. German troops have now crossed the Meuse both above and below Liege, and are gaining some ground slowly westward, but their advance cavalry has been continually checked by the Belgians. In the south where the German armies were apparently on the defensive, the French are advancing on a long line into Alsace and Lorraine, a great extent of which they now occupy after driving back in several engagements the troops opposed to them."

Heroic Defender

"Both sides were losing heavily when the retreat was sounded." "Major Gilson, whose nose had been broken by a bullet, took charge of the Belgian rear guard, which fought so stubbornly that only seven out of his force of 288 men returned. "When Major Gilson reached Ghent a friend suggested telegraphing to his father. At first he refused, remarking that his father would learn about his wound from the newspapers. Finally, however, he consented, saying: "I am at Ghent. No need to worry. Will quickly rejoin my regiment."

SERVIANS RECEIVE CONGRATULATIONS

LONDON, Aug. 20, 7:10 a. m.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of Reuters' Telegram company says that Grand Duke Nicholas, commanding the Russian army, has sent a letter to Prince Alexander of Servia, saying: "Having received news of the brilliant victory of the Servian army, I send on behalf of the pan-Slavic army, cordial congratulations in first victory which God has given us. The Russian army shouts to you a vigorous cheer in honor of the victorious Serbs."

ALSATIAN TOWN AGAIN TAKEN BY FRENCH FORCES

Hot Battle Rages at Aerschoot—Belgians Outnumbered, But Put Up Desperate Resistance—Fight Becomes Veritable Butchery—Eight Left Out 288 in One Company.

PARIS, Aug. 20, 3 p. m.—The re-occupation of Muelhausen, Alsace, by French troops is announced officially here today.

The recapture of Muelhausen was preceded by a very severe battle, during which the French troops took one of the suburbs at the point of the bayonet. They also took, as the result of their victory, six German cannon and six ammunition wagons. The official note says the situation in the Vosges mountains is unchanged. In upper Alsace the French have occupied Guebwiller, fourteen miles southwest of Colmar. In Lorraine, it is stated, the French lines extended from the north of Saarburg, passing by Morhange to Delme.

The situation in the Duchy of Luxembourg and in Belgium is unchanged.

Aerschoot Hot Battle

LONDON, Aug. 20, 5:10 p. m.—A dispatch from Reuters' News Agency from Ghent, Belgium, says:

"Yesterday's fighting at Aerschoot was extremely hot. The appearance of two German aviators was the first intimation that the Germans, who had been repulsed on the previous evening, intended to renew the attack. "Flying low, the German aviators surveyed the positions and then returned to report.

"Soon afterward the German infantry, supported by machine guns and artillery, opened a fierce attack. "The Belgians were outnumbered, but put up a desperate resistance. "The troops on both sides fought like demons and the battle soon became a veritable butchery.

"Two Belgian regiments which already had distinguished themselves in the forts of Liege, held the invaders in check for two hours. "Both sides were losing heavily when the retreat was sounded. "Major Gilson, whose nose had been broken by a bullet, took charge of the Belgian rear guard, which fought so stubbornly that only seven out of his force of 288 men returned. "When Major Gilson reached Ghent a friend suggested telegraphing to his father. At first he refused, remarking that his father would learn about his wound from the newspapers. Finally, however, he consented, saying: "I am at Ghent. No need to worry. Will quickly rejoin my regiment."

"The situation in the Duchy of Luxembourg and in Belgium is unchanged."

Heroic Defender

"Both sides were losing heavily when the retreat was sounded." "Major Gilson, whose nose had been broken by a bullet, took charge of the Belgian rear guard, which fought so stubbornly that only seven out of his force of 288 men returned. "When Major Gilson reached Ghent a friend suggested telegraphing to his father. At first he refused, remarking that his father would learn about his wound from the newspapers. Finally, however, he consented, saying: "I am at Ghent. No need to worry. Will quickly rejoin my regiment."

BELGIANS BEGIN BACKWARD MOVE

PARIS, Aug. 20, 10:15 a. m.—A portion of the Belgian army has begun to retire in the direction of Antwerp, according to an official announcement this morning concerning the situation in Belgium. East of Namur the Germans have attained the line between Dinant and Neufchateau. Large German forces continue to cross the river Meuse between Liege and Namur. German outposts have occupied Dyle. The retirement of the Belgians toward Antwerp was a result of the German movement.