BELGIAN LEGATION MAKES A STATEMENT.

Shows How Germany Violated the Neutrality of That Country.

The Belgian Legation has compiled the following statement of the Belgian case in the present European war, to answer the many inquiries that have been received on the subject.

"By the treaty of April 19th 1839, Prussia, France, England, Austria and Russia declared themselves guarantors of the treaty concluded on the same day between the King of the Belgians and the King of Netherlands. This treaty provides:

"Belgium forms an independent state of perpetual neutrality."

"That is to say, Belgium was forbidden, in case of war, to take the part of any of the belligerents.

"Since then Belgium has fulfilled all her neutrality obligations; she has acted in a spirit of meticulous impartiality. She has left nothing undone to maintain and make respected her neutrality. Germany's obligation to respect Belgian neutrality was even more emphatically affirmed by one of Germany's greatest men, by the creator of the Empire. Prince, then Count Bismarck, wrote in a letter to Baron Nathomb, Belgian Minister in Berlin on the 22nd of July, 1870, as follows:

"In confirmation of my verbal assurance, I have the honor to give in writing a declaration which, in view of the treaties in force, is quite superfluous, that the Confederation of the North and its allies will respect the neutrality of Belgium on the understanding, of course, that it is respected by the other belligerent.

(Signed) Von Bismarck.

"On August 2 last, in the course of the day, the German Minister in Brussels, M. De Below Saleske, gave an interview to the reporters of the newspaper 'Le Soir' and declared to them that Belgium had nothing to fear from Germany. He went so far as to employ this expression: "You will see, perhaps, your neighbor's house on fire but your house will remain intact,' The same day at seven o'clock in the evening, he communicated the following note to the Belgian Government:

"The German Government has received unimpeachable news to the effect that the French Forces have the intention of marching on the Meuse by Givet and Namur. This news leaves no doubt as to the intention of France to march upon Germany from Belgian territory.

The Imperial Government of Germany cannot help fearing that Belgium, in spite of the best of intentions, will not be in a position to repulse without help, and incursion by the French of such great magnitude. In this case it is sufficiently certain that Germany is seriously threatened. It is the urgent business of Germany to forstall this attack on the part of the enemy. The German Government would be filled with lively regret if Belgium were to regard as an act of hostility against her the fact that her precautionary measures oblige her to violate on her side Belgian territory.'

"In order to avoid the possibility of misunderstanding, the German Government made the following comment:

"1st: Germany contemplates no act of hostility toward Belgium. If Belgium consents to assume in the war which is about to commence the attitude of friendly neutrality towards Germany, the German government, on its side, engages, when peace is restored, to guarantee the integrity of the Kingdom and its possessions.

"2nd: Germany engages herself, on the aforsaid conditions, to evacuate Belgian territory as soon as peace is concluded.

"3rd: If Belgium observes a friendly attitude, Germany is ready to cooperate with the authorities of the government of Belgium, to buy for cash everything that is necessary for their troops, and to pay indemities for damage done in Belgium; but if Belgium behaves in a hostile manner against the troops, and in particular places difficulties in the way of their advance by opposition by the fortifications of Meuse, or by the destruction of roads, railways, tunnels or other works, Germany will be obliged to consider Belgium as an enemy.

"In that case Germany will enter into no argument with the Kingdom, but will allow the further relationship of the two states to be left to the decision of arms. The German government feels that it is justified in hoping that this individuality will not materialize, and that the Belgian government will know how to take appropriate measures to prevent its materialization. In that case the friendly relations which unite the two neighboring states will become closer and more lasting.

"Such is the German notes. It will be noticed that there is no question of the alleged entry of French aviators and officers into Belgium, as has been stated in several papers here. The document in fact knocks that document in the head. The only reason given for the violation of Belgian territory is the alleged intention of the French army to march upon Givet and Namur. This assertion issupported by no proof, and is denied by the French Government, which officially declared to Belgium and England its intention of not violating Belgian territory. On the contrary, the premeditated intention of Germany to violate Belgian neutrality is proved in the most irrefutable way, namely: by the affirmation of the German Secretary of State, himself, and by that of the German Chancellor.

"To the request of Sir William Goschen, the English Ambassador in Berlin, to be allowed to know if Germany would pledge herself to respect the neutrality of Belgium, the German Secretary of State replied that 'this neutrality had already been violated by Germany'. Herr von Jagow went again into the reacons why the Imperial Government had been obliged to take this step, namely,, that they had to advance into France by the quickest and easiest way so as to be able to get well ahead with their operations and endeavor to strike some decisive blow as early as possible. It was a matter of life and death to them, for if they had gone by the more southern route, they could not have hoped, in view of the paucity of the roads and the strength of the fortresses, to have got through without formidable opposition entailing great loss of time. This loss of time would mean time gained by the Russians for the bringing up of their troops to the German frontier. Rapidity of action was the great German asset, while that of Russia was the inexhaustible supply of troops. (Official report of the British Ambassador in Berlin to the British Government.)

"This conversation preceded by a few minutes that in which the German Chancellor, giddy at the sight of the abyss into which Germany was falling, uttered these celebrated words: "Just for a word neutrality, a word which in war times has been so often disregarded, 'Just for a scrap of paper, Great Britian is going to make war on a kindred nation. At what price would that compact (Neutrality) have been kept? Has the British Government thought of that? Sir William Goschen replied, that fear of consequences would hardly be regarded as an excuse for breaking a solemn engagement. (Official report of the British Ambassador in Berlin to his Government.)

"It is very clear from these documents that Germany had for a long time premeditated the violation of the neutrality of Belgium and that she has even reconciled herself to the terrible danger of war with Great Britain, rather than renounce the advantages she thought she would gain by not respecting the treaty. In the face of these confessions the allegations that France wished to violate the neutrality of Belgium an alligation supported by no proof falls to the ground.

"To continue the analysis of the German Notes, one reads: "If Belgium consents to assume in the war which is about to commence, the attitude of friendly neutrality towards Germany, the German Government, on its side, engages, when peace is restored, to guarantee the integrity of the Kingdom and its possessions.

"Could Belgiam, without being false to her duties of neutrality, take up the position which the German Government calls friendly neutrality? That is to say, could she allow the German armies to pass without opposition through her territory? Can the German government itself answer that question?

"It is enough to re-read the conversation given above between the British Ambassador and the German Secretary of State to come to a clear conclusion in that respect. If the violation of Belgian territory was to procure no signal an advantage to Germany that she had no fear of bringing on war with England to attain it; then for Belgium to lend herself to the passage of German troops must have ment the certainty of fatal consequences for France. Thus for Belgium to have yielded to the German ultimatum would ipso fasto have conferred a considerable advantage to Germany to the detriment of the other beligerents and would have constituted a breach of neutrality.

"Germany concludes her notes by threats. She engages on the conditions already defined, to evacuate Belgian territory at the conclusion of peace. If Belgaim behaves in a hostile manner, (that is to say if she does her duty) Germany will be obliged to consider Belgium as an enemy. She would then leave the ultimate arrangements of the relation of the two states to the decision of arms—in other words, if Belgium does not agree to violate the treaty, Germany will treat her as an enemy and adds a veiled threat of annexing a part of the whole of her territory.

"The moral fibre of nations is not always measured by their size or power, Belgium is small and weak, but her answer bears witness to her love of justice and to her respect of right. She would rather die with honor than to live with dishonor.

Poysky for Surveyor.

Only a few offices of the county will be contested at the election to be held next month. In many instances, there will be but one candidate. Of the offices that will be contested, that of county surveyor deserves particular attention. G. J. Poysky, independent candidate, is admirably fitted for the office he seeks. He is a graduate of the engineering department of the University of Oregon, of the class of 1910. He has had four years of successful practical experience in road and bridge building and townsite platting.

Under new laws, now in effect, a far greater degree of skill and knowledge are required of the county surveyor than in former years. Whereas, formerly, the surveyor merely ran a line to determine the location of the road, and the county employed the teams and men necessary to do the work, now each stretch of road must be accurately planned before any work is done. The amount of work to be done must be carefully estimated. Cross sections and profiles must be prepared and each step must be carefully outlined in the specifications. Several counties in the state have recently employed railroad engineers to assist the county surveyors in locating roads in accordance with the statute.

Mr. Poysky is qualified to handle the office of county surveyor without outside assistance. He has assisted in the planning and supervision of many of the permanent roads and bridges constructed in this county in the past three and a half years, among them the Netarts road, the Hebo Cloverdale road, the Hobsonville grade, and the bridges at Beaver, Killam Creek and the bridge under construction at Thompson creek.

As engineer for Diking District No. 1, of Cowlitz County, Washington, Mr. Poysky designed dikes, buildings and machinery to reclaim 3,000 acres of overflow land. This project is now under way and will cost, when completed, $100,000.

A vote for G. J. Poysky is a vote for a man who is qualified.

Information furnished by E. J. Claussen, Tillamook, Oregon.

Pa id Advertisement.

Democratic Fight on Hawley.

Oregonian.

Representative Hawley, of the First Oregon District, has a record for diligent attendance upon the sessions of Congress and for strict devotion to duty not exceeded by any other member. Yet an industrious effort is being made now to show that Hawley is negligent or inefficient, or something of that sort, and that his Democratic opponent, a Mr. Hollister, of Coos Bay, should be elected in his place.

If the value of a Congressman is to be tested by the amount of appropriations for his district, Coos Bay, the home of Hawley's Democratic opponent, ought to be satisfied. The record shows that the average annual Federal appropriation for improvements on the harbor and its tributaries has been more than double the amount secured by any of Mr. Hawley's predecessors. It would appear that Coos Bay ought to appreciate diligent service for its own particular projects and for the larger matters in which Mr. Hawley has born an honorable and highly useful part. He has represented all parts of his district faithfully and well, and he has acquired a position of no small prominence by his eight years in Congress.

The real motive of the attempt to unseat Mr. Hawley and to elect Mr. Hollister is that Hawley is a Republican and Hollister a Democrat. That is all. If the voters of the First District desire to endorse the present Democratic Congress they will vote for Hollister; otherwise, for Hawley.

W. C. Hawley, Congressman.

Pittsburgh has sent the allies six million horseshoes. It is evidently not altogether an automobile war.

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