

# JAPAN SENDS ULTIMATUM TO GERMANY

**Demands the Withdrawal of the Kaiser's Warships From the Orient Within Week's Time—Otherwise Japs Will Act.**

## SEA MOVES DISLIKED BY BRITISH

**Reports of Impending American Taking Over of German Ships Causes Some Worry in London—Whole Armies Are Facing Each Other, Frontier Forces of France and Germany Form Line of Hundreds of Miles in Length.**

Tokio.—Japan has sent an ultimatum to Germany demanding the withdrawal of German warships from the orient and the evacuation of Kiau-Chau and giving Germany until Sunday, August 23, to comply with the demand. Otherwise, the ultimatum states, Japan will take action.

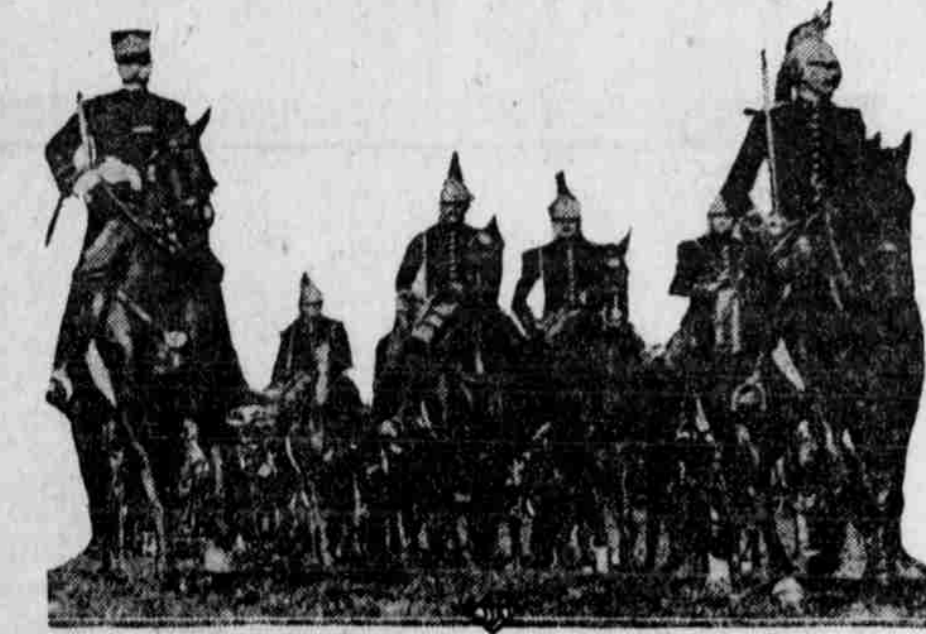
The general expectation here is that the ultimatum will be followed by war.

Takaki Kato, the Japanese foreign minister, simultaneously with the dispatch of the ultimatum, conferred with George W. Guthrie, the American ambassador, and made to him a broad statement calculated to assure the United States that American interests in the far east would be safeguarded and the integrity of China upheld.

Owing to doubts whether communications with Berlin were assured, Japan, in order to insure the arrival of the ultimatum, forwarded it to Berlin by six channels, including Washington, London and Stockholm. The government also notified Count von Rex, German ambassador to Japan, and likewise retarded the time limit for a reply until August 23.

**May Supply Teutons.**  
London.—Reports of impending American acquisition of part of the great German merchant fleets caused uneasiness here. Unquestionably such a development would carry possibilities of arousing irritation in this country and probably among all the allies.

## FRENCH CAVALRY ON THE MARCH



at a great fleet of American ships, the problem of Germany's obtaining food is largely solved, for ships flying the American flag would have the liberty of the high seas and could enter the North sea German ports and certainly in the aspect of affairs could ply the Adriatic with complete freedom.

**Food Problem Serious.**  
For England, the food problem is more serious even than for Germany, but England does not even consider possible a German victory on the seas. If American legislation makes possible the purchase of German ships in New York and the sales are made, there is certain to be some criticism here, probably starting with the charge that Yankees cannot resist the appeal of the dollar, and being augmented with the insinuation that the transfer is merely a German subterfuge.

So far the attitude of President Wilson has met with the cordial approval of English public opinion. England feels that America is behind it in sympathy. But for German ships, transferred to the American fleet, to begin carrying food to Germany would surely create a painful impression

**French General Popular Hero.**  
Paris.—General Jose Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French army, is a popular hero. He has traveled thousands of miles in his motor car, driven by George Bolliot, three times winner of the French grand prix in racing contests, since army mobilization and actual fighting began.

Hundreds of German military prisoners passed through a Paris suburb on their way to Poitiers.

General Joffre is enabled to cover many miles along the front, and has inspired his men by his presence.

ment of Japan that an ultimatum had been addressed to Germany requesting the latter's withdrawal from her field of activity in China.

At the same time he communicated the assurances of Japan to the United States that the utmost endeavor would be made to guard the interests of this country and all others not immediately concerned in the present operations.

The United States, it became known after Baron Chinda's call on Mr. Bryan, does not intend to be drawn in any way into the controversy, regarding it as a matter purely between Germany and Japan. The American government considers satisfactory the promise of Japan

while flour particularly has taken a great jump in price, wheat exports are practically nothing and millions of bushels are piled up in elevators or in freight cars strung across the continent.

Secretary Redfield wrote Chairman Adamson of the peace conference committee suggesting an appropriation of \$30,000 for his part of the investigation.

**Wilson's Statement.**  
The president sent the following signed letter to the attorney general: "The rapid and unwarrantable increase in the prices of foodstuff in this country on the pretext of the conditions existing in Europe, is so serious and vital a matter, that I

## WHERE GERMAN BOMBS KILLED FIFTEEN



Scene in Luneville, France, where a Zepplin airship dropped bombs, killing fifteen persons. In the photograph the inhabitants are watching the flight of a dirigible over the city.

of "eventual restoration to China of the territory of Kiau-Chau.

Baron Chinda's conference with the secretary of state was held at Mr. Bryan's residence. The ambassador presented a communication from the foreign office at Tokio, which embodies the substance of the ultimatum, and added a strong statement concerning Japan's purpose of maintaining the territorial integrity of the Chinese republic by restoring to her the territory of Kiau-Chau, originally taken from China by Germany as an act of reprisal for the killing of German missionaries.

While the statement made no direct reference to the United States, it gave assurance in general that the interests of all powers interested in maintaining the territorial status quo in the far east would be protected to the utmost.

It developed as a result of the conference that Japan had no assurance up to the present time that its ultimatum had been delivered to Germany, owing to the cable difficulties with that country. In order to make certain of its delivery a copy of the ultimatum will be communicated to Berlin through the channels of the American government.

## U. S. to Probe Food Prices.

Washington.—President Wilson has set the machinery of the federal government in motion to determine whether the cost of living is being increased upon the pretext of the conditions existing in Europe. He called upon Attorney General McReynolds to report if criminal proceedings were warranted, and if any new laws were necessary. The president may send a special message to congress in the latter event.

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

Attorney General McReynolds at once set at work the bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice with hundreds of agents throughout the country. Agents of the Department of Commerce were started on the inquiry and Secretary Redfield of the Department of Agriculture.

**Millions of Bushels Piled Up.**  
Congressmen, who have already introduced resolutions to investigate the rise in prices and others who are preparing similar measures, viewed the action of the administration with satisfaction. They pointed out that

## Guarantees Against Discount Loss.

London.—With the purpose of terminating the present deadlock in the money market and to enable trade and commerce to resume their normal courses the government has agreed to guarantee the Bank of England any loss it may incur in discounting bills of exchange either foreign or home banks, trade accepted prior to August 4.

The Bank of England, therefore, announces that it is prepared on the application of the owners of any approved bill of exchange accepted be-

take the liberty of calling your attention to it.

"I would 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."

## Blockade Would Cheaper Food.

Minneapolis, Minn.—The price of wheat, flour and bread of the American people depends entirely on whether or not a great naval battle between European powers makes for freedom of American export trade, said J. S. Bell, president of the Washburn-Crosby Flour Milling company.

"If wheat and flour can be exported to Great Britain and France," said Bell "I do not believe flour would advance materially, for such freedom has been anticipated.

"Flour is selling at \$6 a barrel in the wood in 1,000-barrel lots. That is 10 cents below last week's price, which was the highest since August, 1912.

"If exportation becomes impossible, the price of wheat and flour should drop. The supply would be greater than the demand."

"The American shipper wants a credit by foreign buyers which will insure payment for goods shipped, whether captured or not.

## English and French Forces Join.

London.—The much debated question, "Where are the British troops in Belgium?" was particularly answered when a dispatch from the Havas agency in Paris announced that Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the English forces, had joined, on the field, General Joseph Joffre, the French commander-in-chief.

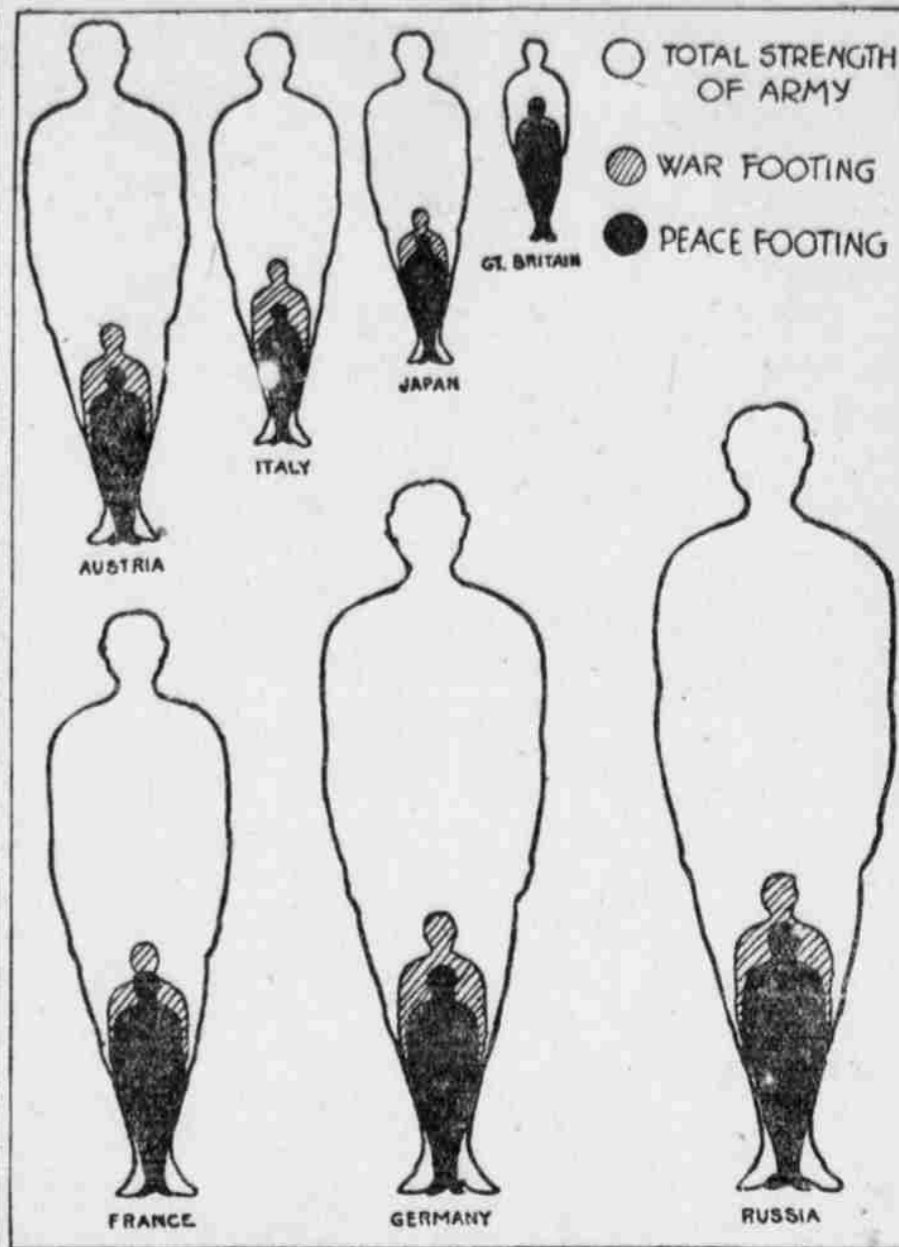
The name of the place where the two leaders met was eluded by the censor, but presumably it is somewhere east of the center of Belgium.

Further news from the agency, dated Brussels, says there was a fresh engagement between 900 Germans and Belgians at Geet-Betz, a short distance south of Haelen, where a German force was said to have been beaten back.

here that date, to discount it at any time before its due date at the bank rate and without recourse to such holder and upon the bill maturing the bank will give the acceptor the opportunity of postponing payment with interest at 2 per cent. over the bank rate.

Shanghai.—The Japanese steamer Shikoku Maru was seriously damaged and one of its crew killed by a cannon shot fired from the British fort at Kong Kong while the vessel was entering the harbor.

## ARMIES OF POWERS COMPARED



## REAL BATTLE CAPABILITIES OF THE ARMIES OF EUROPE

"Do you know that the contending armies in Europe today are battling upon their peace time footings?" asked a colonel on the general staff of the United States army. "And don't forget that the nation that gets its fighting force up to its full war strength first will gain a material advantage in the present turmoil."

This means that any hasty deductions made upon the basis of fights won and lost up to date may soon prove absolutely misleading.

The question then arises: Which of the struggling armies can reach its war strength soonest, and, with that attained, what are its chances for maintaining that standing in the grueling days to come? The answer is a matter of administrative efficiency first, and then, follows naturally the relative merits of the reserve material upon which the nation can draw as battle after battle and disease thin the ranks of those in the field. At present the Germans are virtually fighting alone four other nations, but their initial setbacks are not properly a true index of what is to come in the near future.

**Some Figures.**  
As it is necessary to deal with figures it is just as well to begin now as later. These figures, interpreted in the light of additional information have another meaning, one that comes closer to the facts inspiring the aggressive policy assumed by the Kaiser in face of seemingly appalling odds. According to authoritative information the peace and the war footing of the powers named are as follows:

	Peace.	War.	Reserves.	Total.
Russia	771,152	1,973,287	2,400,000	6,400,000
Germany	585,565	844,983	2,000,000	3,444,983
France	535,570	700,740	3,250,000	3,850,740
Austria	348,353	628,624	2,500,000	3,020,524
Italy	211,204	371,496	1,500,000	1,871,496
England	295,625	223,898	215,000	438,698
Japan	182,503	364,300	1,000,000	1,254,500

As between France and Germany apart from the latter's superior war footing, the total of the fully trained reserves in the Fatherland would be the most potent factor in a prolonged struggle and also the justification for a vigorous initiative despite early heavy losses. Both Germany and France have in the last two years increased the period of service from two to three years. In France this lengthening of the term with the colors aroused a great deal of opposition, not to say discontent.

Immediately back of these soldiers are the first reserves, men who but recently have finished their full tours of active service and of course are familiar with the latest practices. Now look at the foregoing figures. Germany's peace footing is only 29,895 men stronger than that of France, but upon the first call to arms this moderate superiority immediately jumps to the greater figure of 144,203, giving the Kaiser an advantage of nearly 21 per cent. But this is only the beginning of the difference.

Germany's total reserve of fully trained reserves—men trained with peculiar thoroughness—is today quite 5,000,000, while the admittedly less extensively drilled reserves of France number but 3,250,000 rank and file. Here, as can plainly be seen, the Fatherland leads by 1,750,000—two and a half times the war footing of France, while still having in reserve as many as France would have at best.

Setting aside the question of the relative military value of the training of the German and the French soldiers, those of France carry a magazine rifle of eight millimeters caliber and the German infantrymen repeat-

ers having a caliber of 7.8 millimeters. Assuming the same propulsive charge, the German gun will carry further and travel flatter than the French weapon, making for better marksmanship at all ranges.

Again, the French rifle is heavier than the German, increasing to that extent the stress upon the man who has to carry it on long marches. The soldiers of both nations carry the same number of cartridges, 120. But the saving in weight in the German musket is offset by other weights he has to carry. Fully equipped the French foot soldier has a total burden of 54.58 pounds, while the German infantryman has to bear 58.75 pounds. As a broad proposition the average German is a sturdier man than his French rival, and this greater tax is wisely laid upon him.

**French Equipment.**  
In the French army each company of infantry has the following portable tools: Eight shovels, four pickaxes (double headed), three axes, one folding saw and a pair of wire nippers. The German foot soldier on the other hand does not get off so easily, because each company has to carry 100 small spades, ten pickaxes and five hatchets. Now what does this mean? Simply that the Kaiser's infantrymen are able to entrench themselves quicker than their French rivals, and for that reason could hold an advanced position more securely and guard themselves against attack while there better than the soldiers of the tricolor.

Now let us see what Russia represents as a foe to Germany on the Fatherland's northern border. Unquestionably the czar's army is superior to the Kaiser's in mere point of numbers in peace, in war and in the total available reserves, and so far as personal bravery goes the Russian soldier is unsurpassed. But battles are not won these days by just numbers; training and handling of the men are of supreme importance.

Broadly speaking, it is doubtful if the Russian forces are any better trained than they were when they measured strength with the Japanese in 1904-05. The infantry are armed with magazine rifles of 7.62 millimeter caliber, and as marksmen they are nothing like the equals of the Germans.

## How They Compare.

Russia is measurably superior to Germany in the matter of infantry, cavalry and artillery in the form of field guns, and Germany, in turn, leads France in the vital feature of artillery. Artillery has played a prime part in all great wars, and the popular idea is that it is upon these guns that the tide of battle turns. In a measure this is so, for the field pieces have to protect or support the infantry; but with this done, the decisive outcome of an action depends upon the conduct and gallantry of the foot soldier, for he constitutes the backbone of any military force.

As a matter of history, the French have led in field ordnance ever since the Franco-Prussian war. The French were the first to adopt the long recoil which made it possible to use higher propulsion charges and to secure better practice against the target, and to them, too, is owed the introduction of the spade upon the trail by which the recoil of the carriage could be checked, thus making it possible for the gun pointer to hold his position and to fire deliberately and rapidly. To the French, also, the world is indebted for the higher development of the shrapnel shell with its withering blast of leaden bullets.