

ITALY STANDS FIRM

WILL NOT ABANDON NEUTRALITY FOR PROMISES.

VITAL INTERESTS AT STAKE

No Clause in Triple-Alliance Treaty Required Country to Go to Aid of Teuton.

Rome, Oct. 19.—Marquis Di San Giuliano's death has caused profound grief throughout Italy, for his ability as a statesman and his sacrifice for his country were appreciated. Whoever succeeds him as minister of foreign affairs, the general impression is that Italy's policy will not be changed.

An Italian statesman has made the following statement:

"Italy stands on a rock basis constituted by her right, her reputation before the world and her vital interests. It is known that neutrality was proclaimed because no clause in the triple-alliance treaty required Italy to assist Germany and Austria in the present war.

"This neutrality will not be abandoned for advantageous promises coming from either side, since it would be dishonorable to sell our participation in the conflict as did the armed hands in the middle ages. Besides, the country would not stand aggression against France, which now has her Italian frontier entirely protected, nor against Austria, without serious reason.

"This does not mean that Italy is not arming or will not eventually join in the war if circumstances arise endangering some of her most vital interests. That was the policy pursued by Minister Di San Giuliano, and the same policy will be followed by his successor."

Kaiser's Navy May Attack British.

London, Oct. 19.—Admiral Von Tirpitz, German minister of the navy, is at Antwerp, where, it is assumed, he arrived soon after the fall of the fortress, according to the Amsterdam correspondent of Reuters Telegram company.

A dispatch from Rome on October 9 said that, according to German newspapers received at the Italian capital, the war against Great Britain would begin late in October, after the fall of Antwerp, when Belgium would become the base of operations against England.

The correspondent also credited the German press with the announcement that Admiral Von Tirpitz had stated that he would be aboard the flagship of the German fleet and direct the operations of the navy. Rumors of German naval activity near the British channel are given color by the report that the four German destroyers sunk by the British cruiser Undaunted were engaged near the mouth of the Scheldt, which is the outlet of the port of Antwerp.

Germans Nearing Dunkirk.

London, Oct. 19.—That the German army is between Furnes, in Belgium, and Dunkirk, in France, and nearing the latter place, which is on the English channel, less than fifty miles from the coast of Dover, is reported in a Rotterdam dispatch from a German source to the Daily Mail under date of Sunday night.

"Heavy firing has been heard at Dunkirk since 8 o'clock this morning. Severe fighting is taking place. It is supposed that destroyers or gun boats are being used in the canals."

Want Belgians to Return.

The Hague, Oct. 19.—(Via London)—The burgomasters in the leading Dutch towns have issued proclamations announcing that the German government has granted permission for all Belgian refugees to return to their homes in Antwerp or other parts of Belgium. The only reservation is that men liable for military service will be considered prisoners of war if they return.

Earthquake in Greece.

Paris, Oct. 19.—Great damage was done by the earthquake Saturday, the villages of Kaparelli and Pyri, near Thebes, being destroyed, according to a dispatch from Athens. The Greek province of Boetia suffered most. Twenty distinct shocks were felt there. The number of casualties is not known. Provisions and tents are being hurried for those who have lost their homes.

House Has Concrete Roof.

London.—The police have found at Willesden, a suburb to the northwest of London, a building occupied by Germans, with foundations and roof of heavy concrete.

New Leprosy Remedy.

Washington, D. C.—A new treatment for leprosy, which is being developed by the public health service and of which chaulmoogra oil, a tropical product, is the basic element, is proving to be more efficacious than any other medicine.

German Spy Among Belgian Refugees.

Dover.—A German spy, in a Belgian uniform and with a Red Cross badge in his possession, was arrested among the Belgian refugees. He was taken to Dover castle.

BERLIN WOMEN FEEDING CHILDREN OF SOLDIERS



Scene in Berlin showing the children of men who are fighting for the fatherland, being fed by the Berliner Frauen Unterstuetzungs Verein (Berlin Ladies' Relief society).

STEADY SWEEP OF GERMAN ADVANCE STILL UNCHECKED

Shortened Battle Front Is a Distinct Advantage to the Invading Forces.

OSTEND AND BRUGES TAKEN

Expectation Is That the Original March on Paris Will Be Resumed—British Cruiser Hawke, With 330 of Her Crew, Sunk by Kaiser's Submarine—General News Gathered From Various Sources.

London, Oct. 17.—A Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam says it is officially announced in Berlin that Ostend was occupied by German troops on Thursday, and Bruges on Wednesday.

The war situation on the northern frontier of France is viewed with increased apprehension in well informed circles in Bordeaux. It is feared that the Germans will extend their sweep of the north coast to Dunkirk, and even to Calais and Dover.

With its battle line from the German frontier to the English channel thus shortened the German front will gain weight.

As the French army has been unequal to the task of turning the Germans' flank when thinly extended, it is now feared that the entire German line will advance successfully on Paris.

Allies Are Near Metz.

The steady hammering of the allies on the German left wing of the French battle front has brought them almost within twelve miles of the forts at Metz. In spite of this menace part of the German crown prince's army hangs on doggedly to the positions it has taken on the Meuse near St. Mihiel.

Threaten Crown Prince's Rear.

The French are in possession of the route from Nancy to Metz as far as Pagny, on the Lorraine border, and menace the route from Verdun to Metz in the neighborhood of Etain, endangering communications of the crown prince's army with the German fortified camp.

Alsace also continues to be the scene of daily struggles for the possession of points of vantage, the result of which it is difficult to ascertain, as fortunes change so rapidly. Towns are taken and retaken repeatedly. The heavy fighting in the southern end of the battle line indicates that the Germans are gaining.

Announcement of the taking of between four and five thousand prisoners, 500 guns and a large amount of supplies near Antwerp and the repulse of a French assault near Albert, was made by the Berlin foreign office to the German embassy at Washington.

Claim Germans Fall Back.

Fighting is in progress along a battle line extending from Ypres, in northwestern Belgium, to the sea, according to the official French statement issued in Paris.

Although the Germans have lost ground along the Albert-Arras-Estaires-Ypres line, their retirement has not developed into a retreat. The invaders have fallen back into strong positions. The allies seem to be on the offensive all along the mighty battle line with the exception of the center, where the German lines are too strong to be taken by storm. On the eastern end of the line fighting of furious character is in progress, especially in the vicinity of Verdun.

French War Statement.

Paris, Oct. 16.—The following official communication was issued here this evening:

"On the left wing the action continues vigorously. Everywhere we have held our own. At certain points we have gained ground and have occupied Laventie at the east of Estaires, in the direction of Lille.

"There is no important incident to mention on the other parts of the front except an unsuccessful attack by the Germans in the region of Melancourt, northwest of Verdun."

A previous bulletin said:

"The progress indicated in the communication of yesterday has been confirmed."

"On our left wing the field of action of the allied forces extends at the present time from the region of Ypres to the sea."

Berlin Denies Allies Win.

Berlin (via Amsterdam), Oct. 16.—The war office issued the following official statement:

"In France there is heavy fighting east of Soissons and the Argonne. The French have continued to make attacks on our positions near St. Mihiel, but have been repulsed. The Germans have lost ground at no point, despite the official reports issued in Paris as to French successes. The emperor's headquarters have been moved farther into France."

Antwerp Losses Denied.

Bordeaux, Oct. 16.—High officials deny the correctness of the German official account of the capture of Antwerp. They declare the garrison never left in flight nor retreat and say that it merely carried out a necessary operation.

It is also denied that the Germans captured many prisoners. They lost many men by the sorties of the garrison until the heavy siege artillery made any further heroism useless.

The stores of grain had previously been distributed to the poor. The only war material captured were two howitzers of date of 1864 and half a dozen field guns which had been made useless.

GERMANS BEFORE WARSAW

Both Sides Claim to Have Gained Advantages, but Little Really Is Known.

London, Oct. 16.—The Germans are before Warsaw. Fighting has taken place only eight miles from that city. While their advance to the Niemen was a failure, the forces of Emperor William apparently have retrieved some defeats of the Austrians in Galicia and have advanced as far as Jaroslau, 17 miles northwest of Przemysl.

The German plan seems to be to have two armies advance along the left bank of the Vistula river while two other armies swing around on the right bank to take the defenders of Warsaw on their flank. This, according to Russian accounts, suits the Russian general staff, who are said purposely to have withdrawn to the Vistula so that they would have the railways at their back while the Austro-German forces would have to advance great distances on roads which at this time of the year are little more than quagmires.

Both sides claim to have gained advantages in the preliminary fighting, but these victories and defeats can have little effect on the general result of the battle in which it is estimated nearly 5,000,000 men are engaged. The Russians, it is said, have 2,500,000 men and the Austro-German force is declared to total nearly 2,000,000. The armies cover a front of nearly 300 miles.

The battle on the East Prussian frontier has ceased. The two armies are facing each other across the border, both doubtless being satisfied to remain where they are until the chief battle in Poland is decided.

CRUISER SENT TO BOTTOM

German Submarine by Use of Torpedo Sinks British Warship Hawke—330 Lives Lost.

London, Oct. 17.—A German torpedo boat sank the British cruiser Hawke, 330 men, the British admiralty officially announced. The cruiser Hawke was struck by a torpedo from a German submarine and sunk in the northern waters of the North sea. The cruiser Theseus was attacked, but the torpedo missed its mark.

The press bureau issued a list of 71 survivors of the 400 officers and men on the Hawke, and it is hoped that the loss of life may prove lighter. Lieutenant Commander Rosaman and 20 men were picked up from a raft

and 50 of the crew were landed at Aberdeen.

It is believed the disaster occurred not far from that part of the Scottish coast, although the admiralty report gives no time or definite location of the catastrophe.

British patrol ships located a German submarine off the east coast of Holland and sunk her.

The Hawke was commanded by Capt. P. E. T. Williams, and he and the chief officers of the cruiser are believed to be lost.

The Hawke was a cruiser of 7,350 tons, 360 feet long and of 60 feet beam and drew 23 feet of water. She was launched in 1891. Her armament consisted of two 9.2 inch guns, ten six-inch guns, 12 six-pounders, five three-pounders, two machine guns and two torpedo tubes.

PORTUGAL MAY ENTER WAR

Little Nation, It Is Said, Is Preparing to Line Up With the Allies—General News.

London, Oct. 16.—Dispatches from Lisbon and Madrid indicate that before many days a tenth nation, Portugal, will have become involved in the European war.

Her treaty with England will line up the new republic, if she goes to war, among the foes of Germany, increasing the number of allies to eight. The treaty obliges Portugal to furnish 100,000 troops to England when called upon.

A Reuter dispatch from Lisbon declares mobilization will be ordered tomorrow and that martial law has been declared in the Portuguese Congo, probably in fear of an uprising similar to that in South Africa among the British colonists.

One report from Madrid states Portugal already has declared war on Germany. This is denied in the Reuter dispatch.

Germans Rout French Cavalry.

London, Oct. 14.—A dispatch to Reuter's Telegraph company from Berlin, by way of Amsterdam, gives the following statement issued by the German general staff: "Our cavalry completely routed a French cavalry division west of Lille and near Hazebrouck we inflicted severe losses on another French cavalry division. Until now the engagements on the front in the western theater did not lead to a decision."

"About the booty at Antwerp no reports can be made."

Boer Leaders Are Loyal.

Cape Town, South Africa, Oct. 16.—The government is receiving numerous pledges of support from Boer leaders in the crisis caused by the rebellion of the troops commanded by Colonel Maritz, but it is learned that many Boers whose loyalty to England had been suspected in the past have disappeared from their usual haunts, both here and in the other towns of the Union.

Cholera Beats Russians.

Rome, Oct. 16.—A dispatch to the Giornale d'Italia from the Austrian frontier says that cholera has assumed frightful proportions in Galicia and Hungary.

"Wednesday in a large town and district in northern Hungary," the dispatch says, "there were 10,000 cases among the soldiers and persons who had been in contact with them. The epidemic is extraordinarily violent, and a large percentage of the stricken persons die within a few hours."

"It is asserted that the withdrawal of the Russians from Hungary was due to a desire not to expose themselves to the contagion."

Kaiser Has 9,700,000 Men?

London, Oct. 17.—The Nation says the following will be found the best official estimate of the total fighting forces of the German empire:

Trained men now serving, 4,450,000. Untrained but liable, ersatz, reservists, and landsturm, 3,750,000. Landsturm, seventeen to twenty years of age, 1,500,000.

Private letters from Germany speak of the terrible losses among the officers. One records the death of 42 per cent of the officers in the Bavarian guard.

Rushing Troops to France.

London, Oct. 18.—"Important German re-enforcements, especially artillery, have been sent to the west front,"

NAVAL LOSSES TO DATE

The following losses have been sustained by the British and German fighting navies in less than three months of war:

GREAT BRITAIN.

Cruisers (eight).
By submarine—Cressy, Hogue, Aboukir, Pathfinder, Hawke.
By mine—Amphion.
By gun fire—Pegasus.
By grounding—Warrior.
Torpedo gunboat (one).
By mine—Speedy.
Submarine (one).
By grounding—E 1.

GERMANY.

Cruisers (seven).
By submarine—Helo.
By gun fire—Magdeburg, Mainz, Coeln, Ariadne, Augsburg, Panther. Auxiliary cruisers (two).
By gun fire—Cap Trafalgar, Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse. Submarines (two).
By gun fire—U 15; one, designation unknown.
Destroyers (three).
By gun fire—Designation unknown.
Mine-layer (one).
By gun fire—Koenigin Luise.

cables a Copenhagen correspondent. "My informant, who has just returned here, met at Brandenburg 28 trains of re-enforcements in one hour, all packed with men and horses. He estimates the number of troops to be between 300,000 and 400,000. Regular traffic on the main lines in Germany has been suspended to allow transportation to the western field of an army of 90,000 soldiers."

Boers Stand With British.

London, Oct. 16.—A dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company from Pretoria says:

"At a meeting of commandants representing all the free states north of Bloemfontein, held at Kroonstad, a resolution was unanimously adopted denouncing as a blot on the honor of the Free State the rebellion started in the northeast of the cape provinces by Colonel Maritz. The resolution pledged the fullest support of the commandants to the government and requested a mobilization of the burghers to crush the rebellion."

"Gen. Jan Christian Smuts, minister of defense, thanked the commandants for their tender of support. He explained, however, that a mobilization was unnecessary, as it would put more men in the field than would be needed."

"The action taken by the Kroonstad meeting is considered significant in view of the fact that hitherto the people of the Congo Free State were lukewarm regarding the campaign against the Germans."

Bombs Dropped in Ostend.

London, Oct. 16.—The directors of the Belgian Red Cross arrived in London today with 600 wounded soldiers, the last of 13,000 who have been brought to England.

They left Ostend Wednesday morning, at which time 25,000 refugees besides townspeople were hoping to get away.

As the Red Cross steamer left an aeroplane dropped two bombs, which fell in the water a few yards from the vessel.

Statement by King Albert.

London, Oct. 17.—"Tell everybody I will never leave my army if I leave Belgian soil." This declaration was made by King Albert of Belgium to a Belgian diplomat who interviewed the ruler at Ostend Wednesday, according to the Daily Express. The king continued:

"Our army has retreated from Antwerp and concentrated brilliantly. All are ready to give their lives, as am I, for Belgium's independence. It breaks my heart to think that this beautiful country, so peaceful, so industrious, should be occupied even temporarily by so wanton an enemy."

"I feel that whatever has been done has the warm approval of all Belgians and civilized Europe. We may suffer reverses, but our confidence of final victory is stronger than ever. We are beaten, perhaps, for the time being, but we are not crushed."

Kaiser Regrets Friend's Death.

Rome, Oct. 16.—The Italian premier, Stg. Salandra, will assume temporarily the portfolio of minister of foreign affairs made vacant by the death today of Marquis Antonio di San Giuliano. This step was decided upon at a council of the ministers this afternoon.

Nothing is known as to the intentions of the king or the premier regarding a permanent successor to the office. It is stated from an authoritative source that the death of the marquis will not affect the foreign policy of the government.

Marquis di San Giuliano died this afternoon after suffering for a month with an affection of the heart. It is reported that the German ambassador to Italy, when he heard of the death of the marquis, said:

"This is perhaps the greatest misfortune for the central empires since the war began."

Want Armistice Christmas Day.

London, Oct. 16.—The Daily Mail has received a dispatch from its correspondent in New York saying that leading clericals and educators there have under discussion a movement to have the warring powers agree to an armistice on Christmas day.

Bishop David H. Greer, Cardinal Farley, Rabbi H. Pedir Mendes and President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia university are mentioned as interested.

RATES ARE UNJUST

GRAND ISLAND AND HASTINGS FILE COMPLAINT.

FORTY RAILROADS DEFENDANTS

Case Goes to Interstate Commerce Commission—Business Men Behind Move.

Lincoln.—The attorneys for the cities of Hastings and Grand Island have filed a complaint with the interstate commerce commission alleging that railroad rates on goods shipped from the east into Hastings and Grand Island are higher in proportion on the Nebraska haul of 145 miles than on the haul from Chicago or Chicago points to Omaha or other Missouri river crossing points, a distance of 482 miles, in violation of sections 1 and 2 of the interstate commerce act.

It is alleged the rates charged to Grand Island and Hastings are unreasonably high, unjust and unlawful, prejudicially discriminatory and in violation of sections one and two, interstate commerce. The complaint is backed by the Grand Island Commercial club and the chamber of commerce of Hastings. The list of roads made defendants, nearly forty railroad companies, commencing with the New York Central and including the Northwestern, Missouri Pacific, Union Pacific, Burlington, M. & O. St. Joe & Grand Island and the Rock Island.

Loan Companies Make Gain.

Lincoln.—Assets of building and loan associations of Nebraska have increased the last year \$4,391,686.97, according to the report of Secretary Royce of the State Banking Board, made to the members of the board, Governor Morehead, State Treasurer George and Auditor Howard. Secretary Royce believes that the law regarding these associations will soon need amending and in speaking of this matter says: "I will refer you in particular to one provision of the law, that, in my opinion, should receive attention. As the law now stands the amount of stock held by any one person is limited to \$5,000 par value. Inasmuch as the law provides that a loan shall not exceed the par value of the stock held by the borrower, the maximum loan that can be made is \$5,000. This was a wise provision at the time the law was enacted, but conditions have changed and what appeared to be an ample loan provision at the time the law was passed is now found to be entirely inadequate and absurdly restrictive as applied to some of the large institutions. I will not attempt to recommend a basis for enlarged privileges in the matter of loans, except to state that care should be taken in extending the limit to which a stockholder may invest, and to call attention to the fact that enlarging the loan limit it will be exceedingly dangerous to consider full paid or matured stock as any part of the basis upon which the limit of loans might be predicated. There are many minor amendments that might be made to the law that would enable it to work more smoothly, but the amendment referred to above stands out clearly as an important one."

May Share in Estate.

Mrs. Minnie June Boggs, former Omaha girl, now employed as a stenographer at the democratic state headquarters here, may share in the \$3,000,000 estate left by the Calverts, the original lords of Baltimore. Mrs. Boggs' mother is one of the seven lineal descendants of Cecil Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore, now living. The distribution of the estate will come up in federal court in Maryland early in January.

To Commemorate Motor.

On October 31 the state historical society will unveil a monument at Nebraska City marking the initial starting point of the old steam wagon road. The steam wagon made its first and last trip on a certain day in August, 1862. The advent of the steam wagon was chronicled as an important event in railroad engineering as it was one of the first attempts at steam transportation in this part of the country.

State Board to Test Law.

Chairman Holcomb of the state board of control says the board has decided to test the law authorizing the board to transfer funds of a state institution to another fund of the same institution. Acting on an opinion of the attorney general's department State Auditor Howard has refused to permit the board to transfer \$11,000 of the penitentiary salary funds to the penitentiary maintenance fund.

To Form New Battery.

Adjutant General Phil Hall has returned from Hastings, where he conferred with business men of that city regarding the establishment of a battery of artillery. The War department has signified its intention to place a battery in this state as a part of the national guard, but demands that it be given a good substantial place to be housed, as the equipment costs in the neighborhood of \$100,000. The business men of the city made General Hall several propositions.