The Comrade.

A Weekly Journal. Edited by - Mohamed Ali.

Stand upright, speak thy thought, declare
The truth thou hast, that all may share;
Be bold, proclaim it everywhere;
They only live who dare!

—*Morris.*

Vol. 8. No. 6. Single Copy Annas 4. Delhi: Wednesday, 12th August, 1914. Annual Subscription Indian Rs. 12. Foreign £1

CONTENTS

	Page.
Week ...	93
Our London Letter ...	93
Our Constantinople Letter	94
Tete A Tete—	
"The Comrade War Bulletin"	95
Our Day of Issue ...	95
On the Eve of the War ...	95
The "Perfidious Albion" ...	95
Naval Strengths of the Powers	96
The "Times" and Mrs. Besant	96
Leading Articles—	
The "Peace of Europe" and its Sequel	97
The Campaign	99
War in Europe ...	101 (*d*)
The French Army ...	...111
Advertisements ...	112—116

MANAGER'S NOTICE.

Subscribers are requested to quote the Subscriber's Number in every communication to the Manager otherwise the office will not be responsible for any delay in replying such communications.

The Week.

Proposed visit to Hedjaz.

Bombay, July 31.

Khan Bahadur Syed Jafar Hosain, retired Executive Engineer, United Provinces, with thirty-two years' experience of irrigation works will visit Hedjaz next January to inspect and report on the Zobada canal and suggest improvements in the Mecca water supply.

Congress Presidentship.

Bombay, August 3.

The Bombay Provincial Congress Committee has unanimously recommended Mr. Bhupendra Nath Basu for the presidentship of forthcoming Madras Session of the National Congress.

Indian Students in England.

Ranchi, July 30.

A summary which has been published for general information in order to bring to public notice the measures which have been taken under the orders of the Secretary of State for the assistance and protection of Indian students proceeding to England states that in 1909 the Secretary of State established in London a Central Bureau of information and appointed an Educational Adviser for Indian students. The Bureau furnished them with information regarding lodging and boarding houses, educational facilities, etc. A standing Advisory Committee was formed with the assistance of Indian residents in England and associated with the Central Bureau. Owing to the increase in the number of Indian students who consulted the Educational Adviser the Secretary of State has decided to reorganise and distribute the work of the Bureau. Steps were then taken to appoint a Secretary for Indian students at the India Office and local advisers at some of the principal University centres in Great Britain, and the Central Advisory Committee enlarged.

Cabul.

The Afghan Envoy writes to us from Simla on the 5th instant saying that he has received an information from the Cabul Foreign Office to the effect that Jahandad Khan, the ring-leader of the rebels who had risen and given trouble in the province of Mangal, and whose arrest was recently effected through the medium of his former followers of the Mangal tribe has been blown from mouth of a gun by orders of His Majesty the Amir. Two years ago, Jahandad Khan took up arms against His Majesty the Amir and caused serious bloodshed, but was at last defeated. He then took refuge in India and sometime ago having left Dehra Dun, again entered the boundaries of Cabul with the object of inciting revolt among his old partisans. But his attempts were nipped in the bud by his own followers among the Mangal tribe who captured him and handed him over to the authorities.

The Persian Oil Bill.

London, August 5.

The third reading of the Persian Oil Bill has been passed by the House of Commons.

Our London Letter.

London, July 17.

The Late Lady Hardinge.

The sudden death of Lady Hardinge will be as keenly felt in India as it has been in this country. India will mourn her loss as a "personal" bereavement, and the thousands of Indian women and children will undoubtedly grieve over her sad demise as painfully and sorrowfully as they would have done in the case of their nearest and dearest. Providence has certainly proved unkind in cutting off, in the prime of her life, the existence of one who had made herself universally loved and admired, not only in the continent of India but also in various other parts of the globe, where her distinguished husband has so faithfully served his King and Empire.

Lady Hardinge, during the past four years, had set an example to the European womanhood in India, which would not be easily forgotten. As the Vicereine of India, she had, during those short yet trying years, brought to light those excellent virtues of womanhood, which could never fail to endear her to the hearts of Indian women. Through fair weather or foul, Lady Hardinge, as the Viceroy's trustworthy partner, had contributed, in no little degree, to the success which has hitherto marked Lord Hardinge's term of office—a success which has naturally resulted in the spontaneous wave of enthusiasm with which India's desire and India's request for an extension of his Viceroyalty has been received.

His Excellency fully deserves the genuine sympathy which has been universally extended to him both in India and in this country in his hour of trial. The heart of every true Indian goes forth to him at this moment. A particularly painful bereavement such as that under which Lord Hardinge is just suffering, especially amidst the cares and anxieties of office, and the heroic manner in which His Excellency is bearing the great and trying ordeal will still enhance the country's admiration for the nobleman, whose period of office as the head of the Government of India is destined to go down to posterity as one of the most brilliant chapters of administration in that country.

Lady Hardinge's close association with female education in India had succeeded to uplift the general standard of knowledge amongst Indian women to an unparalleled degree and the Women's Medical College in Delhi—the foundation of which was laid by her only a few months ago—will no doubt remain a noble monument to her ever-living memory.

"Christians as bad as Turks."

A remarkable speech was made by Lord Bryce on Wednesday at the annual meeting of the Balkan Committee at the Central Hall, Westminster.

After remarking that the Treaty of Bucharest was unsatisfactory and carried within it the seeds of future trouble, he went on to declare that this was no time to conceal the truth. The Christian States had been expelling their alien populations, and we should speak as plainly what we felt about the Christian States as we did about the Turks. (Hear, hear.)

It was true that the Christian States had been misgoverned for so long by the Turk that they could not be expected to rise at once to the highest standard of civilised Government, but that excuse was not sufficient to cover a great deal of what had been done. They should have been able to apply the same principles of freedom and religious equality to their alien populations that they had asked for themselves. They deeply regretted the expulsion of Moslems from the Christian States (Hear, hear). Moslem mosques had been shut up and Moslem Schools suppressed.

"But," said Lord Bryce, "the Moslem is as justly entitled as any other to the enjoyment of his beliefs. We must condemn intolerance in the Christian States as we would condemn them in any others." (Hear, hear.)

Such an outspoken protest by Lord Bryce at a meeting of the notorious Balkan Committee is very significant indeed and clearly shows that at last, even in such a prejudiced and bigoted quarter, it is being gradually realised how utterly devoid of truth all the one-sided stories of Moslem "atrocities" in the Balkans have been. Lord Bryce deserves every credit for his courage in having spoken the truth at last before such an anti-Turkish Body as the Balkan Committee, and his pluck and honesty were rightly rewarded by the repeated outbursts of applause that punctuated his utterances.

Sir W. Wedderburn on India's Needs.

Sir William Wedderburn writes a letter to the *Daily News* of yesterday on the rejection of the India Council Bill by the House of Lords.

"Will you allow me space," he writes, "to state briefly my reasons for regretting the rejection of the Council of India Bill by the House of Lords? Lord Crewe's announcement a year ago that such a Bill would be brought forward naturally created great interest in India, and at their meetings last Christmas, at Karachi and Agra, the two great political organisations—the Indian National Congress and the All-India Moslem League—put forward a definite scheme for bringing the Secretary of State into touch with responsible Indian opinion. The proposal was that the Council should consist of not less than nine members, and that of these one-third should be Indians, one-third experienced Anglo-Indian officials, and one-third men of distinction in British public life.

"In order that the Indian Members might be qualified to speak on behalf of Indian interests, it was proposed that they should be chosen by the elected members of the Legislative Councils in India, a method of selection employed with success for many years as regards representative members of the Viceroy's Legislative Council. In support of this proposal seven delegates have come to England, having been duly elected to represent the several great provinces of India.

"What is the position of the Secretary of State for India? Personally without Indian experience, and at a distance of 6,000 miles, he is responsible for the well-being of a population exceeding 250 millions. His task is one of supreme difficulty, and he needs all the light he can get. Above all, for the safety of our rule, it is essential that he should understand the opinions, the feelings, and the prejudices of the Indian people.

"Lord Curzon and Lord Ampthill admit the existence of this need when they welcome the admission of Indians in the Council of the Secretary of State. Why should they object to Lord Crewe's proposal of a panel which would exclude mere time-servers, and give to the Secretary of State the choice of men who enjoy the confidence of the Indian people; men of varied attainments, such as those who have been found worthy to serve on the Executive and Legislative Councils in India, and to fill the benches of the High Courts? Belonging to this class, we have at the present moment in this country two independent Indians of ripe experience, well known to both the noble lords—the Hon. G. K. Gokhale and the Hon. Bhupendranath Basu. Will any one who knows them deny that such men would be an ornament to any Council or Cabinet in the world?

"The only way of dealing effectively with unrest in India is Lord Morley's method, to "rally the moderates;" for to constitutional reformers this unrest, when it leads to secret conspiracy and outrage, is anathema, as being destructive of their dearest hopes for the future of India. These men are the best friends we have in India; and the summary rejection of the Bill flings back in their face a well-considered offer of practical co-operation, in the cause of peace and good order."

The Shah's Coronation: Celebration in London.

The coronation of His Imperial Majesty the Shah of Persia will be celebrated in London next week by two important functions. The Islamic Society is celebrating the auspicious event by a Luncheon at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday, the 21st instant, the day on which the young Shah is to be crowned. The Councillor to the Imperial Ottoman Embassy, His Excellency Raghib Raif Bey, as I have already mentioned in my letter of last week, will preside at the Banquet and a very large and representative gathering is expected to be present. The Persian Minister, His Excellency Mushir-ul-Mulk, is holding a reception at the Legation in Bramham Gardens the same evening. A very large number of invitations have been issued to the members of the diplomatic corps, prominent Persian and other Moslem residents of London and others who are interested in that ancient and historic land.

The arrangements for the Islamic Society's Luncheon have been carried on in close consultation with the Persian Legation.

"Moslem Day" at the Exhibition.

To-day is "Moslem Day" at the Anglo-American Exhibition in Shepherd's Bush. An elaborate programme of proceedings has been drawn up by the Islamic Society, who have had the Palace of Music placed at their disposal by the Exhibition authorities.

The proceedings are to begin, under the chairmanship of Khwaja Kamaluddin, the Imam of Woking Mosque, at 12-30 p. m. by the Jooma-Namaz, which is to be followed by a sermon on the "Unity of God" by the Khwaja Sahib. After a two hours' interval, Qari Sarfaraz Husain of Delhi will address the audience on the "Philosophy of Islam" for half an hour and then in succession, for half an hour each, lectures and addresses will be delivered by various Moslem gentlemen on different Islamic subjects. A whole hour (5 to 6 p. m.) has been specially set apart for "answers by the Imam of Woking Mosque to any questions on Islam."

Amongst those whose names appear on the list of speakers are Mr. Mushir Husain Kidwai, Mr. Zafar Ali Khan, Dr. Saadi Bey and Dr. Syed Abdul Majid. The proceedings will not conclude before 10 P. M. or even later.

Our Constantinople Letter.

Constantinople, July 14.

The National Manifesto by Enver Pasha—A fervent appeal to the Turks.

The following stirring appeal has been addressed by Enver Pasha to the Ottoman nation :—

In the bloody and disastrous war, which came off last year in our beloved country, we left fair Roumelia into the hands of our enemies, and hundreds of thousands of men, women and children were massacred with their cruel bayonets. Our beloved country—the sacred motherland, the home of our saints, their tombs and holy places—has been made impure and lies to-day at the feet of the enemies.

A year has rolled by since those dark days when we met face to face our defeat and disaster, and five and thirty years had winged their flight since our fathers encountered their defeat; and even prior to that date our grandfathers had often meet with national disasters. Time was when the world was lying prostrate at our feet in the glorious days of our Sovereign Sultan Soliman the Great and our frontier-zones had then been far away from the gates of Constantinople; but to-day the canon's roars from the enemy's side are even heard in the city as the result of the terrible disasters to which we have been submitting since one hundred years. The horses of our victorious fathers quenched their thirst with the waters of the Danube, while to-day our enemies give their horses a drink on the waters of the Maritza and the Vardar. It is enough to encounter so many disasters for a nation, and now the time has come when the Government and the people

should make an united effort to save themselves. That we have ever been a victim to national calamity and disaster proves beyond doubt that the nation has been infected with a spirit of dislike for military life and has practically ceased to prepare every citizen from 7 to 70 years to meet their enemies in war. The commandants, officers and soldiers, for want of proper military training at an early age, fail to do their duty in the hour of national call ; for none but a strong nation brings forth an *army*—efficient, well-disciplined and strong.

The children of Sultan Osman, who founded a powerful empire of 100 million souls from a tribe of 400 people living in tents, were war-like, horest and strong. They obeyed and feared none but God and passed night and day on horse-back to play *djirid* and to shoot their arrows over hill and dale ; they knew how to manage their horses at the tender age of seven and did never think for a moment to spend their time in cafés or on soft beds like the unworthy children of to-day.

If the children of to-day follow in the footsteps of their grandfathers and train themselves by education, and develop a strong and iron-like body by physical exercise and practical training in forests and on mountains ; if they intelligently learn to fire their guns so as to kill the enemy at the first shot ; if they consecrate their body and soul to God and sincerely love their Sovereign and be ready to sacrifice their life and well-being in the service of God, Sovereign and Fatherland ; if they face with brave hearts and with the fearless eyes of a lion all difficulties that stand in their way, no enemy on the face of the earth can resist the power of the Ottomans, so strong in body, mind and spirit. Then and then only will the darkened hours not be again upon us but upon our enemies ; and then and then only will the fire of vengeance which burns in our hearts surely burn our foes.

Our great and well-beloved Sovereign has ordered us to organise *associations for military education* (Gudj Derneghi) to develop manhood in the race and to make ourselves worthy descendants of our worthy forefathers. According to the Imperial *iradé*, associations for the purpose have been organised in every school and college including *wakaf* and *ulema* institutions. Every young man should take to healthy exercises, sports and other open-air modes of physical training to make his arms and legs stronger; he would practise shooting ; guns and cartridges would be supplied by the Government. If young men who do not belong to any educational institution should organise such societies on their own initiative, they would also be favoured with free guns and cartridges and free instruction by army officers. The Government would also render pecuniary help, and silver and nickel medals and certificates would be presented by the Minister of War to deserving Corps in order of merit and services in the interest of the association.

The young men having certificates from the association would obtain special privileges when they enlist in the army:—

(1) If they enlist as Volunteers at the age of 18, they could select any regiment for service. (2) They would not be sent to Yemen and Hedjaz against their wishes. (3) If they are efficient in preparatory military instruction, they would be promoted to the grade of corporal four months before their comrades. (4) They could obtain a position in the administration after a year's service in a regiment. (5) If they discharge their duties to the satisfaction of the officers they would be granted a *congé* of two months and a half after the manœuvres.

I believe the Ottomans who are heroic by birth will immediately organise *Gudj Derneghi* at Constantinople and in every province, town and village.

The workpeople, artisans and boatmen of Constantinople assembled together the other day and approached the commandant of the first army corps for necessary information. They would receive instruction on the formation of a society of their own and start the work at once after or before the usual prayer on Friday. We ask for co-operation and help from the people in the smaller villages; they would obtain necessary informations from the Recruiting Officer or the Gendarmerie or directly from the Minister of War. It is a crime to spend your time idly in the cafés—an act of treachery to your country to spend Fridays without any object except in slandering others. Reserve your leisure-hours for preparing yourselves to defend your country. All those from the age of 7 to 70 should develop as early as possible strong muscles and get used to sharpshooting so that it would be easy to meet the enemies face to face in future, and with glorious results.

We wish thousands of men, coming in contact with the association from Bagdad, Damascus, Erzeroum, Aidin, Konia and from every part of the beloved country, should come to Constantinople to take part in the shooting meeting to be held next year in the august presence of our beloved Sovereign. May the God Almighty protect and inspire them with noble desire !

TETE À TETE



"The Comrade War Bulletin."

At the request of a number of our readers we have decided to issue the *Comrade War Bulletin*, provided a sufficient number of subscribers are registered within the next few days. From the full particulars that are given on another page it would be seen that we are in a position to serve a large area around Delhi with a fresh and regular supply of war news, and we are sure no other paper can in this respect compete with us. The Bulletin will be issued as soon as an adequate number of applications have been received.

Our Day of Issue.

The readers of the *Comrade* will note that with this number the day of issue of the paper has been changed from Saturday to Wednesday, and henceforth the *Comrade* will regularly appear on Wednesday. We had long been convinced of the change as desirable in view of the fact that the foreign mail is usually received here on Saturdays and it was consequently impossible for us to insert in the *Comrade* the latest correspondence we received from abroad or news and articles from foreign papers, which on account of their particular interest should have reached our readers without being staled by the lapse of a week. This difficulty was particularly felt during the Balkan war. We have at last decided to remove it in view of the War in Europe, which will naturally be followed with the keenest interest in this country. The new arrangement will enable us to include in the *Comrade* all information of interest and value contained in the foreign mail immediately after its arrival.

On the Eve of the War.

The English papers received with the last mail contain ample references to the growing tension of feeling between Servia and the Dual Monarchy, but most of the comments show little appreciation of the gravity of the situation then existing. The *Times*, writing on the 22nd July, is no doubt full of its usual warnings and trusts that Austria-Hungary would make it possible for Servia to arrive at a reasonable settlement of the dispute, but it has no strong grounds to fear that the bickerings of the papers in Vienna and Belgrade would endanger the peace of Europe. The *Manchester Guardian* in a leaderette of 23rd July, *i. e.*, the day on which the Austrian Note was presented to Servia, wrote as follows :—"Vienna is notoriously the most jumpy capital in Europe, and the talk about war between Austria and Servia is not to be taken very seriously." In the light of later events this assurance reads a bit pathetic if not amusing.

Perfidious Italy.

Whatever may be the measure of German culpability in the present war, it is difficult to withhold our admiration for the cool courage and resolve which the Kaiser and his people are showing in the hour of their heaviest trial. They are fighting against overwhelming odds, and the issues of the struggle involve their national existence; but they do not seem to have lost an iota of their confidence in their strength to meet "a world of enemies." The Triple Alliance has broken like a reed at the very moment for which it had been designed and maintained with such sedulous care. The defection of Italy has shown how utterly worthless all diplomatic engagements and instruments are that are not based on complete reciprocity of interests. The Triple Alliance is dead through the desertion of Italy, and one cannot but despise this perfidious Power who has broken her troth so light-heartedly. Italy has derived immense benefit through the support of Germany during the past decade. Her raid on Tripoli would not have prospered as it did if the powerful support of the Triple Alliance had not been at her back. The Powers of the Triple Entente seem

to be delighted with Italy's shameful action, and efforts are being made to draw her within their orbit. Italians at Paris and London are reported to be fraternising with the French and the English in their war demonstrations. But will the friendship of a nation with such a record be of any value to England and France ?

Naval Strengths of the Powers.

THE war in Europe with Russia and France on one side and Germany and Austria on the other will be chiefly a supreme military struggle for supremacy. With British intervention the naval resources of Great Britain and Germany are being put to the test. A naval action is reported to have taken place in the North Sea and the German fleet is said to have fled. No details of the engagement have yet been received, and it does not seem to have been a decisive affair. We give below the approximate naval strengths of the Powers involved in the war. In calculating the strengtn of a modern fleet mere numbers do not necessarily count, for great improvements have in recent years been effected in naval armaments and battleships of the pre-Dreadnought era have lost much of their efficiency as fighting units. The French fleet, for instance, is larger than the German fleet in the number of ships of all descriptions, but the German fleet is more modern, more compact and greater in effective strength. The construction of battleships of the Dreadnought type, with its average tonnage of 17,000 and equipment of ten 12-in. guns has greatly reduced the value of older ships on account of their lesser speed and the narrower range of their guns. If England had remained neutral the German fleet would have been the master of the North Sea, and the northern coasts of France would have been exposed to serious attack. But England has not remained neutral, and the supreme interest would, therefore, attach to the issue of a decisive trial of strength between the British and German fleets. The following table gives a full statement of the numbers, sizes, and powers of the ships of wars of Great Britain and Germany, under the denominations given in the Admiralty Return presented to the House of Commons in February 1914. None of these ships are more than twenty years old :—

Country.	Class of ships.	Nos.	Tons.	Average.	Guns. 6in.	7·5	8·9	9·2	9·4	10·	11·	12·	13·5
Great Britain	Battleships ...	58	961,200	16·600	...	...	...	52	...	8	...	252	80
,,	Battle Cruisers	9	187,700	20·800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	24
,,	Cruisers ...	47	525,000	11·200	334	70	...	68	...	...	...	...	...
,,	Light Cruisers	64	270,790	4·200	257	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	178	1,943,900	...	591	70	...	120	...	8	...	300	104
Germany	Battleships ...	35	532,000	15·200	...	...	...	...	46	...	88	99	...
,,	Battle Cruisers	4	89,000	22·200	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	...	...
,,	Cruisers ...	9	94,000	10·400	82	...	44	...	6	...	...	...	...
,,	Light Cruisers	43	155,000	3·600	50	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	91	870,000	...	132	...	54	...	52	...	126	99	...

Of torpedo and special vessels Great Britain has twenty-six and Germany has none. Of destroyers, Great Britain has 201 with a total horse-power of 2,100,000; and Germany has 133, with a total horse-power of 1,400,000. Of submarines, Great Britain has sixty-nine, and Germany, twenty-four. As regards the naval strengths of the other Powers, the following table gives the approximate figures :—

Country.	Battleships. Dreadnought.	Battleships. Pre-Dreadnought.	Cruisers.	Armoured Cruisers.	Battle Cruisers.	Destroyers.	Submarines.
France ...	...	20	10	22	...	74	69
Russia ...	...	9	11	6	...	95	31
Austria ...	1	6	6	3	...	14	6
Italy ...	1	8	6	10	...	28	16

The *Times* and Mrs. Besant.

HAVING been compelled to deal with one of Mrs. Besant's critics last week, we think it would be just as well if we deal with the *Times'* leader also. According to this uninformed and ill-informed paper, Mrs. Besant's letter has been "materially "weakened by an imperfect understanding of Indian conditions." We are prepared to admit that there may be some aspects of Indian life to which Mrs. Besant may still be a stranger, and she has certainly never put forward a claim to be an up-to-date edition of the *Gazetteer of India*. But it is certain that twenty generations of the editors of the *Times* have not collectively possessed as much knowledge of India as Mrs. Besant does; and it is difficult not to laugh outright when one reads so absurd a passage as the following in the *Times'* article :—"No one who has intimate "knowledge of the Indian Vernacular Press can doubt that in India "the privileges enjoyed by conductors of newspapers have been in some "instances very greatly abused in the last decade. To assess the "extent of the damage which has been wrought it is necessary to sit, "not in a college at Benares, but with the village schoolmaster beneath "the banyan-tree which furnishes a common resting-place at eventide. "There is no restriction inflicted nowadays upon the Indian Press "which would not sit lightly and imperceptibly upon any editor in "England. The English editor knows the bounds beyond which he

"should not transgress; the Indian editor has no tradition of restraint." Pray, where did the *Times*' leader-writers acquire "intimate knowledge of the Indian Vernacular Press"? We do not know even of a single Anglo-Indian journalist who could read an Indian paper written in some vernacular with as much ease as the Matriculate of the Allahabad or the Punjab University could read the most ponderous leader of the *Times*. No doubt some Anglo-Indian papers occasionally publish translations of extracts from vernacular newspapers; but we do not know of a single case in which competent and honest men are employed to do this work in Anglo-Indian newspaper offices, and after his recent experiences the Hon. Sir Michael O'Dwyer would bear us out that such translators are, as a rule, vile traitors to their texts. For the *Times* to sneer at Mrs. Besant because she sits in a College at Benares—which the leader-writer of the *Times* does not—and not "with the village schoolmaster beneath the banyan-tree which furnishes a common resting-place at eventide"—for Indians, but not for Europeans and Indians together—is for Philip the Drunk to preach a temperance sermon to Philip the Sober. As for the English editor and the bounds beyond which he knows he should not transgress, would the *Times* like us to reproduce all the vile epithets which its brothers of the Tory Press have applied not only to Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill, but also to that Liberal Imperialist Mr. Asquith, and occasionally even to that pale grey Liberal who presides over the Foreign Office? Had the Press Act been in force in England there would have been no such papers to-day as that vulgar publication, the *National Review*, or that happy hunting ground of a violent-tempered man in his dotage, namely, the *Pall Mall*, not to mention the caterers of ha'penny hysteria such as the *Daily Mail* and the *Daily Express*. The rest of the *Times* article is equally feeble, and if it can find nothing more damaging to say of Mrs. Besant than this, that "because clubs are founded "upon a basis with which Mrs. Besant, like many women, is "still imperfectly familiar," her "apparent contention that Indians "can claim admission to any English Club" cannot be accepted, then we must say Mrs. Besant has come off from a trial of strength with the superior and masculine *Times* in a manner of which the suffragettes may well be proud. One more observation of the *Times* we should like to bring into more light. With reference to that bold challenge to the Colonies, and in fact to the whole of the British Empire, of Gurdit Singh, a hero like Gandhi, and yet so unlike Gandhi, the *Times* says: "No desire for "the vindication of the rights of Indians as subjects of the "Empire, but rather *that desperate acquisitiveness which is "always at the bottom of the motive of the Sikh*, is the true explana"tion of the steamer 'Komagata Maru' at Vancouver." The italics are ours, but the insult is entirely that of the *Times*. All that we need say about this damning judgment is that, among others, the stalwart Sikh has been fighting the battles of the Empire, thanks to the C.B.-mania of our Army officers, almost from year to year and risking his life on eleven rupees per mensem, while the leader-writer of the *Times* has not probably joined Lord Haldane's "Terriers" yet for the sake of King and country. If, as is quite likely, he is a retired Anglo-Indian official, the odds are entirely in his favour as against the desperately acquisitive Sikh so far as exploiting a portion of the Empire beyond his own domicile is concerned. The poor Sikh who does battle for him and his on a salary less than his *dhobi's* has not even a sporting chance against him. May we not ask whether such observations as this can come from any but the doomed whom the gods have deprived of their reason first? First it was the seditious Hindu, then it was the fanatical Moslem, and now it seems to be the turn of the desperately acquisitive Sikh. Will it be the Gurkhas next or the Rajputs? Europe in the throes of Armageddon and the *Times* damning one of the staunchest supporters of the British Rule in India on the score of greed,—how very timely and *Times*-like! But we may be sure that the seditious Hindu, the fanatical Mussalman and the greedy Sikh will not forget at this hour their duty to the Government. They know the value of the connection between India and England, and would risk anything to keep that connection unimpaired. We have dealt with the general character and broad issues of the war elsewhere, for we could not pass over an event of such world-wide import and such dimensions without stating what we feel to be the truth about it. We have said what we had to say on this score; and henceforth our chief concern will be to record the progress of the war, and its various phases and other developments to which it may lead. As for India, her attitude is quite clear. Her people are as loyal to their Sovereign as they were ever before. They have little enthusiasm for the war in Europe; but they recognise their responsibilities. Now that Great Britain is at war, the voice of controversy in this country should be hushed. The responsible leaders of Indian opinion are, we are sure, fully aware of what they owe to the country and the Government, and the latter may rest assured that the people as a whole stand fast to their mooring, and no untoward incidents abroad can, for a moment, endanger the internal peace and security of India.

The Comrade.

The "Peace of Europe" and its Sequel.

WITH the entry of Great Britain into the arena against Germany, the armed struggle in Europe has begun on a scale unprecedented since the Napoleanic wars. What the issues of a conflict of such magnitude may be, it is difficult to forecast. No one need be told, however, that the collision between huge conscript armies, equipped with up-to-date scientific engines of destruction and moved by a fury that has been fed for generations on economic rivalries and racial pride, will be terrific, and its consequences will be appalling. The cost of victory in this struggle would be scarcely less crushing than the losses of defeat. It is not a war between paid mercenary hosts, ready to fling themselves against each other to satisfy the vanity or greed of irresponsible military adventurers. It is a war between compact, united nations—with a few exceptions, highly trained, industrial communities, complexly organised, deeply conscious of their individualities and their rights, supremely jealous of their national honour, throbbing with passionate patriotism and trained to act unitedly and bear the utmost sacrifices whenever their respective national interests demand united action and ungrudging sacrifice. The strain of this war will be terrible, and the nations involved will be crippled for years by the enormous waste of life and resources. Their industries and commerce are already completely paralysed, money-markets have been closed, business is at a standstill, and the international trade has been disorganised. The very existence of these industrial communities depends on the steady flow of international finance, but with the first whispers of war the operations of the international money-markets have inevitably ceased, and one can hardly exaggerate the misery and suffering which a world-wide economic crisis, coupled with the devastations of a war of this magnitude, would entail on victors and vanquished alike. No one can seriously accuse the responsible statesmen of Europe of a woeful mental density which might have prevented them from realising to the full the consequences of such a catastrophe. They knows perfectly wel what a war of this character would ultimately mean to their peoples. There can be no blinking of the facts and no possible illusions as to the final results. Nations like the English, the German or the French cannot be enslaved even through defeat. Every war-lord in Europe knows that a war of conquest against a highly conscious, united, and powerful community of many millions would in the end prove an expensive futility.

What is it, then, that has fed the war-fever and driven the most civilised nations of Europe into a mortal combat with utter scorn of the consequences and with loud and frantic cries of death or victory on their lips? The causes are complex and have their roots deep in the social, economic and racial conditions of Europe. They have formed the gravamen of the discussions about the varying phases of European politics for upwards of forty years. For our present purpose it would suffice to know that the war is the direct result of the reaction of a militant nationalism with its exclusive economic andpolitical interests against the wider economic forces of the world. A race for exclusive markets and wider places in the sun has meant keen, uncompromising struggle for privilege and dominance under the smooth disguises of diplomacy. The crude, primitive desire for material gain has been dressed up into a thing of wonderous fascination. It has been sanctified by patriotism, purified through national culture and has grown into one of the deep seated instincts of race. Diplomacy has cherished it as an ideal and has pursued it with all the skill and resources at its command. Artificial standards of honour and interest have grown up around it to obsess the minds and consciences of the peoples, who have been driven, as if under a malignant spell, into a state of mutual antagonism and unyielding exclusiveness. Phantom fears and weird alarms have preyed on their nerves and forced them to submit to tremendous sacrifices for self-defence against possible aggression. Behind the walls of isolation born of hatred or dread they have been worshipping the false idols which diplomacy has constantly held up for their pride and veneration. Such an artificial state of things could not obviously go on. A single incident has shattered to pieces the whole framework of that diplomatic myth, known as the peace of Europe. Under the stimulus of the most moving catchwords of race and nationality the primitive economic instincts had always been at work. Statesmen had blindly or helplessly built on temporary devices assuming them to be bed-rock realities. Diplomacy had been busy with strengthening the basis of an international relationship which had all along rested on most flimsy foundations. The crash has come at last, and no one can be sure how things will shape themselves anew out of the *debris*.

But if the overstrung racial vanities and the peculiar economic and social organisation of the nations of Europe had prepared ground for a great European conflict and rendered war on an enormous scale inevitable, we cannot dismiss the responsible rulers of Europe as mere passive, helpless agents in the grip of irresistible forces. They have to share to the full the responsibility for the awful catastrophe that they have brought over the heads of their peoples. Their acts have supplied the immediate cause and the occasion. They cannot be treated as blind instruments ruthlessly pressed into the service of the inscrutable process called History. If the accepted values and standards have the least relevance in human affairs, we must regard them as free agents capable of materially affecting circumstances by force of unfettered volition. Our aim is not so much to frame ethical issues, or deliver praise or censure on the high plane of morality, as to study the situation in the light of the facts and see the ways in which such epoch-making events take their birth.

The greatest tragedies frequently look mean to the actual onlookers, and the greatest tragic drama in European history opens with few elements that might redeem its naked brutality. No doubt, the combatants enter the lists with pious invocations and call the world to witness with what clean hands and clear consciences they take the sword. Germany declares that she is defending herself against unprovoked aggression; France stands forth once more as the champion of freedom and liberty; Russia is feeling outraged at the insolent attack of an unscrupulous enemy and is fortifying her resolution by the blessings of her priests; England thinks that she must vindicate her honour and requite the obligations of disinterested friendship. All these declarations sound a high and righteous note, and though it may be difficult to discover the villain of the piece amidst these solemn protestations of innocence, it may be some comfort to know that Europe has not forgotten to pay lip-service to her vaunted ideals of conduct in the heat and fury of war. All this is magnificent, but the world has unfortunately grown into the habit of discounting much that comes from Europe in her moods of self-revelation. It would be enough to say that the combatants deserve thanks for their flattering desire to put themselves right with the outside world. As for the real character of the figures on the chess-board, their relative positions and their moves and counter-moves, it is a different story, with details that are not very inspiring in their realism and make together a very prosaic narrative.

The events that have led up to the war are not easily intelligible unless one keeps in touch with the wires that have worked behind the scenes. In the fierce passions of the moment much wild fustian is being talked, and the truth can be seen only by carefully disentangling the facts from cant and hysteria. The outstanding primary fact that one has to keep in mind is the murder of the Austro-Hungarian Crown Prince and his wife by a Bosnian Serb. It was not an isolated crime due to the frenzy of an anarchist or the hatred of a personal enemy. It was the fruit of an organised revolutionary conspiracy with clear undisguised aims to emancipate the Serbs of the Dual Monarchy and promote the union of the entire Serbdom into one independent Empire. Austria-Hungary could not forgive this treacherous blow aimed at her integrity and honour, and when a vigorously-conducted inquiry brought to light a formidable conspiracy with ramifications extending to Belgrade and the complicity of a number of Servian officers in the Serajevo crime remained no longer in doubt, Austria-Hungary was bound to take such action as the facts of the situation dictated. The now famous note was accordingly handed to Servia in due course, and though its terms have been described as drastic, no one would seriously contend that less stringent demands would have accorded with the dignity of a great Empire, or effectually stamped out the danger to its integrity that lay at its very doors. If Austria-Hungary was to preserve peace within her own borders, it was imperative on her to insist on the rooting out of the nest of regicides at Belgrade. Servia would not have dared to reject the Austrian demands; but Russia, her great patron, patted her on the back and bade her to stand firm. In the meantime Germany declared that in the dispute, which solely concerned Austria-Hungary and Servia, no third party should intervene. Whatever policy and designs may have lurked behind German armaments, it is only fair to admit that in this crisis the attitude of Germany has been thoroughly frank and consistent. Her relations with the Dual Monarchy precluded any idea of her standing aside and seeing her Ally threatened and finally attacked by the great Protector of the Slavs while the former was engaged in punishing Servia for her misdeeds. Russia, however, met the German declaration by ordering a partial mobilisation of her army. This was the beginning of the European crisis. The Russian move conveyed a plain hint to Austria-Hungary and her friends that she would not be allowed to deal with Servia as she deserved. The order of mobilisation was meant as a challenge and was straightway accepted as such. Germany did not set about to spin diplomatic devices and deluge the world with mendacious pacificisms. She bluntly asked Russia to explain why she was mobilising her forces. And when she could not get a satisfactory answer, she declared war on Russia. There may be nothing to admire in these proceedings on the score of moral principles. The flourishing of the mailed fist at the first provocation can never commend itself to those who were seriously anxious for the peace of Europe. But we were always assured that mailed fists were the best guarantee for the peace of the world, and in view of the habitual practice of her rivals, it would be hypocrisy to blame Germany if she acted up to the prevailing ethics of militarism and, consistently with the European theory about national existence, did not care to conceal her heavy mailed fist in a velvet glove. She declared war on Russia because she was convinced that Russia was preparing for an onslaught on Austria-Hungary. She cannot be fairly accused of wanton aggression, when the worst she has done is that she has not minced matters or evaded the plain issue of war or national humiliation forced upon her. The subsequent developments were inevitable. France was bound to help Russia and carry out her obligations in accordance with the terms of the Dual Alliance. The Franco-Russian understanding is based on their common fear of Germany; and though the two Allies have little in common in their national traditions and cultures, their mutual dread and hatred of Germany had drawn them together into a formal compact for concerted action. Now Germany knew that she would have to keep sufficient forces on the Franco-German frontier to meet French invasion, even if France did not join in the struggle at once. She knew as well that, with her hands full with Russia, a French invasion would be most disconcerting to her plans and might possibly involve her in disaster. She, therefore, asked France to make her attitude clear and frankly state her intentions. The French army was being mobilised and an active exchange of views was taking place between Sir Edward Grey and the French Foreign Office. M. Poincaré has been denouncing Germany in terms of righteous indignation and holding up France as the champion of liberty and civilisation, who has been forced against her will to meet the treacherous assault of a brutal foe. The picture is not very convincing. The fact seems to be that France was not prepared to go to war against Germany. She wanted to gain time to mobilise her army and manœuvre for full diplomatic and military support from England. German diplomacy may have been reckless as the *Pioneer* has been shouting at the top of its voice, but German calculations about possible hostile combination against the Fatherland could not have been hasty and wild. The Kaiser's Ministers would have never dragged France into the struggle, if they could be sure of being left alone to deal with Russia without outside intervention. But France could not leave Russia in the lurch, and it suited German plans to strike the first blow at her while she was not yet fully prepared to take the field rather than to leave her to complete her preparations and throw her entire force against Germany at some crucial moment later on. As for Great Britain, Germany seems to have done all she could to detach her, but she has failed. Sir Edward Grey's statement sums up the broad features of the situation which have influenced British policy at this supreme juncture in the history of Europe, and they require a close examination with a view to determine the degree of British responsibility in the war.

Sir Edward Grey has earned well-deserved tributes for his strenuous efforts to preserve the peace. He failed because the menace of the Russian military measures set new forces at work which were beyond the control of diplomacy. With the outbreak of war between Russia and Germany he was thrown back on the primary considerations on which his foreign policy had been based. The central idea for which he has laboured as foreign Minister has been to maintain the balance of power between the two rival groups in Europe. To thwart and checkmate German influence and ambition was the root purpose of that diplomatic coalition known as the Triple *Entente*. Sir Edward Grey had worked for it with a singleness of purpose that amounted almost to infatuation and had cheerfully borne great sacrifices to preserve it as an effective counterpoise to a group of interests and ambitions embodied in the Triple Alliance. With Russia involved in war and France pledged to support Russia, Sir Edward Grey inevitably found himself weighing Great Britain's obligations to these two members of the *Entente* group. His long diplomatic practice prevented his seeing any other but the conventional aspect of the case. He could not extricate himself from his diplomatic entanglements to judge the situation on its merits. The statement that he has given to the House of Commons emphasises two supreme considerations which have, according to him, determined his attitude. He defined Great Britain's position from the points of view of British interests and British honour. He said it would be disgraceful for Britain to leave France to bear the brunt of the German attack. He denied there was any definite understanding binding England to render military help to France in any contingency, but he made a clever appeal to a vague sentiment of friendship, which has after all entailed a far heavier burden on the British Empire than a definite military alliance with France could have done. Liberalism has always shrunk from definite Continental entanglements, but Sir Edward Grey's vague friendships have turned out to be far more costly and

far-reaching obligation
the public that had bee
have carried all before t
Sir Edward Grey's
given an engagement n
Sir Edward Grey regar
give a definite pledg
could not give any p
restore Belgian integri
narrowed issue of "
fateful decision and de
interests, Sir Edward G
would have suffered i
"we are going to suffer t
This mainly refers to ti
business, and even Sir E
of any direct menace to
war. Is this significa
meant as an indirect i
temptation to crush an
engaged in a life and d
two land frontiers, has
the policy of the Britis
mate defence of Britis
but in that case it wou
about it and clear ours

Frankly, we have
apologia about the war
menace to British inter
on the Continent, and
vindicated at the end
any such vindication
fighting on the side of
it seems to us that if
cause of civilisation in
great Slav menace t
Europe. The defeat
hegemony on Europ
such a contingency.
liberties, enslaved free
underfoot and has alwa
symbol of brute force
ironies of fate that, in
Great Britain, the hou
fight as the friend of
ism in the world.

However, as we h
but to explain. The
of Indian loyalty to
assurance to the
people of India.
service from pu
individuals. We
offers, but we ca
impotence of the loyal
Indians, who may no
whenever there is a
serve as food for pow
are fit to handle a
ligently grasp the
the real facts of the
their duty to save t
allow the people to
country and the E
in this war is negli
indeed be a great hum
of India were to be le

As for any very a
there may be no great
means no certain gain
tain loss. We repeat
which has been declar
old gations, not of In
that is conducive to e
from the shores of
struggle, or even in
with a crumb extort
if not doled out, as a
they had assisted
Indians would be
thing less than hum
overwhelming hatred
rian, who had hitherto
the Indian himself, a
soldier may be sent.

far-reaching obligations. The Tory chauvinists and a large section of the public that had been taught to hate Germany by the Tory Press have carried all before them, and the House of Commons has endorsed Sir Edward Grey's policy with much enthusiasm. Germany had given an engagement not to attack the French coast and shipping, but Sir Edward Grey regarded it as "too narrow" and wanted her to give a definite pledge to respect Belgian neutrality. Germany could not give any pledge of the kind, though she promised to restore Belgian integrity and independence after the war. On this narrowed issue of "honour" the British Cabinet has taken the fateful decision and declared war on Germany. As regards British interests, Sir Edward Grey has failed to make it definitely clear how they would have suffered in case of British neutrality. He says that "we are going to suffer terribly in this war, whether we are in it or not." This mainly refers to the inevitable results of the paralysis of trade and business, and even Sir Edward Grey seems to be conscious of the absence of any direct menace to British interests that is likely to arise from this war. Is this significant sentence then the fruit of cynicism and meant as an indirect incitement to war? We are not sure if the temptation to crush and destroy the German navy, while Germany is engaged in a life and death struggle with two powerful enemies on her two land frontiers, has not fed the British war-fever and determined the policy of the British Ministers. This may be construed as a legitimate defence of British interests by some stretch of imagination, but in that case it would have been much more decent to be frank about it and clear ourselves of cant.

Frankly, we have not been impressed by Sir Edward Grey's apologia about the war against Germany. We can see no direct menace to British interests that could have resulted from the struggle on the Continent, and we think British honour could have been asily vindicated at the end of the struggle if the course of events had made any such vindication necessary. Again, we do not like England fighting on the side of Russia. We hold no brief for Germany, but it seems to us that if there is any combatant who is defending the cause of civilisation in this struggle, it is the Germans fighting the great Slav menace to the liberties and institutions of civilised Europe. The defeat of the Teuton would eventually impose Russian hegemony on Europe, and we need not detail the horrors of such a contingency. The Muscovite has everywhere crushed human liberties, enslaved free and historic peoples, trampled ancient institutions underfoot and has always figured in the history of the world as a dark symbol of brute force and paralysing tyranny. It is one of the cruelest ironies of fate that, in the hour of the most fateful struggle in Europe, Great Britain, the home of freedom and of light, should have to fight as the friend of the most obscurantist and overbearing despotism in the world.

However, as we have already said, our business is not to judge but to explain. The war has evoked widespread expressions of Indian loyalty to the British Throne, and the Viceroy's assurance to the Home Government has gratified the people of India. There have been many offers for active service from public bodies and associations and individuals. We may not doubt the sincerity of these offers, but we cannot help ruminating over the essential impotence of the loyalty that binds us to the Throne of England. Indians, who may no doubt be ready to come in tens of thousands whenever there is a need to defend their country, are fit only to serve as food for powder and shot. We wonder how many of us are fit to handle a modern rifle and how many can even intelligently grasp the essentials of modern warfare. We trust the real facts of the situation in India will remind our rulers of their duty to save the manhood of the country from ruin and allow the people to train themselves for the defence of the country and the Empire. Thanks to her navy, England's risk in this war is negligeable, but in case of real danger it would indeed be a great humiliation to India and England if the defence of India were to be left to the care of an outsider, say, Japan.

As for any very active, if not also *effective*, emotion being evoked, there may be no great enthusiasm in this country for a war which means no certain gain to the people of India yet a good deal of certain loss. We repeat, there may be no enthusiasm in India for a war which has been declared on account of some mysterious international obligations, not of India, but of an Empire which can mean little that is conducive to enthusiasm in those that have been turned back from the shores of Canada after a bold challenge and a brave struggle, or even in those who in South Africa have to be satisfied with a crumb extorted by their sufferings in a passive resistance, if not doled out, as a matter of charity, by the Boers against whom they had assisted the Government of the self-same Empire. Indians would be something more than human, if not something less than human, if they could raise on the instant an overwhelming hatred of the German, the Austrian and the Hungarian, who had hitherto been treated with far greater consideration than the Indian himself, and against whom even in time of war no Indian soldier may be sent. But only a lunatic could dream of another Government for India than the one she has hitherto enjoyed inspite of all its shortcomings, and if volunteers are being recruited on account of "the enormous responsibilities" of the Imperial Government in India one can only laugh at so much ado about nothing, or grieve over the fatuity of thosewho have lived in India for three centuries, and ruled over parts of it for over a hundred and fifty years, and yet are as ignorant of that which passes in the heart of India as if Sir Thomas Rowe came on his mission only a year ago and Clive had won at Plassey but yesterday. One can only say with the poet:

یارب وہ نہ سمجھے ہیں نہ سمجھینگے مری بات
دی اور دل اونکو جو نہ دی مجھکو زبان اور

(O God! They have not understood nor will they understand my meaning. Give them another heart, if Thou will not give me another tongue.)

We are glad to learn from *Pioneer* of last Sunday that the Hon. Mr. Hailey, the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, had *not* issued the letter "calling on Europeans to prepare themselves for emergencies" about which its correspondent had wired to it from Delhi; and even "merely as a Volunteer Officer," Mr. Hailey need not trouble to address "certain persons, pointing out that in the "present circumstances, it is advisable that Volunteer Corps should "be at full possible strength." There are still some sane people among Indians themselves, and though they do not advertise the offer of their personal services to the Government, whatever influence they possess with the people would be used to decrease rather than increase the Government's embarrassment. They could offer no better guarantees than this that they regard India's connection with Great Britain as, at the present stage of India's growth, indispensable; and we are sure that the less lofty motive of self-interest would wear better and stand the strain of circumstances longer than the lip-loyalty of *Jo-Huzurs*.

Whether Great Britain has respected Moslem Indian feeling in her dealings with Turkey, Persia, Morocco or not; whether the utterances of His Majesty's Ministers regarding the Turks in their life and death struggle during the late war have been just and consistent or unjust and inconsistent; whether their action following two breaches of treaty obligations, by Austria in Bosnia and Herzegovina and by Italy in the Tripolitaine, have tallied or not with the recent public proclamation of their sense of the sacredness of treaties; whether their conscience has revolted or not at the slaughter of babes and sucklings, unprotected womanhood and bedridden age in Tripoli and the Balkans; whether the white Colonials' treatment of coloured fellow-citizens of the same Empire has been fair or otherwise; whether the Home Government has exerted its full pressure on the Colonials to right the wrong or has only assumed an incredible impotence; whether Indian claims for an equitable adjustment of rights and duties and for a fair share in guiding the destinies of their own country have been met by the British bureaucracy in the spirit of friendliness or of jealousy and rancour; whether in the annulment of the partition of Bengal the Mussalmans were treated with due consideration for their loyalty or it was underrated and their contentment taken too much for granted; whether the sanctity of their places of worship and the integrity of their graveyards have been uniformly respected or sometimes lightly sacrificed to the Moloch of Prestige—we say that, irrespective of any or all these considerations, or rather because we have carefully weighed them all against the one supreme consideration, our need of England and her tutelage at the present stage of our national and communal growth, and found her good exceeding by a very great deal her evil, we shall remain loyal to her as only free men can remain loyal, with a sincere devotion and an unbought submission, and this whether she crushes the naval power of Germany and becomes a dictator to Europe, or the last ship of her mighty Armada sinks in the North Sea and her last soldier falls down and dies round Liége or London.

We do not even wish to talk of "loyalty" in this connection, for of late

دھر میں تشت وفا وجہ تسلی نہوا * ہی یہہ وہ لفظ کہ شرمندۂ معنی نہوا

(In the universe the mere scrawling of "fidelity" has offered no consolation: 'tis a word which owes nothing to sense and meaning.) We therefore talk not of loyalty but call this patriotism, for even if England may not need us, we have need of her. Believing in political purity rather than in political prudery, we have entered the lists with her biggest bureaucrats in India in time of peace. But in time of war the clash of steel in civic battles must cease and the voice of controversy must be hushed, and if we cannot hastily command in others an enthusiasm for this war which we ourselves do not feel, let us once and for all assure the Government that so far as we and those within the orbit of our influence are concerned, they can sleep in peace. Let alone provincial satraps and the still greater despots of their districts, their meanest, if not their humblest policeman will find us at his beck and call whenever civic excitement has to be allayed. More than this we cannot proclaim. Less than this we shall not confess. This is and has always been our creed and to that we shall adhere.

The Campaign.

I.—Visions Materialized.

That which Europe has dreaded so long, and yet that which Europe has consistently worked for so long—sometimes consciously, sometimes unconsciously—has come to pass at last. Whenever the annual estimates of various Powers for their armies and navies came up for discussion, whenever some new design of battleship or new pattern of gun or rifle, or some new formula for an explosive to be used therein was announced, or whenever some Power raided or attempted to raid a weaker nation in Asia or Africa, and some other Power felt indignant at such aggression against its own destined prey, and cried halt to the aggressor, or demanded "compensation," people talked of Armageddon, and before the eyes of each rose a vision of the devastation that would be wrought by the latest instruments which Science had been enslaved to manufacture not for the preservation, but for the destruction of mankind. Visions of carnage and rapine, mutilation and misery, famine and disease, and every other scourge that past experience makes the world associate with war, stood forth before the gaze of all beholders, like Banquo's ghost that came to the feast of Macbeth. But Europe had supped so full of horrors during the last few years that familiarity with them deprived these visions of much of their horror, and the unbidden guests came and went unnoticed at her feasts. But for all her familiarity with such airy visions, the substantial reality is now at her festive board, and one knows not how many kings it will push off from their stools. At any rate, every one who has seen such visions has now ample opportunity to compare them with the reality. If present portents can be relied upon, we fear the reality would be much worse than the most horrible vision, and the European struggle that commenced with Austria's declaration of war against Servia would dwarf in its magnitude, character and consequences the Napoleanic wars which have hitherto been regarded by succeeding generations of men with an awe associated with cataclysms of the gravest import and greatest magnitude.

II.—The War Correspondent: Entrance and Exit.

Human mind is so constituted that those one knows not one also does not sympathise with sufficiently to be curious about their doings. Although the Esquimaux and the Hottentots are human beings just as much as the Germans and the French, it is difficult for those who know the Germans and the French, but do not know the Esquimaux and the Hottentots equally well to feel as much interested in their affairs as in those of the Germans and the French, and this irrespective of the obvious fact that the affairs of an uncivilized people will not possess as much interest as those of nations in the vanguard of civilization. Curiosity is the appetite which grows with what it feeds on, and the more we know of a people the more curious we are to know more of them. When the world was younger than it is to-day, people knew very little of those living at some distance from them, and were therefore incurious about their affairs. As knowledge of the world has grown, our curiosity about the affairs of those who inhabit the world along with ourselves has also grown and, paradoxical as it may seem, when a much greater part of the world has been discovered than a few centuries ago, the world is much smaller than it used to be, for the extension of means of communication have, so to speak, reduced the scale of the world's map, and we have been brought much closer to each other than before. Even if human interests had not become so much inter-related to-day, we would have felt a far greater interest in our comparatively isolated sub-continent of India in the world-struggle that is now taking place to-day on the soil of Europe than our forefathers took in warfare on the borders of India or even within the confines of India herself. But the march of Science, as applied to the means of communication, has been so rapid that we forget that it was not so long ago that this self-same Science was almost at a standstill. The advent of the first War Correspondent, as of the first War Nurse, must be within living memory. Both in a way revolutionised warfare, if in different manners, and although our own feelings have become jaded and the thing has become stale by usage into the commonest common-place, what a sensation it must have been to newspaper readers in London 60 years ago to read long descriptive despatches in the morning papers about a war that was still in progress at the South Eastern end of the diagonal running across Europe, and to witness, as if it were, all the horror of war and enjoy all its thrills, while quietly breakfasting in their peaceful homes. Fast steamship services and express international trains had already reduced distances very considerably; but the cheap telegraphic messages annihilated distance altogether, and it became possible during the Russo-Japanese War to learn in the clubs and libraries of St. Petersburg and Tokio in the evening what had happened in the fields and around the forts of Manchuria in the morning. That Titanic struggle was practically witnessed by the people of five continents with as much ease as if it was being carried on under their very windows. But the perfection of war correspondence became its own undoing. News of the movements of troops wired to London by a war correspondent with the Japanese Army could be wired back the same day to St. Petersburg by the friends of Russia in the British metropolis, and wired on the next day to the Russian Generals in the field. War at its best is but a grim business, and is not carried on for the benefit of the war correspondents, the newspapers that engage them or the readers that buy the newspapers. Therefore, towards the latter part of that campaign, Japan, which though an Eastern nation, was, unlike the Turks, not as weak as she was polite, kept the war correspondents at a respectable distance from the war and carefully censored all that they sent to their papers. But in the recent Balkan War, the war correspondent had his eyes bandaged, his ears stuffed with cotton wool and his hands and feet tied, by the Balkan Allies and was then interned in a dungeon a few hundred miles away from the seat of war, and if the Turk was much more polite than this—and, let us add, much less wise—the correspondents that had accompanied Turkish armies showed so much gratitude in return when they wrote their despatches that we trust even the Turks have been cured of their inveterate politeness and have learned wisdom. Miss Durham, writing in this year's "World's Press" on "The Modern War Correspondents" in connection with their experiences during the Balkan War, says:—

> One actually slept in the stable with his horse, though there was plenty of accommodation, in order to be able to give a warlike flavour to his common-place experiences—"Our Own Correspondent Sleeps" . . . . . Another who arrived some days after a big battle, and was not allowed even to visit its site, made a drawing of the same in a bed-room of the hotel. Another published a photograph of the meeting of certain Generals, who met, in fact, at midnight, but they were induced to meet again next day and pose! They were all, I suppose, doing their best to "supply a felt-want." . . . . . Long columns of stuff describing how our Correspondent's motor-car stuck in the mud; on "Belgrade on the Eve of War"; "Our Own Correspondent Narrowly Escapes Death", and so forth, are mere pandering to the idle curiosity of the more ignorant of the public.

Let us be sure then that in this war, which is a life and death struggle of Titans, the war correspondent will be allowed to see even less than what he saw in the Balkans. The most rigorous censorship that can be imagined would be applied to all war news; but we have no doubt that if a war correspondent wished to play the *rôle* of Lieutenant Wagner of *Reichpost* fame, he would be given ample opportunity and every assistance for the purpose of weaving yards and yards of such texture. But their value to serious readers would be even less than that of the *yaps* heard in Lucknow *Chandookhanas* during the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-8 made famous by Ratan Nath, or, if we may be pardoned for the comparison, the lectures on the campaign which "Haji Baghlol," the *confrère* of our own Hon. Mr. Gup, threatens to deliver at least once a week for being reported in the *Hamdard*. For another reason, too, we may take it that this will be the worst reported campaign of all. Half Europe is in deadly grips with the other half, and unless America, baffled in her efforts at mediation, comes to our rescue, with her astoundingly enterprising journalists who stick at nothing in their quest for sensational news, there is every chance of the greatest war of the world being left unchronicled during its continuance for want of correspondents belonging to some neutral nation. We, in India, are placed in a particularly bad situation, for apart from the enormous distance from the seat of war and the congestion of practically the only cable that is now left to us, we have to face the difficulty of being regarded by Sir Edward Grey and his colleagues as in a special degree a source of "enormous responsibilities" to the Imperial Government. Evidently the calculated lies of a section of Anglo Indians have been believed rather than the assurance of the Viceroy; and those who regard Ireland as the brightest spot in the situation, and, inspite of the talk of Civil War on the lips of the most sober-minded and responsible subjects of His Majesty in Ireland, have revoked the Arms Proclamation, consider India to be deserving of at least a temporary embargo an all news of the war. Even at the risk of digressing, let us say how little they know India who only knowher thus.

III.—Austria and Servia.

Whatever news we have received amounts to very little more than what anyone reasonably well acquainted with military and naval matters could predict. The moment war between Germany and Russia became certain, war between Austria and Servia lost practically all its importance. Russian and Servian territories do not adjoin, so that we cannot consider Russia and Servia, like Austria and Germany, as practically one Power, unless Roumania also declares war against Austria and begins to act like a canal constructed to join two seas between which a nar ow isthmus intervenes. Even in that case, if, as is likely, Bulgaria declared war against Servia, it would not be difficult for Austria and Bulgaria together to block the 50 miles of Serbo-Roumanian frontier which separates Bulgaria from Hungary. So long, therefore, as both Roumania and Bulgaria are neutral, Servia and Montenegro combined cannot affect the great struggle that is now in progress beyond harassing Austria on her Hungarian, Bosnian and Herzegovinan frontiers. Before the recent complications had set in, Austria had attempted to cross the Danube at *Semlin*, which is a little to the

north of Belgrade. Although it was semi-officially stated at Vienna that the Servians had destroyed the bridge at Semlin on the morning of the 29th July, it was for sometime doubtful whether they had succeeded in doing so. But from later telegrams it appears that the bridge had been destroyed, and, repeated Austrian attempts to cross the Danube have been repulsed, and Belgrade, although in flames after Austrian bombardment, and with its recently abandoned palace badly damaged, still flies the Servian flag. Encouraged by subsequent complications and the pre-occupation of Austria on her northern frontier in Galicia, which is part of ill-fated Poland and adjoins its Russian portion, Servia took the offensive and attempted to cross the *Drina*, which is the western boundary separating Servia from Bosnia. But here the Austrian frontier guards appear to have been sufficient to oppose the crossing. Subsequently the Austrians seem to have attacked Servia all along her northern and western frontier at *Pozharevatz*, which is 50 miles to the south-east of Belgrade; at *Semendria*, which is at a distance of 12 miles to its south; at *Loznitza*, some 90 miles to the south-west, and at *Mokragora* which lies 70 miles to the south of Loznitza. But for all this, it does not seem likely that Austria would at present do anything more than hold the Serbs in check. Considering that Servia is land-locked, it may be to the advantage of the Austrians to exhaust her by delay and cut off the supplies both of Servia and Montenegro by means of the blockade at *Cattaro* and *Antivari* whence alone supplies can reach them from the sea. Success in this is, however, somewhat doubtful. The Bulgarians would certainly not assist their enemies, but the neutrality of Roumania is certainly friendly and that of Greece more than friendly to Servia. It, therefore, remains to be seen whether the naval blockade would be effective. At any rate, the Servian frontier is not likely to arrest our attention or that of Austria just at present.

IV.—Russia and Austria.

In the case of Austria and Russia, it was Russia that took the initiative, and Austria did not declare the war till late on the 6th or early on the 7th instant. A Berlin telegram of 31st July informed us that Russians had destroyed a railway bridge in Austria between *Szczakowa* and *Granitza*, places some 40 miles to the north-west of *Cracow* and at the junction of the frontiers of Germany, Russia and Austria. Beyond this no news has yet been received of Austro-Russian movements except that Austria has apparently almost abandoned the attack on Servia and is moving troops in the direction of her northern Polish province of Galicia to confront Russia, and that Russian troops have entered Austrian territory in the valley of the *Styr*, attacking her at her extreme north-west frontier near *Lemburg*.

V.—Russia and Germany.

Turning to the Russo-German struggle, the first news that we received was from Berlin, dated July 30th, that German troops were moving in response to a Russian advance towards *Wirballen*, a place which we have not been able to discover on any easily available map. Two days after, that is on the 1st of August, Germany declared war on Russia, and on the same day the first shots of war were fired on the Russian frontier, a Russian patrol coming into collision with a German patrol near *Prostken*, 300 yards on the German side of the frontier. No such place can be located on the map, and it may be that the place referred to is *Pitschen* or *Pleschen*, both of which are on the western frontier of Germany, the former being 20 miles to the south and the latter some 8 miles to the north-west of *Kalisz*. Next day, according to a Berlin message, a strong Russian column, including guns and Cossacks, invaded Germany near *Bialla*, which appears to be a small town on the Austrian side of the junction of the three frontiers of Russia, Germany and Austria, and at a distance of about 45 miles from *Cracow* to the south-west. Another message, this time from *Kœnigsberg*, on the extreme north-east frontier of Germany on the river *Pregel* which falls into the Baltic in Danzig Bay, announced that the Russians had crossed the frontier at several points and inflicted considerable damage. Two days later, the Germans occupied three points on the Russian side of the frontier in Poland: *Kalisz*, which is opposite to the German towns *Krotoschin* and *Ostrowo*; *Czenstochova*, some 40 miles to the south of Kalisz and *Vendzin* or *Bendzin*, some 25 miles to the south of Czenstochova. Evidently only mere skirmishes had taken place, and while Russia was mobilizing with customary slowness, Germany had concentrated her efforts on the invasion of France. We, however, hear now that Russian mobilization will be completed earlier than it is expected, which may be anything between a fortnight and a month. In the meantime, the Russians have suffered serious losses, the German cavalry having attacked *Kibarty* near Wirballen.

But, as Mr. Winston Churchill said in the course of his speech on the German Navy Act in the Commons in 1912, there are some points with regard to navies and naval war which differentiate them from armies and land war. One is the awful suddenness with which naval war can reach its decisive phase, a fact of which the reported naval victory of Great Britain at *Dogger Bank*, which strangely enough has not yet been officially confirmed, may prove an apt illustration. On the other hand, between the declaration of war and any decisive collision between two contending armies, there intervenes an inevitable period of delay due to the vast process of mobilization. This consideration does not apply to fleets which are fully capable of going into action straight from manœuvres as soon as the ammunition could be brought up and put by the side of the guns. The Russian and German fleets have already had an encounter in the Baltic Sea. The Russian Pacific fleet was almost completely annihilated in the operations before Port Arthur, and the Baltic fleet practically disappeared in the disastrous battle of Tsushima in the Russo-Japanese War. But the bulk of the Black Sea fleet and a few other battleships were still left, and since 1904, steps have been taken to build new ships, though the Duma has been far from willing at all times to vote money for rebuilding the navy. According to the latest reports, the Baltic fleet of Russia consisted of 4 Dreadnoughts each of 23,300 tons displacement with twelve 12 in. and sixteen 4·7 guns for armament, and a speed of 22 knots, which were designed in 1908 and have evidently been completed subsequent to the date on which the statement of the strength of various navies which we have reproduced elsewhere was presented to the House of Commons. Four others of greater displacement and with guns of larger calibre, also of greater speed, designed in 1912 will not be ready before next year. There are four other battleships, two designed in 1899 and the other two in 1904, all pre-Dreadnoughts. There are, in addition, twelve armoured cruisers and protected cruisers of designs dating from 1892 to 1905. Six other cruisers designed in 1913 of comparatively low displacement are not yet ready. Besides these are three torpedo gunboats, 21 large destroyers and 58 smaller ones, 26 torpedo boats and 29 submarines. Thirty-six larger destroyers and 12 submarines are still building. In addition to this fleet, Russia possessed in the Black Sea a smaller fleet consisting of 6 or 7 pre-Dreadnought battleships and 2 protected cruisers, with a complement of destroyers, torpedo boats and submarines. But unless Turkey permits or she is forced, the Black Sea fleet can be of no use in this war, and Russia will have to face the German fleet with the ships that she has in the Baltic. Germany has the advantage of greater fluidity, for her Kaiser-Wilhelm Canal, from *Kiel* to the *Elbe*, facilitates the transference of forces from the naval base at *Wilhelmshaven* on the North Sea to the other base at *Kiel* on the Baltic. The German naval strength in the Baltic seems to be fully equal to that of Russia even without the assistance of the North Sea fleet which would be required in the struggle with the British fleet. The chief base of the Russian Baltic fleet is *Cronstadt* which is heavily fortified; but the Gulf of Finland is usually blocked by ice from November to April, whereby the operations of the fleet are impeded; and if a decisive action is not fought within the next few weeks, Russia will in one way be considerably handicapped, though in another way she could consider herself safe from the attack of the German fleet. Recently she has made ready for her fleet a new ice-free port at *Libau* in Courland. But it was reported from Berlin on the 3rd August, that the German protected cruiser *Augsburg*, which has a displacement of 4,280 tons and has an armament of twelve 4·1 in. guns, and was completed in 1909, was bombarding Libau which was on fire. Shortly after this another telegram from Stockholm was despatched stating that the German and Russian fleets had been engaged near *Aland*, which is the chief of a group of 300 small islands at the entrance of the Gulf of Bothnia; that the Russians were driven into the Gulf of Finland; and that the Germans had occupied the islands. Fishermen had reported that a large Russian warship was ashore there. A Russian account of the Libau affair said that German cruisers had shelled and ignited a naval hospital and private houses, but that otherwise little damage had been done. Nevertheless, a St. Petersburg message stated that 19 German warships were off Libau and *Memel*, the northernmost point on the Russo-German frontier situated on the Baltic. Apart from this engagement in the Baltic, the *Daily Mail* reported on 6th instant from Tientsin that the Russian warship *Askold* and the German warship *Emden* were both sunk in an engagement between the two vessels off *Wei-hei-wei*, the well-known Chinese port in the Yellow Sea. The *Askold* was a protected cruiser of 5,905 tons displacement, with twelve 6 in. guns in shields, twelve 8 in. twelve pounders and eight three pounders, and was launched in 1900. The *Emden* was a protected cruiser of 3,592 tons displacement, with three 4·7 in. guns and was launched in 1908.

VI.—Franco-German Naval Collisions.

The centre of attraction, however, is neither the Serbo-Austrian, nor the Austro-Russian, nor the Russo-German frontier, nor even the Baltic Sea. All eyes have been rivetted on the Franco-German frontier and on the North Sea, and although news are extremely meagre, there is enough to interest the spectators in this great struggle. But before proceeding to summarise the news of the German advance on France through Belgium or the French counter-attack on Alsace and Loraine, or dealing with the news of the naval engagement in the North Sea, we may mention that there is not at present any probability of a Franco-German struggle on the high seas. The French navy has been concentrated chiefly in the

Mediterranean, near enough to the African possessions of France while guarding her Mediterranean coast at the same time. The main German fleets are in the North and in the Baltic Seas, but occasional German cruisers may still be roaming over the Mediterranean, or the Indian Ocean in the vicinity of German East Africa or the Southern Atlantic in the vicinity of the Cameroons in West Africa. It is believed that there are eight German warships at Dar-us-Salam, a German East African port near Zanzibar, which have necessitated special precautions in Bombay and Colombo. Such a one is the protected cruiser *Breslau* with a displacement of 4,478 tons and an armament of twelve 4 in. guns, with a speed of 26·9 knots per hour, which was launched in 1911. It was reported on the 5th August that she had bombarded *Bona*, a fortified Algerian town on the Mediterranean coast almost midway between Algiers and Tunis, and that afterwards she had steamed at full speed in a westerly direction. The same day a Paris message said that a French detachment had captured not only *Breslau* but also *Goeben*, a first class "Dreadnought" completed only two years ago which has a displacement of 22,635 tons, with ten 11 in., twelve 5·9 in. and twelve 3·4 in. guns and twelve 3·4 in. twentyfour pounders, with a speed in trials of 27·2 knots per hour. Not only that but *Panther*, although a small and comparatively old gun-boat of 984 tons, with two 4·1 guns and six one-pounders, but famous on account of her Agadir leap, was reported to have been sunk. The next day, it was officially stated in Berlin that the German ironclads in the Mediterranean had destroyed some fortified towns on the Algerian coast. If this be true, the *Breslau* has done a bold thing, particularly if she steamed off after her exploit at full speed in a westerly direction, which means towards Gibraltar. But probably the bombardment of Bona was nothing more than a gentle knock at the door to make sure that no French ship was there to pursue her. As for the westerly direction, it now appears that the German ships were not so foolhardy, for a telegram of the 7th instant from Rome announced that both *Goeben* and *Breslau* had left Messina (Sicily) with bands playing the National Anthem. The latest news is to the effect that both these are intact in the Mediterranean and that little *Panther* is not only safe, but was never in that sea at all.

VII.—The Franco German Frontier.

Having now cleared the ground for a somewhat detailed account of the German invasion of France, let us explain at the very outset that, whereas France after her cruel experiences of the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 has for a long time past fortified her western frontier with great care and at great expense, Germany has for reasons of its own disdained to draw up a defensive line, preferring to depend, as in the last war, upon its bold and vigorous initiative and its success in the first great shock of battle. The Germans have deliberately staked their policy on the expectation of a very early and immediate success after the outbreak of war. If they fail in that, they have no defensive line to fall back upon, and the failure to achieve immediate success under such a policy may, without much risk, be taken as equivalent to defeat. Before the Treaty of Frankfort was imposed on a beaten and battered France, the Franco-German frontier ran from the Swiss mountains along the Rhine for some 120 miles as the crow flies and then turned at right angles away from the Rhine to the frontier of the little independent country called the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. The frontier between the Grand Duchy and France continued the line to the neighbourhood of the town called *Longwy* where the Franco-Belgian frontier began. The new frontier since 1871 runs from this town of Longwy to the foothills of the *Vosges* mountains and then runs down their crest to the great French town and fortress of *Belfort*, which unlike Adrianople after its fall into Bulgarian hands—or in a way even before it—although taken was not annexed even by the harsh treaty which the proud Prussians had imposed upon France, but was left in French possession. Just beyond Belfort, the new frontier strikes the Swiss mountains, but at some distance from the Rhine. The territory thus annexed consists of Alsace in the south and Lorraine in the north, and is the old middle kingdom of Lotharingia that fell, along with Italy, to the share of, and took its name from the Emperor Lothar, the eldest grandson of Charlemagne, when by the Treaty of Verdun in 843, the Teutonic principle of equal division amongst heirs triumphing over the Roman one of the transmission of an indivisible Empire, his Empire was partitioned among his grandsons after the death of his son, Lewis the Pious. It has been practically since then a bone of contention between Western and Eastern Francia, or to use their modern synonyms, France and Germany. It may be just as well to mention here that, although German according to the laws imposed by the conquerors, the people of Alsace-Lorraine have at heart remained French all these forty-four years, and the recent somewhat comic incidents at Zabern arising out of the Alsatians making fun of German soldiers, and resulting in the sabring of a lame cobbler by an irate German Lieutenant, and the subsequent transfer of the regiment, clearly prepared us for the scenes now enacted after the re-entry of the French into the county. The new Franco-German frontier is some 200 miles long, and the obstacles designed by the French to prevent their being rushed by the Germans consist in the great ring fortress of *Belfort* at the southern end, then next order the *Vosges* mountains, which are such a difficult country that they need little artificial strengthening; then the great ring-fortress of *Epinal*, 50 miles to the north of *Belfort*; next the great ring-fortress of *Toul*, some 40 miles to the north-west of *Epinal*; and finally at the northern end of the system, the great ring-fortress of *Verdun*, 50 miles to the north-west of *Toul*. The main German idea upon which their plan of campaign against France seems to have been formed was, as military experts predicted long ago, to be the victors in the first round before England and Russia could enter the field. With this end in view, the Germans have been credited with the intention of trying at all costs to get well established on French soil, and concentrate as large an army as possible behind, that is to say, west of the line of the *Vosges*, so as to fight a decisive battle somewhere in the neighbourhood of *Reims* or *Chalons*, both in the Department of *Marne*, the former to the north-west and the latter to the south-west of *Verdun* and some 100 miles from Paris. All the French plans being based on the concentration of French forces at *Neufchateau* behind and midway between the ring-fortresses of *Toul* and *Epinal*, one of the objects of German strategists has been to seek a line of attack that would evade that base of concentration, and by rendering it inapplicable to the situation created by their strategy, embarrass the French to devise another base of concentration at the eleventh hour. Everyone seems to have given up for a long time past all idea of the Germans battering their heads against the stone wall that stands erect between *Belfort* and *Verdun*.

If we divide these 145 miles into two more or less equal portions, one from *Belfort* to *Luneville*, which lies right on the frontier to the north of *Epinal* and to the south-east of *Toul*, and the other from *Luneville* to *Verdun*, we shall see in the case of the southern half of the frontier that the contracted front of the *Vosges* is almost as serious a disadvantage to the army acting on the offensive as the formidable character of its defences. Taking the northern half, there seem to be only four lines of advance open to the Germans. They are from *Metz* to *Verdun*—two roads, one *viâ Conflans*, and the other *viâ Mars la Tour*—through *Pont à Mausson* to *Commercy*, through *Chateau Salins* to *Nancy* and *Toul* and from *Strassburg* to *Luneville*. But these 70 miles between *Luneville* and *Verdun* constitute too restricted a space to make it possible for the Germans to employ more than half a million men, and in the event of any reverse or breakdown in the execution of the plan of attack, the Germans would find themselves exposed to heavy loss before they could get outside the range of a 70 miles long chain of fortresses, fort and battery.

VIII.—The Neutrality of Belgium.

However, there remains a third portion of the Franco-German frontier between *Verdun* and *Mezières*, a stretch of open country with a frontage of 50 miles, which is not studded with the same obstacles as have made the other two portions almost impregnable. This, according to many military authorities, is the German objective. It is not easy to say why this frontage was left so much less fortified than the 145 miles between *Belfort* and *Verdun*, for it seems to us unlikely that France, or, in fact, anybody, credited Germany, which is after all one of the "Great Powers", with a desire to respect such a thing as the neutrality of Belgium, the notorious "cockpit of Europe". When have European Powers in recent days respected treaties which they have solemnly signed that they should sleep peacefully in the hope that one of them would not break her plighted word. At any rate, Sir Edward Grey appears to have had no illusions on this head, for it was not sufficient for him to secure a guarantee that the German North Sea Fleet would not swoop down on the northern and western coasts of France, left unprotected on the strength of the *Entente* with England in return for French concentration in the Mediterranean, where the English fleet was left in a comparatively weak state. He further asked for a guarantee that the neutrality of Belgium would be respected, a demand which clearly implied that he, at any rate, knew Germany could never give such a guarantee. Had she given such a guarantee, it would have meant a complete paralysis of the German offensive and her forced dependence on defensive action which, as we have pointed out at the very outset, she has never contemplated. She herself had no quarrel either with Russia or with France. Austria was taking such action against a regicide nation as all European Powers would have heartily approved if taken against Turkey or some Asiatic nation. Russia, in the sacred name of Slav unification, which has as much meaning as the achievement of German dictatorship over Europe, made the quarrel her own, and put her slow and cumbrous machinery of mobilization into motion. To this Germany could respond only in one way, the way in which she has in fact responded. It was France that announced to the world her intention of assisting Russia; and if honour among the "Great Powers" is as strong a motive as it proverbially is among thieves, it was expected that Italy would counter-balance the mobilization of France. We

maintain, and we believe we maintain it with such distinguished British statesmen as Lord Morley, Mr. John Burns and Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, that this was no quarrel into which Great Britain was required to enter. At any rate, honour must have a very wide and strange connotation if it was equally dishonourable for England to remain neutral, for Germany to violate the neutrality of Belgium and for Italy to be anything but neutral in name and friendly in fact to the declared enemies of her sworn allies. With this, however, we are here only incidentally concerned. All that we desire to make clear is that if Russia was anxious to take up the cause of Servia, and France to assist Russia, Germany could not, consistently with her own safety, allow France to mobilize, even though her armies were concentrating at the tremendous distance of 5 miles from the German frontier. Nor could she respect the neutrality of Belgium, howsoever immoral its violation should be. Had she given the guarantees she was asked, she would have been at the mercy of France, and much as we would like ethics to be imported as often as possible into what is after all a sterner affair than the *welt-politiks* of the *Times*, we must confess we cannot regard German action as a more heinous offence against international morality than the British capture of the Danish fleet in 1807 during the great struggle against France, the present ally of England, to prevent the *possibility* of its co-operating with France. It was only a case of "Thy head or my head," and Germany has committed such a heinous offence as all European unhesitatingly Powers condemn in their neighbours, yet equally unhesitatingly commit themselves.

IX.—The Importance of Liege.

It is true that the undefended gap south of the frontiers of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg is too narrow to admit of any considerable German advance from *Thionville*, or as the German call it, *Diedenhofen*. But if the territories of Belgium and the Grand Duchy to the north are utilised for the passage of Germany's troops quartered in enormous numbers on her south-western frontier at *Gladbach, Cologne, Bonn* and *Coblenz*, and in addition to those that pass between *Treves, Thionville* and *Metz*, other German forces advance between the two points *Aix-la-Chapelle* and *Treves*, through Belgium, and the Grand Duchy on to the French territory lying between *Givet* on the north and *Longwy* in the south, there would be a frontage of more than 70 miles between *Verdun* and *Givet* over which the German avalanche could rush down with tremendous force.

This is evidently what the Germans have been doing. It is true that some show of turning the ring-fortress of Belfort in the south was made and Swiss neutrality was violated at *Montheliard* to the north of *Porrentruy*. But, probably, it was nothing more than a feint and nothing was seriously attempted. On the 2nd August Germany was reported to have invaded France at Cirey which is on the road from Strassburg to Luneville, and the *Times'* Correspondent believed that the German intention was to deliver a "cruel" attack on *Nancy*. But the cohesion of French covering forces was supposed to have decided her upon another line of entrance. This, however, is not easy to credit and the advance on Cirey appears to have been no better than the show of turning Belfort. But, so far as German offensive action is concerned, the portion of the German frontier on which our attention will have to be centred for sometime to come is the stretch of 150 miles between *Crefeld* on the north and *Thionville* on the south, through which the military camps of the Rhine province and even of Westphalia would hurl themselves at Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg in order to reach the French frontier between *Givet* and *Longwy*. In the south-western provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, Germany will have to be on the defensive. But the centre of attraction for the moment is the ring-fortress of *Liège*, of which a plan and description are given elsewhere.

So thoroughly had European opinion taken for granted the certainty that Germany would invade Belgium in case of war with France that the forntier of Belgium through which German armies would have to come has for many years been fortified in precisely the same way as the French frontier. It has been well understood that the German attack would have to be made along the line of the Lower Meuse river. But it is not possible to enter into Belgium without crossing that river, and the two fortresses of *Liège* and *Namur* had been strengthened in order to delay, if not altogether prevent, the entry of Germany into France through Belgian territory. Here a difference of opinion existed between military experts. Some have held that the Germans cannot cross the Meuse lower down than Liége and march through Belgium neglecting that fortress, because if they did so their line of communications—that is, the food of the army and its ammunition, and everything by which it exists as a fighting force, and an interruption in the supply of which would mean dafeat—would then run between two great fortified garrisons, Liége and *Antwerp*, with the third, a little further on that line of advance, at Namur. It is true that Antwerp and Liége lie far apart, but the former is indefinitely supplied by sea, and, so long as Germany does not control the sea, can be made the secure base of an ever-increasing force to act against the German communications. It has also been contended that they could not cross the Meuse between Namur and Leige, as for instance at *Huy*, because the gap is too narrow for safety, since their line of communication would be between two unconquered garrisons which would put the very life of the army into constant peril. They could not attack Namur before Liége, or Namur instead of Liége, because it is possible that the French would be at Namur before them. It is Leige that stands near the German frontier and Liége that blocks the way.

Other authorities, however, believed that even if the forts constructed under General Brialmont's direction at Liége and Namur were armed with the latest ordnance possessing the maximum yet attained range of about 21 miles, in lieu of the old with which they were armed in 1896 when the forts were constructed, which had a maximum range of 12 miles, Liége could only close the direct road from *Malmédy* through *Stavelot*, but its fire could not reach the road to *Viel Salm* from *Montenau* and *Liegneuville* or that from *St. Vith* to *Gouvy*. There are several useful lines of railway joining the main Brussels-Metz Line at *Marloie, Libramont, Arlon* and *Luxemburg*. Even if we exclude Namur, the Germans could gain six direct roads to the French frontier. They have the *Ourthe* valley road to *Marche-Rochefort* and to *Marche-Ciney*, both good for *Dinant, Beauraing* and *Givet*: the *Viel Salm, La Roche* and *St. Hubert* for *Bouillon* and *Sedan*; the *Stavelot, Bastogne* and *Libramont* road for *Bouillon* and *Carignan*; the *St. Vith-Gouvy* for the same destination: the *Diekirch-Arlon-Virton* for *Montmédy*; and the *Treves-Luxuemburg* road for Longwy. By the longest of the roads German territory is only 70 miles from French; by the shortest, Treves to Longwy, it is only 30 miles. For the last ten years Germany had been engaged in providing frontier railways flanking the projected front and in linking them up with the two bases on the middle Rhine, at Coblenz and Cologne. In addition to the railways, double-lined and metalled for heavy traffic, sidings have been provided at all the stations and at suitable points between them. Between *Montjoie* and St. Vith, a short distance of 10 or 12 miles, landing spaces sufficient for over 120,000 have been provided, and it has been confidently asserted that that force could be thrown across the Belgian frontier between *Francorchamps* and Gouvy in a single night without the Belgians knowing what was coming, the troops to be employed being entrained at Gladbach, Cologne, Bonn and Coblenz. It has been contended that there is not the smallest reason for hoping that this despatch of the advance force of the invaders would miscarry. If the whole *corps d'armée* were not over the border in the 24 hours, at least a sufficient part would be over to make sure of the possession of Libramont in half that time. It has been declared that the four cavalry regiments and four horse artillery batteries living in the *Elsenborn* camp during 6 months of the year would be at Libramont within 6 hours of leaving their base. Some three years ago, General Hellebaut, the Belgian Minister of War, referred to the official arrangements made for blowing up bridges on the railways and otherwise rendering them useless; but the military experts to whom we are now referring were of opinion that for the initial rush Germany would not use them. With Stavelot and *Trois Ponts* in the hands of the German Cavalry, they asked, could Belgian military authorities feel confident that the bridge over the *Amblève* would be destroyed! But even if it were destroyed, they said, it would not delay the German advance, which, so far as the Belgian soil is concerned, is to be made by the roads and not by rail. Belgian railways would only come into use for the purposes of supply and reinforcements. Even if the Belgian arrangements for placing the lines out of use worked to perfection, the German advance would not be retarded, and the German Railway Corps could repair the damage done to the line in a comparatively short space of time. To talk of delaying the German advance by blowing up a few bridges between Stavelot and Gouvy, may, in the opinion of these experts, be compared to trying to stop a cannon-ball with an open umbrella.

Since the *Liège* forts have been armed with new ordnance, the Germans had taken in hand the construction of strategic railways on the Belgian frontier. A miserable little line, 9 miles in all, which had till then served all the requirements of *Eupen*, the German frontier town, has since been converted into a double-railed line capable of supporting heavy traffic. It seems now pretty clear that the German design has been to seize the *Baraque de Michel*, the highest plateau in Belgium, being 2,190 feet high, from which German seige batteries could enter into a duel on the most favourable terms with two of the Liége fortresses, *Chaudfontaine* and *Embourg*. In this way at least, thought these experts, the Belgian artillerist in those forts would have other work to do than cannonading the Stavelot-Malmedy route at a range of 18 or 90 miles.

This opinion has been hotly contested among others by that brilliant writer and politician, Mr. Hilaire Belloc, to whom we owe the plan of the ring-fortress of Liege and the description which we reproduce elsewhere. He acknowledged the authority of the experts whose opinion we have quoted above, but said that inspite of their opinions, it did not seem probable or even possible that the

Germans would do anything so foolish. For this he offers the following reasons :—

> **Much the greater part of that eighty miles is the exceedingly difficult country of the Ardennes. One must know it intimately (as I do) to be confident (as I am) that any large force (and nothing less than 200,000 men can be considered) attempting an entry through all that ill-provisioned, precipitous, and thickly wooded country would be at the mercy of an active enemy upon its northern flank. Progress would be embarrassed and slow. The obstacles encountered increase in difficulty rapidly as the French Frontier is approached. For one mile that the five columns would advance along the only possible five roads, troops poured on to the Lower Meuse by the industrial railways of South Belgium from France would be advancing five or ten ; and, indeed, even those who still believe that the Ardennes march is possible admit that a large force to guard it upon the northern flank by Namur and Liège would be necessary. All are agreed that the Ardennes march could not be undertaken until Liège had fallen also. In other words, even those who believe in the Ardennes march also take for granted heavy action upon the Lower Meuse, upon the Liège-Namur line, and it is certain that upon that line, and the German success or failure there, Germany's success or failure in turning the French frontier by Belgium and the north would depend.**

In justice to those who believed that the Germans would not be deterred or delayed in the advance on Libramont, which may be regarded as their first strategical objective, it must be said that they did not for a moment consider Belgium to be a negligeable quantity, nor did they disregard the importance of the fortified position of Liège or the difficulties of an advance across the *Ardennes*. But they maintained that even for all these considerations the Germans would not defer the dash on Libramont, but that it would be coupled with a polite but a firm request to the Belgians delivered by another army corps from that hastening to *Semois* to allow the Germans to take care of the Liège forts for them. They could not then forecast the Belgian reply to that request, but they at least assumed that the guns at Chaudfontaine and Embourg would have other work to do for a long time than to enfilade the road from Malmédy to Stavelot. The Germans, in their opinion, were capable of supplementing the advance through the Belgian Ardennes with a movement encompassing the six forts of Liège on the right bank of the Meuse. Some of those forts they believe to be very strong, but others, in their opinion, were not so strong, and what is not certain is whether the position would become untenable if *Boncelles* or *Evegnée* were captured or demolished. It has also to be remembered that if the German siege batteries could hold their ground round the Baraque de Michel and *Gileppe*, their fire would reach the city of Liège itself. If, however, the Belgians displayed the moral fortitude to hold out at Liège despite the imposing demonstration that the Germans made against them, it was believed that they ought to be able to maintain their ground until aid reached them from both France and England. Even if they could not accomplish so much, the arrest of the Germans at Liège for a few weeks would secure the time needed to organise a formidable interior place of stand reposing on the fortified position of Namur. If, on the other hand, Liège succumbed to the Germans soon enough, it was believed, Namur, which is a far weaker position than Liège, could not be converted in time into an adequate base for national defence. Besides, the loss of Liège would compromise the whole Belgian position outside Antwerp which is a place entirely for a defensive and not offensive action, and the British expeditionary force which could only profitably work from the side of Antwerp could not prove of as great assistance as it would do were Liège still in Belgian hands although invested by German troops.

The completeness of the success of Germany's attack on the north-east frontier of France would depend, therefore, in any case, on the fate of Liège. If it passed into her hands in the first few days of war, the German strategist would have no anxiety about their right flank and would press on the broad front from Givet to Thionville. These authorities believed that the German troops marching across the Belgian Ardennes would consist of one entire army corps, (which means about 43,000 men), in the first place, to be increased to two as soon as the fate of Liège was decided. This would be the right wing of the army of invasion. But the left wing, moving through Treves, Thionville and Luxemburg would be even more formidable. Its objective would be *Stenay* and *Vouziers*. The taking up of a strong position on the *Aisne* by the two armies moving through Belgium and the Grand Duchy would represent the successful achievement of the first stage in the German plan of campaign against France. It is not easy, thought these experts, to see how a German success upto that point could be prevented. To obtain her primary objectives, Germany, in their opinion, would be prepared to waste a large number of men. The cost of men, they maintained, would not prevent her straining every effort to attain her ends.

X.—The Germans in Belgium.

Now if one carefully reads the telegrams hitherto received he would note that the Germans have neither evaded nor neglected Liège. But although we do not hear much about it, the very first news of German advance towards French territory referred to their march on Longwy, which is, as we have pointed out before, only 30 milse from Treves and the shortest route from the German to the French frontier through the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg.

On the 2nd of August, a Luxemburg telegram announced that a trainload of German soldiers had arrived at the Railway Station and that the troops had seized the bridges in order to ensure the regular passage of military trains across the Grand Duchy, inspite of the protests of the authorities, the German asserting that the railway lines belonged to them and that they had a right to do what they liked, and refusing to withdraw. Possibly the Germans are also advancing along a line further north than the Treves-Longwy route, and although we may not be hearing of them German troops may be pushing on through the Belgian Ardennes, inspite of the difficult terrain, along some of the other five direct roads from the German to the French frontier which are said to be excellent and which we have mentioned above in detail. Nevertheless Mr. Hilaire Belloc's view seems to have been, to a great extent, if not entirely, that of the German Generals also, for unless their movements through the Ardennes have been kept secret, German activity seems to be centred almost exclusively round Liège.

The latest telegram shows that they are advancing on France chiefly through "Eschsuralzette" which the *Pioneer*, too, could not locate, but which must be the "telegraphese" for the "*Esch* on *Alzette*", Alzette being a river which runs near Longwy. Possibly the Germans have not thought it safe to go higher up, at least before Liège is reduced.

The 11th German Corps advanced on the night of the 3rd August and massed between *Moresnet* and *Eupen*. On the morning of the 4th, the Germans entered Belgium in three columns at *Gemmenich*, *Henri Chappelle* and *Dolhein* (Limbourg). They first reached *Vise* and halted on the right bank of the Meuse. The Belgians defending the left bank prevented the construction of a pontoon bridge. Sharp cavalry engagements occurred, the Belgians having the advantage of being supported by the Liège forts, which refused the German demand of surrender. The columns at Henri Chappelle advancing on Liège were reported to have been held up by Belgians. A little later another telegram announced that the Germans had begun the bombardment not only of Liège but also of Namur, which meant that the Germans had pushed on far enough into Belgian territory to have Namur within the range of their guns. As General Hellebaut had announced three years ago, the Belgians had succeeded in breaking down bridges and destroying railways, but the Germans had gone north-ward and crossed the Meuse lower down at *Eysden*. Not being satisfied with a single army Corps, they had pushed forward no less than three. The 10th Corps which consists practically of Hanovarians, was at Eysden opposite to Aix-la-Chapelle and at some 10 or 15 miles from it, the 7th which is composed of troops from Westphalia was at *Verviers*, some 17 or 18 miles to the south-west of Aix-la-Chapelle and some 15 miles to the east of Liège, and the 6th at a place unknown, possibly marching on from the south of Verviers towards French territory. The Germans fired on Vise, which is about 10 miles to the north-east of Liège, and on *Argentau*, both towns bring in the plains, and decimated the population of Vise. A hundred thousand Germans were reported to be marching on Liège and had reached *Herve* (which is opposite to and only 10 miles from it), *Repmister* (which we have not been able to locate on the maps), and *Remouchamps*, 15 miles to the south of Liège. Certain forts on the Meuse were also reported to be ablaze.

A subsequent telegram explained that the Germans had suffered heavy loss through Belgian bombardment as they were constructing a pontoon bridge over the Meuse, but that they had succeeded in crossing by a ford. The Belgian official report announced that on the 5th instant 25,000 Belgian troops at Liège took the field occupying a most extensive front and with most extraordinary endurance repelled the repeated vigorous attacks of 40,000 men composing the German 7th Army Corps, and that they delivered a counter-attack which was completely successful. We do not know whether to credit the Belgians with most extraordinary endurance or the Germans with no less extraordinary ill-luck, for we learn that the Germans had traversed the mine zone and the mines had exploded killing whole batallions. Early on the 6th, it was reported that the Belgians had repulsed the Germans in fighting near Liége and that the 11th Belgian Corps at that fort pursued the 7th German Corps with such energy that the General Commanding had to call a halt and keep them within the range of the fort. The Westphalians must have suffered from the explosion terribly, but on the afternoon of the 6th they seem to have made, according to a Brussel's report, a most desperate attack on Liège. The cannonade had gone on throughout the

previous night. On the following day, the Uhlans, who are German lancers, were credited by the Belgians with having made a most gallant effort and peneterated into the towns, but it was stated that the Belgians had exterminated them. An attack of the 10th Army Corps was expected on the night of the 6th. which was probably delivered. But the Belgian Minister of War announced on the 7th that the Germans had asked for an armistice of 24 hours and admitted casualties to the enormous figure of 25,000 men. The same day, another telegram stated that the Germans at Liège repeating the methods of 1870, were hurling masses of troops in frontal assaults, the men displaying reckless bravery and the killed exceeding the wounded in number. This would explain the request for an armistice of 24 hours, for the Germans may have wished for time to bury their dead. The German official version of the operation, dated the same day, while evidently acknowledging that the fortress was more modern than the Germans had expected, and that the German attempt on it had failed, stated that the hostile foreign press would characterize the enterprise as a defeat, but that it could not have the slightest influence on larger operations. It referred to the attempted *coup de main* of a small German detachment which with great boldness entered Liège with the object of seizing the Belgian Commander who is stated to have saved himself by flight. We may state here that although the German losses are in proportion to the improved condition of the Belgian army and the armaments of the ring-fortress of Liège, and therefore greater than expected, there can be no doubt that Germans are deliberately hurling themselves on the forts as they had planned years ago, and are evidently experimenting with some of their new theories for the capture of fortified places, believing that for an army such as theirs acting wholly on the offensive, and depending for ultimate success on their initial rush, it would be false economy in men and material to take greater precautions and thereby unnecessarily delay their march on the north-eastern frontier of France. As the authority whom we have quoted had stated 3 years ago, "the cost of men will not prevent her straining every effort to attain her ends." Time is the essence of the German plan of action, and if Germany can carry Liège even at the cost of an entire Army Corps before the British expeditionary force arrives at Antwerp, which is not likely to do so at least for a week, Germany's present losses would ultimately prove to be her gain. She is, therefore, justified, barring the natural and obvious exaggeration of language, in claiming that her want of success in the attempted *coup de main* at Liège on the 5th instant cannot have the slightest influence on larger operations. As for her claim that the attempt was a "unique act of heroism in the "history of war and a sign of the gallantry of our troops", the excess of the dead over the wounded would offer ample testimony in its favour even if there was not the tribute of her enemies about the "reckless bravery" of her men.

The latest available news does not lend much support to the Brussels telegram of 7th August that Liège is quiet and the Germans have at present retired, for we learn that Germans have already entered the town of Liège and taken a number of notable among the civil population as hostages, and that the forts cannot train their guns on these adventurous Germans because when shot and shrapnel burst there they would not be respectors of persons, but would decimate friends and foes alike. The forts are still reported by the Belgians to be intact, but the announcement of the Belgians' resolve to blow them up rather than surrender them to the Germans shows that the alternatives may soon have to be faced. Naturally, on every one's lips is the question, "When will the English come?" But this only shows that if the English do not come in a day or two the end of the Belgian forts of Liège and possibly of the gallant Belgian army may come earlier. We must remember that the siege of Liège is a little over a week old, and if the reckless bravery of the Germans leads to its surrender or the blowing up of its forts within the next week, Germany would secure a success that would far outweigh in the ultimate result the present brilliant entry of the French into the territory that was severed from the French trunk 44 years ago.

It is stated that the King of the Belgians is at *Louvain* (which is 30 miles to north-east of Liège and 10 miles to the west of Brussels) with 125,000 troops, or practically the entire field force of the Belgians. But to deal with it would require less effort on the part of Germany than to disarm the opposition of 30,000 men in the ring-fortress of Liège which is supposed to be the strongest in the world. We have hitherto heard nothing of the British expeditionary force which may amount to 150,000, if the British Isles themselves are practically denuded of every regular soldier, and the civil population, depending on the supremacy of the British Navy on the sea, trusts herself entirely to the protection of Lord Haldane's Territorial Army of some 250,000 Volunteers who have undergone training for no more than a fortnight in camp and a certain number of drills every year for two or three years only, besides the Ulster and the Nationalist Volunteers in Ireland who are certainly not likely to be better trained. But it is doubtful if more than 70,000 could be despatched at least to meet the initial shock of battle in defence of Belgian neutrality. If this force arrives at the scene in sufficient numbers before Liège is taken, it would no doubt be of great use in delaying, if not preventing, the German advance on France. But British mobilization is slow, and the British expeditionary force may arrive too late to prevent a decisive conflict somewhere in the vicinity of Sedan where the Prussians completely defeated the French 44 years ago. With this, however, we shall deal in greater detail next week.

As for the French army, we learn that French troops are gardually coming in to assist the Belgians and are co-operating with them. But the authority which we have quoted from so copiously before believes that if the French pour over into Belgium to meet Germany half way, they will be playing her game and equalizing the chances of loss. An obstinate defence without risking too much in any pitched action north of the *Reims-Laon-La Fere* line is clearly the best French strategy. Time would thus be gained for England to play her part, and the further German troops have got south of the *Semois* the better the British chance of striking at their rear. It will be not a bad thing for France's chances of final victory if the first great battle of the war can be deferred until the Germans are in the *Aisne* valley, where, however, we already hear they are entrenching. It was believed that it would take the Germans much longer to get there than the three weeks the British required to come into action, and it is not difficult to conceive a situation in which the Germans might find themselves very uncomfortable. On the other hand, there is a risk that the French Generals will not relish the the idea of giving ground, and that they will strain every effort to meet the Germans before they have got off Belgian territory. This will be to fight the Germans' battle, and to risk giving the colour to the whole war by an initial blunder due to military pride. They should make allowance for the conditions under which their allies can alone come to their help. Both England and Russia must be slow from different circumstances. Therefore France must be patient and give ground. Catinat is the General they should take as their model, and *reculer pour mieux* should be their motto. The only way to baffle the German plan of campaign is to leave the development of its inherent difficulties to time and distance. The Germans will be far less formidable at *Rethel* or *Vouziers* if no battles have been lost by the French before they arrive there, than they would be at, let us say, Libramont or even Sedan. It will no doubt be disagreeable to French sentiment to see the first battles of the war occur on French soil, but victories there would be better than defeats further north. As for the French counter-attack on on Alsace-Lorraine, we shall deal with it later when the French advance has further developed. But it is difficult to believe that, although Germany has deliberately sacrificed defence to her universally admitted rapidity of mobilization for offence, beyond gaining in *elan* the French troops would be any the better for their rushing into the enemy's country than they would have been if they had patiently awaited his entry into France and made him give battle to them in their own country with all the security that they would possess at centres alike *Neufchateau, Chalons, Reims* or *Laon*. From the southern part of Alsace, round *Mulhausen*, through the pressure of superior force, the French seem to have already "brilliantly retired." The Austrians will soon be there and one cannot say how soon General Joffre's joy at embracing his long lost brothers of Alsace may be turned into sorrow.

As regards the still more interesting naval struggle between England and Germany in the North Sea, we must defer a detailed statement till the next issue, for beyond a general belief in England that a big battle has taken place in the North Sea and all kinds of rumours of a German disaster which Mr. Winston Churchill has brushed aside with his statement, we have only the private message received by His Excellency the Viceroy to the effect that after the action off Doggar Bank the German fleet was seen fleeing. No definite news beyond this has yet been received, and it would obviously serve no purpose to hazard an opinion about decisive operations in that quarter when the only thing allowed to be known by the athorities is that a German submarine has been sunk.

We hope this detailed though unavoidably lengthy statement about the campaign would throw some of the light that most of our readers, whose acquaintance with warfare, whether on land or on sea, is perhaps even less than our own, have sorely needed. We shall continue the statement from week to week as the Titanic struggle between five of the six greatest Powers of Europe and several other smaller kingdoms proceeds. This struggle is not likely to be a prolonged one, so that our labours though not protracted in point of time, would nevertheless be immense enough while it lasts. We only trust they will serve the purpose with which they have been undertaken.

Description of the Ring-fortress of Liege.

The works round Liege consisist of twelve isolated forts, forming the most perfect and the most formidable ring of defences in Europe or in the warld.

The ideal ring-fortress would be a town capable of ample provisioning, and lying within an exact circle of heights at an average of some 8,000 yards distance, each height some 4,000 yards from the next, each crowned with a self-contained closed work, and each such work within support of at least two others.

No such absolutely exact conditions exist, of course, in reality, but skill and the relief of the soil combined have endowed Liege with a ring of forts very nearly combining these conditions.

The circle, though not exact, more nearly exactthan in the case of any other ringfortress; its largest diameter is not 20 per cent. in excess of its shortest. The greatest distance between any two works is but 7,000 yards, the average less than 4,000. Each work is easily supported by two others, and often by three and in one case by four.

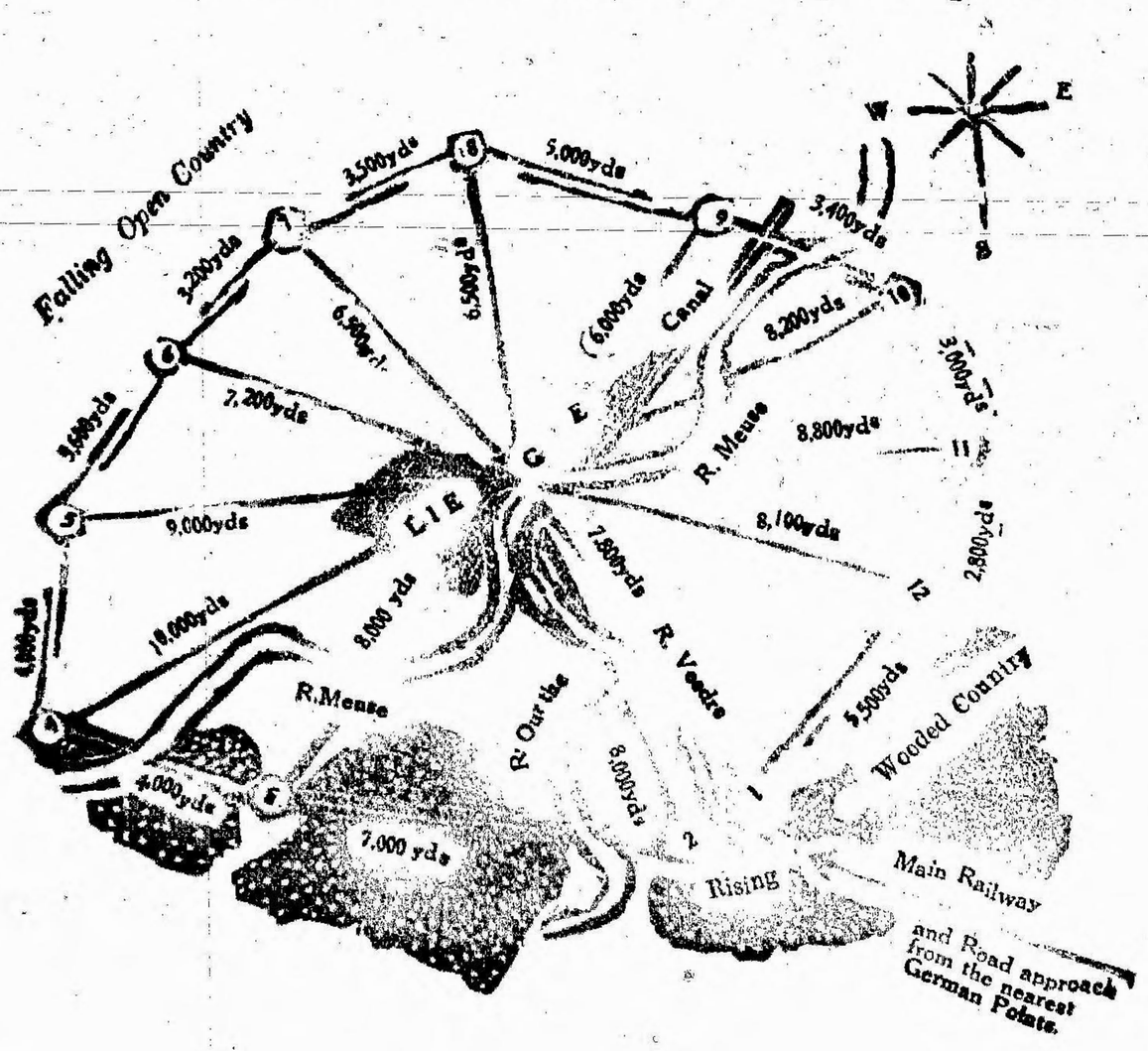
The valley of the Vesdre, coming in from the south-east and running in a deep ravine through wooded country, is the main avenue of approach from Germany by road and rail. It is blocked by forts (1) and (2), twhich stand about 350 feet above the stream, closely supporting each other and standing each on ground that tenfilades the upper and the lower valley. Forts (9) and (10) and (3) and (4) similarly lie above the Meuse at its entry into Liege and at its exit. (4) (Flemalle) occupies an isolated rock whence even (2) (at 12,000 yards) could be supported, and sweeping the high ground in front of (3) and (5). (9) (Pontisse) stands on a sort of flat peninsula, of height somewhat lower than its neigbours, but dominating all the Lower Meuse valley, as does also (10) on the other side of the river.

Then the broad gap, that between (3) and (2), is occupied by thick woods, further out by the ravine of the Ourthe.

I is true that the south-eastern half of the ring, beyond the Meuse, stands at the foot of gradually rising ground, but that ground rises too gradually to permit of any domination of forts (12) and 11, and is, moreover, wooded and difficult of access. On the north the whole half-circle of heights from (5) to (8) and nearly to (9) is a series of crests overlooking open country, which gradually falls away from before the works. There is not in the whole perimeter, not even on the steep facing slopes of (1) and (2), (4) or (9), a yard of dead ground that is not directly exposed to the fire of the next supporting work. (1) could not be taken unless (2) were taken simultaneously; and there is no "key-fort" which, if rushed, would dominate the neighbouring defences, unless we regard (1) and (2) as a single system, and think it conceivable that the German force could take both simultaneously by a "coup de main."

In a word, Liege with any adequate provision of gunners and supply, would stand a siege more thorough and prolonged than any of the other great ring-fortresses of Europe: and calculations based upon "rushing" its defences are calculations of defeat.

Plan of the Ring-Fortress of Liege.



War in Europe.

London, July 31.

Reuter wires from Hague that the Netherlands have proclaimed their neutrality.

Vienna press telegrams report that the Austrians have crossed Danube at two points, Belgrade and Semendria, after heavy fighting at the latter and are now advancing towards Osipanica and Nish.

No confirmation of these telegrams has been given officially.

Acute interests is attached to the attitude of Russia and Germany. Though it is officially denied that the latter sent an ultimatum to Russia, it was merely a matter of request for an explanation of the former's mobilisation; the news of the issue of Ukase calling out Reservist increased the strain in Berlin to breaking point. The Ukase was described officially in Berlin last evening as a challenge flung to Germany at a moment when the latter was doing her utmost to contrive a peaceful solution and must inevitably lead to counter measures.

The Stock Exchange has closed until further notice.

Colombo: Government orders have been issued to the effect that no vessel is allowed to enter the harbour at night except under a search-light. The local Engineer Volunteers have been entrusted with the work of surveillance.

Colombo: The Admiralty are enquiring for Welsh coal here all of which be taken over in case Great Britain is involved in the war.

There has been a further mobilization of Ceylon troops. The wireless stations are being guarded and batteries manned.

Colombo: The "Swiftsure" is under orders and is coaling.

London, August 1.

Germany has asked Russia her intentions regarding mobilisation and also France her intentions. She has requested in each case a prompt reply.

Reuter wires from Berlin that it is officially announced that the ultimatum to Russia expires at noon to-day.

It is becoming increasingly probable that Italy will maintain neutrality.

Reuter wires from Washington that it is officially stated here that the German Ambassador is leaving St. Petersburg.

Rome: It is semi-officially announced that Germany has delivered an ultimatum to Russia and France.

King George has intervened at St. Petersburg, consequently there is a ray of hope.

Paris: M. Viviani, conversing with the German Ambassador, pointed out that the French precautions were the result of Germany's mobilisation, the proof of France's desire for peace was the fact that Parliament had not been convoked.

The Ambassador remarked that there was a possibility of frontier incidents.

M. Viviani retorted that French troops were five miles from the frontier, while the Germans were on the frontier, hence the incidents were only provokable by the Germans.

The German Emperor has ordered the mobilisation of all German forces.

Newspapers are of opinion that Austria, Hungary and Germany are fighting a defensive war against Russia, and that therefore France is not bound to participate. Members of the German Embassy have left St. Petersburg.

Reuter learns that despite Ultimatums expiring, conversations between Vienna and St. Petersburg are continuing. M. Sasonoff says he is prepared to go to the last limit to prevent war.

General mobilisation has been ordered in Switzerland.

Germany has declared war on Russia.

The Kaiser in a speech from the Palace balcony said:—

"A dark day has broken over Germany. The sword is being forced into our hand. We hope if peace is impossible to wield the sword so as to sheath it with honour.

War will require enormous sacrifices. We must show our adversaries what it means to attack Germany.

Kneel to God and ask Him to help our brave army.

Th speech was received with ovations.

The Italian Foreign Minister has informed the German Ambassador of Italy's neutrality. He says her obligation under the Triple Alliance only apply to a defensive war. Italy considers herself released from her engagements, the war waged by Austria and supported by Germany being essentially an offensive war.

Reuter wires from St. Petersburgh that the sailing of the British Fleet from Portland created an immense impression here. This, coupled with Japan's assurances, has confirmed Russia's determination to stand to her guns.

With the closing of the New York Exchange yesterday, the world's stock markets are at standstill. Other markets are disorganised and foodstuffs etcetera are becoming continually dearer. Sugar is two pounds sterling higher per ton in England.

The following messages were despatched anterior to the declaration of war.

The price of cane-sugar is advancing. Speculation in beet sugar is demoralised.

Reuter wires from Paris that France has prohibited the export of foodstuffs.

As is inseparable from a time of national excitement so many wild rumours are in circulation that it is beyond the capacity of the responsible authorities to contradict them all. It may be stated, however, that the military precautions taken in India are confined to those that have been announced in general terms, and that stories in circulation of further action, as, for example, that the Sixth Poona Division is being mobilized for Egypt, are without foundation.

The Madras Agents of the North German Lloyd have received instructions not to book passengers by that line from Colombo either outward to homeward.

Cape Town: The German Consul, Vice-Consuls and entire staff of the Consulate are hurriedly leaving Cape Town to-day on the steamer *Saxon*.

The Consular headquarters are closed.

Karachi: Communication to Europe via Teheran has been totally interrupted west of Warsaw.

Berlin: The first shots of war have been fired on the Russian frontier.

A patrol yesterday afternoon fired at a German patrol near Prostken, 300 yards on the German side of the frontier.

The Germans returned fire.

There were no casualties.

Paris: M. Viviani and the German Ambassador conferred at half past five yesterday afternoon. Conversations are continuing on all sides despite mobilisation, particularly between Russia and Austria, and Germany and France.

Washington: President Wilson and the leaders of the Congress have agreed upon the bill permitting foreign ships to take American registry during the European crisis.

The announcement has been hailed with relief. It is estimated that 150,000,000 bushels of wheat engaged for export during the past month have been held back for lack of transportation.

There was great excitement in the West End of London on the declaration of war. The police had to disperse parties of Germans and Frenchmen who were demonstrating in the streets. Two Germans, one carrying a naked sword, were mobbed and had to be rescued by the police.

Mr. Illingsworth, in a Whip, to the Ministerialists, enjoins upon them to attend the sitting of Parliament on Monday for the transaction of new and important business. The newspapers believe that the object is to vote credit for preparations for war.

Washington: Germany, Great Britain, and France have asked the United States to take charge of their Embassies in case of emergency.

President Poincaré, in an appeal to the nation last evening, said that France was compelled like other nations to mobilise to safeguard her territory. The President says that mobilisation is not war; on the contrary, in the present circumstances, it appears the best assurance of peace with honour. The French Government, protected by the necessary precautions, would continue its diplomatic efforts and was still hopeful of success. It counts on the calm patriotism of the noble nation to help its Government.

London, Aug 2.

The Cabinet meeting lasted one and a half hours. The Ministers left looking anxious.

The crisis in Europe has produced a collapse in the money markets of the world the effect of which has manifested itself in India in a rapid fall in exchange. The Government of India has not been blind to this, but has recognised the necessity of immediate action, which is only delayed by the time inevitably occupied in completing the preliminary arrangements for rehabilitating exchange. The *communiqué* which is to issue in a few days will explain the action which the Government proposes to take to relieve the crisis.

It will be remembered that in 1908, when exchange also fell, successful steps were taken to bring exchange up to gravity, and now, presumably, once again the machinery of the Gold Reserve will be utilised to bring exchange back to its proper basis.

Koenigsberg: The Russians have crossed the frontier at several points and inflicted considerable damage.

Berlin: A strong Russian column including guns and Cossacks have invaded Germany near Biala.

Biala is a small town in Galicia, fifty miles south-west of Cracow. It has a population of 13,175 chiefly composed of Germans.

Germany has invaded France at Cirey.

The point referred to is apparently Cirey les Forges, between Strassburg and Luneburg.

Reuter's Agency has received an official announcement that a German force is marching on Longwy.

Longwy is a small town in the extreme north of the French department of Meurthe-et-Mosselle, eighteen miles west-south-west of Luxemburg. Its fortress capitulated to the Prussians three times, the first occasion being in 1792, the second in 1815 and third in 1871. It has a population of 10,000.

Berlin: A French aviator has dropped bombs into Nuremberg. Germany has protested on the ground that war has not been declared.

If the above telegram is correct, the French aviator has done a daring thing, for Nuremburg is some two hundred miles, as the aviator flies from the French frontier. The town is one of the most interesting and picturesque in the whole of Germany with a population of nearly 400,000. We can only hope that plucky aviator has left some of the delightful old pieces of mediæval architecture standing.

The French Ambassador, in a statement to Reuter, says that the whole responsibility rests with Germany, which invaded France without declaration of war while Austria and Russia were approaching an agreement. The Ambassador emphasised that German had violated the neutrality of Luxemburg which was guaranteed by the Treaty of London. He pointed out that France actually withdrew her troops from the frontier to avoid an accidental collision. He says that the world should know these facts.

Paris: Mobilisation is in progress throughout France. Tremendous enthusiasm reigns, and the Italians are joining the French in demonstrations.

Brussels: A hundred thousand Germans are crossing through Luxemburg and massing along the French frontier. Two German officers have been killed in the fighting in French territory near Longwy, yet the German Ambassador has not left Paris.

Luxemburg: A trainload of German soldiers has arrived at the station and troops have seized the Bridges in order to esure the regular passage of military trains across the Grand Duchy. The authorities have protested against violation of neutrality and a conference is proceeding at the Palace. The Germans assert that the railway lines belong to them and that they have a right to do what they like. They refuse to withdraw.

Enthusiastic scenes were witnessed in the West End to-night. Crowds wildly cheered Ministers as they left the Cabinet and soldiers and sailors received ovations.

The War Office has ordered the closing of training camps and the return of Territorials to headquarters.

A trawler has left to recall the fishing fleet from the North Sea.

Sir Edward Grey Reviews Position.

Sir Edward Grey, speaking in the House of Commons, said:—"Last week I stated that we were working for peace, not only for Great Britain but to preserve the peace of Europe. Events to-day move so rapidly that it is exceedingly difficult to state the actual position of affairs. It is clear that the peace of Europe cannot be preserved. Russia and Germany have declared war on each other. Before giving the position of the Government I would like to clear the ground, so that the House may realise exactly under what obligations the Government or the House is in. Coming to our decision, let me say, very shortly, that we persistently worked with all the earnestness in our power to preserve peace. (Cheers). The House may be satisfied on that point. Through the Balkan crisis we worked for peace. The co-operation of the Great Powers was successful. Then, it is true, that some of the Powers had great difficulty in adjusting their points of view, and it took much time, labour, and discussion before they could settle their differences, but peace was secured because peace was their main object, and they were willing to give their time and trouble rather than accentuate differences. In the present crisis, unhappily, it has not been possible to secure peace in Europe, because there has been little time and there was a disposition in some quarters to force things rapidly to an issue to the great risk of peace. The result we now know. The policy of peace, in so far as the great Powers generally are concerned, has failed.

I do not desire to dwell on that, or to say where blame seems to lie, because I should like the House to approach the crisis from the point of view of British interests, British honour (loud cheers), and British obligations (renewed cheers) free from all passion (cheers), as to why peace has not been preserved. We shall publish papers as soon as we can regarding what took place last week when we were working for peace, and when the papers are published I have no doubt they will make it clear how strenuous, genuine, and wholehearted our own efforts for peace were (cheers,) and they will enable you to form your own judgment as to the forces operating against peace.

Question of British Obligation.

I come now to the question of British obligations. I have assured the House, and the Prime Minister has assured the House, that if any crisis arose we could come before the Commons and be able to say that it was free to decide what the British attitude should be (hear, hear); that we would have no secret engagement (Cheers). There have been in Europe two diplomatic groups, the Triple

Alliance and the Triple Entente. The latter was not an alliance, it was a diplomatic group. The House will remember that in 1908 there was a crisis originating in the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Russian Minister happened to come to London and I told him definitely as that was a Balkan affair I did not consider that public opinion would justify us in promising anything more than diplomatic support. I was never asked for more and have never given and never promised more, and up till yesterday we had given no promise of more than diplomatic support.

I must make this question of obligation clear. The House must go back to the Morocco crisis of 1906. The time of the Algeciras Conference was a very difficult time for the Government as a general election was in progress. I was asked whether, if that crisis developed into war between France and Germany, we would give armed support and I said that I could promise nothing to any Foreign Power unless the promise was subsequently to receive the wholehearted support of public opinion here when the occasion arose (Ministerial cheers). I said that if war was forced upon France on the question of Morocco, which had just been the subject of an agreement between Great Britain and France public opinion in Great Britain would have rallied to the support of France. (Cheers). I made no promise and used no threats, but expressed that opinion and the position was accepted by the French Government, but they said at the time, "If you think it possible that opinion in Great Britain might, when a sudden crisis arose, justify you in giving France armed support, which you cannot promise in advance unless between military and naval experts some conversations have taken place, you will not be able to give that support even if you wish to give when the time comes." There was force in that. I agreed to it and authorised those conversations to take place, but on the strict understanding that nothing which passed between the experts should bind either Government. The Agadir crisis came, and throughout that I took precisely the same line as in 1906.

Subsequently, in 1912 it was decided that we ought to have a definite understanding in writing, that those conversations were not binding on either Government, and on 22nd November, 1912, I wrote a letter to the French Ambassador and received from him a reply. That letter will be known to the public now as a record that whatever took place between the military and naval experts there were no binding engagements. The situation in the present crisis is not precisely the same as in the Morocco question. The latter was primarily a dispute which concerned France—a dispute fastened upon France. There was no doubt we were pledged to nothing but diplomatic support, but were pledged by a definite published agreement. The present crisis originated differently. It has not originated with regard to Morocco, it has not originated as regards anything about which we have a special agreement with France, it has not originated in anything primarily concerning France. It originated in a dispute between Austria and Servia. No Government and no country had less desire to be involved in war or dispute between Austria and Servia than the Government and country of France. (Loud cheers). They were involved because of their obligation to honour (cheers), under a definite alliance with Russia. That obligation cannot apply in the same way to us. We are not parties to the Franco-Russian Alliance. We do not even know the terms of the Alliance.

Now I come to what we think the situation requires. We have had many years of long-standing friendship with France. (Cheers). I remember well when the Agreement was made the warm and cordial feeling resulting from the fact that these two nations had cleared away their perpetual differences and become friends. How far that friendship entails obligations, and it has been a friendship between the two nations (cheers) ratified by the nations—let every man look into his own heart and his own feeling and construe the extent of the obligation to himself. (Cheers). Speaking for myself, I say that the French fleet is now in the Mediterranean. The Northern and Western coasts of France are absolutely undefended. With the French fleet concentrated in the Mediterranean the situation is very different from what it used to be before the friendship which grew between the countries gave them a sense of security. My own feeling is that if a foreign fleet, engaged in a war with France had not sought, and in which she was not the aggressor, came down the English Channel and bombarded and battered the undefended coasts of France, we could not stand aside (loud and prolonged cheers) with the thing going on practically within sight of our eyes, our arms folded, looking on dispassionately, doing nothing and I believe that to be the feeling in this country. (Loud cheers). There are times when one's own individual feeling makes one feel if the circumstances actually did arise that it would be a feeling which would spread with irresistible force to others in face of the thing happening. But I want to look at the thing also without sentiment from the point of British interests.

It is on that I am going to base and justify what I am presently going to say to the House. If we say nothing at this moment, what is France to do with her fleet in the Mediterranean? She leaves it there with no statement from us of what we shall do. She sees her Northern and Western coasts absolutely undefended, at the mercy of the German fleet coming down the channel to do as it pleases in a war which is a war of life and death to her. We say nothing, it may be, and the French fleet is withdrawn from the Mediterranean. We are in the presence of a European conflagration. Can anybody set limits to the consequences which may arise from it? Just assume to-day that we stand aside in an attitude of neutrality saying: "No, we cannot engage to help either party in this conflict." Let us suppose the French fleet is withdrawn from the Mediterranean, let us assume that out of it come consequences unforeseen which make it necessary at a sudden moment that in the defence of vital British interests we should go to war, and let us assume, what is quite possible that Italy, which is now neutral, and legitimately consulting her own interests may depart from her attitude of neutrality at a time when we are forced to fight ourselves. What would be the position in the Mediterranean then? It might be that these consequences would be forced upon us at some critical moment when the trade routes in the Mediterranean might be vital to this country. (Cheers). Nobody can say that in the course of the next few weeks there is any particular trade route the opening of which might not be vital to this country. What would be our position then?

We have not kept in the Mediterranean a fleet which is equal to deal alone with a combination of other fleets there. That would be the very moment when we could not detach more ships for the Mediterranean and we might be exposed in this country, through our negative attitude at the present moment, to a most appalling risk (cheers). I say that from the point of view of British interests it would be as well that we felt strongly that France is entitled to know at once (loud cheers) whether or not in the event of attack upon her unprotected northern and western coasts she could depend upon British support. Under these compelling circumstances yesterday afternoon I gave to the French Ambassador the following statement:—

"I am authorised to give an assurance that if the German fleet comes into the Channel or through the North Sea to undertake hostile action against the French coasts and shipping, the British fleet will give all protection in its power." (Loud cheer),

This assurance is subject to the support of Parliament. It must not be taken as binding upon the Government until the contingency of action by the German fleet takes place. Things move so rapidly that we cannot give this in an informal way, but I understand that the German Government is prepared, if we pledge our neutrality, to agree that the German fleet shall not attack the northern coast of France. I only heard that shortly before I came to the House, but it is far too narrow an engagement for us (loud cheers), and there is a more serious consideration, becoming more serious every hour—the question of the neutrality of Belgium. (Cheers).

Belgium Neutrality.

The governing factors is the Treaty of 1839, and in 1870 Bismark gave an assurance regarding the neutrality of Belgium which was a valuable recognition on Germany's part of the sacredness of Treaty rights. The Treaty is an old Treaty and our honour and interest is as strong to-day as in 1870. We cannot take a less serious view of our obligations than Mr. Gladstone's Government did in 1870. When mobilisation was beginning last week I knew that the question would be the most important element in our policy. I telegraphed to Paris and Berlin, saying that it was essential to know whether the French and German Governments were prepared to undertake an engagement in respect to the neutrality of Belgium.

The French Government replied that it was resolved to respect neutrality, and that it would only be in the event of some other Power violating the neutrality that France might find herself under the necessity to act otherwise. Germany replied that the Secretary for Foreign Affairs could not possibly answer before consulting the Emperor and the Chancellor. Sir William Göschen said that he hoped that answer would not be long delayed. The Secretary gave Sir William Göschen to understand that he rather doubted whether he could answer at all, as any reply could not fail in the event of war to have an undesirable effect, disclosing part of their plan of campaign (laughter). I telegraphed to Brussels. The Foreign Minister replied that Belgium would do her utmost to maintain her neutrality. He added that the Belgian Government believed that they were in a position to defend the neutrality of their country in case of a violation of its neutrality.

King's Appeal to King.

Now comes the news that an ultimatum has been given to Belgium by Germany the object of which is to offer to Belgium

ndly relations on condition that she facilitates the passage of man troops through Belgium. We were sounded last week as whether, if Belgian integrity was guaranteed on the conclusion of w..., that would content us. We replied that we could not gain away whatever interests and obligations we had in Belgian neutrality (cheers). King George received the following telegram from the King of Belgians:

"Remembering numerous proofs of Your Majesty's friendship and that of your predecessor, and friendly attitude of Great Britain of 1870, and proof of friendship which she has just given us, I make supreme appeal to diplomatic intervention of Your Majesty's Government to safeguard integrity of Belgium" (cheers).

We intervened diplomatically last week. What can diplomatic intervention do now? We have a great and vital interests in the independence and integrity of Belgium. The smaller States of that region of Europe only ask to be left alone (cheers). If in the war which is before Europe the neutrality of one of these countries is violated, if the troops of one of the combatants violates its neutrality and no action is taken to resent it, at the end of the war, whatever its integrity may be, its independence will be gone (cheers). Now if it be the case that there has been anything in the nature of an ultimatum to Belgium asking her to compromise or violate her neutrality, her independence is gone. If that holds true of Belgium it also holds true of Holland. I ask the House to consider the British interests at stake if we ran away. (Cheers). We have as yet taken no engagement as regards an expeditionary force out of the country. But we have mobilised the fleet and mobilisation is proceeding. We are prepared to face the consequences at any moment—we know not how soon—to defend our engagements. For us, with a powerful fleet, if we engage in war we shall suffer but little more than we shall suffer if we stand aside. We are going to suffer terribly in this war, whether we are in it or not. Foreign trade is going to cease, not because the trade routes will be closed but because there will be no trade at the other end.

Sir Edward said with emphasis:

"If the facts regarding Belgium turn out to be as they have reached us it is quite clear that there is an obligation on this country to do its utmost to prevent the consequences to which these facts may lead, if they are undisputed." (Cheers).

Sir Edward Grey, referring to the position of Belgium, said: "And if her independence goes, the independence of Holland goes also. I will ask the House from the point of view of British interests to consider what may be at stake (cheers). It will be said that we might stand aside, husband our strength, and at the end intervene with effect and put things right. If in a crisis like this, we run away (loud and prolonged cheers) from those obligations of honours and interest as regards Belgium, I doubt whether whatever material force we might have at the end, it would be of very much value in face of the respect we should have lost. (Renewed cheers)."

Sir Edward Grey, continuing, said: We have taken no engagement yet to send an expeditionary armed force out of the country. The mobilisation of the fleet had taken place. (Cheers). The mobilisation of the army is taking place. (Renewed cheers). But we yet have taken no engagement, because I do feel that in case of Europe in a conflagration such it is without precedent, with our enormous resposibilities in India and other parts of the Empire and all unknown factors, we must take very carefully into consideration the use which we make of sending an expeditionary force out of the country, until we know how we stand. One bright spot in the whole of this terrible situation is Ireland. (Loud cheers). The general feeling throughout Ireland, and I would like this to be clearly understood abroad (loud and prolonged cheers), does not make that a consideration which we have to take into account. (Renewed cheers). Britain could not proclaim unconditional neutrality. We made a commitment to France which prevents us doing that. We have now to take into consideration Belgium which prevents us also from unconditional neutrality. We are bound not to shrink from proceeding to use all force in our power. (Cheers). I do not for a moment conceal that we must be prepared, and we are prepared (loud cheers) for consequences of having to use all our strength. We have at any moment, we know not how soon, to defend ourselves and to take our part. We can announce no final decision until we have the whole case before us.

Sir Edward Grey affirmed that Mr. Asquith and Mr. Churchill had no doubt whatever. The readiness and efficiency of the forces were never at a higher mark than now (Cheers). Never was there a time when confidence was more justified in the power of the Government to protect our commerce and our shores and our colonies. From the suffering and misery entailed from war, no country can escape. No neutrality will save us. The amount of damage that could be done by the enemy's ships to our trade is infinitesimal compared with the amount of harm which would be done by the economic conditions. We are now free to face the situation the consequences of which are yet to be unfolded.

There are absurd complications grown out of this quarrel between Austria and Servia. The situation has developed so rapidly that technically it is impossible as regards war to describe what has actually happened. I wanted to bring out the underlying things which must affect our own policy. I have put the vital facts before the House, and if as seems only too probable we are forced, and rapidly forced, to take our stand upon these issues, then I believe the country realizes what is at stak ...at the real issues are, the magnitude of the impending danger which I have endeavoured to describe, and I believe we shall be supported throughout not only in the House of Commons but by the determination, resolution, courage, and endurance of the whole country. (Loud cheers).

The House adjourned till seven o'clock. Nationalists cheered Sir Edward Grey. A most dramatic scene occurred when Mr. Redmond announced that Irishmen would defend Ireland. Unionists grasped and shook his hand. Sir Edward Grey's speech was interpreted in the Lobby as meaning that Great Britain will inevitably fight.

On resumption after the adjournment Sir Edward Grey recounted Germany's proposals to Belgium. Germany, he said, threatened that in case of refusal she would treat Belgium as an enemy (murmurs in the House). Belgium answered that she was resolved to maintain her neutrality and to repel aggression by all possible means. (Loud cheers.) Sir Edward Grey said the Government was gravely considering the matter.

Mr. Bonar Law warmly supported the Government and referred, amid cheers, to the pledges of support from the Dominions.

Mr. Redmond expressed Ireland's sympathy and said that the Government could withdraw troops from Ireland immediately (Loud Cheers). The coasts of Ireland would be defended by the sons of Ireland—Nationalists and Ulster men. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald affirmed that we should have remained neutral.

The following notification issued by His Britannic Majesty's Government is published in a *Gazette Extraordinary* here:—

His Britannic Majesty's Government find themselves under the necessity of availing themselves of the power reserved under Article 8 of the International Telegraphs Convention and Article 17 of the International-Radio Telegrams Convention to suspend transmission of telegrams and radio-telegrams to and from, or in transit through, the United Kingdom, and from or in transfit through all British possessions and all British Protectorates whatsoever and except such telegrams and radio-telegrams as are on the service of His Majesty's Government or of the Government of any British possession or protectorate.

With a view, however, to minimise inconvenience to the public, His Britannic Majesty's Government will, until further notice, and as an act of grace, permit the transmission of such telegrams and radio-telegrams in plain language as foreign Governments or the public choose to send, provided that such telegrams and radio-telegrams are written in English or French and on the understanding that they are accepted at the sender's risk and subject to censorship by the British authorities—that is, that they may be stopped delayed, or otherwise dealt with in all respects at the discretion of those authorities and without notice to the senders, and that no claims in respect of them, whether for the reimbursement of the sums paid for transmission or otherwise will be considered by His Majesty's Governin any circumstances whatever. It is moreover essential that such telegrams and radio-telegrams should bear the sender's name at the end of the text and otherwise they are liable to be stopped until the name is notified by paid telegram. Registered abbreviated addresses will not be accepted either as addresses or as the name of senders.

Note—The term "Telegram" is applied to radio-telegram messages sent from shore to shore, as well as to those sent by cable or land line. The term radio-telegram is used to denote messages exchanged between ships and the shore.

Simla, Aug 3.

In view of the present crisis an assurance obtained from the Viceroy has been cabled home to the effect that the people of England can count on every man and every gun of the Army in India, whether British or Indian, if need arises, and that England may remain confident in the loyalty of the people of India to cope with any enemy that may arise.

The Viceroy returns to Simla leaving Dehra Dun to-night.

London, Aug. 3.

It is officially announced that Italy will remain neutral.

Sweden has declared her neutrality.

Denmark and Norway have declared their neutrality.

Paris: An authoritative note published in Paris describes the German movements on the frontier as extremely grave. The French Cabinet was sitting at midnight.

Telephonic communication with the Continent ceases this afternoon. Telegraphs are tremendously delayed.

International trains to Germany have been suspended. Telephones between Germany and abroad are interrupted.

France has ordered a general mobilisation to begin at mid-night.

Paris: The unbearable suspense has been converted into tremendous enthusiasm by the issue of a scrap of yellow paper, bearing the heading "Ordre De Mobilisation."

Paris: Placards have been posted requiring all the Reservists to join the colour within twenty-four hours, starting from mid-night (to-night).

General mobilisation of the Austrian Army and Navy has been ordered and the Landsturm has been called out in response to the Russian mobilisation.

A message to the *Times* from St. Petersburg states that the general mobilisation was decided on late on Thursday last, placing four million men on a war footing.

The *Montreal Star* has asked the Empire papers for their opinions as to the action of the Dominions in the event of war. The paper quotes five replies received from Australasian newspapers and they are unanimous that the Dominions should aid the Motherland to the last man and the last shilling.

The *Times* is glad that encouraging messages have been received from overseas, especially from Canada and New Zealand, and says:—"The policy of Great Britain is clear. We dare not placidly watch our friends running danger of destruction, because we know that our turn would come next. Our strongest interest at present is "not peace but self-preservation."

Melbourne: Speaking at Horiham, Mr. Cook, Commonwealth Prime Minister, said that where the Empire was at war Australia was also at war, and Australia's resources were the Empire's (cheers).

In a speach at Colac Mr. Fisher, ex-premier, declared that if the worst should happen Australia would help the Motherland to the last man and the last shilling. The utterance was received with cheers.

Ottawa: Mr. Hughes, Minister of Defence, declared that Canada was keener than ever to rally to the old flag.

Ottawa: It is expected that 20,000 militia will be mobilised.

Ottawa: An emergency Cabinet is sitting. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught are hurriedly returning here.

The *Times* publishes a special article headed "The Empire and the Crisis," in which it explains the issues and says if France and Russia are involved in war the Empire must support them with all its strength and without delay.

The *Morning Post* says the Government could preserve peace if it promptly announced that it would support France and Russia.

The *Standard* declares that France may hope for, but cannot count on our assistance, despite the *Entente*.

The *Daily Telegraph* and *Daily Mail* maintain that we cannot forsake our friends.

The British Navy League, in a manifesto to the nation, says the fleet is at the highest point of human skill and efficiency, and it is ready for anything.

Mr. Asquith and Earl Kitchener had audiences of the King. It is understood that Lord Kitchener and Sir Reginald Wingate will leave for Egypt on Monday.

It is confirmed that Lord Kitchener is leaving for Egypt.

The Japanse Ambassador, interviewed by Reuter's representative, said Japan was ready to fulfil the terms of her alliance with Britain in the event of the latter being involved in a European struggle. He hoped and believed that peace in the Far East would be preserved.

The Naval strength of the Triple Alliance in the Far East was negligible.

Reuter learns that the French Embassy is informed that the German Ambassador in Paris has intimated that he proposes to leave Paris to-night. Nevertheless, efforts to arrive at an understanding continue and conversations are progressing.

If peace were not broken in the Far East, Japan would consider her task accomplished. If, on the other hand, hostilities broke out in the Far East, a different situation would arise with which Japan would deal in the spirit of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

A *Times* message from Tokio says that Baron Kato, Foreign Minister, states in an interview that Japan was ready to stand by her alliance.

We understand that Messrs. Boulton Bros., Bankers of Old Broad Street, London, have telegraphed out to the Alliance Bank of Simla, with which institution Messrs. Boulton Bros. are intimately related, as follows:—"Foreign outlook altogether bad, but banking position in City very sound," which is reassuring in face of the failures recently reported in the Home telegrams.

The Bank of England rate of discount was to-day raised to ten per cent.

Conditions in the City to-day were indescribable. Business of every kind was at an utter standstill.

Each Continental centre has fixed the Bank rate at six per cent.

There are queues outside, the Bank of England changing notice for gold.

The scenes in the West End culminated in remarkable demonstrations outside Buckingham Palace, where crowds sang "God Save the King," "Rule Britannia," the "Marseillaise."

The King and Queen, in response to cheering, appeared on the balcony and were received with roars of cheering.

There are indications of an important announcement of agreement between all parties.

Mr. Redmond has returned to London.

The scenes in the West End were unparalleled since the Boer War. The streets were thronged with excited thousands. Special editions of the papers were published with bewildering rapidity and were eagerly purchased and read under gas lamps. Territorials marching down the Strand were cheered with enthusiasm. Soldiers and sailors in Trafalgar Square were surrounded by immense crowds, amongst which were many Frenchmen. Motors drove through the West End, the occupants waving French and British flags and singing patriotic songs. Most affecting scenes were witnessed at Charing Cross, where an immense crowd of French reservists had assembled in the evening prior to departure for Paris, accompanied by their wives and sweethearts. Thousands of German reservists left Liverpool Street homewards by a single train and were cheered by their compatriots.

Extraordinary crowds gathered in Whitehall this afternoon, cheering Ministers and other notable people.

It is understood that Government will ask Parliament for a Defensive Credit of £50,000,000.

The Cabinet will meet again to-morrow, after which Mr. Asquith will make a statement in Parliament.

The *Daily Mail* says it is understood that at the close of the Cabinet last evening Great Britain was still not involved in war.

A *Daily Mail* telegram from Las Palmas states that two German warships have appeared in the vicinity of the Canary Islands.

The Government has taken over charge of wireless stations in the United Kingdom.

The *Daily Mail* says the attack on Luxemburg is a direct challengo to Great Britain.

"We understand an intimation has been conveyed to the German Government that if a single German soldier is ordered to set foot on Belgiam soil the British navy will take instant action against Germany."

The *Daily News* continues to be an uncompromising supporter of British neutrality whatever happens.

The *Daily Chronicle* urges Liberals to support the Cabinet, whatever its decision. Other papers regard British participation as inevitable. The *Daily Chronicle* says it is practically certain that the Ministers yesterday decided to intervene and it is rumoured that two members of the Cabinet threatened to resign in consequence of the above decision by the majority.

The collier "Saxon" from King's Layun bound for Brunnsbuetto has been seized and taken into Cuxhaven.

Cowes week has been abandoned.

A meeting of Directors of the Liverpool Cotton Association has resolved that the cotton exchange shall be closed indefinitely. Also that until further notice all trading in future and all tenders and settlements for further contracts shall be suspended. It was further decided that until an arrangement to safeguard the interests of all concerned can be made no trading in spot cotton shall be allowed.

There is an unconfirmed report to the effect that the Germans have captured a Wilson liner.

Mr. Bonar Law called at Downing Street and stayed for fifteen minutes.

Colonel Driscoll, Commander of Driscoll's Scouts, in the Boer War has offered Government a thousand picked men for immediate service. He urges Colonials to join.

Malta: The Mediterranean fleet has cleared for action. Destroyers have left at full speed, it is believed to join the French fleet. Others are leaving, while the *Inflexible*, *Weymouth*, and *Dublin* are remaining at Malta, but with their steam up.

Wellington: Navy under Britain.

Government has called up the Navy reserve. The authorities have assumed control of ports and taken other precautionary measures.

Melbourne: The Australian warships are making feverish preparations and military and naval conferences are proceeding.

Cape Town: The Union Defence Department is taking all necessary measures.

The Imperial Government is chartering steamers as colliers under sealed orders.

Brussels: The papers report that Germany has sent an ultimatum to Belgium proposing an *entente* to facilitate German operations in Belgium and requesting a reply by Monday morning.

An official statement has been issued that the French reply to German representations is unsatisfactory, moreover that France has mobilised and that therefore war must be expected at any moment. The statement accused Russia of invading Germany in the midst of peace, thus flagrantly contradicting Russia's peaceful assurances.

The Russian Ambassador has received his passport.

A telegram from the German Staff reports that a French doctor who attempted to poison Metz water-supply with cholera microbes,

and a French party who endeavoured to dynamite the tunnel at Gochon, have all been courtmartialled and shot.

A later telegram states that it is semi-officially announced that Belgium has refused to entertain the proposal and will adhere to her neutrality.

Belgium has rejected the German ultimatum.

Antwerp: Business is suspended and martial law has been proclaimed.

Brussels: Diplomatic relations between France and Germany have been broken off

The Brussels: Germans have invaded the Dutch province of Limburg.

Hostile aircraft have been sighted along the Rhine near Cologne.

A hostile dirigible has been sighted near Andernach and enemy's aeroplanes have been sighted between Buren and Cologne.

It is reported that the cruiser *Augsburg* is bombarding Libau and that the port is on fire.

Stockholm: The German and Russian fleets have engaged near Aland. The Russians were driven into the Gulf of Finland.

Stockholm: The Germans have occupied the Aland Islands. Fishermen report that a large Russian warship is ashore there.

Paris: The French Government have protested against the German act of war against France without provocation.

The French Parliament meets to-day and the Russian Duma on 8th instant.

St. Petersburg: Monster war processions are marching through the streets of St. Petersburg headed by Ikons. The police and troops are conspicuous by their absence. The Tsar and Tsaritsa appeared on the balcony of the palace and sang the National Anthem. The churches were packed yesterday, the congregations praying for Russian victory.

Grand Duke Nickolas has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces.

Moratorium has been proclaimed in France. Depositors are permitted to draw only limited amounts.

New York: Millions of emergency currency are arriving in New York. Altogether 500,000,000 dollars may be issued to banks. The friendliness of American business men towards England is evidenced by bankers discussing the feasibility of shipping immediately 100,000,000 in gold to London to relieve financial situation there. It is also suggested to hold a sum here to assist American exporters or buy English bonds.

The scene in the Commons this afternoon was unparalleled in British history. Most intense subdued excitement prevailed. Chairs were placed along the floor of the House to accommodate members. Sir Edward Grey looked noticeably older.

Crowds gathered outside the House and Ministers were cheered both inside and outside.

The Conservatives gave Mr. Churchill an ovation. The House immediately passed all stages of Bills, suspending Bills of exchange and empowering moratorium. Mr. Lloyd George announced that the bank holiday would be extended for three days.

Mr. Asquith was received with cheers on entry.

London, Aug 4.

Colombo: The Ceylon Government has established a censorship over telegraphic and wireless services.

Ceylon Engineer Volunteers have been called out the Royal Naval Reserve.

His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon yesterday addressed the Legislative Council as follows:—

"At this juncture, I think right to preface the proceedings here to-day with a brief word to Ceylon's position in the international crisis which has arisen since the meeting last week.

In the first place, the United Kingdom is not at war.

In the second place, Ceylon is a loyal and united colony.

Thirdly with a view to eventualities which we hope will not arise, every step in defensive precaution has been taken by the Government in concert with the naval and military authorities.

Fourthly, I have every reason to be confident that our banks are in a very strong financial position, so I ask His Majesty's subjects in Ceylon to go about their individual business as they have already done so admirably in the past week orderly and with great confidence heedless of idle rumours.

The Hon. Mr. L. W. A. Ce Soysa submitted a petition having reference to the war scare and the consequent rise in the price of foodstuffs which it was hoped the Government would take steps to prevent.

It is understood that relations with Germany are strained but so far as is known no rupture has occurred and it is hoped peace may be maintained. The wild rumour published in Calcutta of firing in North Sea appears to be mere fiction.

The Viceroy returned to Simla to-day.

The harbour traffic regulations ensuring control of ships entering port has been enforced at the defended ports in India.

The Naval reserve has been called out by Royal Proclamation.

A cable censorship has been established.

The Japanese fleet off the China coast has concentrated near Tsingran where it is keeping a close watch on the German Pacific fleet.

In the event of declaration of war between Germany and Great Britain, this action will minimise the possibility of fighting in the Far East and possible losses to our shipping by the activity of cruisers which might succeed in evading the vigilance of our China squadron.

The Privy Council this afternoon considered exclusively financial measures.

It is reported that the King has signed a proclamation for a moratorium.

A special *Gazette* announces that the Admiralty, owing to emergency, will control all wireless stations and installations, including those on foreign vessels in British territorial waters.

Paris: The air is filled with the constant humming of aeroplanes leaving for frontier. Stringent punishment is being inflicted on any attempt to profit by raising prices of necessaries. The searchlight on the Eiffel Tower was working continuously throughout last night, watching for aircraft.

French newspapers state that Great Britain will intervene and that Sir John French will command an expeditionary force.

Forty million francs destined for Germany have been detained in Paris. Women in Paris are volunteering by thousands as war nurses.

German patrols are active in the vicinity of Belfort and are raiding the locality.

Vienna: The *Militaerhsche Rundschau* states that severe fighting has occurred on the River Drina and that the Servians attempting to cross it were opposed by Austrian frontier guards.

Great Britian has sent an ultimatum to Germany allowing her until mid-night in which to give the same assurance with regard to the neutrality of Belgium as France has given.

The *Daily Telegraph* states that it is probable that Lord Kitchener will be appointed Secretary of State for War.

The Tsar, in a manifesto, says that he is confident that Russia will rise like one man to repulse the insolent attack of Germany.

The papers pay practically a unanimous tribute to Sir Edward Grey. They declared that the nation is united and ready to follow his lead. Even the *Daily News*, hitherto a stringent advocate of neutrality, says "Though we are not convinced by Sir Edward Grey's arguments, we are Englishmen and shall meet the common danger with a united front." The paper appeals to Radicals and Labourites not to make difficulties for the Government.

Two thousand men have joined the force of South African Veterans which Mr. Norton Griffiths is raising.

Colonel Driscoll is recruiting the Legion of Frontiersmen for a picked corps. Hundreds are joining daily.

It is reported that Lord Morley is resigning. The papers mention that Mr. Hobhouse and Mr. Harcourt only remained in the Cabinet in view of the latest revelations of Germany's action.

The reports of proposals for a Coalition Government, including Unionists, are described by the Liberal press as absurd.

Brussels: The neutrality of Belgium has not been violated and hence the state of siege in Antwerp has been raised.

The Cabinet has decided not at present to appeal to the Powers for guarantees.

The Hague: Germany has promised to respect the neutrality of Holland.

It is reported from South Shields that heavy firing has been heard off Flamborough Head, and it is believed that a naval battle is in progress.

The German Embassy denies the report that there has been an Anglo-German naval battle.

Telegrams from Copenhagen state that the whole German fleet has passed through the Kiel Canal and entered the North Sea.

The German Ambassador demanded his passports and left Paris yesterday evening.

The following changes are announced in the French Cabinet:—

M. Augagneur replaces M. Gauthier, the Minister of Marine, who has resigned.

M. Doumergue becomes Foreign Minister, but M. Viviani who was Foreign Minister still retains the Premiership.

M. Sarat, a Minister, becomes Minister of Public Instruction in place of M. Augagneur.

Earl Kitchener embarked at Dover yesterday for Egypt but was recalled by telegraph, landed, and returned London.

The *Daily Telegraph* states that Mr. John Burns has resigned.

The Germans have occupied Czenstochova, Vendzin, and Kalisz.

The scenes in London yesterday recalled the Relief of Mafeking, except that the note was one of joyous defiance. A procession passed through the streets cheering and singing the Mar-

scillaise and shouting snatches of French songs and waving British and French colours.

The King and Queen and the Prince of Wales appeared on the balcony of Buckingham Palace, and were given a tremendous ovation.

Great enthusiasm prevailed in the music halls.

In the House of Commons, yesterday, the Radicals, Mr. Wedgwood, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Morrell, Mr. Ponsonby and Mr. Kier Hardie protested against war.

Mr. Balfour appealed to them to close "this impotent debate."

Mr. Lloyd George said he proposed to take steps to enable trade to be continued whatever happened.

In the House of Lords, Lord Lansdowne said that after Sir Edward Grey's speech and his rare courage, Britian had no need to fear the Government's action.

Amsterdam: It is denied that Limburg has been invaded.

According to an unconfirmed report from a French source, the airman Garros charged a Zeppelin in mid-air destroying the airship.

Garros and the occupants of the Zeppelin were killed.

Despatches from Salonika state that Austrians attacked the Servian frontier at Poserewatz, Semendria, Belgrade, Lohnitza and Mokragor. The despatches add that they were everywhere repulsed, and not an inch of Servian territory was invaded.

The Austrian press refuses to believe that England will side with France and Russia. It admits that such an action by England would be a very heavy blow.

In an interview, Admiral Mahan expressed the view that England must fight to maintain her position as a World Power. For a similar reason, Italy must join the *Entente* within a week.

Washington: The House of Representatives has passed a Bill permitting foreign ships to use the American Register.

Amsterdam: The mobilisation of the Dutch Fleet has been completed and Volunteers are swarming to the service.

The German authorities state that the temporary detention of English merchantmen in the Kiel Canal is merely a police measure. It is solely a matter of changing their destination and there is no intention of interfering with the property on the vessels.

The French Minister in Brussels notified his Government that three German dirigibles have entered Belgium violating her neutrality.

Germany has sent a second ultimatum to Belgium. Germany is prepared to carry by force of arms measures she considers necessary.

To summarise the present position, only mere skirmishes have taken place on the Russo-German frontier. The Germans have apparently occupied three towns, and various small Russian incursions are reported. The slowness of the Russian mobilisation which will not be completed for some weeks explains the German onslaught on France via Luxembourg and Belgium.

The Russian account of the Liban affair says that German cruisers shelled and ignited the naval hospital and private houses. Otherwise little damage was done.

Austria has apparently almost abandoned the attack on Servia and is moving troops in the direction of Galicia to confront Russia. The Servians seem to be preparing in conjunction with the Montenegrins to invade Bosnia and stir up an insurrection there.

The mobilisation of Turkey is a factor which is pregnant with possibilities.

Malta: Martial law has been proclaimed.

It is officially announced that the army will be mobilised at midnight to-morrow. Australia has placed her fleet at the Admiralty's control. She has offered to furnish an expeditionary force of twenty thousand and to bear the cost of their maintenance. At a meeting at Cardiff of representatives of all the Counties of Wales it was resolved to raise a Mounted Regiment for service abroad.

In Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, the Government and Opposition are taking united action.

Canada has called up naval reservists. Australia has notified partial military mobilisation.

Ottawa: An urgent meeting of the Canadian Cabinet has decided to call out the Naval Reserves. Special precautions are being taken to guard the canals and there is every evidence of the resolve of the Dominion to do its duty.

In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Asquith detailed the message sent by Sir Edward Grey in conformity with the statement which the latter made yesterday evening to Germany and read a communication received to-day from Germany to Belgium.

Mr. Asquith said:—"Last night great Britain protested to Germany against the violating of Belgian neutrality and requested an assurance that the demand which Germany had made upon Belgium would not be proceeded with and that her neutrality would be respected. We emphasise that we asked for an immediate reply." (Loud cheers).

Mr. Asquith read a telegram from the British Minister in Brussels saying:—

"The German Minister to-day addressed a Note to the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs stating that as the Belgian Government had declined the well-intentioned proposal submitted to it by the Imperial Government the latter deeply regretted to be compelled to carry out, if necessary by force of arms, measures which it considered indispensable in view of the French menace."

Simultaneously we received from the Belgian Legation the following telegram from the Belgian Foreign Minister:—

"General Staff announces that Belgian territory has been violated at Gemmenich, near Ax-la-Chappelle."

Subsequent information tends to show that the German force has penetrated still further into Belgian territories. We also received this morning from the German Ambassador a telegram sent to him from the German Foreign Minister in these words:

"Please dispel any distrust that may exist on the part of the British Government regarding our intention by repeating the most positive and formal assurance that even in case of an armed conflict with Belgium, Germany will not on any pretence whatsoever annex Belgian territory. (Ironical laughter). The sincerity of this declaration is borne out by the fact that we have solemnly pledged our word to Holland strictly to respect her neutrality."

"It is obvious that we could not profitably annex Belgian territory without making territorial acquisition at the expense of Holland. Please impress upon Sir Edward Grey that the German army could not be exposed to a French attack across Belgium, which according to unimpeachable information was planned. Germany has in consequence disregarded Belgian neutrality to prevent what means to her a question of life and death—a French advance through Belgium."

Mr. Asquith then said:—

"I have to add this on behalf of His Majesty's Government. We cannot regard this as in any sense a satisfactory communication (cheers). And we have repeated the request made last week to the German Government that they give us the same assurance regarding Belgian neutrality as was given to us and Belgium by France, and we have asked that the reply to that request and a satisfactory answer to our telegram should be given before midnight." (Loud and prolonged Cheers).

It is officially announced that war was declared on Germany by England at seven o'clock this evening.

Field Marshall Sir John French has been gazetted Inspector-General of Forces.

It is stated that Earl Kitchener is staying in London in connection with administrative work at the War Office.

London, Aug. 5.

The Peninsular and Oriental trains to Marseilles and Brindsi have ceased.

Proclamations appear in official "Gazette" announcing mobilisations and enjoining all subjects to obey the instructions of officers and officials. When the proclamations were read at the Royal Exchange and elsewhere, crowds sang the "National Anthem."

In five minutes the House of Commons voted estimates amounting to 105 millions sterling.

General Liman Sanders is commanding the Turkish army.

The Hague: Speaking in Parliament, the Premier said that all were agreed that they should defend their neutrality to the utmost.

Kronprinessin: The "Cecile" has regained America.

According to a Nish telegram, the Servians, at a point twelve miles from Belgrade, drove back three Austrian regiments with artillery, inflicting heavy losses.

The cruiser "Breslau" has bombarded Bons Algeria. Afterwards she steamed at full speed in a westerly direction.

The Committee of the Cabinet dealing with food supplies announces that besides wheat supplies, for four months already in the country, large consignments are en route, therefore famine is inconceivable and there is no justification for any rise in the price of meat and bread.

Lord Mountteagle appeals to the southern Irish Unionists to respond to Mr. Redmond's noble call to join the Nationalist Volunteers.

Paris: The Chamber opened yesterday. A message from M. Poincaré was read saying that France was the object of a brutal, premeditated aggression. France for forty years had combated a desire for lawful reparation and had given an example of a great nation, using its rejuvenated strength solely in the interests of the well-being of humanity. France to the last moment of the crisis made supreme efforts to avoid war for which history would make Germany responsible. France was already the recipient of the sympathy and good wishes of the world. She stands to-day again before the universe for liberty and justice.

Telegrams recently exchanged between King George and the Tsar, have now been published. The King expressed the opinion that some misunderstanding had produced a dead-lock and suggested the re-opening of conversations. The Tsar replied that he would gladly have accepted the proposals had not Germany declared war.

Brussels: The Germans entered Belgium at twenty minutes to nine, yesterday morning, in three columns at Gemmenich, Henrichapelle and Dolhein. The first reached Vise and halted on the right bank of the Meuse. The Belgians defending the left bank, prevented the construction of a pontoon bridge. Sharp cavalry engagements occurred, the Belgians having the advantage of being supported by the Liège forts. A German pallementaire demanded the surrender of the Liège forts, which was refused. The columns at Henrichapelle advancing on Liège were held up by Belgians.

Reuter's announcement that war had been declared between England and Germany was distributed broadcast at midnight and the wildest scenes occurred. Trafalgar Square was impassable. Hats and flags were waved, crowds cheered and sang, and processions were formed. At Buckingham Palace, where the King and Queen appeared on the balcony, there was a scene of tremendous enthusiasm and their Majesties had a splendid ovation which continued long after they had retired.

The *Times* says that the Parliamentary session will be prorogued on 8th instant.

It is expected that the Arms Proclamation will be revoked in Ireland.

The War Office announces that Government has assumed control of railways, assisted by a committee of managers.

Liège: The Germans are hindered by broken bridges and railways. They have gone northward and violated Dutch territory at Tildaurg. They crossed the Meuse at Eysden. The Tenth Corps is at Eysden; the Seventh at Veriers and the sixth at a place unknown. Vise and Argentous are in flames. It is reported that Germans who fired on both the towns, decimated the population of Vise. A hundred thousand Germans are marching on Liège. A German airman has been killed.

St. Petersburg: Russian troops have come into contact with Germans along the greater portion of the frontier. The Germans on the Bailla-Borzymmen front have fallen back burning villages over an enormous extent of country.

Brussels: The Germans are reported to have begun the bombardment of Liège and Namur.

Paris: It is reported from the frontier town of Emf Mont Bilard that the Germans have violated the neutrality of Switzerland there.

Algiers: It is reported that the French fleet has sunk the German cruiser "Panther."

The British Government has arranged for a special vessel to convey Prince Lichnowsky and his staff.

Bukharest: It is officially announced that Rumania will remain neutral.

St. Petersburg: Nineteen German warships are off Memel and Lidau.

Brussels: The inhabitants of Vise have fled to Maestriht. Germans have reached Herve, Repmister and Remouchamps. Certain forts of the Meuse are ablaze.

Tokio: It was officially announced here that if Great Britain was involved in war, Japan would take measures to discharge her treaty obligations.

Brussels: It is reported that the Belgian troops have repulsed the Germans in the fighting near Liège. Many Belgians were wounded.

The "Daily Telegraph" says it is reported that Lord Morley, Mr. John Burns and Mr. Trevelyan have resigned and that the two latter are re-considering their decision.

Lord Haldane has been relieving Mr. Asquith in the departmental work at the War Office. It is denied that he will be Secretary for War.

Paris: A message to the "Daily Chronicle" says that a French detachment has captured the German cruisers "Goeben" and "Breslau" and sunk the "Panther."

Seventeen Alsatians have been shot by Germans while attempting to cross into France.

A number of German merchantmen have been captured by France and Great Britain. The liner "Belgia" has been siezed off Wales. Her cargo is worth £1,250,000.

There is a boom in the recruiting in the Army and Navy.

Maestricht: Fighting on the Belgian frontier continues. Explosion of guns is visible and æroplanes and dirigibles are flying overhead.

Masses of German horses, saddled up, galloped into the town this morning and were captured. Belgians bombarded the Germans as they were constructing the pontoon bridge over the Meuse inflicting heavy loss, but the Germans succeeded in crossing by a ford.

Admiral Von Ingeohl is in command of the German High Seas Fleet.

Servians are persistently resisting the Austrians at Belgrade.

The Japanese fleet is ready to put to sea.

Port Said: The Orient Liner "Osterlay," homeward bound has been waiting for orders; outwardbound the "Otway" has been detained at Gibraltar.

Mr. Asquith has resigned the Secretaryship for War. Earl Kitchener has succeeded him.

London, Aug. 6.

Their Majesties appeared on the balcony at Buckingham Palace yesterday evening in response to ovations.

Mr. Redmond has been flooded with offers from Nationalists to serve the Empire. He requests Irish Unionists to join the Nationalist Volunteers.

Sir Edward Carson has been conferring with the War Office regarding the employment of Ulster Volunteers.

The response of Reservists at Woolwich is so great that it was impossible to deal with them yesterday.

Three German spies have been arrested at Woolwich, one of them being in barracks.

Seven hundred British Naval Reservists in New York are awaiting transportation.

The Food Committee of the Cabinet, yesterday conferred with the representatives of shopkeepers regarding measures to check an unjustified rise in the price of food.

The peace meeting at Saffron Walden yesterday, was broken up. Labourite headquarters were wrecked.

A Belgian airman charged a German aeroplane at Liège yesterday in mid air, cutting it in two and continued on his way. The German was killed.

The Bank rate has been reduced to six per cent.

Anti-German excesses are reported from Brussels and Antwerp. An expulsion of Germans has been decreed.

The crowd tore down the escutcheon of the German Consulate at Vancouver. The police prevented further destruction. Demonstrations in favour of France and England have been held in Buenos Aires.

The Japanese at Vladivostok marched in procession in honour of Russia, England and France.

Telegrams from the Premiers of New Zealand, Newfoundland, Columbia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan, and ninety-three Canadian senators and commoners, and sixty-eight mayors, have been published in Montreal urging that immediate assistance be sent to the Motherland.

St. Petersburg: The High Priest in the Cathedral square blessed the British arm in the presence of Russia's holiest Ikon and of an enormous throng.

Berlin: It is officially stated that German Ironclads in the Mediterranean have destroyed some fortified towns on the Algerian coast.

Batavia: The German cruiser "Geier" has searched the Dutch steamer "Hountman" from Brisbane.

The Government scheme War insurance for ship's cargoes has been well received. It is regarded as most important and will avert a panic and induce the resumption of shipping food supplies, etc. Government will pay eighty per cent. of the war risk on ships, the remaining twenty per cent. being borne by shipping associations. In the matter of cargoes, Government charges a fixed rate and conducts the insurance itself.

Numbers of Germans have fled to Holland.

The Tenth German Corps is now resuming the attack. It is reported that the Dutch have destroyed a Zeppelin. Belgians have cut connexions between Belgium and Luxemburg.

Heavy fighting has taken place near Fleron, Germans were completely repulsed and were unable to renew attack on Liège.

The Admiralty announces that the British light cruisers "Amphion" sank German mine laying vessel "Koemginlouise" at noon to-day.

Mr. Asquith will to-morrow move a war credit of hundred million sterling.

The King has sent messages to the Navy declaring his confidence that the officers and men will revive and renew the Navy's old glories and prove once again the sure shield of Britain in her hour of trial.

King George has sent a message to the Dominions expressing his appreciation and pride at their spontaneous assurance of generous support and sacrifice. His Majesty says he is confident that the Empire will stand united and calm, trusting in God.

The *Official Gazette* announced that Vice-Admiral Sir John Jellicoe will take supreme command of the fleet and that Rear-Admiral Madden will be the Chief-of-Staff.

Montreal: The millionaire, Mr. Gault, is equipping a regiment.

Paris: General Joffre has proceeded to the frontier.

Luneville: A German avitor has dropped three bombs on the town causing some casualties.

Prince Bonaparte has hurried to France and has offered to serve.

The Socialist M. Vandervelder has joined the Belgian Ministry.

It is officially announced that the Germans have invaded Belgium.

The Reichstag has passed a bill authorising a war credit of £250,000,000.

Berlin: A remarkable proclamation in a military official organ refers to the flaming anger at German people. It concludes "If God vouchsafes victory, then *vae victis*."

Rome: It is reported that Germany appealed to Italy to abandon her neutrality, and that Italy refused.

Brussels: Addressing the Chamber of Deputies the King of the Belgians said:—"If we have to resist the invasion of our soil we are armed and ready to make the greatest sacrifices. The one duty imposed on us is stubborn resistance, courage and union to guard the supreme welfare of our country."

Brussels: Martial Law has been proclaimed and the campaign started. The German Consulate has removed.

The mobilisation of Turkey is considered to be most significant.

Turkey announces that her mobilisation is purely precautionary.

Two Turkish and two Chilian warships are in English shipyards in a practically completed condition.

It is officially announced that the Admiralty has taken over the two battleships, one completed and the other being completed, in England for Turkey, and the two destroyers ordered for Chile. The battleships will be called the *Agincourt* and the *Erin* and the destroyers *Broke* and *Faulkner* after two famous naval officers.

Crowds and processions paraded the West End last night, singing the National Anthem, "Rule Britannia" and "the Marseillaise" and waving flags.

The King and Queen and the Prince of Wales appeared on the balcony at Buckingham Palace, and acknowledged the ovations in their honour.

Brussels: The Sixth German Corps advanced on Monday night, and is massing between Moresnet and Eupen. Cannon has been heard at Acwaille in Dutch Limburg.

The advance of the German Corps (? XVI and not as Reuter says VI) to Eupen and Moresnet indicates that the movement is developing on Liège, which is only a little more that twenty miles distant as the crow flies from Eupen, and less from Moresnet. Eupen is a German frontier town and the obvious intention is to mask Liège and Namur and advance by way of Luxemburg on the Sedan. Moresnet is a Belgian town some twelve miles north-east of Liège and five or six miles from the German frontier.

After Germany's summary rejection of the British request that she should respect the neutrality of Belgium, the British Ambassador in Berlin received his passport, and His Majesty's Government declared that a state of war existed from eleven o'clock yesterday evening.

The United States, Sweden and Turkey have declared their neutrality.

The following *Calcutta Gazette* extraordinary was issued on Wednesday afternoon:—

Simla.

The following Proclamation, issued by the Government of India, published in the *Gazette of India Extraordinary*, dated the 5th August, 1914, is republished for general information.

"I, Charles Baron Hardinge of Penshurst, Governor-General in India and *ex-officio* Vice-Admiral therein, being satisfied thereof by information received by me do hereby proclaim that war has broken out between His Majesty and Germany."

London.

Luxemburg: Germany has promised to indemnify the Duchy for any damage. She says she merely desires to protect the Luxemburg railways.

News has now ceased.

A Cabinet meeting will be held at 6-30 p. m. this evening.

The first outward sign of patriotic enthusiasm occurred to-day when crowds cheered the Ministers going to to-night's Cabinet. Mr. Churchill received a special ovation being greeted with shouts of "Good Old England," and "Bravo Winston." There was full attendance of the Cabinet.

While the Continent has been noisily active Great Britain has been quietly and in a businesslike manner taking necessary precautions and is now perfectly ready for any emergency.

The Duke of Connaught and Lord Liverpool, on behalf of Canada and New Zealand, have sent a message to the King and the Imperial Government that the Canadians and the New Zealanders are prepared to help the Motherland to the utmost. Mr. Harcourt replied thanking them in the most cordial terms.

A full Cabinet, which may perhaps prove the most momentous of the centuary, is sitting. The Empire is anxiously waiting to hear what part Great Britain is to play. A large crowd watched the arrival of the members of the Cabinet prior to its meeting.

Prince Lichhnowsky, the German Ambassador, called at the Foreign Office.

A special *Gazette* proclaims a partial moratorium in the case of certain Bills of Exchange.

In view of the crisis the look-out in the textile industry at Lausick has ended.

Peking: Martial law has been proclaimed at Kiachao. Foreigners, including British subjects, have been ordered to leave. All Germans are leaving Peking for Tsingtao. The French, British and Russian merchants are continuing business. No mobilisation is taking place in Siberia.

Berlin: At the opening of the Reichstag, the Empress and Princes of the Royal Family were present.

In the opening speech, the Emperor William said, "No lust for conquest impels us, we were inspired by an unflinching determination to keep the peace God had given us, and, in self-defence, with a clear conscience and a clean hand we grasp the sword". At the conclusion his Majesty shook hands with the party leaders, and the Deputies sang the National Anthem, the Emperor listening with bared head.

Dr. Von Bethmann Hollweg said: "We shall repair the wrong we are doing Belgium immediately. Our military aims have been reached. Anybody threatened as we are and fighting for their most sacred possessions must think only of pulling through." He reiterated that if England remained neutral, Germany would undertake not to attack French shipping.

Belgium: The Chamber listened to a patriotic speech by the King in dead silence and then cheered simultaneously while the King and Queen and their children walked out. The Chamber voted eight million sterling for the defence of the country.

Washington: President Wilson has asked Congress to vote half a million sterling to bring back Americans stranded in Europe. A cruiser will convey money and fleet transports will bring back tourists.

London, Aug. 7.

Brussels: Heavy fighting has taken place near Fleron. The Germans were completely repulsed and were unable to renew the attack on Liège.

Brussels: An official announcement says that the Belgians have made vigorous counter attacks on the Germans and repulsed all the assaults of the Germans in the vicinity of Liège. The forts are practically unharmed. King Albert has gone to the front to command the Franco-Belgian troops. A proclamation has been issued saying: "Our haughty neighbour has torn up the treaty and attacked us because we refused to forfeit our honour. We are confident that our soldiers will triumph in their sacred cause."

Brussels: The newspapers state that the German losses amount to eight thousand men and seven guns. Eight hundred wounded Germans have arrived in Brussels.

Liège: Twelve hundred Germans wounded were picked up on the battlefield. The Germans traversed the mine zone and the mines exploded killing whole battalions.

Brussels: This afternoon the Germans made a most desperate attack on Liège. The cannonade went on all last night. Uhlans to-day made a most gallant effort and penetrated into the town but the Belgians exterminated them.

Brussels: The following official report is published here:—"Twenty-five thousand Belgian troops at Liège took the field occupying a most extensive front on the 5th instant, they showed most extraordinary endurance, repelling repeated vigorous attacks of 40,000 men composing the German 7th Army Corps. The Belgians then delivered a counter attack which was completely successful, the Germans entering Holland. The Belgians picked up 600 wounded The attack of the 10th Army corps is expected to-night."

The papers say that a shot from a Belgian fort at Liège on Tuesday brought down a Zeppelin airship.

The Admiralty announces that the British light cruiser "Amphion" sank the German mine laying vessel Konigin Luise at noon to-day.

The Admiralty announces that the British light cruiser Amphion was sunk this morning, having come into contact with a submarine mine, Paymaster Gedge and 130 men were lost. The Captain and 16 officers and 135 men mere saved.

It is officially announced that the Amphion struck a mine while reconnoitring after sinking the Königin Luise. The casualties due to the explosion included 30 German prisoners. Destroyers took off the survivors.

The reported capture of the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau is not believed in Paris.

The Königin Luise was caught approaching the Thames.

A telegram from Kirkwal reports a naval engagement off the east of the Orkneys. Continuous firing was heard throughout the afternoon. No details have been received.

The Captain of the steamer, Uranium, has informed the British Consulate that he intercepted yesterday a wireless message from the Lusitania saying that two German cruisers, which had been pursuing her, had been chased and sunk by British warship.

The *Daily Mail* publishes a telegram from Tientsin stating that the Russian warship Askold and the German warship Emden were both sunk in an engagement between the two vessel off Weihai-wei.

German prizes are rapidly accumulating round the coast. Many have valuable cargoes of foodstuffs.

A torpedo boat, believed to be German, has sunk off Giedder Point in Denmark as the result of an explosion. Thirty men were drowned.

Berlin : A German cavalry patrol fleeting from French cavalry took refuge in Switzerland and has been interned.

The Austrians have made no progress at Belgrade.

A semi-official message published in Vienna reports that the cannonade on Belgrade was resumed yesterday. Servian aggressiveness is evidenced by a telegram from Nish stating that volunteers crossed the Save and planted the Servian flag on the Austrian bank.

The Hague : Queen Wilhelmina has declared a part of Holland to be in a state of war.

A blue-book in which is published the correspondence during the European crisis shows Sir Edward Grey's struggle to preserve peace and Germany's devious diplomacy. The most interesting despatches were those sent by the British Ambassador, Sir William Goschen, to Sir Edward Grey on the 29th July recording a conversation with Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg. The latter fearing a European conflagration offered to respect French territory (*sic*) in return for British neutrality. Sir W. Göschen asked about the French Colonies. Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg replied that he was unable to give an undertaking on that subject. A despatch from Sir E. Grey to Sir W. Göschen, dated 30th July, said that such a bargain at the expense of France would be a disgrace from which the good name of England would never recover. A despatch of 30th July from Sir Maurice de Bunsen, British Ambassador in Vienna, to Sir Edward Grey said that Sir Maurice had been informed that the German Ambassador telegraphed to the Emperor William the text of the Austrian ultimatum to Servia before it was despatched. Sir Edward Grey on the 4th August demanded the release of British ships detained in German ports, which he maintained was in contravention of international law.

Very cordial Anglo-French naval and military co-operation is proceeding and the French Embassy has received most satisfactory telegrams regarding the heroic defence made by the Belgians.

Numerous German prizes are being brought into British ports in the North Sea.

The mobilisation in France was carried out in a splendidly calm and business-like manner. Russian mobilisation will be complete earlier than was expected.

Berlin : The British Ambassador and Belgian Minister have left Berlin. The Emperor William sent an aide-de-camp to Sir William Göschen to convey his regrets at the excesses committed against the British Embassy.

The Austrian Ambassador in St. Petersburg has asked for his passports, Austria regarding herself as being in a state of war with Russia.

The German Ambassador left this morning for Germany.

It is officially announced that Italy is most grateful for the attitude of the British people. The Italian Government announces that Italy will maintain her neutrality, remarking that Great Britain and Italy worked their hardest for peace.

The newspapers of Paris publish a report that Germany has sent an ultimatum to Italy threatening war unless she supports her allies.

Washington : Representations have been made to Germany for the immediate release of Americans interned owing to the recent mobilisation.

Austria-Hungary has declared war on Russia.

Spain has declared her neutrality.

The papers print a story of a battle in the North Sea. It is stated that trawlers on the east coast have been officially permitted to proceed to the fishing grounds including Iceland. The hospitals at Hull, South Shields, Yarmouth and Grimsby have been ordered to prepare for the reception of wounded. A *Daily News* message from a Whitby shipowner declares that nineteen German ships have been sunk or captured in the North Sea.

Nish : Seven attempts by the Austrians to cross the Danube have been repulsed.

Berlin : The Kaiser has issued an order calling on Germans to repel the reckless assaults of their enemies on all sides. The order concludes "God help us."

The French Army.

Debate in the Senate.

Reporting the sensational debate in the French Senate when M. Charles Humbert made his speech on the state of the military *Matériel* in France, the Paris correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed on July 13th as follows :—

Startling disclosures in the Senate to-day with regard to the deficient organization and administration of the Army were rendered still more dramatic by the intervention of M. Clemenceau, who demanded an immediate reply from the War Minister.

The disclosures were made by M. Charles Humbert, Senator for the Meuse, in submitting his report on the special vote for *matériel*. This speech was as scathing an indictment of a public department as has been heard in the French Parliament.

Forts, he said, were defective in structure ; guns lacked ammunition, and the men were without boots. There was no provision for the defence of fortifications against attacks from the air, and the wireless installation for communicating from fort to fort was inadequate. When the German wireless installation at Metz was working the Verdun station ceased to receive messages. The French artillery was rapidly falling behind that of Germany. So-called improvements were themselves almost obsolete by the time they had been discussed and adopted. As for the boots of the Army, the supply was 2,000,000 pairs short of requirements. If war broke out the men would have to take the field with one pair of boots, and only one reserve boot in their knapsacks, and that one 30 years old.

There must, he concluded, be a complete reorganization of the whole business of military administration, which at present suffered from an extreme instability of government.

Minister of War's Reply.

It is difficult to convey the depth of the impression made upon the Senate by this speech. M. Messimy, the Minister of War, said he could not reply to the indictment on the spur of the moment ; whereupon M. Clemenceau exclaimed, "The country has a right to know how its money has been spent ; we must have an immediate reply."

The Minister of War, amid great excitement, then admitted that the majority of the accusations made by M. Humbert were accurate, taken by themselves. They were, however, only accurate as exceptions and not as the rule.

M. Clemenceau moved a resolution to have an immediate explanation from the Government, and then said, "There are moments when all of us assume our responsibilities. Never since 1870 have I taken part in such disastrous proceedings as to-day. You must reply ; it is necessary for the Army, Parliament and the country. Things cannot be allowed to slide. To-day we must cry halt. The facts of M. Humbert—are they correct or are they not ? We refuse to vote the credit without an explanation. The truth must be known."

The Minister of War asked the Senate to agree to a postponement of the debate until after the Parliamentary recess. This, however, M. Clemenceau refused to accept, and it was finally decided to resume the debate to-morrow afternoon.

These sensational proceedings have aroused the utmost concern. They could scarcely have come at a less opportune moment than on the eve of President Poincaré's visit to St. Petersburg and the national fête day, at which the Army is the public idol.

Committee to Report.

Writing on the 16th, the *Times* Paris correspondent said:—

The debate in the Senate on Army organization and administration was continued and concluded late to-night. The outcome of the discussion was that the Army Committee was instructed to submit a full report on war material on the reassembling of Parliament in October.

The Minister of war, in replying to the charges made yesterday by M. Humbert, admitted that all that might have been done had not been accomplished. From 1900 to 1905, Germany had spent £28,000,000 on her Army, as compared with 11,250,000 in France. From 1906 to 1910 Germany had expended £37,200,000, while France had spent £19,000,000. From 1911 to 1913 Germany had spent £23,400,000. France £16,500 000.

In artillery France had 2,504 guns ; by the end of 1917 she will have 3,020. Germany has at present 3,870, and a distinct superiority in heavy calibre weapons. The 75 mm. gun of the France Army was superior to the corresponding weapon in Germany. Efforts were being made to increase the stock of shell. Experiments with heavy artillery were now in progress and would shortly lead to an improvement in this respect. Five guns for use against dirigibles would be available this year; next year they would number 35.

Inadequate Material.

Germany was far ahead of France in engineering material. The Minister admitted the truth of M. Humbert's statement with regard to the condition of the fortresses on the frontier. Lack of money had prevented the organization of telegraphic communication between the forts. An effort was now being exerted to make up for lost time. Wireless telegraphy was also in a bad way. The German wireless station at Metz was much more powerful than the French frontier station. Some of the forts of the Upper Meuse did, as M. Humbert stated, date from 1878 and 1880. Up till three years ago no money had been obtainable for bridge-building supplies, but supplies of this nature would be forthcoming this year.

With regard to the boots of the Army, the men of the active Army would need to have a new pair and a pair already worn on the day of mobilization. The reserve stocks of boots required renewal, and a definite type of new footgear would be adopted next October.

Frequently the demands of successive Ministers of War have been refused on the intervention of the Minister of Finance. In 1913, for instance, the Minister of War asked for a credit of

£20,000,000. The Minister of Finance offered to let him have only £1,200,000.

From now to 1919 the country would have to make a serious effort, but by that date considerable improvement would have been made in every direction. France would not have caught up her neighbours, but she would by then have done all that was humanly possible to repair the errors committed. The country, after having indulged in a dream of universal peace, had been awakened by the Agadir crisis. The credits which were now before the Chamber were a proof of the intention of France to protect her soil.

M. Clemenceau's Intervention.

The Minister of War had caused a feeling of extreme uneasiness in the Senate. M. Clemenceau summed up this impression by stating that the Minister of War had confirmed all the accusations made against him by M. Humbert. He called upon the Senate to appoint a Committee of Inquiry to report upon the condition of French war material. He warned the House of the dangers that had attended the fallacy of letting things slide in the past. The country was naturally alarmed by the debate, and something must be done to restore Parliamentary control of military expenditure.

The Prime Minister, in a conciliatory speech, quite admitted that the Army was not supplied with all the necessary *matériel*, and pointed out that in the last three years expenditure had been daily increased, and that the improvements which were called for were in course of realization. There was no need to alarm the country. The spirit of the Army was excellent in every way. But he asked the Senate to show their confidence in the Government by adopting a course by which the Minister of War would furnish to the Army Committee a written report upon the questions raised which could be discussed when the House reassembled after the recess.

M. Clemenceau once more intervened and pointed out that this course would result in the accentuation of the old evil. If that resolution were adopted the Senate would practically be asking the Minister of War to control his own action, which would allow of no direct Parliamentary action.

Ultimately it was decided that the Army. Commitee should furnish a report to the House next October upon all the questions raised yesterday and to-day.

No Cause for Alarm.

On the 15th the *Times* Paris correspondent wrote :—

The sensational manner in which M. Humbert's charges against the military administration were presented to the Senate renders necessary a world of warning lest undue alarm be aroused in regard to the condition of the French Army.

He declared that in spite of the vast and increasing sums voted for the Army, the heavy artillery, the Eastern Frontier forts, the stores of war material, footgear, uniforms, and shells, the transport, bridges, and wireless telegraphy are very much inferior to those of Germany. France awoke from dreams of universal peace to a realization of this state of affairs at the time of the Morocco crisis. The military administration determined that first of all the requirements of troops in the field would have to be met. Large sums of money were spent upon reinforcing the field artillery and the machine-gun sections, and strengthening the æronautic and railway services.

In regard to fortress artillery, which cannot be improvised in a moment, improvement is continuous. Thus by the end of 1915 or the beginning of 1916 200 115mm. guns will be substituted for 84 guns of an older pattern. At the end of 1917, 200 howitzers will have strengthened the artillery. By the end of next year the stock of shells will be three times that which existed at the beginning of 1906.

As regards the heavy field artillery old types of guns are being modernized. A number of new types are at present either in course of manufacture or are undergoing trials. The frontier forts are being equipped with new wireless installations which are on order.

Making up Lost Ground.

If France has not yet made up the ground she lost from 1900 to 1905, a considerable change has come over the whole organization of the Army, and that effort has been particularly great during the last three years. While no one can remain undisturbed by the immense sums expended in Germany in recent year, any very grave importance need not be attached to M. Humbert's revelation. Most Frenchmen believe that their Army has never been a more efficient instrument of war than it is to-day.

The cause of many of the defects denounced by M. Humbert is to be found in the cheeseparing policy pursued by successive Parliaments, especially during the first six or seven years of the present century. Some of the defects have been remedied within the last two years, and now everything is being done to fill in the remaining gaps.

The change is well illustrated by the difference between the sums demanded and the sums granted for military equipment. During the last five years the sum of £17,320,000 has been granted on a demand of £20,000,000. In the previous five years a sum of £8,640,000 was voted on a demand of £15,400,000. During the last two years the reduction on this vote has amounted to only £400,000. Since 1901 £45,680,000 was demanded for military equipment. Parliament allowed them only £31,960,000. The four Budgets of General André were reduced by nearly half as regards military equipments. Since 1912 the three Budgets prepared by the present Minister of War, M. Messimy, M. Millerand, and M. Etienne have been reduced by only £160,000.

SUMMONS FOR DISPOSAL OF SUIT.

(*Order V, rules 1 and 5, of Act V of 1908.*)

S. C. C. Suit No. 453 of 1914.

IN THE COURT OF THE MUNSIF, FYZABAD.

Bechan Khan, son of Alla Yar Khan, of M. Hasnoo Katra, District Fyzabad ... ... *Plaintiff,*

versus

L. Khalik ... ... *Defendant.*

To

Lala Khatik, son of Bhola, M. Hasnoo Katra near Reta, City Fyzabad.

Whereas the abovenamed Plaintiff has instituted a suit against you for Rs. 84-7-0 you are hereby summoned to appear in this Court in person, or by a pleader, duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the suit, or who shall be accompanied by some person able to answer all such questions on the 28th day of August, 1914, at 10 o'clook in the forenoon to answer the claim ; and as the day fixed for your appearance is appointed for the final disposal of the suit, you must be prepared to produce on that day all the witnesses, upon whose evidence and all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your defence. Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 30th day of July, 1914.

By Order

Lakshmi Narain, *Judge.*

Munsarim

Munsifs Court,

FYZABAD.

H. M. Ahmad Beg

Indian Rubber Stamp Maker, Die Sinker, Copper, Zink Plate and Stone Engraver, Monogramist, Manufacturer of Brass Badges and Seals, etc. Dealer of all Stamping Requisites and Rubber Hand Presses.

Chandni Chowk, DELHI.

The "Daisy" Fly-Killer.

Placed anywhere attracts and kills all flies. Neat, clean, ornamental, convenient and cheap. Lasts all season. Made of metal. Cannot spill or tip over. Will not soil or injure anything. Guaranteed effective for protection from infectious diseases and for comfort in the hot or rainy season, in your house and camp. Price Rs. 1/- Post free.

OPINION.

Gwalior, 24-VII-'14. I have seen your Fly Killers, they are so nice Please send Two per V. P. P. urgently and oblige.

(Sd.) V. G. Hote, Lieut. L. M. & S.

The East & West Trading Co., Delhi.

ID CARDS, GERMAN MAKE.

Excellent in billiance and execution. We have no words to describe their art. Price Rs. 1-8 per doz,

Eight designs of 64 different congratulatory lines of respects and love for elders, equals, youngers, friends, brothers, relations, Islamic associates, gentlemen and Ladies, tastefully selected for the coming ID. For ID Mubarak, Salams, and Shake-hands, these cheap Id Cards are a best medium of introduction and unity amongst Islam. Price Rs. 0 8 0 per doz. Can be had of:—

THE GENERAL NEWS AGENCY, DELHI.

"CALPACK"
OR
Genuine Turkish Military Cap
(for Rs. 4 only)



Why a young man is so fond of a **Calpack**? To make himself look more respectable, and to attract attention, by using the novel head-gear of the same pattern as worn by Turk high officials like **Enver Pasha**.

Please send your order to-day to avoid disappointment.

To— **S. F. Chishti, & Co.,**
Near Delhi & London Bank, DELHI.

Sole Agents for India—
Fabreque National Egyptian De Tarbouches, Cairo, and
Fabreque Imperial De Hereka, Constantinople.

Personal Experience derived by the learned proprietor of the daily paper of our Moslem brothers.

The Proprietor of the "Akhbar-i-Islam," the leading daily of Bombay, in the issde of the 30th January 1913, writes: "The well-known native physician, Dr. Kalidas Motiram of Rajkot, has obtained numerous certificates for his medicines that have stood a successful test to diseases pertaining both to males and females on account of his long-standing experience in the line and has got them registered in Government amongst which, the Royal Yakuti Ananga Vilas, the best tonic, has been very attractive inasmuch as it makes fresh and youthful blood run in all parts of the body, gives stability to genuine manhood removing all diseases of the body. We had an occasion of giving a trial to a tin of the said pills from which we have been convinced of the fact that the praises regarding the pills made in the advertisement appearing in this paper under the signature of the said doctor are quite free from exaggeration and it is therefore that we specially recommend the use of the pills for persons having a lean body and suffering from debility."

THE ROYAL YAKUTI ANANGA VILAS.

This YAKUTI or life-giving nectar has been prepared from the best, choicest and richest vegetable drugs. It has a wonderful property of increasing the strength and rectifies all urinary disorders. In fact, it makes man a man. This valuable medicine is used in large quantities among Rajas, Maharajas and many of our esteemed customers. But we have ventured to give it publication simply with a view to place it before the general public owing to the demand of several friends. It is needless to expatiate upon the magical qualities of this our invaluable medicine. We would not like to blow the French horn as is the fashion of the day, but suffice it to say that the use of the medicine is recommended to those who have any faith in the efficacy of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines. We recommend it also to those persons who desire to tone up the nervous system, to strengthen the body, refresh the memory, and to guard against debility. It works like a charm and the effect is lasting. It replaces lost strength and rejuvenates the emaciated, and it is enough to say that *musk* is not that which a perfumer admires, it is that which diffuses fragrance of its own accord. Price per tin containing 40 pills, Rupees ten only 13s. 4d. Postage extra. No *Parhez* necessary.

Dr. KALIDAS MOTIRAM, Rajkot, Kathiawar, India.

DONGRE'S BALAMRIT.
THE TONIC FOR I DEAL CHILDREN.



A WONDERFUL RESTORER IN WASTING CONDITIONS OF CHILDREN.

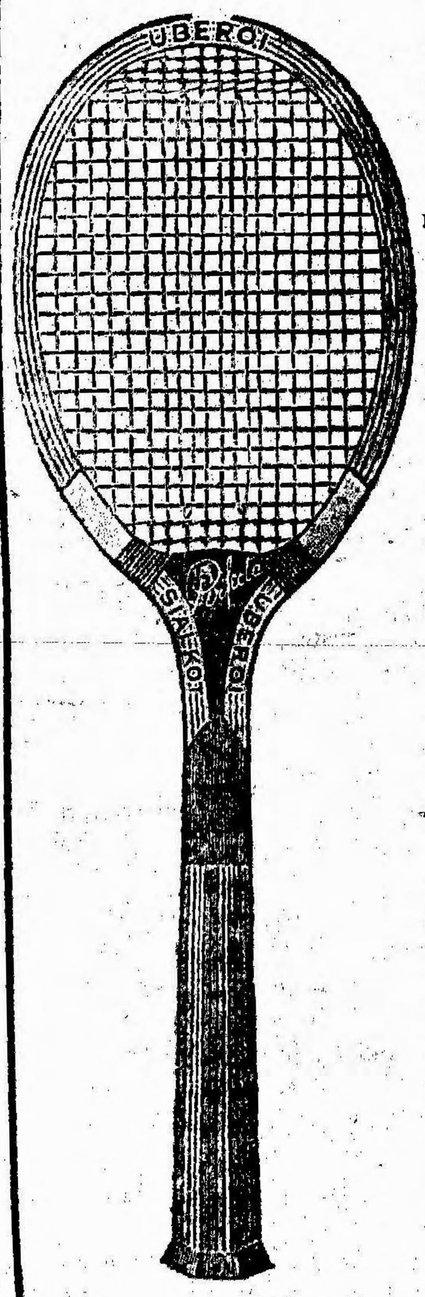
The Head Master, Junagarh High School, writes:—I have always used your Balamrit in my family. In its effects it wonderfully bears out its name, *viz.*, **Balamrit**, *i.e.*, nectar of children.

(Sd.) KARIM MOHAMED, M.A., LL.B.

Price Annas 12 per bottle. Postage Annas 4.

K. T. DONGRE & CO., *Girgaum, Bombay.*

THE IDEAL RACKET FOR THIS INDIAN CLIMATE



NO matter how fine a player you are, you will never attain the perfect exactness you should, unless your racket *retains* its essential features *in spite* of climatic conditions.

Too many players think of *where* their racket *is* made rather than *how well*.

The ideal racket for this Indian climate is the PERFACTA, *made here* by skilled workmen under the direct and personal supervision of our ENGLISH foreman, who is responsible for most of the Patents and improvements seen in the present-day imported rackets.

The three distinct classes of wood from which the PERFACTA is built are thoroughly seasoned *under* the climatic conditions the racket is to be used, and this fact alone makes the PERFACTA the most suitable weapon for use in India.

IT is no longer necessary or *advisable* to buy expensive Imported Tennis rackets.

The Perfacta not only withstands the destructive nature of this climate but also retains its *spring* and *elasticity* as no Home-made racket can.

We would like you to *examine* this model *compare* it with others. An actual inspection will convince you of its superiority quicker than any words of ours can. Obtain one per V. P. P. ON APPROVAL. Price, Rs. 20 only.

Uberoi LIMITED SIALKOT

BRANCH AT
6 Dalhousi Sq.,
CALCUTTA.

Have You Any

MEMORIALS ♣ ♣ ♣

♣ APPLICATIONS OR APPEALS ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

To Be Drafted ?

IF SO, consult our **Drafting Bureau** which is being opened in response to a very extensive and pressing demand. If the full facts of any case are supplied to us in English or Urdu, whether in writing or verbally in a personal interview, our **Drafting Bureau** will draft a Memorial, Application or Appeal as the case may be in a proper form without any avoidable delay and will offer you any advice you may need. The charges are exceedingly moderate and will be quoted on application in each case before the work is taken in hand. No one need despair of justice for want of a properly drawn up Application or Memorial to his superior officer, the Head of a Local Government, the Government of India or the Secretary of State, or the Ruling Chief of a Protected State.

If you wish to send your papers or to obtain a personal interview write to—

The Manager of

The "Comrade" Drafting Bureau,

The "Comrade" Offices,

DELHI.

THOUGHTS

ON THE

PRESENT DISCONTENT

. . BY . .

MOHAMED ALI, B. A. (Oxon.)

PUBLISHED IN

1907.

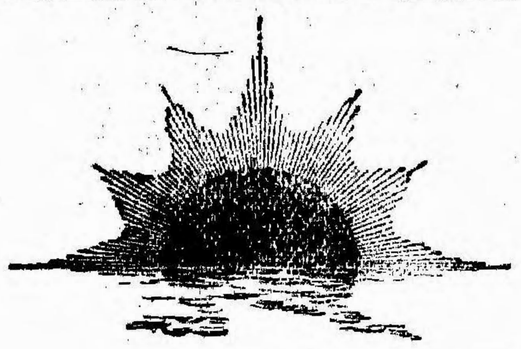
PRICE EIGHT ANNAS.

TO BE HAD

OF

The Manager "THE COMRADE,"

KUCHA-I-CHELAN, DELHI.



War Bulletin

Daily for Outstations. ♣ *Twice a Day* for Delhi.

¶ Many of our readers and others have suggested that we should issue a *daily* bulletin giving the latest news of all notable events connected with the War and other important affairs.

¶ Arrangements have already been made by us for the supply of such news from more than one source, and it will not be difficult for us, with the large printing plant of THE COMRADE AND THE HAMDARD PRESS, to issue, if we were assured of a sufficient number of subscribers, a *four-page* bulletin, of the same size as the *Comrade*, every day for outstations, and a *two-page* bulletin *twice a day*, morning and evening, for Delhi, containing news received up to **half an hour** before the time of issuing the bulletin, with explanatory notes where necessary.

¶ We do not think that Delhi readers could secure a better service than this, and situated as we are at the largest Railway Junction in India, we can defy competition from other centres so far as a very large area around Delhi is concerned.

¶ Those who need such a bulletin—and we believe their number is legion—should write to us without delay. Their names would be registered, and soon after a sufficient number of names have been secured, an intimation would be sent to them of the date from which "THE COMRADE WAR BULLETIN" would be issued.

¶ The monthly subscription would be **Re 1-8-0** only *for the present*; but if more than a thousand subscribers are secured it will be reduced to **Re 1-4-0**, and a substantial addition in their number would bring it down to **One Rupee** only.

¶ It must be remembered that the subscriptions quoted are inclusive of postage, wrapping, etc., which in themselves would cost *half that sum*.

¶ This extremely cheap service is made possible only on account of the fact that most of the cost of issuing such a bulletin is already being incurred by the *Comrade* and the *Hamdard* newspapers. No daily paper can compete with us without losing heavily by the reduction in its own circulation.

¶ We invite the co-operation of the public, for the fruits of such a co-operation are within its sight: if the readers of "THE COMRADE WAR BULLETIN" will induce others also to take it in, they would reduce its cost to themselves.

¶ The bulletins will be supplied to newspaper-vendors in outstations *at present* at the rate of **Rs. 4-8-0** per hundred, on condition that they do not sell it for more than **One Anna** per bulletin.

¶ If, however, any vendor orders more than 250 bulletins daily, they will be supplied to him at the rate of **Rs. 2-4-0** per hundred, provided that he undertakes not to sell them at more than **Half an Anna** each.

¶ Intending subscribers and newspaper-vendors are invited to communicate with—

The Manager of "The Comrade,"
DELHI.

Printed and Published by FAROOQ ALI at THE COMRADE & THE HAMDARD PRESS, Kucha-i-Chelan, Delhi.