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.*

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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.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's Message.

We have this year to mourn over profound sorrow for the sad bereavement of His Excellency the Viceroy by the death of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge. The loss to the people of India, and especially to the women of India, is incalculable. She leaves in the heart an affection of the people of India—an everlasting monument of herself as a benefactress.

What a calamity to the world is at present happening? The war in Europe. What is our Indians place in it? We are a people of the British Empire. Let us see what our duty and position is.

If ever India expects to attain again her former glory on the advanced character and scale of modern British civilization of liberty, humanity, justice and that is good, great and divine it shall be at the hands of the British people and with the British people as self-governing members of the British Empire.

We are above all British citizens of the Great British Empire and that is, at present our greatest pride. On the other hand, is Britain engaged in the present great struggle for some selfish purpose for extension of her own dominion and power? No, it is simply keeping her word of honour and righteously discharging a solemn obligation for the peace and welfare of minor and weak Powers.

Fighting as the British people are at present in a righteous cause to the good and glory of humane dignity and civilization and moreover being the beneficent instrument of our own progress and civilization, our duty is clear,—to do our every one's earnest to support the British fight with our life and property.

I have been all my life more of a critic than a simple praiser of the British rule of India, and I have not hesitated to say some hard things at times. I can, therefore, speak with the most perfect candour and sincerity what the British character is, what the civilization of the world owes to the British genius, and what we Indians owe to the British people for benefits past as well as benefits to come.

Yes, I have not the least doubt in my mind that every individual of the vast mass of humanity of India will have but one desire in his heart, viz., to support to the best of his ability and power the British people in their glorious struggle for justice, liberty, honour and true humane greatness and happiness.

The Princes and people of India have already made spontaneous offers, and until the victorious end of this great struggle no other thought than that of supporting whole-heartedly the British Nation, should enter the mind of India.

Dadabhai Naoroji.

Vessva:
10th August, 1914

Our London Letters.

London, July 24.

"Moslem Day" at the White City.

Last Friday was "Moslem Day" in the Anglo-American Exposition at Shepherd's Bush (the White City). The proceedings were held under the auspices of the Islamic Society in the beautiful Palace of Music. A very large number of Moslems were present as early as 11 a. m., though the first item on the programme—the Jooma Namaz—was due to begin at 12 30 p. m. The public were allowed admittance as well and throughout the day large numbers of people, interested in Islam, visited the Palace of Music in groups. Khwaja Kamal-ud din of Woking Mosque, who presided over the proceedings, led the Jooma Namaz punctually at half-past twelve. He also delivered an impressive sermon on the "Unity of God." An interval for lunch followed, after which we were treated to a serious and weighty discourse on the "Philosophy of Islam" by Qari Sarfaraz Hosain.

The Namaz-i-Asr was led by Mr. Khalid Sheldrake, an English Moslem—an illuminating evidence of the magnificent brotherhood that prevails in Islam. Here was a man, who until lately a Christian, leading the prayers in the presence of Mussalmans, bread and born Mussalmans so to say, and yet all those who stood behind him unanimously extended to their English Imam every courtesy, reverence and devotion! This in itself is sufficient practical testimony to the truth of the chief Islamic principle—the bond of union, fellowship

and brotherhood which binds all Moslems together, irrespective of creed, sect, colour or position.

An entire hour (5 to 6 p. m.) had been thoughtfully set aside for answers by the Khwaja Saheb to any questions that may be asked concerning Islam. Several English gentlemen rightly took advantage of this opportunity and seemed to be perfectly satisfied with the replies that they received; cordial relations prevailed between the various questioners and the chairman, until finally an ecclesiastical worthy made his appearance in the hall. The reverend dignitary did not himself possess sufficient courage to put any questions on Islam, for, as far as one could realise, he seemed to be sadly ignorant of even the elementary principles and doctrines of the great religion of the Moslems. This colossal ignorance of "His Reverence" became only too apparent by his stupid interruptions and meaningless utterances, which rolled out from the ecclesiastical lips from time to time.

So far he was being treated with the contempt that he deserved, until he really became disagreeable and suddenly, rising on his feet, burst out angrily:—"It is monstrous that you people should "come over to our country and denounce our religion!" He had been unconsciously led into a trap. Christianity had never been denounced by anybody in that hall. The charge itself was monstrous. The Khwaja Sahib happily did not lose his presence of mind, but a few members of the audience, both Moslems and non-Moslems, were rapidly losing self-control, and for a few minutes pandemonium prevailed. It was even feared that physical force would be used. Not that there were two parties quarrelling against each other but, curiously yet rightly enough, all the opposition was directed against the Church dignitary, whose words, quoted above, had all of a sudden electrified the whole audience and had rendered them utterly incensed at his own disgraceful behaviour. I even actually heard the attendants of the Hall whispering to one or two of those who were responsible for the arrangement of the proceedings, seeking permission (nay, indeed, suggesting "instructions") to have the holy personage bodily removed out of the hall in the interest of the maintenance of law and order at the meeting. Such permission, however, was refused by the officials of the Islamic Society, whose attitude under such wicked provocations, was very praiseworthy and extremely creditable.

No little credit is also due to the Khwaja Sahib for not only keeping his temper but also succeeding in keeping the temper of the "revolutionary" members of the audience. Immediately after silence was restored, he proceeded in biting terms—"May I ask the reverend gentleman whether or not it is also monstrous for so many hundreds and thousands of Christian missionaries to visit other countries in Asia and Africa and to actually denounce the religions of those countries—a charge which could never be brought against Moslem missionaries?" Tremendous applause greeted the chairman's pertinent words. Almost immediately an Englishman jumped on his feet and administered a similar rebuke to the minister of his own religion for his unwarranted remarks. The climax came when a Frenchman sitting just in front of me also leapt out of his chair and in his own inimitable style had a "go" at the miserable-looking clergyman. I could not help patting him on the back when he resumed his seat.

The reverend gentleman was now seen consulting somebody next him: a second or two later, the tall and ghastly figure of the "divine" steadily rose and in the deep stillness that suddenly overcame the audience, he offered his "regrets and apologies for what I have said and willingly withdraw my words." A generous and forgiving applause followed this brief statement of the reverend gentleman, which was renewed when a few minutes later he left the hall. The "incident" which had once become really threatening was thus happily closed without any untowards results. If it has only succeeded in teaching the clergyman a lesson, it has not been in vain.

Mr. Khalid Sheldrake opened the evening session by addressing the audience on "Why I adopted Islam?" He traced the various stages through which he had passed, ever since he was a young boy, towards the achievement of his object. His address was both interesting and instructive and was listened to by everybody present with the closest attention.

Mr. Zafar Ali Khan spoke on "Islam and England" and the English members of the audience must have felt grateful to him for having so forcibly enlightened them on this all-important subject.

Qari Sarfaraz Hosain led the Namaz-i-Asha, after which proceedings were concluded.

The Islamic Society has done well in holding a "Moslem Day" in the Exhibition. Proceedings of this kind are bound to create a real interest in Islam in this country and such interest once created is certain to lead to further developments in due course of time.

The Islamic Society's Coronation Luncheon.

The Islamic Society celebrated the Coronation of H. I. M. the Shah of Persia by a luncheon at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday, the 21st July. His Excellency Raghib Raif Bey, Councillor to the Imperil Ottoman Embassy, presiding. The gathering, which was very large and representative, included, amongst others, the following gentlemen:—His Excellency M. Ghaffar Khan (Councillor to the Imperial Persian Legation), who, as the chief guest, sat on the right of the chairman, the Right Hon. Syed Ameer Ali, the Ameere Jung (son of the famous Bakhtiari Chieftain, the Sardare Asad), Sir Krishna Gupta, Sir Edward Boyle, Mr. M. Abbas Ali Baig, Sir Muncherjee Bhownugree, Mr. Justice Abdul Rahim, Mr. Israel Zangwill, Mr. M. A. Jinnah, Colonel C. E. Yate, M. P., Mr. Hassan Sabey, Dr. Asadullah Khan, Professor Shaikh Mahomed Isfahani, Mr. D. M. Mason, M. P., Dr. Syed Abdul Majid, Shaikh Shawish, Mr. Edward Dalgado, Khwaja Kamaluddin, Mr. Mushir Hussein Kidwai, Dr. Mahomed Sharaf, Mr. Erir Lawrence, Mr. S. Abul Hasan Razavi, Mr. M. Alum Ali, Mr. L. Sitaram Pershad, Mr. Jelal Shah, Mr. W. Rehman, Mr. Ghulam Rasul, Mr. Yusuf Khan, Mr. Husain Ali Khan, Mr. C. W. Jones, Mr. T. P. Roberts, Mr. Masud-uz-Zaman, Mr. Ibrahim Haji, Mr. Jan Mahomed Joonejo, Mr. F. De Souzo, Mr. Abdul Ali, Mr. Ismail Mortada and Mr. Fakir Husein.

Letters of regret for inability to be present were received from Sir Edward Grey, the Turkish Ambassador, the Persian Minister, the Japanese Ambassador, the Chinese Minister, Lord Curzon, Lord Lamington, H. E. the Mushir-ul-Mulk, the Hon. Mr. G. K. Gokhale, Mr. A. Ponsonby, M. P., Mr. Philip Morrell, M. P., Mr. Keir Hardie, M. P., the Hon. Aubrey Herbert, M. P., Mr. John Dillon, M. P., the Hon Walter Guinness, M. P., Prof. E. G. Browne, Mr. Ibrahim Khan, Sir Thomas Barclay, and Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, M. P.

Professor Browne's absence was very keenly felt. In the course of his letter, which was read out by Mr. Jelal Shah, the acting Hon. Secretary of the Islamic Society, the Professor wrote:—"No one more heartily hopes or more fervently prays that the reign of the Young Shah who is to be crowned to-day may mark the opening of a happier epoch for poor Persia, who, through no fault of her own, has suffered so much in the last few years, especially since the end of 1911. The clouds are very heavy—very black and the omens sinister—but we can only pray for some unforeseen deliverance

والله على كل شئ قدير

If I am not able to join you, as I fear is probable, I beg you to thank your Society for their kind desire to secure my presence, and to assure them of my entire sympathy with the object of their celebration, *viz.*, to wish long life and prosperity to Sultan Ahmad Shah, and a happy future to his country and people."

The toasts of Their Majesties the King and the Sultan (as the Khalifat-ul-Moslemin) having been duly honoured, the Chairman, in a graceful speech, proposed the toast of "His Imperial Majesty the Shah." His Excellency at the outset expressed the regrets of His Highness Tewfik Pasha for his inability to be present and thanked the Islamic Society for the great honour they had done him in asking him to take the chair on such an auspicious occasion—an honour which he deeply appreciated. He sincerely wished the young Shah—the monarch of an ancient Empire—who was being crowned that day, long life and happiness, and earnestly hoped and prayed that a new era of prosperity, freedom and progress was about to begin in Persia. Speaking as a Turk, Raif Bey assured the Persian sovereign and his subjects of the whole-hearted sympathy and good wishes of the Ottoman nation on that joyous and momentous occasion. (Cheers).

The toast was eloquently supported by Mr. Mushir Hussein Kidwai and enthusiastically honoured.

His Excellency Ghaffar Khan of the Persian Legation responded. He offered his thanks to the chairman for the kind and cordial words he had used in proposing the Shah's toast. The Persian Minister, he said, had specially requested him to convey his gratitude to the Islamic Society for the dignified and becoming manner in which they had decided to celebrate the Coronation of H. I. M. the Shah. The Society, which had had a historic past, had once again proved its absolute necessity for the Moslem world of this great metropolis. The entire Moslem world, the speaker said, was watching the achievements of the Society with no little gratitude and respect and he was confident that Banquet in celebration of the Coronation of a Persian sovereign, held under the distinguished chairmanship of a Turkish statesman, would create a most favourable impression amongst all classes of Moslems abroad. (Hear, hear). His Excellency, who spoke feelingly, assured those present as to how highly he valued the great privilege that had been thus afforded to him to express, however inadequately, his deep sense of gratitude, with which he willingly associated that of the Persian Minister, to all those who were responsible for that magnificent and brilliant function. The cordial words of the chairman, together with other necessary details in connection with the Society's Banquet, he remarked, would be

telegraphically submitted to His Imperial Majesty the Shah. (Cheers.)

Mr. Ameer Ali, in proposing the toast of "Persian People," remarked that an intelligent and gifted nation like the Persians was bound to prosper and progress, if they only worked on sound prineiples. The right hon. gentleman drew the attention of the audience to the great and noble part the people of Persia had taken in ancient history and he felt certain, provided they were given sufficient opportunity to put their "house in order," they would again hold their proper place amongst the nations of the world. The fact that almost all the sovereigns of Europe had sent their good wishes to the youthful Shah, in most cases such expression being accompanied by suitable gifts, showed that Persia had the goodwill of Europe, and he was therefore very hopeful of the future of that country and her people.

Dr. Asadullah Khan, on behalf of the Ameere Jung, in responding to the toast, expressed the deep sense of gratification, with which the proceedings of that day would be read by all his fellow-countrymen in Persia. He considered it an excellent omen for the future of Persia that, in the very heart of the British Empire, so many distinguished and representative members of the community both Asiatic and European, had met together to celebrate the auspicious event, which was being held that day in Teheran. He was sure Raif Bey's occupation of the chair on that occasion would succeed, as nothing else would, in strengthening and promoting the bond of union and fellowship which happily existed between the two great Moslem nations, the Ottomans and the Persians (Cheers.) The Islamic Society, he said, was to be heartily congratulated on having thus so generously afforded such excellent means towards the attainment of that noble object. (Hear, hear.)

The toast of the "Guests" was briefly proposed by Mr. W. Rehman, to which Colonel Yate, M. P., and Mr. Mason, M. P., responded. The former thought the future of Persia was, after all, not so gloomy as some people imagined and he was certain that country would soon advance, both politically and materially. He also paid a high tribute to the useful work the Islamic Society had been doing in London, where, apart from its educational work, it had further succeeded in establishing that perfect harmony and concord between the various sects of Islam that was so desirable (Cheers.)

Mr. Mason deprecated the numerous difficulties that had been placed in the way of Persian independence and freedom and thought the only way towards salvation was for the Persian people to unanimously support and safeguard the constitution of the country. He was very pleased to take part that day in the celebration of the Shah's Coronation, and he fervently prayed for a bright and prosperous future for the young sovereign and his people.

The toast of the "Islamic Society" was proposed by Mr. Edward Dalgado. Dr. Mahomed Sharaf of Cairo, who is a respected member of the Committee, responded.

Mr. Jelal Shah, in briefly proposing the health of the "Chairman," stated that His Excellency Raif Bey's occupation of the chair on that historic occasion was yet another demonstration of the great solidarity that prevailed in Islam. It clearly showed that the great Ottoman nation was that day sharing the joys and rejoicings—he wished he could say joys and rejoicings unmixed with anxiety and unalloyed with distress—of the people of Persia on the Coronation of their Shah. Their distinguished chairman's presence that day, he said, was therefore full of significance and reality and he was sure it would be hailed with no little satisfaction throughout the Moslem world.

The chairman, in returning thanks, remarked that as a Moslem, he had done nothing but his duty in taking his part in the festivities associated with the Coronation of the Moslem sovereign of a historic and ancient kingdom. (Cheers.)

Reception at the Persian Legation.

His Excellency Mushir-ul-Mulk, the Persian Minister, held a large official reception at the Legation on Tuesday evening, in honour of the Coronation of H. I. M. the Shah. The outside of the building was brilliantly illuminated, and the hall, grand staircase, and saloons were decorated with roses and masses of lilies arranged in Oriental vases with lotus flowers brought specially from Egypt for the occasion. Among the 800 guests were the Turkish Ambassador, the Ameere Jung, the French Ambassador, the Russian Ambassador, the Spanish Ambassador and Madame Merry del Val, the American Ambassador and Mrs. Poge, the Argentine Minister and Madame Domingnez, the Bulgarian Minister, the Chilean Minister and Madame Edwards, the Bolivian Minister and Madame Suarez, the Minister for Costa Rica, the Greek Minister and Madame Gennadins, the Siberian Minister and Madame Crommelin, the Netherlands Minister and Madame de Marces Van Swinderen, the Minister for Panama and Madame M. Valdis, the Rumanian Minister, the Servian Minister, the Siamese Minister, the Swiss Minister and Mlle. Carlin, Raghib Raif Bey (Turkish Embassy), Senor Don Jacinto L. Villegas and Mlle. Villegas, the Belgian Charge d'Affaires, the Cuban Charge d'Affaires, the Danish Charge d'Affaires, Lieut.-Col. Vicomte de la Panouse (French Embassy), M. Charles Roux, Major M. Renner (German Embassy), Kapitan E. Von Müller (German Embassy), Mr. Yoshida and the Norwegian Charge d'Affaires. There were also present several members of the Cabinet, the Foreign Office, and his Majesty's Household, with their ladies. The distinguished company present also included the leading members of the Moslem colony in London.

By command of the King, the Hon. Sir Arthur Walsh, Master of the Ceremonies, called upon the Persian Minister at the Legation in Bramham Gardens, S. W., on Tuesday morning, and offered His Majesty's congratulations on the occasion of the Coronation of the Shah. The full text of King George's message was immediately cabled by the Minister to his Sovereign. Among the callers were also the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Lord Chancellor, and Colonel Sir Douglas Dawson, Comptroller in the Lord Chamberlain's Department.

Mr. Shuster's Vindication.

Under the above heading, the *Daily News and Leader*, in the course of a leading article, says :—"M. Mornard, the Persian Treasurer-General, has resigned. His position has become untenable partly because the Russian Consuls have taken upon themselves to collect Persian revenues and decline to abandon the lucrative task in deference to his wild remonstrances; partly because the Russian Bank has refused to pay a balance due to Persia and applied it to Russian purposes. M. Moran is the Belgian official appointed at the instance of Russia to succeed Mr. Morgan Shuster, the American, who could not be persuaded to tolerate the combination of theft and blackmail which represents Russian financial policy in Persia, and who added above all to his sins in the eyes of St. Petersburg by the strenuous zeal with which he laboured to make Persia economically independent. There could scarcely be a more illuminating evidence of the truth of his indictment of Russian conduct in Persia than the downfall of his successor."

London, July 31.

The Situation in Europe.

The House of Commons has had to listen to Ministerial statements of the most ominous kind. The Prime Minister withdrew his motion yesterday giving precedence to the Home Rule Amending Bill, and explained that he took this course because the House was meeting under conditions of gravity which were almost without a parallel. Accepting the view which commonsense and patriotism dictate, as was observed by the *Times* yesterday, he declared that, at a moment "when the issues of peace and war are hanging in the balance," it is in the interests of the whole world that England should "present a united front and be able to speak and act with the authority of an undivided nation." His words acquire double weight because this unprecedented step was taken with the full consent and the hearty approbation of the Unionist Party, and, as Mr. Bonar Law was careful to add, of Ulster besides.

Sir Edward Grey was obliged to inform members yesterday that he could not say the situation was less grave than it had been the day before. He had nothing to add to what was already matter of public knowledge, but the words, "so far as our information goes," with which he safeguarded the announcement that up to the hour when he spoke no other Power had taken any corresponding steps in answer to the partial mobilization ordered by Russia, show how very near the brink of the precipice Europe stands. Great Britain is still working for "the one great object of preserving European peace." With that end in view she is keeping in close touch with other Powers, and so far she has not experienced any difficulty in this. That is the one faint ray of comfort that can be detected in what the Foreign Secretary had to say. "It has not been found possible for the Powers to unite in diplomatic action, as was proposed on Monday." Why it has not been possible, he did not, of course, declare. To do so would be indiscreet and injudicious so long as it is permissible to cherish the slightest expectation that mankind may yet escape the awful visitation of a European war. At this moment that expectation may have dwindled to vanishing point. The message of the Berlin correspondent of the *Times* is particularly discouraging, though it must be remembered that even the most vigorous rattling of the sabre is one thing, and flinging the scabbard away is another. The *Times'* correspondent thinks that the die may have been cast at midnight, or that it may be cast early to-day ; but that in any event it must fall, one way or the other, within the next day or two. Almost everybody in Berlin, he says, looks upon mobilization as a question of hours. The conference held at Potsdam on Wednesday night was attended by the Chancellor and the Imperial Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, as by all the chief naval and military advisers of the Sovereign, and yesterday the Foreign Office

made no secret of the fact that the latter were pressing for immediate mobilization. The view given out in Berlin is that all depends upon the answer which Russia may give, or may have given, to the German communication made yesterday in St. Petersburg. There cannot be much doubt what the general nature of that answer will be. The Russian Government desire peace earnestly and intensely, but their interests and all the traditions and feelings of the Russian people forbid them to accept the Austro-German theory that the annihilation of an Orthodox Slav State is no concern of theirs. Short of accepting that view, they are prepared for any compromise. Were Austria-Hungary even now to announce that she regards the destruction of Belgrade as chastisement enough for Servia's offences, mobilization might not be carried out. Were she even to give Russia binding assurances that this chastisement would not exceed certain limits and, above all, that it would not ruin the independence and self-respect of Servia, an accommodation might be possible. But in the absence of any guarantees restricting Austria-Hungary's future action, Russia will undoubtedly take measures to give effect to her remonstrances, whatever may be the attitude of her German neighbour.

It is stated in Berlin that what Germany has done is to put a question as to "the character and objects of the Russian mobilization." But the exact form of the step is not likely to prove important. The point is that it has been taken, and if it be persisted in we can hardly hope that the reply will be deemed satisfactory in Berlin. We are told, indeed, that yesterday's "conversations" between M. Sazonoff and Counts Szápáry and Pourtales were conducted in the most friendly tone, but they did not lead to any practical result. News of the German mobilization is expected hourly in St. Petersburg, and it will be immediately followed by that of the rest of Russia's European forces. That the gravity of the situation is fully appreciated in Paris is shown by the fact that the Cabinet Council which sat from 3 to 6 o'clock yesterday morning resumed its sittings at 10, in the hope that news of M. Sazonoff's reply to the German representations would be received. All that was known was that although the German Ambassador had reiterated his request for information he had also asked Russia herself to make proposals. Germany's official communication to France that the news about mobilization across the Vosges is "inexact," and her further statement that "direct communications" between St. Petersburg, Vienna, and Berlin are about to be resumed, somewhat relieved anxiety in Paris yesterday evening.

England and the Crisis.

The all-absorbing question—whether or not should Great Britain be drawn into the war—is being acutely discussed in this country, both on the platform and in the Press. It can safely be said that opinion is, at present at any rate, equally divided on the question.

Those that are against England being dragged into a European war unnecessarily, when the issues involved are of no concern to herself, rightly hold the view that since this country is under no treaty obligations to back up the Russian and French cause by armed intervention, are obviously much more "understandable" than the party that is freely advocating the active co-operation of Great Britain with her two "friends" in the detestable Triple Entente—an *Entente* on which I had occasion to write in these columns a few weeks ago and which has been the direct or indirect cause of so much misery and sorrow in the various Moslem states in Europe, Asia and Africa.

The Tory Press, of course, strongly "backs up" the latter view. "Nothing in all this has occurred," says the *Times*, "which can modify the attitude of England. Within a few hours we may learn that Germany has fulfilled the unuttered menace which underlies her inquiries in St. Petersburg, and has issued orders for mobilization. France will undoubtedly follow this step by placing her army upon a war footing as rapidly as possible. In that event our duty is plain. We must make instant preparations to back our friends, if they are made the subject of unjust attack. That is not merely a duty of friendship. It is an elementary duty of self-preservation. The days of 'splendid isolation,' if they ever existed, are no more. We cannot stand alone in a Europe dominated by a single Power, or any single group of Powers. Were our friends to be attacked and conquered, not merely our position as a Great Power, but our safety within our own shores, would be gone. No concessions and no obsequiousness upon our part could long satisfy the ambitions of the victors. They would apply to us, sooner rather than later, the principles of *Realpolitik* in the harshest and the most domineering form. We should be at their mercy, for did we stand aside when the vital interests of our friends were at stake, we should justly find ourselves deserted when our own hour of trial came. It is not merely our honour which bids us be true to our friends. It is consideration for our own welfare and our own security. Were we to show weakness or pusillanimity now, none would trust us again. We should be hated by the friends we had abandoned and despised by the rivals before whose threats we had flinched. We shall still work on for peace; work on for it to the very end; but the hour has come when we too may have to make instant preparation for war. The angel of death is abroad. We 'may almost hear the beating of his wings.' He may yet 'spare us and pass on.' But if he indeed visits those with whom we stand we must pay our share of the fell tribute with stout hearts."

The *Daily News and Leader*, discussing the question in a leading article headed "Our Duty", takes the opposite view, a view that is shared by the majority of the Liberals and not a few Conservatives. "So long as the great Continental Powers have not actually come to blows," proceeds the article, "the duty of British statesmanship is to devote all its energies and all its ingenuity to the preservation of peace. There is no reason to doubt that this task has been faithfully accepted by Sir Edward Grey, and that he will carry it on so long as events allow him to.' But if unhappily all his efforts should fail, what then? To this the *Times* gives the answer: 'We must take our stand by the side of Russia and France.' This answer is given with an assurance which dispenses with the need of giving reasons. Yet nothing but the weightiest of reasons could drive us to launch into a struggle which would be the greatest conflict the modern world has known, and to risk in a tremendous gamble the splendid fabric of Empire which it has required centuries to build up. Such reasons may be of three kinds—those of honour, those of principle, those of interest. We are under no treaty obligation. What Mr. Asquith said on March 24, 1913, describes accurately our position to-day; for that we have Sir Edward Grey's assurance. 'If war arises between European Powers there are no unpublished agreements which will restrict or hamper the freedom of the Government or of Parliament to decide whether or not Great Britain should participate in war.' There is no obligation of principle to make us take up arms on behalf of Russia. In the quarrel between Austria and Russia a maze of rival intrigues weaved round the wretched Balkan States, a competition for the control of feudatories, there is no principle to appeal to the soul of this country; and assuredly the Russian Government represents no ideal for which Englishmen should be sent to their death and the British Empire imperilled. If Germany and France are unhappily for themselves bound by treaty to sacrifice themselves in this miserable quarrel we happily are free.

"It is suggested that interest, our interest in 'the balance of power,' commits us to support Russia. No man has given substance to that hollow and disastrous phrase, but nothing is more certain than that the surest way to destroy any balance of European affairs would be to help Russia to crush Germany and Austria. Such a victory would leave Russia, who already dictates to France and so seriously prejudices our own policy, the dictator of Europe. The affected concern for the 'balance of power' merely covers the desire to strike a blow at Germany. That is a course dictated by no consideration for any British interest. If the venture succeeded it would bring into being a new Russia, who would turn against India after we had helped her to smash Germany. If it failed, the failure might involve the ruin of the British Empire. Honour, principle, interest all alike dictate one course—to maintain an absolute neutrality should this lamentable dispute in which we have neither lot nor part, bring war to the great Continental Powers. By maintaining that attitude now and making it plain to all the world, we shall do much to avert the colossal infamy of war; for we shall dissipate all suspicion as to the sincerity of our efforts for peace, and we shall disillusion any Power which is tempted to drive matters to a crisis because it counts upon our aid. By standing apart from any conflict, we preserve for Europe in the worst event the precious possession of an impartial madiator."

Lord Lamington and the Balance of Power.

Lord Lamington, writing to the *Daily News and Leader* on "why we should not be drawn into war," though a Conservative, fully associates himself with the view taken by that journal and most of the Liberal newspapers.

"Surely," says his Lordship, "the insistence reiterated in the leading articles of many papers that fidelity to the *Entente* renders necessary our taking part in the war, should it become a 'Group' war, is quite uncalled for. Mr. Asquith reassured the House of Commons last year by saying that the *Entente* did not commit us to any such undertaking. Had not this statement been made I am confident that many protests would have been made against the suggestion that we were bound to support France in a war where we had no vital interests immediately at stake. The 'maintenance of the balance of power in Europe' is advanced as the principle that must still guide our policy. But it is antiquated and ignores the fact that our interests are primarily world-wide and not merely European. The safety of India and our overseas Dominions are of far greater importance to us than a possible defeat of France.

"But allowing that the preservation of the balance of power in Europe is a sound principle to act on, may it not then be questioned whether support ought not to be given to the Triple Alliance rather than to France and Russia, so as to maintain the balance?

"One point is clear, which is that by the Press declaring that it is our duty to support France and Russia, Russia is thereby encouraged to make war on Austria, and a general war will necessarily follow."

TETE À TETE



British Journalistic Restraint.

We referred last week to the *Times'* effort to justify the rigours of the Indian Press Act on the score of the alleged "irresponsibility" of a section of the Indian Press. We quoted the passage containing the wild assumption that the restrictions imposed on the Press in India would "sit lightly" on English journalists who habitually keep themselves within proper bounds. This is an absurd travesty of the facts. Anyone in India who has some idea of the tone and spirit of the political polemics in which the bulk of the Tory papers have been indulging in recent controversies, would be amazed at the latitude that is permitted to them. After the abortive Buckingham Palace Conference the King's action has been criticised in terms which no Indian journalist would venture to employ in criticising a Joint Magistrate. As an apt illustration of this we reproduce the following "A Word to the King" by Mr. Keir Hardie which appeared in the *Labour Leader* of the 23rd July :—

"This is only a brief note on the political situation. Whether or "not my prophecy of a General Election this year is going to be "realised, the next ten days will show. Meanwhile, the King has "been invited, or has invited himself, to intervene in the Home Rule "embroglio. The most serious constitutional crisis since the days of "the Stuarts has thus been precipitated. The House of Commons has "three times passed the Home Rule Bill by substantial majorities. "Thrice the Lords have rejected it. Meanwhile the Ulster 'loyalists' "have been arming to resist the measure becoming law. That is to "say, they are in armed rebellion against the State and the King's "Authority. And now the King casts in his lot with the reactionary "peers and the rebellious Ulsterites. He joins his influence with the "forces which are working against and seeking to destroy the House "of Commons and our constitutional forms of Parliamentary Govern-"ment. Needless to say he and his servile upholders, Liberal and "Unionist, in the Press and in Parliament, will seek to conceal this "naked truth from the public gaze. But the point is not open to "dispute. The Liberal Party did not ask for his interference, what-"ever the Cabinet may have done. The Irish Party had no need for "his services, and Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon only consented to "attend the conference because the King 'commanded' their presence. "The Labour Party resents his interference. These three sections "of the Parliament have stood loyally together in getting Home Rule "through ; the Tories alone have objected, and therefore the King in "interfering can have no other object than to assist his friends the "Tories. The hypocritical assurance which is being spread abroad "that the House of Commons will have the last word is a mere blind. "If an agreement be reached it will come to us with the combined "weight and authority of the King, the Tory Party, the House of "Lords, and the Liberal Cabinet behind it. Under such circumstances "the House of Commons will be paralysed. I have never for a moment "doubted that part of any settlement come to will be an immediate "dissolution, and we begin to see why the Royal crowd have been "visiting Merthyr and many other industrial centres during the past "two or three years. They desired to popularise themselves with the "mob so that they might rivet the chains of their iron rule more firmly "upon them. King George is not a statesman. He is not the pleasure-"loving scapegrace which his father was before him, but, like his father, "he is destitute of even ordinary ability. Born in the ranks of the "working class his most likely fate would have been that of a street-"corner loafer. And this is the man who is being made a tool of by "the reactionary classes to break the power of Democracy and weaken "and finally destroy the power of Parliament. But Democracy will "accept the challenge. The rights our fathers won by sacrifice shall "be maintained. Once more the Republican slogan will be heard "in the land, and a sloppy Liberalism as well as a reactionary Toryism "will be swept before the indignant wrath of an angry and enlightened "people. The movement, all sections of it, must speak out with no "uncertain sound. Reaction is most easily checked in its earlier "stages. The action of the King, and the slippery Liberal Cabinet "which sanctioned it without the consent of the House of Commons, "must be condemned unsparingly if our popular liberties are to be "preserved. The Government, by pandering to Rebellion in Ulster "and kow-towing to the Throne, are undermining their position in the "country and even endangering a settlement of the Home Rule issue. "Watch carefully the developments of the next ten days." Comment is needless. We would only remind the *Times* that no provincial satrap in India has ever been addressed by an Indian publicist in such language as this.

The King and the Suffragettes.

The Buckingham Palace Conference seems to have led to curious side-developments, and among these Mrs. Pankhurst's letter, addressed to His Majesty the King, is not the least interesting. This militant and resourceful suffragist leader points out that, while His Majesty refused to receive a deputation from the Women's Social and Political Union, certain militant men—namely, Sir Edward Carson, Captain Craig, Mr. John Redmond and Mr. John Dillon—have been received by him in person. The letter proceeds :—"Your Majesty has not only received these militant men, but has condoned their lawless and violent methods by saying, 'The trend of events in Ireland has been surely and steadily towards an appeal to force, and to-day the cry of civil war is on the lips of the most responsible and sober-minded of my people.' I would call your Majesty to witness that equally responsible, sober-minded, and public spirited are those women who have resorted to militant methods because they have found by experience that all other methods of winning their just right to vote are ineffectual. . . . . It can no longer be urged in answer to our claim that your Majesty cannot receive us save upon the advice of Ministers, for it would appear that the course of inviting the members of the Irish Conference to attend Buckingham Palace, receiving them in person, and addressing to them words relating to the Irish situation has been taken upon your Majesty's own personal initative. If, however, Ministers are responsible for this course of action, then it is incumbent upon them to advise that the deputation of the Women's Social and Political Union, recently maltreated and arrested for trying to reach your Majesty's presence, shall now be received. . . . . Our right to be received by your Majesty in person will again be actively asserted at a time which seems to us appropriate." Mrs. Pankhurst has mercifully decided to suspend her operations during the war, but when the "appropriate time" comes we may be sure the "assertion" of her right to be received by His Majesty would not take a very agreeable form.

Mr. Zafar Ali Khan at Hyderabad.

Mr. Zafar Ali Khan, Editor and Proprietor of the *Daily Zamindar*, sends to us a letter for publication in which he deals with a passage in the letter of Lieut.-Colonel Bayley, Private Secretary to H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, which appeared in the *Comrade* of 20th June last. The passage was to the effect that "When Resident at Hyderabad in 1907-09 he (Sir Michael O'Dwyer) never knew and never ever remembers to have heard of Mr. Zafar Ali Khan who was apparently then employed in a subordinate capacity in the Home Office of the Nizam's Government." Mr. Zafar Ali Khan recalls certain circumstances in connection with which according to him, Sir Michael O'Dwyer must have at least heard of him as an official in the Home Department while Sir Michael was the Resident at Hyderabad. However, we refrain from publishing the letter, as we do not wish at such a time as this to prolong the controversy. Others also interested in Mr. Zafar Ali Khan desire the same.

"New India."

The *Madras Standard*, which had been showing vital signs of a rejuvenated spirit under the inspiration of Mrs. Annie Besant, has taken the youthful name of *New India*. It sets before itself the great ideal of devoted and pure service to "God, Crown and Country." With Mrs. Besant as its presiding genius, we may be sure the paper will carry on its work with the zeal and vigour of a missionary. Already one feels in its pages the impress of a strong personality, and a new intellectual quality and breadth of view in the treatment of public questions. We welcome Mrs. Besant's prominent association in the work of Indian journalism, and we trust her efforts in this field would be for the good of the country she has made her own.

The Racial Problem of Austria-Hungary.

The results of this war are incalculable, and no one can see what new changes may come over the map of Europe. It is, however, certain that the defeat of the Teutons would tell most heavily on Austria-Hungary. The racial question in the Dual Monarchy is one of the greatest complexity. In the kingdoms and

provinces represented in the Reichsrath in Vienna there are nearly 10,000,000 Germans and 18,500,000 non-Germans. Of these nearly 17,500,000 are Slavs. Among these Slavs, the Croats and Serbs number 780,000, chiefly in Dalmatia, while there are in all 666,000 Orthodox and nearly 3,500,000 Greek Uniats. In Hungary, with its subject-kingdoms of Croatia and Slavonia, there are 10,000,000 Magyars, 2,000,000 Germans, and 8,000,000 other non-Magyars. Of these, 3,000,000 are Rumanians and well over 5,000,000 Slavs. The Croats, or Roman Catholic Serbs, number 1,800,000 and their Orthodox brothers are 1,100,000 in number. All told, Hungary has nearly 11,000,000 Roman Catholic subjects, 2,000,000 Greek Uniats, and 3,000,000 Orthodox. In this connexion it should be remembered that the Patriarchate of the Orthodox Serb Church has been fixed at Karlowitz, under Hungarian rule, for over two centuries. In Bosnia there are 434,000 Roman Catholic Croats, 825,000 Orthodox Serbs, and over 600,000 Bosniaks, or Moslem Serbs. Thus, it will be seen that the Emperor Francis Joseph rules over more than 25,000,000 Slavs and 3,225,000 Rumanians, of whom nearly 4,500,000 adhere to various Orthodox Churches and 5,400,000 are Uniats. Of this Slav mass 5,000,000 Poles, mostly Roman Catholics, are not particularly susceptible to Pan-Slav propaganda, as that is largely Russian and Orthodox. Altogether the Dual Monarchy contains 5,500,000 inhabitants of Serb race, divided between Islam and two Christian creeds.

Calculations about the War.

We take the following extract from an article by the military correspondent of the *Times* which appeared in that journal on the 20th July :—"By the strict letter of her engagements Germany is not bound to move unless Austria is actually attacked, and mobilization does not necessarily mean war. Germany may do one of three things. She may order a general mobilization confined to her eastern frontier, or she may sit still and await events. If an eventual Russian attack on Galicia were repulsed there would be no necessity for Germany to move, but any other excuse for German inaction is hard to find. A partial mobilization on her eastern frontier only might conceivably—though the chances are not numerous—keep France and England out of the fray. However much German strategy may in principle desire a preliminary offensive against France, the German Reichsland is formidably guarded by defensive works and troops, while in rear is the splendid barrier of the Rhine. The defensive in Lorraine has been in recent years an alternative which has not been disregarded. We must however admit that when the dice are rattling in the box for the great gamble of war, Germany usually stakes a maximum. If war cannot be prevented, Germany is more likely to engage in it with her whole armed strength, and with the intention of seeking drastic remedies, than of frittering away forces upon limited war. Military exigencies now over-ride political considerations. Military exigencies, in the first place, compel Austria to seek a rapid decision in the south in order to shake her forces free for a much more dangerous campaign in the north. This may not be easy. Servia is a difficult country, with poor communications. The Servian fighting men are as numerous in the aggregate as the 21 Austrian divisions allotted to the attack. In the district into which the Servians have retired there are magnificent positions, while any revolt which may take place in Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Dalmatia, fostered as it would be by Servian and Montenegrin partisans, might impede or possibly prevent the march of General Potiorek's Army to the east. We cannot yet be sure that an Austrian Army in Servia will be utilizable elsewhere before Russia can act. Military exigencies, again, compel Russia to act as quickly as she can in order to reap the benefit of Austria's division of force. In normal circumstances we should not wager much upon the readiness of Russia to attack Galicia in less than a month. But a partial mobilization, and a partial concentration, may abbreviate the term, and in any case the masses of Russian horsemen and the numerous Austro-Hungarian cavalry will come early to grips and fill the world with their doings. In this terribly automatic war, one thing leads to another. As with a line of tin soldiers, if one is knocked over, the rest fall down in turn, so may the Powers one by one, dreading and detesting war as they do, be dragged into it. We shall all support our friends because we must, and in a very short time after a Russian mobilization is announced it will be a miracle if all Europe is not aflame. How can we fail to regard without remorse and regret our old position of detached and independent arbiter of events, free of all entanglements, able to support the smaller states at need, and looked up to by all as the protector of smaller nationalities? That position we have lost because we have selfishly refused to make ourselves a nation in arms, and are consequently dragged into quarrels which appear to be no direct concern of ours, in order to maintain our security, which depends on the maintenance of the balance of power."

"Religion and the Young Turks."

The following is the English translation of the article which appeared in *Tasvir-i-Afkar*, on 13th June last, over the signature of Yonus Nady Bey, first Editor of that journal, and to which we made a reference last week :—"Our contemporary, the *Comrade*, the English organ of the educated Moslems of India, published in its latest number two paragraphs about the Young Turks. In the first it discussed the rumours about the irreligiousness of the Young Turks and the bad effect they produce and naturally ought to produce amongst our Moslem brethren of India. In the second, it expressed its pleasure and content in regard to the strict order issued by Enver Pasha, the Minister of War, to the army ordering it to give the greatest heed to religion. It praised the Minister and prayed God for offering Islam victory and progress. Although we are very pleased to see our Moslem brethren of India interested in the slightest details of our affairs, we are obliged to declare our resentment on seeing some rumours being exaggerated and discussed eagerly and giving any judgment as to the firmness or infirmness of the Turks' religious feeling. We declare that resentment whether the judgment is for or against us, because the discussion of such a point is neither right nor wise. It is a known fact that after the spread and mighty greatness of Islam in the East and West the Crusades began. Is it not a fact, known to every student of history, that the Turks were at the head of the Moslem races, if not the only Moslem race, that bravely and strongly resisted and stood those attacks? With the heart-tearing scenes of the decay, loss of independence and subjugation of Spain and many Moslem lands, we ask, were it not for strong defence, gallant resistance of the Moslem Turks to the terrible floods of fanatic Christianity whether more dreadful scenes than these would have been witnessed from Constantinople to China and India? Do we not see daily the fanaticism of Christian Europe boiling and attacking Islam in different shapes and forms? Don't we understand and see that the International Law is meant by Europe to regulate the rights of Christians only and deny the slightest right to Moslem? Does not this European ill-treatment, injustice, tyrrany towards non-European, specially Moslems, necessitate the starting of an Eastern, especially Islamic, Internationality? These plain and known facts being before our eyes, we deem it unwise and a bad mistake on the part of our Indian contemporary to despise and mock at Egyptian Nationalism and then to suspect, due to false information, the religious fervour of the reforming and progressive Turks. This is our opinion, inspite of the good intentions of the writer and even in spite of his praise of Enver Pasha. Such discussions will, instead of strengthening brotherly relations amongst the different Moslem countries, cause friction and discern. This is one of the sharp weapons used by Europe in ruining Islam, and we are sorry to say that some Moslems intentionally or unintentionally are prey to it. The first paragraph of the *Comrade* shows that there is a Christian finger in the pie as it says 'The non-Moslem Turcophobes who dread the solidarity of Islam and always try to show the worst side of the Turk to Indian Mussalmans, when they fail in everything else, tell them that he is not even half as good a Moslem as they are. This so telling an argument that it becomes difficult to justify one's regard for the Turk as a brother Moslem after it.' Can't we understand this? This sentence shows that those, who are showing the Turk as irreligious in the eyes of the Moslem Indians, are nothing but enemies trying to break the friendly and brotherly relations that exist between the Indians and the Turks. Any news fabricated by enemies are nothing but mere lies. It is sufficient to know its source and the reason it was fabricated for in order to despise it. It was the duty of the *Comrade* and all zealous and true Moslem papers, owing to their political situation, to smash these lies and show their falsehood. Our contemporary (the *Comrade*) instead of that acted as if he is telling us : "Look you here! there are many intrigues flourishing against you here. They cause the worst effect. Therefore if you don't like to loose the Indian sympathies don't behave as they paint you." Good advice. It is quite different a thing to wish every Muhammadan to be firm in his religion than to disapprove these lies. To be a true Moslem strict and faithful to his religion is the duty of every Muhammadan (the Indians included). It is also the duty of the editorial staff of our contemporary, the *Comrade*, to fight such fabricated lies and destroy them at their source. The *Comrade* says in the same paragraph "Many devout Mussalmans in India are now satisfied . . . . ." We answer our Indian contemporary by simply saying there is no contradiction between nationalism and religiousness. In conclusion we say the religious firmness of the Turks is not in the slightest form other than what it was yesterday. It ought not to forgotten that it is the duty of the Moslem nations as Moslem persons to unite and be like brothers and form defensive league against the greedy Christian Internationality."

The Basis of Moslem Solidarity.

As regards the passionate and indignant communication of our friend Dr. Ahmad Foád of Egypt, we need not reproduce it, for our Constantinople contemporary has practically traversed the same ground. Dr. Ahmad Foád takes us to task for our alleged sins of having doubted the religious fervour of the Turks and the Egyptians and belittled the value of their respective Nationalisms. We have carefully read our editorial remarks of the 25th April, and it seems to us that our observations on the subject have been completely misunderstood by our friends in Constantinople. We know the character of the secular movement for which the Young Turk stands; we are aware of the lofty patriotism that inspires him and of the silent devotion and ungrudging sacrifice with which he is carrying on his great task. No one admires more than we do the splendid courage and tenacity of purpose with which he is facing his enormous difficulties and trying, amidst formidable obstacles imposed on him from without, to rebuild the fabric of his once glorious Empire. For this he enjoys the entire sympathy and confidence not only of the Indian Mussalmans, but also of the whole Islamic world. But it is not simply our admiration, confidence and sympathy that we give him, we have offered him the priceless tribute of love. And this deep sentiment springs from the general feeling of kinship that binds Mussalmans together all over the world. Our reference to the religious condition of the Young Turks was simply meant to emphasise the nature of this tie. We are in a sense glad to see that our remarks have drawn earnest protests from *Tasvir-i-Aflar* against rumours about the irreligiousness of the Young Turks. Such rumours are invariably set afloat by their enemies and are used as a weapon to discredit them in the eyes of their co-religionists in other countries. Need we assure *Tasvir-i-Aflar* that we are not wholly ignorant of these tactics? All the same, it should be clearly understood that the enemies of Islam cannot do much harm as long as Islam is a vital force and remains the true basis of solidarity among the various Moslem communities in the world. We are glad to be assured that this truth is as fully realised by the present rulers of Turkey as by any other faithful son of Islam.

The Rival Cliques of the Delhi Moslems.

We need hardly say we have habitually refrained from taking any interest in the petty concerns of the two rival cliques which unfortunately exist among a class of the Mussalmans of Delhi. Our attitude of aloofness has obviously been based on our desire to avoid all suspicions of partisanship attaching to our efforts for doing what little we can to promote the real common interests of the community. Attempts have occasionally been made by each party to drag us within its orbit, but we have always treated these sedulous advances in the manner that they deserved. Those who ever expected us to join them in a round of sterile activities or in a game of slander and self-seeking gave us little credit for our intelligence and our sense of public duty. Our stern refusal to identify ourselves with either clique has had the desired effect, and though neither of them can be expected to glory in the loss of a possible partisan, none of them has had any reason to regard us as its enemy. Our interest in local matters has been solely guided by our sense of the public good, and in whatever affair of the Delhi Moslems we have had to participate, we have acted not to please or oppose a party but to do our duty according to our lights. We know there are a number of Mussalmans in Delhi, enjoying the sort of prominence associated with a certain kind of activity, whose conception of their duty to their community materially differs from ours. We have occasionally had to criticise their acts and their ways, and naturally they have never liked that their peace of mind should have been broken by being forced to measure their doings and methods by a new and inconvenient standard of public conduct. It would have been more than human—at least as far as their type of humanity goes—if they had not tried to use the weapons they hold against their critics. For us these weapons have had no terrors. They cannot deter us from doing our duty even if they are in the hands of much more powerful though equally unscrupulous opponents. In the existing atmosphere of India, honest public work is everywhere exposed to the poisonous fangs of a peculiarly reptile breed. But the work has got to go on, and the workers have to take the risks of slander, back-biting and abuse as a part of their lot without making much ado about it. We would have never said all this but for a peculiar incident in connection with the Jami Mosque at Delhi which, on account of its strange character, we cannot keep from our readers.

The Imam of the Jami Mosque.

The affairs of the Jami Mosque are looked after by a committee of Mussalmans appointed by Government and controlled by the deputy commissioner of Delhi. The Mussalman public has never had a voice in the appointment of its *personnel*, and consequently the Committee has seldom thought it necessary to pay much heed to public views and wishes. Complaints have always been rife as to its confirmed habit of arbitrary conduct and more particularly about its indifference to the requirements of those who go to the Mosque for daily prayers. Most of its members have been generally believed to be just the common type of men who spend much of their lives in seeking official favours and distinctions. One could not expect from such persons any marked degree of enthusiasm for disinterested public service, but one could at any rate hope that some of them would not, under the cover of their positions as members of the Mosque Committee, become the agents and authors of an intrigue. The following facts will, however, show that the hope was in vain. A very large congregation attends the Friday prayers in the Jami Mosque, and as the roofed portion of the mosque proves insufficient on these occasions to accommodate the whole number, many persons are obliged to say their prayers in the open courtyard. In the hot weather this is for them a terrible experience. The scorching heat of the sun and the burning stones of the pavement beneath their feet are unbearable. In the beginning of this hot weather the *Hamdard* drew the attention of the Mosque Committee to this great discomfort felt by a large portion of the Friday congregation and suggested that a large canopy and carpets should be provided for the occasion. Nothing was, however, done to remove the complaint. Several days afterwards Mr. Mohamed Ali, who went to the Mosque to attend the Friday prayers, brought the matter to the notice of the Imam Saheb and requested him to do something to save the people from such a great inconvenience. Some days afterwards the Imam Saheb wrote to Mr. Mohamed Ali thanking him on behalf of the Mosque Committee for having brought the general public complaint to its notice. At the same time, we heard that some member or members of the Committee had complained to the Chief Commissioner that Mr. Mohamed Ali came to the Mosque with a large crowd, and that the Committee would not be responsible for any incident that might happen in consequence. We could with difficulty believe that any member or members of the Committee would be so bold as to invent and propagate such wicked lies. When Mr. Mohamed Ali went to the Mosque for Friday prayers on the 14th instant, he was requested by several persons to ask the Imam Saheb if nothing would be done to mitigate their hardship. Mr. Mohamed Ali accordingly went to where the Imam Saheb was seated and requested him to come out and see for himself what it meant to stand outside in the courtyard and pray in the terrible heat. The Imam Saheb at once assumed a loud and insulting tone and made a snappish reply. We need not give full particulars of the talk between Mr. Mohamed Ali and the Imam which has been published in exact detail in the *Hamdard*. Suffice it to say that this worthy, who is supposed to be the guardian of the traditions of the Prophet of Islam and leads the faithful in prayers, behaved in a manner that no Mussalman, with the least presumption to model his life on the example of the great Founder of Islam, would imitate, and repeated the baseless accusation which was said to have been made against Mr. Mohamed Ali in the hearing of the Chief Commissioner some days before. Needless to say that Mr. Mohamed Ali bore himself with extraordinary self-restraint in face of such provocation, and though there were great outbursts of resentment against the Imam's behaviour from the hundreds of persons who heard him, Mr. Mohamed Ali succeeded in restraining them all like himself. This disgraceful incident, of which the Imam of the Jami Mosque was the author, needs no furnishing of the clue. It was a vile though clumsy attempt to give a political complexion to a matter entirely innocent of politics. The Imam has been talking of riots and disturbances and of crowds led by Mr. Mohamed Ali. Has he hit upon this clever device of "catching" a "dangerous" person, perhaps to crown a life-long loyalty? This pampered person, whose head seems to have been turned by patronage in certain quarters, is playing a dangerous game. And we warn him as well as those who are his henchmen or his dupes that such game never pays in the end. He may not have any scruples of conscience in trying to injure those whom he does not like by organised falsehoods, but he is not even serving those whom he professes to serve. Mr. Mohamed Ali can have only one feeling for such base manœuvring. His conscience is clear before man and God. For sanctimonious charlatanry he can have nothing but contempt. May we ask the Imam Saheb what earthly reason can anybody have for creating a disturbance in the mosque against him? His sole business should be to try to worthily fill the position that he has inherited and refrain from mixing himself up in affairs which manifestly lie beyond his real duties, his talent and his capacity. He needs to be reminded that when priests stray into politics they often lose their heads and always the esteem of the public. The demand for canopy and carpets made to the Imam of the Delhi Mosque does not surely amount to sedition against Government established by law in British India. If the Imam Saheb has worked himself into such a form of mind, the sooner he gets out of it the better it would be alike for him, the Moslem public and the Government.

The Comrade.

The Campaign.—II.

I.—The Germans in Belgium.

Last week we gave such a long and detailed account of the campaign and the plans which Germany was credited with having made for the invasion of France through Belgium, that we presume our readers would have had little difficulty in following the course of the war during the week that followed. This week we need not write at such great length, but may safely be content with seeing how far the German plan of invasion has been successful or otherwise, and what alterations in that plan her recent experience have induced her to make.

Our fears as regards the scantiness of news have been amply justified, and we hope we are not unjust to the Press Bureau of England, France and Belgium in saying that whatever news has come down to us through the sieve has not been unaccompanied by the natural bias of the allies as belligerents. It is true that the German avalanche that hurled itself against that ring-fortress, although it has penetrated into the town of Liège, has not yet succeeded in sweeping off the twelve forts that surrounded it. So far the plans of the German General Staff have failed, and whatever theories they have been maturing for the storming of fortified places appear to have been doomed to serious disappointment. This, however, has not prevented Germany from holding on to her course of attacking France on her north-eastern frontier through Belgium territory and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. Had Liège fallen completely into German hands, the place would have provided the requisite base for maintaining the inevitably long line of communication for her army of invasion. But as we stated last week, if Liège could not be stormed it could not possibly be neglected or evaded; what Germany has done since the failure of her "rushing" tactics is to invest the fort, bring her heavy siege guns to the rising ground to the east of Liège with a view to reduce at leisure the powerful ring-fortress that could not be stormed, and to advance a covering army almost parallel to the river Meuse beyond its left bank, in order to act as a screen against the main field force of Belgium lying between Brussels and Liège and the apprehended reinforcements from England whose Expeditionary Army, as we pointed out last week, would more profitably be employed in Belgium as the left wing of the allied forces than in French territory itself. A recent telegram of Reuter's states that it is generally admitted that the Germans planned to turn neither to the right nor the left through Belgium, but to keep steadily on the appointed course; yet the first fighting line of the German Army, instead of facing south, has had to turn practically west. This has all along been too obvious to merit any particular mention, for it is uncharitable to credit the German General Staff with adopting a plan of campaign incapable of the slightest alteration in reponse to the demand of altered circumstances and sticking to it with stupid obstinacy as if it was part of the laws of Medes and Persians. Obviously the Liège forts on the left bank of the Meuse could not be left uncovered by a considerable force which could oppose the advance of relieving Belgian field force 125,000 strong, probably assisted sooner or later by at least a portion of English Expeditionary Army, which was apprehended to land at Ostend, Nieuport, Dunkirk, Gravelline or Boulogne or more than one of these western ports. To this extent, of course, the German plan of campaign has been diverted, and the unexpectedly strong resistance offered by Belgium has been responsible for the digression. But it would be a mistake to suppose that the Germans have not advanced through the Belgian Ardennes or the Grand Duchy further south. Had Liège fallen at the first rush Germany would have used all the roads that we mentioned on page 164 (*b*) in our last issue. But since it has not fallen, only the direct road from Malmédy through Stavelot has recently been closed, but the other six roads that we mentioned have provided all the access that Germany needs to the north-eastern frontier of France. Except for the fact that several Army Corps are tied up on account of the investment of Liège, so far as the course of German advance toward France is concerned Liège is as good as non-existent. Its guns have enough work to do to reply to the heavy siege batteries of Germany, no doubt by this time satisfactorily mounted on the plateau Barraque de Michel, which dominates the forts on the right bank of the Meuse, as also on some less suitable spot on the left bank of the Meuse, the Germans being reported to have taken them over the reconstructed bridge at Herstal. The Malmedy and Stavelot road, therefore, is also practically safe. At any rate, the week's telegrams clearly show that German forces have advanced along the Ourthe valley road through Marche and Rochefort and possibly also Marche and Ciney on to Dinant where, according to a French official *communiqué*, the Germans attacked with two cavalry divisions, several battalions of infantry and quick-firers, although it adds that they were repulsed by French cavalry and retired in disorder on the right bank of Meuse and, according to a subsequent message, were repulsed from that position also. Similarly, we get indications in the telegrams of German advance along the Viel Salem, La Roche and St. Hubert roads towards Vouillon, and along the Stavelot, Bastogne and Libramont road towards the same destination, not to mention the more southern roads, Diekirch-Arlon-Virton road for Montmédy and the Treves-Luxemburg road for Longwy, an action having taken place on the Othaine river, south of Montmédy, resulting in the defeat of the Germans after a two-days' struggle and the annihilation of a regiment of Dragoons by the French.

So much with regard to the German advance to the east of the Meuse. But, as we have stated above, the Germans have not been content with this and concentration against Liège forts on the right bank of the Meuse, but are crossing it by the reconstructed bridge at Herstal, some five miles to the north-east of Liège, as well as by a pontoon bridge near Vise, a little way further to the north, and are probably also fording the river still further north at Eysden, all dangerous movements while the Liège forts still hold out, and the earlier report of the 14th August that the Germans were concentrating in an attack on the right bank of the Meuse was contradicted next morning by the announcement that the Germans were concentrating their attack on the forts situated on the left bank. This is not all. The screen that the Germans have placed between the Belgian field force and Liège is constituted by troops which are not only at Tongres, but are heard of now at Landen, now at Hasselt, at one time advancing on Diest and at another on Aerschot, sometimes fighting at Haelem and on the river Velp, at other times at Ramillies and Eghezee. In spite of repulses and defeat it seems certain that, notwithstanding all denials at Brussels, the Germans are advancing towards Antwerp the population of which has considerable affinity with the invaders, and at the same time pushing on in a south-westerly direction towards French territory, their course being parallel to the Meuse and possibly intended to run parallel to the river Sambre also. To all intents and purposes Liège has been cut off from the Franco-Belgian troops, and if the Germans push their screen on in the direction of Namur keeping out of the range of the guns of that fort, they may similarly cut off Namur also. French forces, which were announced on the 15 instant to have entered Belgium at Charleroi and to be advancing on Gembloux, have been stated to be advancing across part of the main German front. If an important engagement takes place somewhere in the vicinity of the world's famous battlefields of Waterloo, Genappe, Quatrebras and Ramillies and the Germans gain a decisive victory, we do not think it would be an easy task for France to prevent their advance into French territory, specially as the German force marching through the eastern portion of the Belgian Ardennes would be able to cross the Meuse near Dinant or near Givet and join the forces advancing southwards along the left bank of the Meuse, possibly through the same Charleroi through which the French have recently gained access into the heart of Belgium. Although it is true that the Germans have not entered French territory in any force worth the name, and more than a fortnight has passed since the declaration of war, it is not without some significance that the Germans have traversed a much longer distance from their own frontier through an admittedly difficult country the population of which is hostile to them and the forces of which are fighting every inch of the ground, than the French whose forces are moving, so to speak, on oiled castors. The full period for German mobilisation is supposed to be eleven days from the declaration of war, while the French exceed it by two days. The story of a map found on an Uhlan showing that Germans were timed to reach Brussels on the day following the declaration of war against France and Lille on the 5th, is worthy of old women's credence only, though one may believe that a German reservist residing in France was ordered—most probably for the sake of effect only—to report himself to the German Commander at Reims on the 13th. That was the date on which the German mobilization should have been completed according to the accepted programme. French mobilisation, in all probability, commenced no later than the German; but we shall show later the Germans had entered in great force, had attempted to storm Liège and had fought several actions by the 13th—and, of course, lost them—while the French who were reported on the 10th to be advancing methodically and on the 11th to be already in Belgium, were only "ready to advance" on the 4th and were reported to have entered Belgium at Charleroi only on the 15th. This may be just within the scheduled limit of time for France, but the French and German schedules can be considered applicable only to German and French advance across the Franco-German frontier in Alsace-Lorraine and not to the two armies coming in contact at Dinant or near Namur.

II.—The Fighting in Belgium.

Let us now give a summary of the fighting in Belgium. First as to Liège, the telegrams of 10th August from Belgian official

sources made it clear that it was not a small body of men that had penetrated through the forts into the town of Liège under cover of night, but that the German force in or, at any rate, near the city numbered 120,000, that a Belgian main army was advancing against them, and that the story to the effect that 3,000 Belgian troops had been made prisoners—of which, by the way, the denial was the first information received here—was baseless. What happened to the advance of this main army we are not yet been told; and probably for very good reasons. The German covering army has completely and effectively screened the besieging force, and until and unless the former is decisively beaten the forts at Liège must depend only upon themselves. The Germans had no doubt met with a serious check in their headlong rush on the 5th and do not seem to have returned to the attack seriously until the night of the 9th, when they are reported to have made a desperate attack on fort Seraing (Liège) which is situated on the right bank of the Meuse, and to have been repulsed with a loss of 800 killed. A telegram of the 9th announced on the authority of statement in Brussels that the Germans have resumed the bombardment of the forts which were replying vigorously and that their attempts to cross the Meuse above Liège were considerably hampered by fire from the forts. Nevertheless, it is evident from subsequent telegrams that they reconstructed the bridge at Herstal, and the forts permitted the Germans to carry their siege guns across the Meuse and to pass around Liège in the north in considerable force. On the 14th August the extraordinary position at Liège was described by a bank cashier, who had cycled from Liège through Namur to Brussels. He confirmed that the Germans were holding the town in strength, but added that they also gave the impression of being ready to make a hurried retreat. Why the Germans should make such a retreat we cannot say, for it is very unlikely that without a serious reverse to the covering army they should be dislodged from a safe enough position. But they have every reason to be vigilant, and should the worst happen they may be trusted to beat a hurried retreat the way that they had come. The latest information is that "inspite of constant reverses" Germans are evidently pushing masses of troops forward north and south of Liège; and while official French despatches state that all Liège forts are holding out, rumours are in circulation that Liège forts have fallen, though they lack confirmation. The *Daily Mail* received a telegram from its Brussel Correspondent early on the 19th instant to the effect that Liège forts were still holding out, though cut off from Franco-Belgian forces. How much longer they can hold out is a more or less idle speculation. What is, however, certain is that they have very well served the purpose for which they had been designed, namely, to delay the enemy in order to enable France and England to send troops for their assistance and relief. The English Expeditionary Army has already landed at Boulogne, and the French force is advancing on Gembloux across part of the German front. But we are still inclined to believe, what we stated in our last issue, that "if the reckless bravery "of the Germans leads to the surrender of Liège 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 frank forty four years ago." The siège of Liège is still only a fortnight old, and even if it has not been "rushed" as the Germans had planned, its reduction even within a month would be a creditable piece of work for any army. We must not exclusively look to German expectations, but must also consider the length of time required for the reduction of other historic forts besieged by the enemy. Plevna, Port Arthur, Adrianople are well known instances in point, and it must be remembered that according to siege authorities, whom we quoted last week, the works round Liège form "the most perfect and the most formidable ring of defence in "the one or in the world", and that Liège, with any adequate provisions of munitions and supply, has long been expected to "stand a siege "more thorough and prolonged than any of the other great ring-"fortresses of Europe."

III.—Operations in Other Belgian Provinces.

We now turn to the military operations in four other provinces of Belgium—Luxemburg, Namur, Limburg and Brabant. In a despatch dated the 9th August the Germans were reported to have entered Luxemburg owing to the French advance. But probably the first definite troop trains which pass Brussels on the night of the 4th owing to the same message, both the French advance into and the German occupation of Luxemburg were efforts of the imagination rather than a bare chronicle of facts, for, as we have stated before, the French did not probably enter Belgium in any force before the 14th instant and a large German force was reported on the 11th instant by the Official Press Bureau not only to be *in* Luxemburg but to have reached the Belgian frontier. German patrols were stated to be not only at Marche and Arlon, but also at Gedinne, the westernmost point on the frontier of Belgian Luxemburg. However, no engagement has taken place in Luxemburg, mainly because it is probable there are no Belgian forces worth the name on this side of the Meuse. We have already referred to the two-days' battle reported on the 14th on the river Othaine, south of Montmédy, and strictly speaking it does not fall within the category of operation, in Belgian, for the scene of action lay in French territory. As for the engagement at Dinant, where an artillery duel occurred on 16th and the French were reported to have driven the Germans from the town, we have already given the details in dealing with the diversion of the German plan of action. More important than these operations in the province of Namur, however, are those which have taken place in north-eastern, south-eastern Brabant and Limburg. A message of the 11th August stated that Uhlans had appeared at Tongres and carried off the cash in the treasury and all available food. The message added that all were apparently famishing. But the same day another message, this time coming with the authority of the Press Bureau, announced that while three German Army Corps were still opposite Liège, two cavalry divisions were at Tongres and other German troops were entrenching along the line of the river Aisne, not the well-known French river where the Germans would be delighted to be, but a small Belgian stream evidently too insignificant to be shown on the maps. On the 13th a Belgian announcement said that, after retreating on the 11th August, the Germans resumed the advance on the 12th, and the Belgian fought the first engagement in the open north-west of Hasselt and were successful in holding their own. It was stated that 50,000 troops took part. A later message of the same date from Brussels stated that 6,000 men took part on each side, and that a Belgian cavalry division forming the left wing of the Belgian army fought the 2nd Cavalry Division and a battalion of infantry with 12 guns routing the Germans who fled, having a number of dead and wounded. Later messages supplied further details of the engagements which will be known as the battle of Haelem. Reuter's correspondent says it was the result of a determined attempt by the German cavalry to crush the Belgian left wing. The Germans advanced in two divisions along several roads, with the object of reaching Diest, and also defended the passage of the river Velp at Diest, while the Belgians took up their principal position at Haelem and also defended the passage of the river Velp at Cortenaeken. The subsequent estimates of the forces give the figure for Germans at 8,000 in cavalry, with quick-firers and supported by a regiment of infantry, while estimating the Belgian strength at 7,000. Artillery exchanges began at 11 o'clock. The Germans scarcely sought shelter, but let the Belgian shells plough through them at 2,000 metres. A cavalry encounter developed in the early afternoon. Belgians charged the Germans across the broken ground which compelled them to split into groups, resulting in hand to hand encounters. Shortly afterwards the enemy developed a grand attack, regardless of the sacrifices, and hurled themselves against the Belgian entrenchments. The Germans were obliged to cross the Velp by a few narrow bridges, and their long columns were ripped up. The bridges were soon piled with dead. The Germans, thinking only of their objective, endeavoured to over-ride the Belgians by sheer weight, but by six o'clock they were obliged to recognise defeat and to withdraw along the rivers Velp and Geete. It is stated that the retreat developed into a headlong flight towards Tongres which they held. The fighting lasted throughout the day, and by the evening the Belgians had cleared the ground between Diest, Haelem and Zoutleeuw. A portion of the Belgian left wing is said to have wavered, the German artillery compelling the Belgians to retire on the town. But reinforcement arrived in time and ensured the victory in spite of the alleged German numerical superiority. The German losses are stated to be three-fifth of those engaged, while the Belgian losses are alleged to have been slight. The Belgians captured a number of machine guns mounted on motor-cars. Simultaneously with the battle of Haelem the Germans are reported to have been repulsed with heavy loss at Eghezee. Haelem is about three miles south of Diest, which is an important junction on the railway line between Maestricht and Antwerp, about thirty miles north-west of Liège and about the same distance to the south-east of Antwerp. In the fight the town of Haelem was extensively damaged. Eghezee is in the immediate vicinity of Ramillies where Marlborough won his victory in 1706 and about fifteen miles from the famous field of Waterloo. Other battlefields in the near vicinity are those of Quatrebras, Genappe and Fleurus, the last two of which having been the scenes of the earliest engagements of the French Revolutionary Wars. Although the first considerable engagements occurring elsewhere than round Liège, the fights at Haelem and Eghezee and on the river Othaine are stated to have been the consequence of a German advance to test the strength of the whole Franco-Belgian defence, and advance guard and cavalry fights were reported to be proceeding along the front covered by the armies in the north-east France and Belgium. French official *communiqué*, issued on the night of the 12th, had announced that the Belgians had blown up a number of railway bridges behind the Germans in the Landen district, cutting off their means of supply. The Press Bureau also

announced on the 14th instant that the Belgians had so driven the enemy to the eastward that no German cavalry was then between Hasselt and Ramillies. Nevertheless a message from the *Pioneer's* own correspondent, dated the 14th instant, while stating that so far as is known only one battalion of German Infantry crossed the Meuse, admitted that German cavalry are only 30 miles from Antwerp, and although a later message stated that the reports that the Germans were marching on Antwerp were officially denied in Brussels and it was believed that they had retired on the main body, long Belgian reconnaissances failing to discover the enemy's forces, it was announced in the Diest on the same day that the Germans were advancing in the direction of Aerschot, which is some eight miles due west of Diest, some 20 miles to the north-east of Brussels and about the same distance to the south-east of Antwerp. The place is at any rate a good deal to the west of Hasselt, and Ramillies and Belgian reconnaissances must have been singularly unfortunate in not looking for the Germans on the west instead of the east. As a matter of fact there were skirmishes on Saturday, the 15th, near Landen and Tirlemont, the former lying straight on the line between Hasselt and Ramillies and the latter some 10 miles to the west of it and some 20 miles east of Brussels. On the 18th it was stated that measures such as the erection of barricades were being taken to defend Brussels against a sudden cavalry raid, and the latest message asserts that all attempts at such raids have hitherto been frustrated. This does not look very much like having so driven the enemy to the eastward that no German cavalry is now between Hasselt and Ramillies, and the responsibility for the failure to discover enemy's forces must be laid at the door of "long Belgian reconnaissances" rather than that of the venturesome cavalry of Germany.

No fighting was reported since the battles of Haelem-Eghezee on the 12th, and the two-days' battle that took place about the same time at the Othaine, but it was stated on the 15th that the Germans were apparently advancing their infantry with a view to a frontal movement on St. Trond and Hasselt, pouring men across the pontoon bridge near Vise in spite of the obvious danger from the Liège forts. Speculation was rife with regard to the interesting question whether with the German guns facing west the Germans would dare to attack Namur summarily or have the nerve to neglect it. It was stated, though we do not know on what authority, that this fortress was much stronger than Liège. There was every indication that a big battle was about to take place of which the skirmishes near Landen and Tirlemont between the Germans and the Belgians and on the banks of the Meuse between the French and the Germans were obviously preliminaries. The Germans were declared to stretch from Liège to Mulhausen with marked density in the north. Their front was declared to follow apparently the course of river Ourthe, then along the French frontier, which it crossed in the Longwy-Briey region. A large part of this front has been strengthened by earthworks, particularly on the Ourthe between Metz and Strassburg in Lorraine. Commentators were, however, uncertain whether German attack would be delivered through Belgium or Luxemburg. From the Liège-Namur line to the neighbourhood of Metz the number engaged exceed a million on either side. This impending great battle had not taken place till the 16th, if we believe a Brussels telegram which was cabled to us from London at 1 A. M., on the 17th which reported a temporary lull. But an earlier message, dated the 16th, announced that cannonading was heard at Tirlemont from the direction of neighbouring villages of Bost and Hougarde and was believed to be the beginning of great battle. The same day reports were cabled of a French Government *communiqué* preparing the public for the impending great battle, stating that several millions of men were engaged, that the front extended over 250 miles and that no definite result was expected for a week or more, and appealing to the public to follow the phases of the operations coolly and intelligently.

IV.—The Fighting in Alsace-Lorraine.

This brings us to the fighting in Alsace-Lorraine, for in the big battle that is now probably raging it will not be possible to separate the operations in Belgium from those on the Franco-German frontier. Last week we had dealt only in passing with French advance into Alsace-Lorraine, for it was not unexpected and the French had not penetrated far enough into the country. We may, therefore, begin with the message cabled on the 7th August that the French had occupied Vic and Moyenvic. A day later a Paris telegram stated that French troops had crossed the frontier in Alsace and seized Altkirch after a fierce battle; and they were also reported to have pursued the retreating Germans and continued the movement in the direction of Mulhausen. Next day it was reported from Paris that the French advance guard had arrived at Altkirch at nightfall on the 7th instant, that the town was defended by a German brigade behind earthworks which the French carried after a fierce bayonet fight, and that the Germans fled in disorder and lost heavily in the French cavalry pursuit. The same day an earlier telegram from Paris announced the still greater event of the French entry into Mulhausen. An official statement, issued in Paris subsequently, described the extreme brilliance of the success, stating that the pluck displayed by the French troops at Altkirch was astounding and was specially marked during the fierce rush which preceded the capture of the German entrenchments and in other bayonet charges which resulted in the rout of the enemy. The Germans were reported to have abandoned their second lines of work without resistance. French dragoons had started to pursue them and continued until darkness fell. At dawn French had again advanced and had occupied the German earthworks. In less than an hour Mulhausen had been occupied; and the French cavalry, traversing the streets at full gallop, had swept the German rearguard. Had the French occupation of Mulhausen been anything more than temporary, it would no doubt have been a brilliant feat, and French raptures would have been as justified as they were natural, for although Germany has not fortified her frontier against France as France has fortified her's against Germany, the recent earthworks at Mulhausen made it a comparatively stronger place. But France's triumph has proved to be short-lived, for only two days later it was reported that the Germans in force attacked Mulhausen whereupon the French force, which was stated to be smaller, retired brilliantly and took up a strong position where they stemmed the attack. On the 13th instant another cable reported that according to the French Ministry for War, the brigade sent to Mulhausen had been despatched merely to scatter the German Intelligence Department, and that it withdrew after effecting its purpose. We fear this will not easily "go down," and the French retreat from Mulhausen has been recognised even by the *Times'* military correspondent as a check to the French, although the only one yet admitted, inspite of all the brilliance claimed for the retreat as for the attack. The 14th German Army Corps and a division of the fifteenth are reported to have followed the retiring French troops and to have attacked the principal line of French defence, however, without succeeding to break it.

The same telegram announced that the French repulsed the German attack "in the district of Agincourt" on the 10th instant capturing six guns and destroying a battery, and they carried the village of Lagard at the point of the bayonet. Agincourt is, of course, in the extreme north of France, and probably the place referred to is Asidincourt which is to the south of Montbeliard and to the south-west of Altkirch. But it was officially declared in Berlin that 1,500 French prisoners were captured in Alsace, which had been cleared of the enemy. It is strange that such a report should have trickled down to us; nevertheless the reports of enormous losses in Alsace were denied in Paris where it was officially stated that the French held Upper Alsace with considerable forces.

A message, dated 15th August, gives the first news of five days' continued fighting near Saales, when it was announced that the pass was occupied by the French and the town was also held by them. Saales lies a few miles to the south-west of Strassburg and to the south-east of Luneville, and its importance lies in the fact that the pass commands the valley and is on the flank of any operation from or against Lorraine. The artillery is reported to have taken the German position in the rear, and it is stated that equipment was found lying in disorder, proving the hurried nature of the departure of the Germans.

The next day a London message stated that the French had defeated the Bavarian army corp at Cirey and Avicourt, both places on the French frontier lying between Moselle and Saarburg in the one case and between Luneville and Strassburg in the other. This shows that the Germans had penetrated the French frontier to about the same extent that the French had penetrated the German frontier, for only 3 days before it had been reported that the Germans had bombarded Pont-á-Mousson, a place on the French frontier lying on the river Moselle between Metz on the German side and Nancy on the French. Evidently the French, although not yet confident enough of advancing towards Strassburg and Molshein even after the occupation of Saales, it was officially announced that the French had begun the offensive in force on the night of the 14th instant along the line from Luneville to Saarburg, and that the move had been successfully continued on the 15th. This enterprise well matched with the occupation of Thann, which lies at a short distance to the north-west of Mulhausen, and was to be followed two days later by the occupation of Colmar. We have already referred to the French Government *communiqué* preparing the public of the impending great battle, and we only take it the movements of French troops in southern Lorraine as well as Upper Alsace were preliminaries to the big battle. The telegram of the 17th stated with reference to this advance all along the Alsace-Lorraine that the movement was now particularly rapid towards Strassburg, the French being reported to have captured many guns of heavy calibre, field guns and convoys including motor lorries. The French possess a natural advantage all along the frontier from Belfort upto Luneville on account of the Vosges mountains, and a special cable to the *Indian Daily News*, Calcutta, sent from London on the

17th instant, stated that, according to an official account of Paris, severe fighting had taken place in Vosges and the entire German Division, which may consist of 14,000 or 21,000 men, had surrendered. This lacks confirmation both from London and Paris, and we do not think German and French forces in such large numbers had come into contact so early. But a telegram of the 16th reported that the two forces were in contact on the German left and that the French were advancing in Upper Vosges where they had "checked German offensive and even gained ground." French aviators had proved even more venturesome and were reported to have flown in their aeroplanes over Metz and after dropping shells on Zeppelin sheds to have returned unscathed to Verdun despite the fact that over two hundred shots were reported to have been fired on them from aeroplane guns. A message on the 17th instant gave details of the French advance in Upper Alsace, but it is difficult to find the names of the places mentioned on the maps. The French were reported to have continued to advance in the neighbourhood of the heights of Doman and to have occupied Schermeck, twelve miles below Saales. French cavalry was stated to have pushed on to Molbach and Lutzelhausens and the French were said to occupy in Alsace a line from Thann and Cervay to Dannemarie. On the 18th it was stated that the French were making methodical progress in Alsace and Lorraine and had gained a distance of ten to twenty kilometres to Belfort, advancing strongly in some valley particularly on Strassburg. There is one Chambary we know in France, but it lies very far from the scene of action, being some hundred and fifty miles to the south of Belfort. Probably either the name has been misspelt or there is another place of the same name to the north of Belfort. A later message, dated 18th, stated on the authority of the Official Press Bureau that the Germans were retreating in Upper Alsace to the north and east in disorder before French advance, and the latest news is to the effect that on the afternoon of 19th the French advanced rapidly and reached Moerchingen which is the northernmost point the French have yet reached, lying to the south-east of Metz and being an important point in the Strassburg-Metz railway.

While being of opinion that it is easy to exaggerate the importance of the French advance in Alsace-Lorraine, particularly when it is known that the Germans have not fortified their frontier like the French and that particularly Lorraine has been comparatively lightly held by the Germans, and their adversaries have not come anywhere near Metz and Strassburg in no less than seventeen days after the declaration of war, inspite of the population of Alsace-Lorraine having French sympathies, while the Germans have overrun at least a third of Belgium and cut off its strongest ring-fortress from all succour, it cannot be denied if, as the *Times* Military Correspondent says, they had made any plan of attacking Nancy, it has not been followed. But in that case we must presuppose that the Germans had any such plans, and so far as overt indications go, we have no reason to presuppose such a thing.

We regret we have been unable to deal with the operations on the Austro-Servian, Russo-Austrian and Russo-German frontiers this week, nor with the rumours of a naval engagement in the Adriatic. But at the present stage of the campaign these are of little consequence. However, we cannot close this review without offering hearty congratulations to Lord Kitchener and Sir John French on the landing of the British Expeditionary Army on the shores of France quite a week before it was expected. With reference to this, let us add that the landing of the British forces does not merely testify to the rapidity of mobilization and the excellence of military organisation, but also to the brave spirit of the civil population.

The British military intervention in Europe, in the early stage of war at any rate, would probably be limited to troops from the United Kingdom, namely, the Expeditionary Force, which includes practically the whole of the Regular Army in home stations, brought up with reserves to six divisions numbering with cavalry about 168,000. These troops would probably be despatched to co-operate with the French Army. At first sight the intervention of 168,000 men in a struggle between armies together numbering over 17,000,000 men on war establishments may seem unimportant, especially as it would still leave the French troops numerically inferior to the German. This small force, however, might prove of the utmost value to its allies, when the Germans are attempting to advance through Belgium, for the British command of the sea would enable it, with or without French or Belgium reinforcements, to threaten the enemy's flank and lines of communication from the coast—an operation the risks and difficulties of which are clearly great but not insuperable. If utilised with judgment, skill and daring, and provided it could be despatched in time and maintained in the field, the British Expeditionary Force might help materially to turn the scales of advantage in favor of the Triple Entente, and enable the French and Russian Armies to gain the initiative and press a vigorous attack against the Germans and their Ally. But Mr. Solans, Editor of the *Imperial Army Series* of Military Training Manuals, writing in the *Brittania Year Book*, says:—

> It is, however, doubtful, whether the Expeditionary Force could be despatched to the continent in time or at all....If the fleets of the

(*Continued on Page 126*)

Notice.

It has been decided to publish the Comrade War Bulletin from Thursday, the 27th instant.

Intending subscribers are requested to send in their applications with subscriptions to

The Manager
OF
The "Comrade",
Kucha-i-Chelan, Delhi.

Triple Entente gain command of the sea, Britain is practically secure from military offence by the Germans and Austrians. If Britain lose command of the sea her power of offence is paralysed and her existence is at stake on the fortune of war upon the continent and perhaps in any event, with her fleet "in being," Britain is considered secure from military offence by the Triple Alliance, except in possible raids. In theory it is considered that the results of these raids would be limited to their moral effect upon the nation, which might be very great, and to the loss and confusion occasioned by the possible destruction of naval bases, of communications such as bridges and railways, and of property in harbours, industrial centres and generally. The invasion of the United Kingdom, despite British fleets in being, by a hostile raiding force of at least 70,000 men has authoritatively been disclosed to be a practical possibility, and there can be no certainty that its strength will never exceed this number. It is both asserted and admitted on the highest authority that the Territorial Force, which is intended for the defence of Great Britain —and presumably Ireland—in the absence of the Regular Army abroad, is unfit to meet good Continental troops in the field, and that this weakness cannot be remedied until some months after the outbreak of war. This then is the position of Great Britain. Her obligations to the Triple Entente, as well as her own vital interests and ultimate security might and most probably would demand the despatch of the Expeditionary Force to the help of her allies on the continent immediately war broke out or very soon afterwards. Sound strategy in any event would also demand this step, in order to develop the greatest possible strength at the decisive point which in this case is the continent. But under the circumstances Britain could not fulfil her obligations to her allies nor act in her own interest to the best advantage and in accordance with the principles and sound strategy, without leaving herself to a serious extent defenceless in the event of invasion for some months after hostilities commenced owing to the unreadiness of the Territorial Force. Theoretically she might be well advised to despatch the Expeditionary Force to the continent and take what strategists would term the "minor" war risks of invasion by raiding forces. Actually this is what she might do if the principles of strategy were the sole consideration and statesmen and soldiers were perfectly free to act upon them. Once war broke out, however, many other factors would be certain to influence and determine the national councils. It is possible that the instinct of self-preservation might impel a frightened people to forbid the despatch of the Expeditionary Force until too late or perhaps altogether, because rightly or wrongly they would feel that its absence would leave them insufficiently protected against the dreaded risk of invasion. In this case neither the demands of national honor and interests nor those of sound strategy might be able to make head against the clamour of popular fear, whether it were justified or not. It must be remembered that panic clouds the vision and dominates the acts of nations as well as men, and that statesmen without distinction of party have never been more subservient to the force of public opinion than at present.

No such panic as was feared by this writer has hitherto manifested itself and one may well believe that the British force, although small when compared with the millions engaged by France, Germany and Austria, will play an important and perhaps a decisive part in this Titanic struggle.

The Buckingham Palace Conference.

The outbreak of the war in Europe has thrown the domestic controversies of Great Britain into the background, and the Irish Home Rule struggle has for the moment been suspended in face of a common national peril. The spectacle of the Irish Nationalists and the Ulsterites—all ready but yesterday to fly at each other's throat—now fraternising together and willing to go through any sacrifice to confound the enemies of the Empire, must have delighted the soul of every Briton. Few, however, can forget the gravity of the crisis on the eve of the war, and responsible British politicians may well regard the sudden outbreak of the struggle in Europe as a blessing in disguise, which has averted the all but certain catastrophe of civil strife in Ireland. The English papers received with the last mail are full of dire forebodings about the latest phase of the Irish question. They are, according to their several standpoints, full of the deepest concern about the issues which the breakdown of the Buckingham Palace Conference raised into ugly and sharp prominence. This abortive Conference proved the source of a new and heated controversy, and the party feeling rose to a white heat. Angry protests against the King's intervention emanated from the Liberal and Labour ranks. Furious discussions ensued as to the King's functions, the constitutional practice and the ministerial responsibility. The Ministers were subjected to outspoken and even harsh criticism by their own followers. Independent spirits among the Ministerialists condemned the whole proceeding in unmeasured terms, and even moderate Liberals filled the political atmosphere with cries of alarm. There were visible threats of serious mutiny in the Liberal ranks, and Liberal and Radical papers inveighed against what they described as the usurpation of the functions of Parliament by the Crown. What the upshot of this pandemonium might have been it is now difficult to say; but there can be little doubt that the crisis had reached its utmost gravity, and that the war in Europe has saved Ireland from a sanguinary civil war. It would, therefore, be no less instructive than interesting, if we reproduce in brief some passages of the exciting chapter of British politics which politicians and publicists of the various schools of thought have written round the ill-fated Conference over the Irish question.

The Conference was summoned to meet on 21st July, and Mr. Asquith announced it to the House of Commons on the 20th. The announcement was received without much enthusiasm, and the bulk of the Liberal and Radical members were frankly amazed at the novel departure. The members of the Conference were Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law and Lord Lansdowne, Sir Edward Carson and Captain Craig, Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon. The Leader of the Opposition said that it was neither necessary nor desirable that he should say more than that he had loyally accepted the command of His Majesty to attend the Conference. The Irish Leader repudiated any responsibility for the policy of calling the Conference. He said that the invitation to attend the Conference had come to him in the form of a command of the King, and as such he had at once accepted it. Mr. L. Guinell several times attempted to address the House and when he at last gained the permission of the Speaker, he asked the following question :—"May I ask, then, what precedent he (the Prime Minister) has and what authority he has to advise the King to place himself at the head of a conspiracy to defeat the decisions of this House?" No answer was given to this question, the Speaker, without waiting for the reply, called upon new members to take their seats, thus effectually closuring further debate. On the same day Lord Courtney asked Lord Crewe in the House of Lords to state the degree of responsibility of the Ministers for the step which had been taken and to reassure him as regards to his apprehension that the step would be viewed by the world at large as something like a supersession of Parliament. Lord Crewe replied that their was no abrogation whatever of Ministerial responsibility, no departure from the constitutional practice in the circumstances in which his Majesty had summoned the representatives of various parties and interests to meet and consider that supremely important question. He also assured Lord Courtney that there had not been and could not be any intention to supersede the authority of Parliament in that matter, and that no such result could conceivably follow.

Mr. Asquith's announcement in the Commons proved a signal for tremendous outburst of all manner of political views, opinions and passions outside the House. In the meantime, a rumour had gone forth that the King intended to withhold his assent from the Home Rule Bile unless an Amending Bill was presented to him along with it. According to the *Daily News*, the view expressed in Court circles was stated to be, first, that the Government had vitiated the Parliament Act procedure in the third session by the introduction of an Amending Bill to a Bill designed to pass unchanged under the Parliament Act. Secondly, that since the Parliament Act procedure had not, as in was suggested, been complied with, the King was not bound by the provisions of the Act in the case of the Home Rule Bill. A wave of alarm had spread amongst the Liberals, and they became vaguely suspicious of some conspiracy behind the scenes which was working for the early dissolution of Parliament and bringing the King into direct conflict with the democracy. The announcement about the conference strengthened these suspicions, and accordingly a meeting of 150 unofficial members of the Liberal party was held in the House of Commons at which resolutions were passed urging the Government to make no concessions not accepted by the Nationalist members and to agree to no settlement involving a dissolution before the Plural Voting Bill had become law. The Parliamentary Labour party was much more emphatic and outspoken in its condemnation of the new procedure adopted to settle the Ulster question and, after Mr. Asquith had made his statement, passed the following resolution of protest:—

> The members of the Labour party, having the Prime Minister's statement that the King has considered it right to summon a conference of representatives of British and Irish parties to discuss outstanding points in the problem of Irish government, and having been unable to express their opinions in the House of Commons itself owing to the way in which the statement was made, though strongly wishing far a permanent settlement, protest against such a command having been issued regarding any matter of political controversy as being an undue interference on the part of the Crown and calculated to defeat the purposes of the Parliament Act. They further put on record their surprise that two of the representatives are practically rebels under arms against constituted authority, and regret this indication that in future an organisation of force is to be officially considered to be most effective in industrial as well as in political disputes.

Surprise and even resentment was manifested in influential Liberal and Radical circles that no representative of the Labour Party, which represents a growing force in British democracy, was invited to the Conference, though the Labour members themselves regarded the Conference as an unconstitutional intervention on the part of the Crown.

The supreme issue that formed the subject of anxious questionings among the supporters of the Government was the character of the King's initiative in summoning the Conference. Mr. Asquith's announcement roused strong suspicions and scepticism. Members of British Parliament, whether Tory or Liberal, usually view with a jealous eye the removal of affairs of State from the venue of the high court of Parliament. The Liberals and the Radicals in this case felt alarmed lest the King should have himself decided on a line of action to which his advisers thought it prudent to consent only in view of the circumstances. A Liberal paper stated that the idea of the Conference had not originated with his Majesty, but that its paternity

belonged to Mr. Asquith. There were, however, grave misgivings as to the part played by the King, and the bulk of the Liberal and Radical members were anxious to clear up the baffling mystery.

The Conference met on the 21st July at Buckingham Palace, and the King welcomed it in a speech which was hailed by the Tory Press with loud acclamation, but which deeply exasperated the Liberal and Radical opinion. The passage in the speech which caused deep umbrage to the latter is this: "The trend has been "surely and steadily towards an appeal to force, and to-day the cry of "civil war is on the lips of the most responsible and sober-minded "of my people." The Liberals, the Radicals and the Labourites alike felt in this sentence an intimation of the King's sympathy with what they regarded as "the cause of the rebels." The cry of civil war, they argued, was on the lips of the Ulster leaders and volunteers who had sworn to defy the authority of Parliament, and such persons could not surely be described as "most responsible and "sober-minded." When the House of Commons met on the 22nd July, Mr. Asquith was asked "whether the King's speech published "last night in the Court Circular was drawn up or published on the "advice of his Majesty's Ministers in accordance with custom and "precedent." The Prime Minister replied that "the speech delivered "by the King was sent to me in the ordinary way by his Majesty "the day before, and I take the whole responsibility for it." When asked whether the summoning of the Conference was an act taken by his Majesty on the advice of the Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith said that "His Majesty the King throughout this matter has followed the strictest constitutional precedent and has taken no step up to now except in consultation with and on the advice of his Ministers." This silenced the exasperated Liberals, but did not entirely remove their doubts and misgivings.

The King's speech became the source of a heated discussion as the very summoning of the Conference had raised general issues relating to the powers of the Crown, and the requirements of constitutional practice and precedent. As we have said, the Tory papers without exception characterised the speech as a broad-minded, great and patriotic pronouncement. The *Times* was convinced that the speech would appeal to the nation at large. It assured His Majesty that the exceptional circumstances, to which he referred as the reason for his intervention, amply justified it in the eyes of the world, whatever interpretation a few disaffected politicians might, for reasons of their own, choose to put upon it. The *Morning Post* summed up its impressions of the speech with "thus speaks the patriot King." The *Daily Telegraph* regarded the speech in every word just such an address as the ordinary man, not greatly concerned with the manœuvres of party and the jealous diplomacy of the political struggle, would wish to be pronounced by an impartial Head of the State.

But the tone of the Liberal and Radical comment was entirely different, and the Labourite dislike of it may be judged from the following remarks of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, the Leader of the Labour Party :—"It is a most extraordinary speech, and makes "one rub one's eyes and wonder whether one is dreaming. The King "confesses that because he is agitated about the political situation, he "takes it upon himself, apparently without the advice of his Ministers, "to call a conference of political leaders for the purpose of settling a "political difficulty behind the back of members of the House of "Commons. The remark about 'responsible and sober-minded people' "talking about civil war is a statement which might grace the speech "of a Unionist condidate for Parliament. If that is not taking sides "in a political controversy I do not know what is."

The same spirit of dissatisfaction with the speech pervaded the expressions of the Liberal and Radical opinion. The *Daily Chronicle* remarked that the "cry of civil war" was nothing more or less than the Unionist party cry. According to it, the only impression left on the Liberal readers of the King's speech was, as if the King had spoken of the Unionist party as "we" and of the Liberal party as "they", and it declared that the obviously personal character of the speech made that impression still more painful. "His Majesty," it said, "must beware of raising great issues which may dwarf all others in the field of politics. The Liberal party has not removed the veto of the House of Lords in order to instal in its place the veto of the Crown." The *Westminster Gazette* inferred from "internal evidence" that the speech could not have received the *imprimatur* of the Government,

But the gravest Liberal apprehensions were aroused by the origin and character of the Conference itself, which they regarded as a dangerous innovation likely to interfere with the supremacy of Parliament. Their fears took the form of various anxious and angry questions. Was this an interference on the part of the King? Was the Conference summoned on the suggestion of the Cabinet? Was it an attempt to defeat the purposes of the Parliament Act? Even Mr. Asquith's assumption of responsibility for the King's action did not allay the Liberal fears. They saw in the Conference the cloven-hoof of the Tory arch-intriguers who were supposed to be working through the King's entourage to wreck the Home Rule Bill. Almost all Liberal organs were frankly alarmed and showed much resentment. The *Daily News* thought it would be a poor service to the Monarchy as well as an impossible task to conceal the feeling of mistrust which had been aroused by the intervention of the Crown in that formal and unprecedented manner. It did not pretend to know the circumstances which had led up to that intervention, but it declared that it knew the spirit of the country well enough to understand that if that "new departure" was to become a precedent, other issues would have been raised than those which were being discussed at the Palace. "It is impossible," it went on to say, "to dissociate this episode from the Parliament Act. Not until that Act came into existence had we seen rebellion officially fomented by one of the two great parties in the State, or Parliament threatened, under the sanction of the Privy Councillors in close contact with the Court, by a militarist revolt or a new inner chamber of the high court of Parliament set up under the direct authority of the King. These are grave facts closely touching our most inviolable liberties, and whatever the result of the Conference, it is the duty of all who stand for the cause of democratic government to face them frankly and firmly." The *Daily Citizen*, the official organ of the Labour party, declared that for the Lord's veto a King's veto was being substituted, that Buckingham Palace was usurping the function of St. Stephen's, that Parliament was in danger of supersession, and that the Throne had recognised the argument of organised rebellious force, and the rebels had been "invited" to Royal consultation. No definite information was forthcoming as to the exact origin of the idea of the Conference. The *Times* thought that his Majesty made a suggestion and found that it had the approval of the Ministry. The *Daily Chronicle* believed that the idea originated with Mr. Asquith. In either case it was contended by the Liberals that the Ministerial responsibility had been impaired and that it would sink to a mere polite fiction, if it were to become automatic instead of being effective.

To sum up. The Liberal outburst against the King's action was due to a general resentment and alarm against what was believed to be a Tory intrigue to destroy the fruits of the Liberal legislation and policy. The *Nation* puts the Radical standpoint about the Conference episode in a way that we make no apology for recapitulating it. It said that the main fact about English History for two centuries was that Parliamentary institutions had suited the governing classes, and that all politicians were agreed in accepting and maintaining them. The chief feature of the existing situation was the disappearance of that general consent. Ever since the Parliament Act, one party, with increasing recklessness, had challenged it in the name of the Court or of the Army—the very powers against which the ancestors of the Britons had been careful to exalt Parliament. The reason was perfecly plain. So long as Parliamentary institutions had been in the hands of the wealthy class, their integrity had been a principle of paramount importance. It was because the balance of power had changed that the party that had represented the old supremacies of class was no longer loyal to that constitution and was actually conspiring against it. The outburst of the Conference week meant that the Liberals recognised that danger. The danger was not that General Gough would play the part of Cromwell, or that King George the Fifth would play the part of Charles the First. In form Parliamentary government would continue. But in fact, if those politicians got their way, Parliament would reflect the will of the Court and the Army. They, and not the House of Commons, would decide at what point a Government ceased to deserve the confidence of the Crown. The *Nation*, after emphasising this supreme issue, concluded :—

> Since when has the Army counted in politics, or have newspapers revived the old cry of a Patriot King? It is not to the Army, nor to the House of Lords, nor even to the King that the electorate committed its destinies when it sent back Mr. Asquith to office. A dissolution at the bidding of these powers, or any bargain in which a dissolution was an element, would be a betrayal of the historical rights of Parliament and of the confidence of the people of England.

This was the Liberal case in a nutshell. To preserve the principle of the supremacy of the House of Commons, Liberalism is as full of vigour, energy and strength of conviction to-day as it was at any time in its history. The Buckingham Palace Conference failed and the Amending Bill was being pushed through the House of Commons. The Liberal rank and file were fired with a fresh zeal to carry the Home Rule Bill in amended form before the dissolution of Parliament, and their latest experience increased their resolve to persevere along their course without paying further heed to the threats of the Opposition and of Ulster. The war, however, broke out in the meantime and the Home Rule question has been for the time being shelved by the general consent of the parties concerned. The Irish people have shown a united front at this crisis in the history of the Empire and the Tory taunts about the Nationalist infidelity have proved a wicked slander. The war has postponed the Home Rule, but it has also effectually helped to destroy Tory opposition to the measure.

War in Europe.

News of the Week.

London, Aug. 7.

BERLIN: When war was declared between Britain and Germany, the mob beseiged the Embassy and smashed the windows. Forty British subjects have been placed in a fortress.

Eight of the Amphion's wounded men have died in hospital. Capt. Fox of the Amphion has been appointed to the command of the Faulkner, one of the destroyers built in the English yard for Chili.

Despite the censorship and numerous elaborate official precautions all sorts of reports, seemingly perfectly baseless, continue to be published. These relate especially to alleged naval engagements.

Mr. Churchill's statements this afternoon that beyond the sinking of the Amphion and the Koenigin Luise nothing has happened, demolished the whole series of them. It is almost impossible to distinguish between true and untrue when anything may happen at any moment.

A six-thousand-ton British oil steamer has been sunk by a mine in the Elbe.

Several seizures of arms and ammunition belonging to Germans in London and Dover have been made. Many reservists have been captured on ships and imprisoned at Horsham and elsewhere.

British forces on the Gold Coast under instructions from Mr. Harcourt have seized Lone in German Togoland without resistance and South Togoland up to 120 kilometres north from the coast. The surrenders were simultaneous.

Paris: The French have occupied Vic and Moyen Vic.

Stringent precautions are being taken in the United States to prevent German shipowners infringing the neutrality of the United States. American newspapers condemn German ambition and bravery (?).

Russians have had serious losses. The German cavalry have attacked Kibarty near Wirballen.

Contrasting with the courtesy shown to the departing German Ambassadors in England and France, the French Ambassador to Berlin states that Germans would not allow him to travel in Holland and Belgium but forced him to Denmark. During the journey thither which lasted 24 hours, he was without food. Passing Kiel Canal, soldiers entered the train and stood over him with revolvers in their hands. Nearing the frontier M. Cambon was ordered to pay the costs of the journey. Otherwise he was informed the train would be stopped. A cheque was refused. The staff of the Embassy and a Russian diplomat accompanying the party assisted to raise the necessary amount of £200.

Intense admiration is expressed in the Netherlands for Belgians, and Dutch eye-witnesses of the fighting testify to the bravery and resourcefulness of the Belgian troops.

The patrol of Germans has surrendered to the Dutch at Wilre and the Belgian official at St. Wenenpi.

Eighty thousand Germans were before Liège on Wednesday. The garrison of the town consisted of 30,000 men.

It is announced that the King and 125,000 men are at Louvain. In a statement the King said it was the duty of Belgians to delay Germans as long as possible.

Liège is quiet, Germans have at present retired.

The official version of the operations in Belgium is as follows:—"Advance guards on Wednesday penetrated the Belgian frontier. A small detachment with great boldness tried a *coup de main* at Liège. Some cavalry entered Liège with the object of seizing the Belgian commander who saved himself by flight. The attempt on the fortress which is a modern one, was not successful. Our troops are still in contact with the enemy. The hostile foreign press will characterize this enterprise which cannot have the slightest influence on larger operations, as a defeat. It is, however, but an unique act of heroism in the history of war and a sign of the gallantry of our troops.

Germans at Liège, repeating their methods of 1870, are hurling masses of troops in frontal assaults, the men displaying reckless bravery.

The Germans killed are more numerous than their wounded.

London, Aug. 8.

Montenegro has handed his passports to the Austrian Minister.

Rome: Extraordinary Austro German pressure is being continued to induce Italy to fight. She has firmly refused, rejecting promises of territorial aggrandisement and pointing out that the nation would not permit a war against England and France.

Despite restrictive measures demonstrations have been held everywhere in Italy, at which speeches have been made proclaiming the union of Latins and Anglo-Saxons against German brutality.

A crowd of 5,000 people waving the British and Italian flags cheered the Italian Embassy in London yesterday. The Ambassador acknowledged the ovation.

The *Daily Mail* and the *Standard* in editorial articles say that Italy cannot stand off but must join the *Entente*.

Peking: China has requested the cooperation of the United States and Japan to prevent hostilities in China.

The following special London cablegrams, dated August 7, were published in the *Pioneer*:—

Sir E. J. Cory stated in the House of Commons that it was understood all steamers were hung up in the Suez Canal. He asked whether the Canal Company in Paris could delegate to the London office authority to receive dues and telegraph to Port Said instructions to permit boats to pass.

Mr. Acland replied that the matter was being considered.

An arrangement has been made on the line suggested by Sir J. Cory and vessels can now pass through the Suez Canal.

Sir John Rees asked whether officers of the Indian Army now at Home and ordered back were detainable in order to fill vacancies in the Territorials.

Mr. Tennant replied that the India Office could not see its way to place the officers at the disposal of the War Office.

It is uncertain whether the Amphion was sunk by a British or German mine.

The Admiralty considers it probable that the Koenigin Luise laid a line of mines before she sank.

Berlin: In a manifesto Prince von Buelow, ex-Chancellor, says: "Even if the world were filled with devils, Germans would maintain their place in the sun."

Paris: The French troops have crossed the frontier in Alsace and seized Altkirck after a fierce battle. They pursued the retreating Germans and continued the movement in the direction of Mulhausen. The success of the troops was extremely brilliant.

Simla: It is notified that under Act III of 1864, all foreigners other than Asiatics resident or arriving in India will be required under penalties of arrest, detention and deportation, to report themselves to a designated authority and in the case of Germans and Austrians will not be allowed to travel in India without passes to do so. All foreigners are also advised to carry satisfactory proof of their identity and nationality.

Colombo: German vessels detained here have been dismantled.

Petersburg: A German fleet of twelve battleships of the old type and numbers of torpedo boats and cruisers is mobilising with feverish haste at Koenigsberg and Qanzig.

The attacking force at Liège consisted of the whole of the German third army, General Emmich commanding.

The King of Belgians has issued a stirring message to the troops. He says: "Liège has done honour to the army. You are the advance guard in a titanic struggle. We await the French to march to victory."

Brussels: France has decorated Liège with the *Legion D'Honneur*.

Paris: The cavalry has made a rapid advance east of Liège.

Brussels: A German cavalry division succeeded in fording the Meuse north of Liège, but it was fallen upon by the Belgian cavalry and practically annihilated.

The garrison at Liège retreated in good order on Thursday evening to give the men rest, but resumed the offensive yesterday and by a turning movement, routed a German cavalry division in Belgian Luxemburg.

Brussels: The Minister of War announces that Germans have asked for an armistice of 24 hours. They admit that 24,000 men are *hors de combat*.

The decrease in imports during July amounted to £239,989 and in export to £275,882.

London, Aug. 9.

Brussels: At ten o'clock last evening the Minister of War announced that the position of the Belgians was hourly improving and the progress of the French and Belgian armies was continuing methodically.

The army awaited the night attack yesterday, but all was quiet at 2 o'clock this morning. Germany has sent an urgent telegram to Belgium threatening reprisals in future.

The army is in an excellent position. The King has reviewed the brigades which participated in the defence of Liège. Germans have evacuated Luxemburg owing to the French advance. French troop-trains passed Brussels last night. It is officially admitted that Liège is invested, but all fort are holding out.

Servia has handed the German Minister his passports.

New York: Five thousand five hundred Germans, ten thousand Austrians and hundreds of Dutch reservists, who have been unable to secure passages to Europe, have been ordered to return to their homes in the United States and await instructions.

St. Petersburg: At an extraordinary session of the Duma, M. Sazonoff, Minister for Foreign Affairs, made a speech in which he said that Russia, France and England could not admit that Austria's

will, supported by Germany, was obligatory on Europe. It was Austria who provoked the intestine war among the Balkan Slavs in pursuance of her policy of undermining Russia's historic position in the Balkans. But Austria would fail to ruin the work of Slav unification.

During the passages in which M. Sazonoff paid tributes to France, England and Belgium, the members of the Duma rose repeatedly and cheered various ambassadors and ministers who were seated in the gallery.

The Czar solemnly received the Council of the Empire and the Duma in audience at the Winter Palace. In the speech the Czar said that the hurricane of patriotism in Russia assured a happy conclusion of the war and he saw with joy that the union of the Slavs with Russia was progressing.

The British Consul at Venice reports that the Austrian fleet is off Pola.

According to a telegram of yesterday's date from Nisu, the Austrians have evacuated Visigard and the frontier of Sanjak of Novi Bazar and the Servian troops have occupied Visigard.

The Austrian Ambassador is still in London. It is understood that Anglo-Austrian relations will remain unchanged pending an act of war on the part of Austria. The ports of the latter are regarded as neutral and this will affect the position of the German cruisers, the "Goeben" and "Breslau," which are now believed to be in the Adriatic.

The German Emperor has issued a proclamation as follows:—

"In the midst of peace our enemies surprised us. We will resist till the last breath of man and horse and fight out the struggle even against a world of enemies."

In regard to the application of those Germans wishing to leave by to-day's mail steamer for military service in Germany, Government has replied that it will not be possible for them to go. They must report themselves to the military commander in Bombay and give parole. This applies to all German reservists in Bombay. Letters explaining their impossibility of getting away will be given exonerating such persons from blame by the German Government for not having joined the colours in a time of war.

The Hansa (German) steamer Rheinfels arrived in Bombay yesterday from New York with general cargo and kerosine oil. The steamer has not been allowed to discharge cargo in the stream or in the dock and it is gathered that she will be seized by the authorities.

The French troops have entered Mulhausen. The Alsace-Lorrainers were overjoyed at the arrival of the French and tore up the boundary mark.

Paris: A French advance guard arrived at Altkrich at nightfall on Friday. The town was defended by a German brigade behind earthworks, which the French carried after a fierce bayonet fight. The Germans fled in disorder and lost heavily in the French cavalry pursuit which followed.

When the official announcement was made that the French troops had entered Mulhausen there were great rejoicings in Paris at this first French victory on German soil, the people being especially glad that a footing had been gained in Alsace.

General Joffre, the French Commander-in-Chief, has issued the following proclamation: "Children of Alsace.—After 44 years of sorrowful waiting, the French soldiers again tread the soil of your noble country. They are pioneers in the great work of revenge."

An official statement issued here says that the pluck displayed by the French troops at Altkrich was astounding. It was especially marked during the furious rush, which preceded the capture of the German entrenchments and in the other bayonet charges which resulted in the rout of the enemy who abandoned their second line of works without resistance. The dragoons instantly started to pursue the Germans and continued until darkness fell. At dawn the French again advanced occupying the German earthworks. The Alsatians everywhere greeted the French rapturously. In less than an hour Mulhausen was occupied and the French cavalry traversing the streets at full gallop swept the German rearguard.

It is officially announced that French have entered North Togoland.

Paris: The French garrison at Grand Popo in Dahomey acting in conjunction with a British cruiser, is taking possession of German Togoland.

St. Petersburg: It is officially announced here that the Germans lost 100 men killed in two days near Eydetkuhnen.

The French garrison at Grand Popo in Dahomey, acting in conjunction with a British cruiser, is taking possession of German Togoland.

Earl Kitchener has sent a circular to Chairmen of Territorial County Associations asking them to co-operate in raising as soon as possible 100,000 men for the regular army. The men will be accommodated in camps near existing regular depots. The circular concludes that this is not an ordinary appeal for recruits, but the formation of a second army.

Sweden and Norway have made mutual declaration of neutrality and pledge themselves not to fight against each other in the present war.

Lisbon: After a joint session of the Chamber and the Senate, the Premier made a speech in which he declared amid cheers that Portugal would not fail in her alliance with England.

Petersburg: The Russian troops entered Austrian territory by the valley of the Styr, driving the enemy's advance guards before them.

Athens: Turks are concentrating in Bulgarian territory near Dedeagatch.

Paris: Believing that a part of the Austrian mobilisation is directed at the French frontier, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has told the Austrian Ambassador that he wishes to be informed as to Austria's intentions as soon as possible.

London, Aug. 10.

A Brussels telegram says some uncertainty prevails regarding the position of Liège. The Germans seem to have made their way into the town between the forts, and to have told the civic authorities that they would bombard the town unless the forts surrendered. It is stated that they now hold a number of local notables as hostages. It is expected that the Belgians will not surrender the forts but would rather blow them up.

Brussels: The Germans are chiefly advancing on France through Esehsur-Alzette (Luxemburg). The forward movement against the River Ourthie has ceased, and the Germans are entrenching themselves.

According to informations derived from a Belgian official source the Liège forts are intact, and the Belgian main army is advancing on the city, where there are 120,000 Germans, but the forts are unable to train their guns on the city itself. The story to the effect that 8,000 troops had been made prisoners is described as baseless.

The French operations to the south of the Meuse have cleared a considerable area, but a decisive action is not expected until the French and Belgian forces take the offensive.

An official telegram from Brussels says:—"The situation this afternoon was satisfactory. The French are advancing methodically. The forts of Liège are amply supplied with food and ammunition.

The rupture of Franco-Austrian relations is officially announced. The Ambassadors are leaving the respective capitals.

Tokio: The first and second Japanese Squadrons have put to sea under the command of Admiral Dews. There is reason to believe that Japan will adhere not only to the letter but also to the spirit of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance to the most extreme limit. The whereabouts of the German Squadron has not been disclosed, but it is reported to be menacing British shipping. The protection of British interests may necessitate the step of enabling Japan to occupy Tsingtau.

The Duke of Connaught has informed Mr. Harcourt that Canadians through the Government offer one million bags of flour as a gift to the people of the United Kingdom. The first shipment will be made in about ten days. Mr. Harcourt has gratefully accepted the gift.

Melbourne: Brigadier General Bridges will command the Commonwealth expeditionary force. It has been described to organise a small mixed naval and military force to serve within or without of Australia, and to be distinct from the expedition which is going to England.

Mr. Millen, Commonwealth Minister of Defence, states that the mobilisation and concentration of the citizen forces has been carried out satisfactorily.

Lady Munro Ferguson, wife of the Governor-General, has initiated successful movement for the formation of an Australian branch of the Red Cross Society.

Mr. Cock, Commonwealth Prime Minister, has deprecated the countermanding of orders on the part of importers, thereby spreading distrust. He has appealed to exporters and importers to do business as usual, and by so doing to manifest Australia's confidence as to the result of the war.

Capetown: As an instance of the patriotic determination of all South Africans to stand by the flag, there was a meeting yesterday at Aliwal North, which was a rebel centre during the war, and a resolution proposed by an ex-rebel was passed for transmission to the Imperial Government declaring that Aliwal North Africanders will defend the Union Jack to the last cartridge.

A telegram from Nish states that great demonstrations are taking place throughout Servia and Montenegro in favour of Russia, France and England.

Two Austrian cruisers have bombarded Antivari and the surrounding mountains where the inhabitants of the town have taken refuge.

Paris: Believing that part of the Austrian mobilisation is directed at the French frontier the Minister for Foreign Affairs has told

the Austrian Ambassador that he wishes to be informed as to Austria's intentions as soon as possible.

The Montenegrins have occupied Spizza on the Adriatic and two neighbouring towns.

There are numerous accounts of German spies in England. Reports are in circulation of their attempting to poison water supplies, etc. Several Germans are in custody charged with attempting to blow up railway bridges.

The House of Commons has adjourned for a fortnight. Mr. Asquith said that he trusted that when they resumed they would be in a position to conclude the business of the session. He hoped to make proposals which would meet with general acquiescence.

Princess Arthur of Connaught has given birth to a son.

The gold influx into the Bank of England to-day amounted to £2,500,000. Silver rose to 37¼.

The Admiralty announces that German submarines yesterday attacked one of the cruiser squadrons of the main fleet. None of his Majesty's ships has been damaged. One of the enemy's submarines was sunk.

Allahabad, Aug. 10.

A *Pioneer* cable, dated London, 7 August, states :—Arrangements have been made on the lines suggested by Sir J. Cory, and vessels can now pass through the Suez Canal.

London, Aug. 10.

Experts agree that the German plans have been much upset by the stand made by the Belgians against picked German troops, which has permitted the French to concentrate and effect a junction with the Belgians. Every day's delay lessens the German chances of making a successful advance into French territory—it is generally agreed that a dash for Paris was their object—and brings the Russian legiens a step nearer their other frontier. Moreover, the moral effect of Liège's resistance and the French dash into Alsace is regarded as incalculable among other things destroying the legend of German invincibility.

Accounts agree that the Germans at Liège adhered to the older theoretic tactics of hurling masses of men in frontal assaults against forts.

The operations in the North Sea are shrouded in silence but although the German Fleet has apparently not yet accepted battle, the steady silent strangulation of German commerce continues, raising the question of food supplies sooner or later.

Bombay, Aug. 11

With reference to the telegram issued from Simla reporting a naval battle in the North Sea, Reuter's Agency learns from its office that the message was based on a press despatch from North Shield, which was erroneously described in London as having the official sanction of the Admiralty. The Admiralty subsequently issued a denial.

An English correspondent, who was present at the first assault on Liège, says that the German artillery practice was perfect. Shells exploded in the ramparts of the forts and smashed the disappearing carriages of the guns of the fort at Fleron, which was silenced. The Germans attacked in close order. The question in the mouth of every inhabitant of Liège was : "When will the English come."

Brussels: Uhlans have appeared at Tongres and carried off the cash in the treasury and available food. All were apparently famishing.

There are eight thousand German prisoners in Belgium.

It is announced in Paris that the French lost a hundred killed and wounded at Altkirch.

The German made a desperate attack on Fort Seraing, Liège, on Sunday night but were repulsed. It is estimated that 800 were killed.

Only fragmentary details of the operations are arriving from Liège. The Germans undoubtedly hold the town in considerable force, having succeeded in penetrating between the ring of forts surrounding the city, and they are now doing their utmost to subdue the forts, not only with artillery but by means of the most gallant attempts at storming. The defenders are behaving splendidly, making sorties and keeping the assailants at bay. The loss of life has been terrible.

Four thousand diamond cutters in Amsterdam have been rendered idle by the war. Other Dutch industries are being closed.

Lord Islington has been appointed Under-Secretary for the Colonies.

Admiral Sir George Callaghan has been appointed principal Naval Aide-de-Camp and to the Special Service War Staff, Admiralty.

Any moment now may see titanic forces at grips. Twenty-two German and Austrian Army Corps, consisting roughly of 40,000 men each, will meet twenty-three French and Belgian Army Corps in Belgium and Alsace-Lorraine. Both armies are completely mobilised and ready. The French Army is already in Belgium, joining hands with the Belgians.

Regarding the Russian forces a line drawn north and south through Brest Litovsk, fairly represents the line on which the Russians are assembled. The movements reported on the two flanks are doubtless only those of advanced guards, but they suggest that the armies in the rear may be nearly ready to support them, and that issue will be joined before the end of the month.

An Uhlan captured in Belgium had a map on him showing that the Germans were timed to reach Brussels on August 3rd and Lille on August 5th.

The Official Press Bureau announces that there is reason to believe that the mass of German troops are on the Western Frontier, distributed between Thionville and Liège, and that Lorraine is held comparatively lightly. There is every indication that Austrian troops have entered Alsace.

It is believed that the forts at Liège are still not taken.

The Germans are methodically reconnoitring the district of Hesraye, west of Liège. Cavalry patrols, followed by infantry, are pushing in the direction of Namur, over which æroplanes are flying. There have been cavalry skirmishes near Tirlemont. Six thousand Germans with guns seized Landen, twenty-four miles west of Liège. These movements are evidently preliminaries to the big battle.

With Servia and Montenegro formally hostile to Austria the greatest interest attaches to the position in the Balkans, especially with reference to the mobilisation of Turkey. Though the latter has hitherto shown no direct intention of joining in the general conflagration, nevertheless it is significant that the Bulgarian Premier announces that while Bulgaria is resolved to maintain her neutrality yet she is compelled to take measures with a view to preventing or repelling any violation of her frontiers. A Turkish Irade has been issued, authorising a supplementary credit of three millions sterling for the War Minister.

Rumania remains silent, and opinion in that country is very divided.

Mr. Churchill has announced that His Majesty's cruiser "Birmangham" sank a German submarine on the 10th instant.

Melbourne: The Commonwealth Navy has been formally transferred to the Admiralty till the conclusion of the war.

Nothing whatsoever will be published in Great Britain concerning naval matters except when issued by the newly constituted Press Bureau.

Allahabad: A *Pioneer* cable, dated London, Aug. 10, says the report from Paris concerning naval action in the Mediterranean is now discredited. It appears that the "Panther" is not in the Mediterranean. The battle cruisers "Goeben" and the smaller cruiser "Breslau" are probably still cruising there.

The *Times* in a leader says the time is at hand when the British Army as well as the Navy will have to be thrown into the scale of destroyers of the peace of Europe.

Melbourne: A leading ware-house here announces that it will give its employess accompanying the Australian expedition one month's full pay, thereafter half pay, and will keep their positions open for them.

A Launceston telegram says:—An unprecedented manifestation of loyalty is occurring in Tasmania, and applications to join the expedition are pouring in from all quarters.

Patriotic funds have been opened in New Zealand and Western Australia.

Lord Crewe has informed the signatories of the patriotic address presented to him last week by Indian residents and visitors for submission to the King that he has great pleasure in submitting to the King-Emperor their notable tribute of loyalty. Lord Crewe adds that he has been deeply impressed by the sentiment of sincere and unselfish devotion to the common cause of the Empire which was so eloquently expressed in the address.

The Prince of Wales yesterday joined the Grenadier Guards, and began his duties immediately. The British Government has recognised Boy Scouts for non-military public service. Strikers and suffragists imprisoned in England have been granted an amnesty. The Government have countermanded the despatch of Territorials to Ireland to replace Regulars. Mr. Asquith has informed Mr. Redmond that Earl Kitchener will do everything to equip and organise the Volunteers in Ireland.

Three thousand are enlisting daily in response to Earl Kitchener's appeal. The recruits are of a superior type.

The Germans in force attacked Mulhausen, whereupon the French force, which was smaller, retired brilliantly, and took up a strong position, where they stemmed the attack. The French remain masters in Upper Alsace.

The official Press Bureau says that three German Army Corps are still opposite Liège, two cavalry divisions are at Tongres, and other German troops are entrenching along the line of the River Aisne. A large German force in Luxemburg has now reached the Belgium

frontier. German patrols are reported to be at March, Gedinne and Arlon.

The Austrians have advanced from Cracow towards Kielce. The Russians are moving from Rovno on Lemborg. The Servian official account of the Austro-Servian operations shows that the Austrians attacked seven different points, but were repulsed with tremendous slaughter due to the effective marksmanship of the Servian artillery. The valleys of the Save and the Danube are covered with Austrian corpses. The Servian losses were heavy. Not a single Austrian soldier is now on Servian soil. The Austrians have abandoned the offensive, and are hurriedly entrenching, waiting for Servia to take the offensive.

Their Majesties visited Aldershot to-day where they received an ovation from the troops.

It is officially announced in St. Petersburg that in consequence of the Russian successes in minor engagements the Austrians are evacuating Radziviloff, close to the Galician frontier near Lemborg.

Recruiting continues splendid. It is officially announced that besides Territorial units, which for some time accepted liability to serve overseas, further volunteers are now being asked to follow their example. A great response is anticipated, and it is probable that brigades and even divisions will come forward.

The First South Midland Mounted Brigade, consisting of three Yeomanry regiments with artillery, etc., have volunteered for service abroad.

It is officially announced that during twelve hours on Monday 4,700 men joined.

Fourteen women and girls were killed, and fifty others injured, in a panic in a church at Louviers Belgium, which was due to slight outbreak of fire while Mass was being celebrated.

It is officially announced in Capetown that the Imperial Government has, on the suggestion of the Union Government, since the outbreak of war, decided to remove the Imperial troops from South Africa, and the Union Government has undertaken the defence of the Union, and will organise and equip an adequate force to replace the Imperial troops.

London, Aug. 12

The Belgians have reoccupied Landen. A French official despatch emphasises that every fort along the whole front line (?from Lille to Belfort) is intact, and only small groups of Germans have entered the town of Liège under cover of darkness. Small and unimportant engagements have occurred between French and Germans. The French cavalry in all contacts has shown its superiority.

The German armies are marching from Liège into the heart of Belgium. The German cavalry is advancing and all along the front of the allied armies a hot cavalry engagement is proceeding.

The River Aisne, mentioned yesterday by the Official Press Bureau, is a small Belgian stream, and not the French river.

The military expert of the *Times* concludes that the Germans have almost entirely abandoned concentration in the Reichsland of Alsace-Lorraine in favour of an advance through the Ardennes, into which the Germans have flung the mass of their army, closely concentrated, thus enabling the Germans to act together in any direction with the object of dealing their opponents a knock-down blow and following this up by relentless pursuit, thereby shattering the French moral.

The Official Press Bureau says: At this period of hostilities no news of any importance can be expected. Any movements of the British Army, or of those nations with which she is co-operating, can naturally not be divulged, and over the enemy's proceedings there lies the fog of war. A telegram from Maastricht says that a terrific cannonading was going on all the morning, the sound coming from the direction of Tongres.

A Belgian official announcement says that the German advance guards have been falling back on the main army. There is no other news.

Allahabad: A *Pioneer* cable, dated London, August 12th, states:—It now appears certain the town of Liège is occupied by Germans who passed between the forts after the Belgians ceased to defend the intervening lines. The forts remain as formidable obstacles to the German advance as ever.

Amsterdam telegrams say that siege guns have been brought across the Meuse on a reconstructed bridge at Herselal. Other messages indicate that the Germans are passing around Liège on the north.

It is understood here that the French have detached five army corps to assist the Belgians and a big battle is anticipated in a few days.

A military correspondent of the *Times* estimates that 600,000 Germans are probably assembling between Metz and Thionville and suggests that the Germans may not be in force between Metz and Savern. An Austrian army corps is reported to be advancing by Bush to assist the Germans on the extreme south of the frontier.

Austria has begun blockade at Montenegro. Montenegro has given the German Minister his passports.

An official Press Bureau statement says there is strong reason for believing that the German cruisers "Goeben" and "Breslau" have taken refuge in the Dardanelles, and that they will be dismantled. The safety of trade is thus almost entirely secured.

The German cruisers "Goeben" and "Breslau" have entered the Dardanelles and are searching foreign steamers.

Proof of British mastery of the sea is afforded by announcements that the steamship services between Harwich and Esberg and Newcastle and Norway have been resumed. The service between Harwich and the Hook of Holland was never suspended. Danish food ships have already arrived.

A correspondent of the *Scotsman*, describing the destruction of the German submarines, says the enemy's flotilla approached with only their periscopes showing. The cruiser squadron continued steaming as if unware of the approach of the German submarines. When the nearest submarine was within the danger zone H. M. cruiser "Birmingham," which was going at full speed, fired, shattering the submarine's periscope. The remainder fled. When the sightless submarine reappeared a second shot from the "Birmingham" ripped up her upper structure, and the submarine sank like a stone.

Lord Kitchener's new Army will consist of six divisions. The Scottish and Light Infantry Divisions will assemble at Aldershot, the Eastern Divisions at Shorncliff, the Western at Salisbury Plain, and the Irish at the Curragh. The place of assembly for the Northern Division has not been decided on.

The Press Bureau states that the name Light Division recalls Wellington's advance in the Peninsula. It is officially announced that the mobilisation of Territorials is being completed without a hitch: every unit is believed to be up to establishment.

The seventh and eighth battalions Lancashire Fusiliers and the fifth and sixth brigades Territorial Field Artillery have volunteered for active service.

Colonel Whitaker, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment at the end of last May in connection with the army canteen case has been released, and has volunteered for active service.

Recruiting in Canada has been discontinued as more men have been secured than are required. Moreover, several regiments have volunteered as a whole regiment, thereby preserving their identity.

Volunteering in Australia is equally enthusiastic. Queensland is dealing with legislation to supply Great Britain with meat.

A statement is issued in Berlin that war loans must be raised by the people, and therefore the people's savings of fifteen hundred millions sterling will be taken first.

The British Consul General at Shanghai reports that no British vessel has been pursued or molested.

With the annexation of Togoland Great Britain obtains one of the largest wireless telegraph stations in the world, one that is capable of communicating over a distance of 3,000 miles.

A coasting vessel has arrived at Capetown and reports that the Germans have evacuated Swakopmund and Luederitzbucht.

The province of Alberta has given the Motherland half a million bushels of oats.

Unconfirmed reports are current in Paris that anti-war and anti-Hoberzollern riots have taken place in Berlin, where a number of Socialists are said to have been shot.

The *New York Herald* states that the American Ambassador in Berlin has been forbidden to communicate with his Government.

The separation allowances to the wives of those engaged in the war, and the pensions of the widows of those who may be killed, will be the same whether they are married on or off the strength.

It is officially announced that a state of war exists between Great Britain and Austria from midnight.

The official Press Bureau states that the bulk of the twenty-six German Army Corps are now located. It is evident that the mass of German troops are concentrated between Liège and Luxemburg, and that in the Eastern theatre of war the frontier, so far as Germany is concerned, is comparatively lightly guarded, unless it be by reserve troops.

Simla, Aug. 13.

Authoritative information has been received through the censor here that war with Austria was declared last night.

"Gazettes Extraordinary," similar to those issued in connexion with the war with Germany, are being brought out at Simla in consequence except as regards travelling restrictions and disarming in India which have already been dealt with as regards Austrians as well as Germans.

The Germans are constructing siege batteries north of Liège.

There are British, in addition to French, cruisers in the Atlantic, hunting five German cruisers.

The Admiralty is confident of the fleet's ability to keep the trade routes open.

It is stated in Brussels that the Germans have resumed the bombardment of Liège forts, which are replying vigorously. Attempts to cross the Meuse, above Liège, are considerably hampered by fire from the forts.

Russians have repulsed the German attempts to re-occupy Eydtkuehnen.

The American fleet will return north from Vera Cruz on September 1st.

A Belgian Cavalry Division and a brigade of Infantry, fought a second German Cavalry Division and a battalion of Infantry, with twelve guns, north-west of Hasselt.

The prisoners in the hands of the Belgians include Prince George of Prussia, a nephew of the Kaiser.

London, Aug. 13. 4-50 p. m.

The Belgians are fighting at a considerable disadvantage. Having no khaki, they are obliged to expose themselves in ordinary uniforms, some of which are brilliantly coloured.

The Germans are clad in grey, which is splendid colour protection. Their spiked helmets are covered with brown holland which renders them less conspicuous.

The untiring energies of General Joffre, the French Commander-in-Chief, are much admired. He appears to be everywhere, and he has covered a thousand miles in a few days. His chauffeur is the famous racing motorist, Boillot.

King Albert is also rushing around in a travel stained motor.

Harrowing stories of brutality are reaching Brussels. Shooting, burning and pillaging is the lot of many unhappy villages from which it is alleged that shots were fired. The Germans make a practice when they enter a town, of proceeding to the post office and banks and collecting what money there is.

6-50 p. m.

The German in force attacked the Belgian trenches before Haelen. German artillery compelled the Belgians to retire on the town. Reinforcements supporting the Belgians insured victory in spite of the German numerical superiority. The town was extensively damaged.

The Germans have entered Kalisz and threatened to decimate the Russian population in the event of further resistance.

The Dutch Government announces that any attempt to violate the neutrality of Holland will be resisted by force.

The Russians have repulsed German attempts to re-occupy Eydtkuehnen.

The Montenegrins are bombarding Cattaro.

There are British in addition to French cruisers in the Atlantic huntingfive German cruisers.

The admiralty is commissioning merchant cruisers for patrolling trade routes.

A Belgian announcement says that after retreating on August 11th the Germans resumed the advance yesterday. The Belgians fought their first engagement in the open, north-west of Hasselt, and were successful in holding their own. Ten thousand troops took part. The Germans are constructing batteries north of Liège.

It is stated in Brussels that the Germans have resumed the bombardment of the Liège forts, which are replying vigorously. Attempts to cross the Meuse above Liège are considerably hampered by fire from the Liège forts.

A Belgian cavalry division and a brigade of infantry fought a second German cavalry division and a battalion of infantry with twelve guns north-west of Hasselt.

The French repulsed a German attack in the district of Empin-court on the 10th instant, capturing six guns, and destroying a battery. The French carried the village of Lagarde at the point of the bayonet.

A semi-official French announcement says that engagements have hitherto shown that the French artillery is greatly superior to the German, and the latter's sheds are not very effective.

A French official *communiqué*, issued yesterday night, announces that the Belgians have blown up a number of railway bridges behind the Germans in the Landen district, cutting off their means of supply.

A message from Brussels says that an engagement in which 6,000 men took part on each side occurred on the left wing of the Belgian army. The Germans were routed and fled, leaving a number of dead and wounded.

Calcutta, Aug. 13.

An *Indian Daily News* special cable states that among the Germans killed at Liège were Prince Lippe and his son.

London, Aug. 13.

One hundred spies have been shot in Belgium.

Three thousand five hundred German rifles have been found concealed in a shop in Antwerp.

The reports of enormous losses in Alsace are denied in Paris, where it is officially stated that the French hold Upper Alsace with considerable forces.

It is officially declared in Berlin that 1,500 French prisoners were captured in Alsace, which now cleared of the enemy.

The French Ministry for War states that the engagements so far have been merely on outpost affairs. The brigade sent to Mulhausen was despatched to scatter the German Intelligence Department and it withdrew after effecting its purpose.

The Fourteenth German Army Corps and a Division of the Fifteenth followed it and attacked the principal French line of defence, but failed to break it.

Two hundred and fifty mansions have been offered to Government as hospitals, including Balmoral Castle.

H. H. the Maharaja Scindia has given £10,000 to the Prince of Wales' Fund for the relief of distress.

Earl Roberts has joined a committee organising an Imperial Light Horse. There have been already 600 applications, although recruiting only began on Thursday.

Mr. Lloyd George has completed arrangements with the Bank of England terminating the deadlock in the money market. The Government agrees to guarantee the Bank any losses sustained in discounting bills of exchange accepted prior to August 4th.

A meeting of the Ceylon Association approved the formation of a Ceylon Contingent for war service.

The American fleet will return north from Vera Cruz on September 1st.

The French have defeated the Germans after a two days' fight at Namur and have annihilated a regiment of German Dragoons. The French have capped the victory by capturing 1,000 German officers and men.

Russia has captured Sokal in Galicia after inflicting heavy losses on the Austrians.

The British Fleet in the Far East will soon account for the German Fleet there.

War is soon expected between Japan and Germany.

Lord Roberts has been taking an active part in the war.

The Russian mobilisation, combined with the checks in Belgium, is likely to completely upset the Germans' time-table.

Italy and Greece are considering what steps should be taken regarding Turkey's action in not disarming the German cruisers—the "Geoben" and the "Breslau".

The Belgians have driven the Germans far eastward.

Germans are concentrating an attack on Liège Forts on the right bank of the Meuse.

Transportation of French troops to Belgian territory is complete.

In Nyassaland, a German steamer was surprised, and the Captain, Engineers and mechanics were made prisoners.

An Austrian Lloyd steamer has been sunk in the Adriatic.

The Germans are holding Liège in strength, but are ready to make a hurried retreat.

Two aviators were killed at Diest by the Belgian artillery.

Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Grey have sent congratulation to the Belgian Government on the Belgians' heroic resistance.

The German Cruiser "Leipzig" is coaling at San Francisco.

Seventy-three German and twelve Austrian steamers have been seized in Russian ports.

It is proposed in Australia that the Australian farmers shall give a million sheep to the motherland.

The Government is taking action to prevent the British railways from withholding dividends. There have been numerous letters complaining of hoarding of dividends by companies.

The Germans bombarded Port Amoussen near Nancy on the 12th instant. Little damage was done.

It is generally reported that a Socialist leader in Germany, Herr Liesknecht, has been court-martialled and shot in Berlin for refusing military service.

The Liège forts are intact. Yesterday's engagements will be known as the battle of Haelen. Fighting lasted throughout the day. The Belgians by evening had cleared the ground between Diest Haelen and Zeilick. The country is covered with the dead. A portion of the Belgian left wing wavered but was reinforced.

The Belgian official despatch confirms the victory of Haelen. The German losses were three-fifths of those engaged. The Belgian losses were slight. Belgians captured a number of quick-firers mounted on motor-cars.

The Germans in force attacked Belgian trenches before Haelen. The German artillery compelled the Belgians to retire on the town. Reinforcements supporting Belgians insured victory in spite of the German numerical superiority. The town was extensively damaged.

London, Aug. 14.

Earl Roberts has been appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Forces from overseas.

Simultaneously with the battle of Haelen the Germans were repulsed with heavy loss at Eghezee, ten miles north of Namur. The French defeated and pursued the Germans after two days' battle on river Ochain south of Montmedy. The French annihilated a regiment of Dragoons and captured a thousand officers and men.

Reuter's correspondent describing the engagement along Haelen-Cortenacken fronts says that it was the result of a determined attempt by the German cavalry to crush the Belgian left wing.

The Germans advanced in two divisions along several roads with the object of reaching Diest and also defended the passage of the river Velpe at Cortenacken. It is estimated that the Germans with eight thousand strong in cavalry and quick-firers supported a regiment of Infantry. The Belgians numbered seven thousand. Artillery exchanges began at eleven o'clock. The Germans scarcely sought shelter, but let the Belgian shells plough through them at two thousand metres. Cavalry encounter developed in the early afternoon. The Belgians charged the Germans across the broken ground which compelled them to split into groups resulting in hand to hand encounters. Shortly afterwards the enemy developed a grand attack regardless of sacrifices and hurled themselves against the Belgian entrenchment. The Germans were obliged to cross the Velpe by a few narrow bridges and their long columns were ripped up. The bridges were soon piled with the dead. The Germans thinking only of their objective endeavoured to override the Belgians by sheer weight but by six o'clock the Germans were obliged to recognise defeat and to withdraw along rivers Velpe and Gette. The Retreat developed into headlong flight towards Tongres which they hold.

The fights at Haelen and Eghezee and on river Othain were the consequence of the German advance to test the strength of the whole of their Franco-Belgian defences.

The German losses in the engagement at Haelen are estimated at two thousand. The Belgians lost a few killed but many wounded.

An interesting sign of Germany's confidence in the success of her intended sudden attack is shown by the fact that a German subject in France received a notification to report himself at Rheims on the thirteenth day of the mobilisation, namely, to-day.

Bulgaria has assured Russia that she will observe the strictest neutrality.

London, Aug. 14. 4-15 p. m.

Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Grey have sent congratulations to the Belgian Government on the Belgians' heroic resistance.

The German cruiser "Leipzig" is coaling at San Francisco.

The Germans bombarded Pont Amousson near Nancy on the 12th instant. Little damage was done.

Seventy-three German and twelve Austrian steamers have been seized in Russian ports.

Calcutta, Aug. 14.

The following are special cables to the *Indian Daily News*: 120,000 Germans were engaged at Liège.

They lost 8,000 killed, Prince Lippe and his son being among the slain.

It was reported that some smaller forts were captured, but it is officially stated in Paris to-day that all of them are intact.

London, Aug. 14.

Canada has purchased two submarines built for Chile and presented them to the Admiralty.

Sir John French visited Mr. Asquith to-day previous to the Cabinet meeting.

It is reported that 100 spies were shot in Belgium.

3,500 German rifles were found concealed in a shop in Antwerp.

The Germans have entered Kalisz and threatened to decimate the Russian population in the event of further resistance.

The Russians have captured the town of Sokal in Galicia after dislodging the Austrians with a heavy loss. The Russians pursued the enemy across the river Bug and destroyed two bridges and a viaduct.

Communication between Japan and Europe is interrupted.

Advanced Guard and Cavalry fights are now proceeding along the front covered by the armies in northeast France and Belgium.

The Military expert of the *Times* considers that the results have hitherto been favourable to the allies except at Mulhausen but he points out that French are mainly on the defensive there and so long as they hold Belfort and the chain of forts to Epinal nothing else matters. He considers that events of the past twelve days are satisfactory as the close of the twelfth day of the French mobilisation finds scarcely a German soldier in France.

The Germans are concentrating at Tokio and Yokohama preparatory to leaving owing to the expectancy of war between Germany and Japan.

The British Fleet is gradually circumscribing the action of the German Fleet in the Far East.

The Turkish Ambassador assured Sir E. Grey that Turkey intends to remains absolutely neutral.

Reports of various food riots and anti-war demonstrations in Berlin are reported. Troops were employed and a number of Socialists were shot.

Paris is calm and confident.

Great silence prevails in the main theatre of war. Only scraps of news are filtering through. Liège is still intact and after five days' fighting France maintains possession of the crest of Vosges having repulsed well directed German attacks. Belgium has asked France to accommodate 2,000 German prisoners. The French captured in the battle of Othain a battery of artillery, three machine guns and ammunition wagons.

The Russian mobilisation has been unexpectedly expeditious. Naturally Russian movements are carefully veiled; but there are indications that masses of Russians are beginning to move. This combined with the checks Germans have suffered in Belgium, is likely completely to upset the Germans time-table.

The fact that German cruisers, the "Goben" and the "Breslau," have not yet been disarmed is regarded as a grave violation of Turkey's neutrality. The allies and also Italy are considering what steps are necessary to secure Turkey's strict neutrality. Greece is perturbed at the possibility of these vessels being used in a manner contrary to Greek interests in the Ægean.

The Press Bureau announces that the Belgians have so driven the enemy to eastward that no German cavalry is now between Hasselt and Ramilies. The light forts are plentifully supplied.

The Prince of Wales fund has reached millions sterling.

The Germans are concentrating an attack on those Liège Forts which are on the right bank of the Meuse.

Belgian newspapers announce that transportation of French troops to Belgian territory is complete and that the whole force is ready to advance.

An Austrian Lloyd steamer, the "Baron-Gautsch," has been sunk in the Adriatic. One hundred and fifty persons are missing. The cause is unknown.

The extraordinary position at Liège is described by a Bank Cashier, who cycled from Liège through Namur to Brussels. He says the Germans are holding the town in strength but also gave an impression that they were ready to make a hurried retreat. The inhabitants were well treated.

An ardent wave of patriotism is sweeping over South Africa, coupled with a deep-seated sympathy with the Motherland and Europe and also with gratitude for the generous British policy of 1902, all of which have combined to unite the Dutch and the English.

The Lloyds are underentting the Government war risk insurance and are quoting in some instances two per cent.

The Belgian artillery has killed two aviators at Diest. A third was terribly injured.

Allahabad, Aug. 14

The *Pioneer*'s London correspondent cables:—The *Times* publishes a report of its Military correspondent to locate German forces. He places the 14th Austrian and 15th German Army Corps between Strassburg and Switzerland, 21st between Metz and Saarbruck, 7th, 9th and 10th about Liège, 4th at Rochefort, 19th at Castoone, 8th at Luxemburg with 12th and 3rd Bavarians echelonned behind it, 16th and 2nd Bavarians from Thionville to Metz, 3rd and 11th from Verirers to Malmedy, 13th and 1st Bavarians at Saarbruck Guards and 18th and 14th further east, 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, 7th and 20th facing Russia.

London, Aug. 15.

The Belgian Government states that no further communications will be issued regarding the movement of Belgian and French troops.

It is officially announced that the Nyassaland Government armed steamer, the "Gwendolen", completely surprised the German Government armed steamer, the "Weissmann" on the eastern shore of the lake and that engineers and guns were removed from the captured vessel. The Captain, Engineers and mechanics were made prisoners.

The Tsar has conferred autonomy on Poland. A Viceroy of the Poland is to be appointed.

A French official despatch says that the Russians have been victorious on the Dneister. The Fourth Austrian infantry regiment and the first Austrian Cavalry have been annihilated. Russians have destroyed railway and telegraph lines at eleven points along the river Meml to Tilsit.

3-0. p. m.

The Bank of England's gold influx during the week amounts to £5,250,000.

The Austrian Lloyd Steamer "Marienbad" has been captured near Alexandria and handed over to the Port authorities.

Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi and numerous other Indian ladies and gentlemen, have organised a movement resulting in a large number of Indians offering their services unconditionally during the war. The widespread offers of service and expressions of loyalty from India, have been received in England with the greatest pride and gratification as a proof of the unity of the Empire.

The "Pall Gazette" says: We have cast our bread upon the waters and in the hour of trial and difficulty there is no spot in the whole Empire where we fear disturbances."

The English Rugby Union has sent a letter to the clubs expressing the hope that all players will join the force of their own town or country.

5-10 p. m.

Zanzibar is quiet and the natives are loyal and continue to work.

The British have smashed the Dar-es-Salaam wireless station and sunk the surveying ship.

The French and Belgian armies have exchanged staff officers.

Since Great Britain's declaration of war against Austria-Hungary, excitement has been at fever-heat in Italy where people are awaiting further developments with impatience.

3-50 p. m.

The Press Bureau announces that there are indications that the Germans are endeavouring to envelope the extreme left of the allied forces. There have been one or two engagements but they were mostly outpost affairs. The French and Belgian artillery continue superior, while the German infantry do not determinedly face the bayonet.

It is a source of general satisfaction and congratulation that although no naval engagement has occurred, what has been aptly termed the black magic of naval pressure has had the effect of clearing the seas for British trade and obliterating the German flag from international traffic.

It is generally admitted that the Germans planned to turn neither to right nor left through Belgium but to keep steadily on an appointed course, yet the first fighting line of the Germans Army instead of facing south, has had to turn practically west; instead of France being invaded, it is Belgium, with German guns facing west. The interesting question is whether the Germans will dare attack Namur summarily or have the nerve to neglect it. The fortress is much stronger than Liège.

In spite of the Allies' successes, military experts constantly give warning against any undue exultation about the phases of the war up to the present time. The brilliance of the Belgian defence is warmly acknowledged and appreciated, but it is urged that we are on the verge of a battle which may rage with varying success over a fortnight.

Russian mobilisation is more rapid than was expected and within a week we may expect to see a serious Russian advance which will be met by forces small as compared with those on the western frontier of Germany. Unless the Germans thoroughly beat the French in the meantime, they will be confronted with the awkward dilemma involving the thinning of the western army or leaving a comparatively open road into Germany.

Tales of German apathy and indifference are discredited by the splendid courage displayed by German troops at every point.

It is fully recognised that the Germans know that they are fighting a life and death struggle and will hesitate at no sacrifice on the field of battle to gain their ends. Exactly the same tenacious and heroic spirit pervades the forces of the allies. Hence, the intense excitement with which the tremendous clash of arms is awaited.

The Press Bureau says that there is no reason to doubt that Turkey is about to replace the Germans on board the cruisers "Goeben" and "Breslau" with Turkish officers and crews. This official statement shows that Turkey has purchased the vessels.

4-15 a. m.

Reuter's correspondent who arrived at Mytylene on Friday from the Dardanelles, says that the German cruisers "Goeben" and "Breslau" entered the Dardanelles on Monday night. The next morning German officers boarded several ships, including one British vessel, and peremptorily ordered them not to move. They smashed the wireless apparatus of the French liner "Saghalien" which had six hundred reservists on board. Turkish officers visited the cruisers and the correspondent, through his glasses, saw them fraternising with the Germans. The "Goeben" proceeded eastward on Tuesday and the rumour was circulated that she had been purchased by Turkey, but she was seen in the Sea of Marmora on Thursday flying the German flag. The "Breslau" also flying the flag was still in the Dardanelles on Thursday. According to reliable information, the Porte had apologised to the Powers for the arbitrary proceedings of the Germans but no explanation appears to be forthcoming as regards the flying of the German colours by the cruisers. The Turks are acting most arbitrarily in the Dardanelles and are detaining for days, without explanation, ships belonging to the Powers of the Triple Entente and Italy.

Cannonading was heard at Tirlemont at three o'clock on Saturday afternoon from the direction of the neighbouring villages of Bost and Hougaerde. It is believed to be the beginning of a great battle.

5-55 a. m.

The French have brilliantly defeated a Bavarian Army Corps at Avricourt and Clercy on the borders of Lorraine. The enemy fled leaving many dead, wounded and prisoners. The French are continuing their advance through the Vosges and Upper Alsace where they have re-captured Thann.

The report which was circulated of the death of the German General Emmich at Liège, is totally unconfirmed.

The French Government has issued a *communiqué* preparing the public for the impending great battle. It says that owing to the fact that several millions of men are engaged and that the front extends over 250 miles, no definite result can be expected for a week or possibly more. It appeals to the public to follow the phases of operations coolly and intelligently.

It is announced in Diest that Germans are advancing in the direction of Aerschoot. There were skirmishes on Saturday near Landen and Tirlemont and also between the French and Germans on the banks of the Meuse. These are obviously preliminaries for the great battle for which the dispositions are as follows: Germans stretch from the Liège to Mulhausen with marked density in the north. Their front apparently follows the course of the river Our; then along the French frontier which it crosses in the Longwy-Brisy region. A large part of this front has been strengthened by earthworks particularly on the Our, and between Metz and Sarsebourg in Lorraine. The French are in contact with Germans on the German left. The French are advancing in the upper Vosges where they have checked the German offensive and even gained ground.

12-45 p. m.

It is officially announced that the French-Belgian offensive, in force, on Friday night, was a long line from Saarbourg to Luneville, and that the movement was successfully continued yesterday.

A Paris telegram says that the Allies will demand that Turkey shall disarm the "Goeben" and "Breslau" and it is anticipated that Turkey will agree.

Greece is demanding explanations of Turkey's mobilisation. Greece will mobilise if the reply is unsatisfactory.

1-50 p. m.

The position to date is cleverly summarised by the French War Office which says: "Germany's original plan of sudden double attack near Nancy and the Belgian Frontier has failed, and consequently French mobilization and concentration have been completed perfectly. We are working in splendid co-operation with the allied armies. The Russians have hastened their mobilisation and the Servians are masters of Herzegovena and will cause Austria to hesitate to send troops to Alsace.

The commander of one of the Liège forts who has been twice wounded, is continuing to direct operations from an invalid chair.

Two French æroplanes flew over Metz and dropped shells on a Zeppelin shed. The æroplanes returned unscathed to Verdun, despite the fact that over two hundred shots were fired at them from German æroplane guns.

The British also sank the floating dock at Dar-es-Salaam.

5-0 p. m.

An artillery duel has occurred at Dinant and French drove the Germans from the town.

The Russians have compelled the Austrians to evacuate Kielce and the neighbourhood. The Russian cavalry is pressing forward to the German frontier.

An Austrian official despatch confirms that heavy losses were sustained on both sides in the recent battle between Austrian and Servian troops.

Allahabad, Aug. 16.

The following are special cables to the *Pioneer*: While the German cavalry are only thirty miles from Antwerp, so far as is known only one battalion of German infantry crossed the Meuse. It is generally considered that a great battle is imminent, perhaps commencing to-day; but commentators are uncertain whether the main German attack will be delivered through Belgium or Luxemberg. From the Namur-Liége line to the neighbourhood of Metz, the numbers engaged exceed a million on either side. It is pointed out that time is of the first importance to Germany to whom a further check, or even an indecisive victory will be equivalent to a defeat as it would mean the abandonment of the hope of striking a mortal blow. France is expected to be ready for a serious advance in the middle of next week.

The *Times* military correspondent explains that Lord Kitchener's plans are based on the assumption that the war may last a long time and that the power of Britain to throw fresh troops into the field at a later stage, may well be a decisive factor in the result. It is an essential part of Lord Kitchener's plans that British troops shall not be sent to the front until they have received proper training for war conditions. A total of 1,000,000 men will probably be secured within a fortnight, but it will take at least six months' training to form them into a fighting force worthy of taking its place in the Allies' army. The necessary organisation is to be secured by constituting separate units of the Territorial force for foreign service without interfering with the force necessary for Home defence. The present aim is gradually to strengthen the expeditionary force by at least two divisions of Territorials as well as troops from the Dominions.

The Austrian Note to Servia.

TERMS OF THE NOTE.

Belgrade, July 23.

THE Austro-Hungarian Minister this evening presented to the Government a Note with regard to the Serajevo crimes, demanding a reply before 6 o'clock on Saturday evening, the 25th inst.

The Note is in the following terms:—

"On March 31, 1909, the Royal Servian Minister in Vienna, on the instructions of the Servian Government, made the following statements to the Imperial and Royal Government:—

"Servia recognizes that the *fait accompli* regarding Bosnia has not affected her rights, and consequently she will conform to the decisions that the Powers will take in conformity with Article 25 of the Treaty of Berlin. At the same time that Servia submits to the advice of the Powers, she undertakes to renounce the attitude of protest and opposition which she has adopted since October last. She undertakes, on the other hand, to modify the direction of her policy with regard to Austria-Hungary and to live in future on good neighbourly terms with the latter."

The history of recent years, and in particular the painful events of June 28 last, have shown the existence in Servia of a subversive movement with the object of detaching a part of Austria Hungary from the Monarchy. The movement, which had its birth under the eyes of the Servian Government, has had consequences on both sides of the Servian frontier in the shape of acts of terrorism and a series of outrages and murders.

Far from carrying out the formal undertakings contained in the declaration of March 31, 1909, the Royal Servian Government has done nothing to repress these movements. It has permitted the criminal machinations of various societies and associations and has tolerated unrestrained language on the part of the press, apologies for the perpetrators of outrages and the participation of officers and functionaries in subversive agitation. It has permitted an unwholesome propaganda in public instruction. In short, it has permitted all the manifestations which have incited the Servian population to hatred of the Monarchy and contempt of its institutions.

This culpable tolerance of the Royal Servian Government had not ceased at the moment when the events of June 28 last proved its fatal consequences to the whole world.

It results from the depositions and confessions of the criminal perpetrators of the outrage of June 28 that the Serajevo assassinations were hatched in Belgrade, that the arms and explosives with which the murderers were provided had been given to them by Servian officers and functionaries belonging to the Narodna Obrava, and finally that the passage into Bosnia of criminals and their arms was organized and effected by the cheifs of the Servian frontier service.

The above-mentioned results of the magisterial investigation do not permit the Austro-Hungarian Governments to pursue any longer the attitude of expected forbearance which it has maintained for years in face of the machinations hatched in Belgrade and thence propagated in the territories of the Monarchy.

The results, on the contrary, impose on it the duty of putting an end to the intrigues which form a perpetual menace to the tranquillity of the Monarchy.

To achieve this end the Imperial and Royal Government sees itself compelled to demand from the Royal Servian Government a formal assurance that it condemns these dangerous propaganda against the Monarchy, the aim of which is to detach from the Monarchy territories belonging to it, and that it undertakes to suppress by every means this criminal and terrorist propaganda.

In order to give a formal character to this undertaking the Royal Servian Government shall publish on the front page of its *Official Journal* for July 26 the following declaration:—"The Royal Government of Servia condemns the propaganda directed against Austria-Hungary—*i.e.*, the ensemble of tendencies of which the final aim is to detach from the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy territories belonging to it, and it sincerely deplores the fatal consequences of these criminal proceedings. The Royal Government regrets that Servian officers and functionaries participated in the above-mentioned propaganda and thus compromised the good neighbourly relations to which the Royal Government was solemnly pledged by its declaration of March 31, 1909. The Royal Government, which disapproves and repudiates all idea of interfering or attempting to interfere with the destinies of the inhabitants of any part whatsoever of Austria-Hungary, considers it its duty formally to warn officers and functionaries, and the whole population of the Kingdom, that henceforward it will proceed with the utmost rigour against persons who may be guilty of such machinations, which it will use all its efforts to anticipate and suppress. This declaration shall simultaneously be communicated to the Royal Army as an Order of the Day by his Majesty the King and shall be published in the *Official Bulletin* of the Army.

POINTS OF REDRESS.

The Royal Servian Government further undertakes (1) to suppress any publication which incites to hatred and contempt of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the general tendency of which is directed against its territorial integrity; (2) to dissolve immediately the society styled Narodna Obrana, to confiscate all its means of propaganda, and to proceed in the same manner against other societies and their branches in Servia which are addicted to propaganda against the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. The Royal Government shall take the necessary measures to prevent the societies dissolved from continuing their activity under another name and form; (3) to eliminate without delay from public instruction in Servia, not only as regards teaching body, but also as regards the methods of instruction, everything that serves, or might serve, to foment the propaganda against Austro-Hungary; (4) to remove from the military service, and from the administration in general, all officers and functionaries guilty of propaganda against the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy whose names and deeds the Austro-Hungarian Government reserves to itself the right of communicating to the Royal Government; (5) to accept the collaboration in Servia of representatives of the Austro-Hungarian Government in the suppression of the subversive movement directed against the territorial integrity of the Monarchy; (6) to take judicial proceedings against accessories to the plot of June 28 who are on Servian territory. Delegates of the Austro-Hungarian Government will take part in the investigation relating thereto; (7) to proceed without delay to the arrest of Major Voija Tankcasitch and of the individual named Milan Ciganovitch, a Servian State employee, who have been compromised by the results of the magisterial inquiry at Serajevo; (8) to prevent by effective measures the cooperation of the Servian authorities in the illicit traffic in arms and explosives across the frontier, to dismiss and punish severely officials of the frontier service at Schabatz and Loznica guilty of having assisted the perpetrators of the Serajevo crime by facilitating the passage of the frontier for them; (9) to furnish the Austro-Hungarian Government with explanations regarding the unjustifiable utterances of high Servian officials, both in Servia and abroad, who, notwithstanding their official position, did not hesitate after the crime of June 28 to express themselves in interviews in terms of hostility to the Austro-Hungarian Government, and, finally (10) to notify the Austro-Hungarian Government without delay of the execution of the measures comprised under the preceding heads. The Austro-Hungarian Government expects the reply of the Servian Government at the latest by 6 o'clock on Saturday evening, the 25th of July.—*Reuter*.

The Servian Reply.

WE publish the following Servian reply to Austro-Hungarian Note:—

The Royal Servian Government has received the communication of the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government of the 10th of this month, and it is persuaded that its reply will remove all misunderstanding tending to threaten or to prejudice the friendly and neighbourly relation between the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the Kingdom of Servia.

The Royal Government is aware that the protests made both at the tribune of the National Skupshtina and in the declarations and the acts of responsible representatives of the State—protests which were cut short by the declaration of the Servian Government made on March 18—have not been renewed towards the great neighbouring Monarchy on any occasion, and that since this time, both on the part of the Royal Governments which have followed on one another, and on the part of their organs, no attempt has been made with the purpose of changing the political and juridical State of things in this respect.

The Imperial and Royal Government has made no representations save concerning a scholastic book regarding which the Imperial and Royal Government has received an entirely satisfactory explanation. Servia has repeatedly given proofs of her pacific and moderate policy during the Balkan crises, and it is thanks to Servia and the sacrifice she made exclusively in the peace of Europe that this peace has been preserved. The Royal Government cannot be held responsible for manifestations of a private nature such as newspaper articles and the peaceful work of societies—manifestations which occur in almost all countries as a matter of course, and which as a general rule escape official control—all the less in that the Royal Government, when solving a whole series of questions which came up between Servia and Austria-Hungary, has displayed a great readiness to treat (*prévenance*), and in this way succeed in settling the greater number to the advantage of the progress of the two neighbouring countries.

It is for this reason that the Royal Government has been painfully surprised by the statements according to which persons of the kingdom of Servia are said to have taken part in the preparation of the outrage committed at Serajevo. It expected that it would be invited to collaborate in the investigation of everything bearing on this crime, and it was ready to prove by its actions its entire correct-

ness to take steps against all persons with regard to whom communications had been made to it, thus acquiescing in the desire of the Imperial and Royal Government.

POINTS OF COMPLIANCE.

The Royal Government is disposed to hand over to the Courts any Servian subject, without regard to his situation and rank, for whose complicity in the crime of Serajevo it shall have been furnished with proofs, and especially it engages itself to have published on the front page of the *Official Journal* of July 13-26 the following announcement:—

"The Royal Servian Government condemns all propaganda directed against Austria-Hungary, that is to say, all tendencies as a whole of which the ultimate object is to detach from the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy territories which form part of it, and it sincerely deplores the fatal consequence of these criminal actions. The Royal Government regrets that Servian officers and officials should, according to the communication of the Imperial and Royal Government, have participated in the above mentioned propaganda, thereby compromising the good neighbourly relations to which the Royal Government solemnly pledged itself by its declaration of the 31st March, 1909. The Government, which disapproves and repudiates any idea or attempt to interfere in the destinies of the inhabitants of any part of Austria-Hungary whatsoever, considers it its duty to utter a formal warning to the officers, the officials, and the whole population of the kingdom that henceforth it will proceed with the utmost rigour against persons who render themselves guilty of such actions, which it will use all its efforts to prevent and repress."

This announcement shall be brought to the cognizance of the Royal Army by an Order of the Day issued in the name of his Majesty the King by H. R. H. the Crown Prince Alexander, and shall be published in the next official bulletin of the Army.

(1) The Royal Government engages itself futhermore to lay before the next regular meeting of the Skupshtina an amendment to the Press Law punishing in the severest manner incitements to hate and contempt of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, and also all publications of which the general tendency is directed against the territorial integrity of the Monarchy. It undertakes at the forthcoming revision of the Constitution to introduce in Article XXII. of the Constitution an amendment whereby the above publications may be confiscated, which is at present categorically forbidden by the terms of Article XXII. of the Constitution.

(2) The Government does not possess any proof, nor does the Note of the Imperial and Royal Government furnish such, that the society Narodna Obrana and other similar societies have up to the present committed any criminal acts of this kind through the instrumentality of one of their members. Nevertheless the Royal Government will accept the demand of the Imperial and Royal Government and will dissolve the Narodna Obrana Society and any other society which shall agitate against Austria-Hungary.

(3) The Royal Servian Government engages itself to eliminate without delay from public instruction in Servia everything which aids or might aid in fomenting the propaganda against Austria-Hungary when the Imperial and Royal Government furnishes facts and proofs of this propaganda.

(4) The Royal Government also agrees to remove from the military service (all person) whom the judicial inquiry proves to have been guilty of acts directed against the integrity of the territory of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, and its expects the Imperial and Royal Government to c mmunicate at an ulterior date the names and the deeds of these officers and officials for the purposes of the proceedings which will have to be taken.

AUSTRIAN COLLABORATION.

(5) The Royal Government must confess that it is not quite clear as to the sense and object of the demands of the Imperial and Royal Government that Servia should undertake to accept on her territory the collaboration of delegates of the Imperial and Royal Government, but it declares that it will admit whatever collaboration which may be in accord with the principles of international law and criminal procedure, as well as with good neighbourly relations.

(6) The Royal Government, as goes without saying, considers it to be its duty to open an inquiry against all those who are or shall eventually prove to have been involved in the plot of June 28, and who are in Servian territory. As to the participation at this investigation of agents of the Austro-Hungarian authorities delegated for this purpose by the Imperial and Royal Government, the Royal Government cannot accept this demand, for it would be a violation of the Constitution and of the law of criminal procedure. Nevertheless, in concrete cases, it might be found possible to communicate the result of the investigation in question to the Austro-Hungarian representatives.

(7) On the very evening that the Note was handed in the Royal Government arrested Major Vousiav Tankositch. As for Milan Ciganowitch, who is a subject of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, and who, until June 15, was employed as a beginner in the administration of the railways, it has not yet been possible to (arrest) him. In view of the ultimate inquiry the Imperial and Royal Government is requested to have the goodness to communicate in the usual form as soon as possible the presumptions of guilt as well as the eventual proofs of guilt against these persons which have been collected up to the present in the investigations at Serajevo.

(8) The Servian Government will strengthen and extend the measures taken to prevent the illicit traffic of arms and explosives across the frontier. It goes without saying that it will immediately order an investigation, and will severely punish the frontier officials along the line Schabatz-Losnisza who have been lacking in their duties and who allowed the authors of the crime of Serajevo to pass.

(9) The Royal Government will willingly give explanation regarding the remarks made in interviews by its officials both in Servia and abroad after the attempt, and which, according the statement of the Imperial and Royal Government, were hostile towards the Monarchy, as soon as the Imperial and Royal Government has (forwarded) it the passages in question of these remarks and as soon as it has shown that the remarks made were in reality made by the officials regarding whom the Royal Government itself will see about collecting proofs.

(10) The Royal Government will inform the Imperial and Royal Government of the execution of the measures comprised in the preceding points, in as far as that has not already been done by the present Note, as soon as each measure has been ordered and executed.

In the event of the Imperial and Royal Government not being satisfied with this reply the Royal Servian Government, considering that it is to the common interest not to precipitate the solution of this question, is ready as always to accept a pacific understanding either by referring this question to the decision of The Hague International Tribunal or to the Great Powers which took part in the drawing up of the declaration made by the Servian Government on the 18/31 March, 1909.

Austrian Emperor to his People.

THE Emperor Francis Joseph has issued the following rescripts and manifesto, dated Ischl, July 28 :—

Dear Count Stürgkh,

I have resolved to instruct the Ministers of my Household and Foreign Affairs to notify the Royal Servian Government of the beginning of a state of war between the Monarchy and Servia. In this fateful hour I feel the need of turning to my beloved peoples. I command you, therefore, to publish the enclosed manifesto.

MANIFESTO.

To my peoples ! It was my fervent wish to consecrate the years which, by the grace of God, still remain to me, to the works of peace and to protect my peoples from the heavy sacrifices and burdens of war. Providence, in its wisdom, has otherwise decreed. The intrigues of a malevolent opponent compel me, in the defence of the honour of my Monarchy, for the protection of its dignity and its position as a Power, for the security of its possessions, to grasp the sword after long years of peace.

With a quickly forgetful ingratitude, the Kingdom of Servia, which, from the first beginnings of its independence as a State until quite recently, had been supported and assisted by my ancestors, has for years trodden the path of open hostility to Austria-Hungary. When, after three decades of fruitful work for peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, I extended my Sovereign rights to those lands, my decree called forth in the Kingdom of Servia, whose rights were in nowise injured, outbreaks of unrestrained passion and the bitterest hate. My Government at that time employed the handsome privileges of the stronger, and with extreme consideration and leniency only requested Servia to reduce her Army to a peace footing and to promise that, for the future, she would tread the path of peace and friendship. Guided by the same spirit of moderation, my Government when Servia, two years ago, was embroiled in a struggle with the Turkish Empire, restricted its action to the defence of the most serious and vital interests of the Monarchy. It was to this attitude that Servia primarily owed the attainment of the objects of that war.

The hope that the Servian Kingdom would appreciate the patience and love of peace of my Government and would keep its word has not been fulfilled. The flame of its hatred for myself and my House has blazed always higher; the design to tear from us by force inseparable portions of Austria-Hungary has been made manifest with less and less disguise. A criminal propaganda has extended over the frontier with the object of destroying the foundations of State order in the south-eastern part of the Monarchy; of making the people, to whom I, in my paternal affection, extended my full confidence, waver in its loyalty to the ruling House and to the Fatherland; of leading astray its growing youth and inciting it to

mischievous deeds of madness and high treason. A series of murderous attacks, an organized, carefully prepared, and well-carried-out conspiracy, whose fruitful success wounded me and my loyal peoples to heart, forms a visible bloody track of those secret machinations which were operated and directed in Servia.

A halt must be called to these intolerable proceedings, and an end must be put to the incessant provocations of Servia. The honour and dignity of my Monarchy must be preserved unimpaired, and its political, economic, and military development must be guarded from these continual shocks. In vain did my Government make a last attempt to accomplish this object by peaceful means and to induce Servia, by means of a serious warning, to desist. Servia has rejected the just and moderate demands of my Government, and refused to conform to those obligations the fulfilment of which forms the natural and necessary foundation of peace in the life of peoples and States. I must, therefore, proceed by force of arms to secure those indispensable pledges which alone can ensure tranquillity to my States within and lasting peace without.

In this solemn hour I am fully conscious of the whole significance of my resolve and my responsibility before the Almighty. I have examined and weighed everything, and, with a serene conscience, I set out on the path to which my duty points. I trust in my peoples, who, throughout every storm, have always rallied in unity and loyalty round my Throne, and have always been prepared for the severest sacrifices for the honour, the greatness, the might of the Fatherland. I trust in Austria-Hungary's brave and devoted forces, and I trust in the Almighty to give the victory to my arms.

☘

Germany's Population.

Some particulars regarding the population of the German Empire are given in the *German Year-Book, 1914*, edited by H. A. Walter, and published by the Anglo-German Publishing Company. The German Empire in Europe covers an area of 208,777 square miles. The population of the Empire is now about sixty-eight millions. Its growth has been continuous during the last century, particularly since the foundation of the new Empire in 1871. At present it increases at the rate of over 800,000 per year, due mainly to the surplus of births over deaths, and to a small extent to an immigration from neighbouring countries. The emigration of Germans into foreign countries is much smaller than the emigration from England, but there is nevertheless a large number in every habitable part of the globe.

All European as well as Oversea countries have a more or less large German population, running very often into six figures. The aggregate number of Germans in the world in the current year, as far as can be estimated, reaches 100 millions. Large numbers of foreigners live in Germany. Austrians, Hungarians, Poles, Russians, Italians, Dutch, French, and Danish to a large extent settle permanently in Germany because opportunities are greater there than in their native countries. The foreign population proper in Germany amounted at the Census of 1910 to 1,259,873. More than 50 per cent were of Austrian nationality (634,983), Dutchmen came next with 144,175, followed by Russians (137,697), and Italians (104,204) Of British nationality there were 18,819 people as against 16,130 in 1900. The great number of these foreigners are unskilled labourers.

Like all other great nations of to-day Germany has become a nation of town dwellers. Almost three fifths of the population live under urban conditions. The number of people engaged in agricultural pursuits has remained stationary since the beginning of the last century, while all increase of population during the last fifty years has gone to swell the town population. When the Empire was founded in 1871 there were only eight towns with a population of over 100,000 inhabitants, whereas the number of such towns in 1913 was 1,150. Towns with over 500,000 inhabitants in 1910 were: Berlin, 2,071,257; Hamburg, 931,035; Munich, 596,467; Leipzig, 589,850; Dresden, 548,308; Cologne, 516,527, and Breslau, 512,105.

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OPINION.

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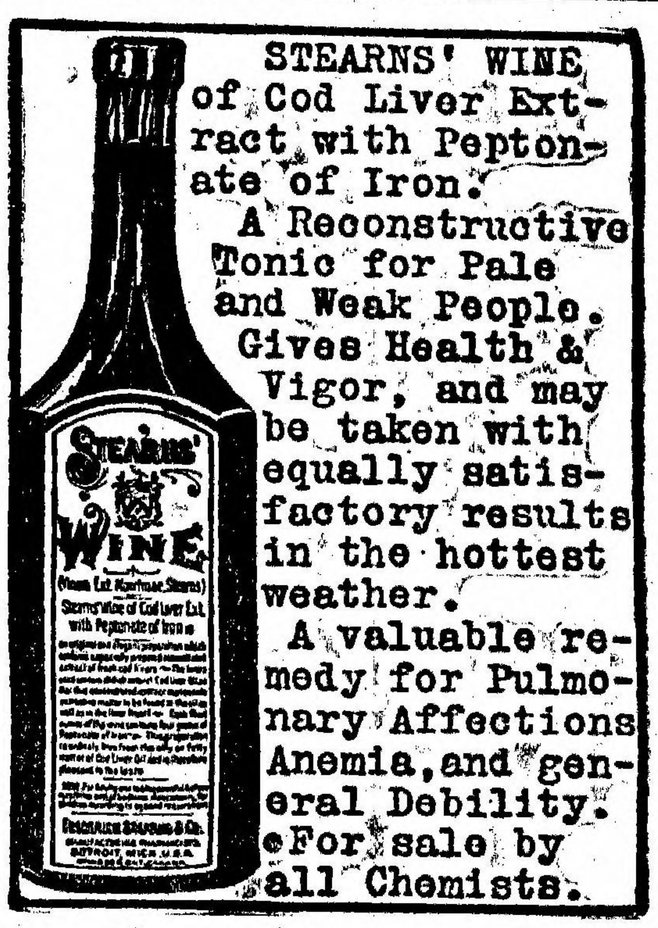
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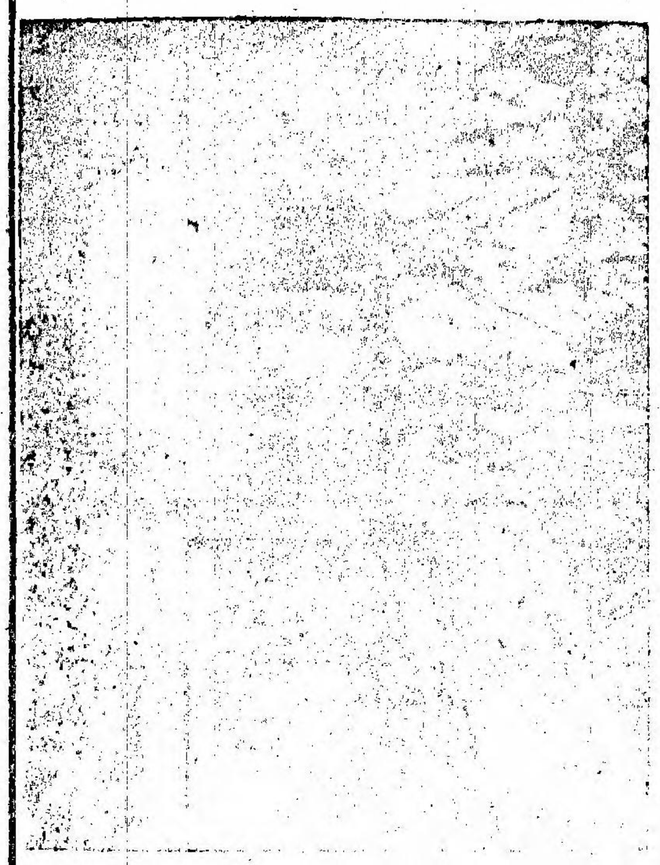
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The Proprietor of the "Akhbar i-Islam," the leading daily of Bombay, in the issue of the 30th January 1913, writes: "The well-known native physician, Dr. Kalidas Motiram of Rajkot, has obtained numerous certificates for his medicines that have stood 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."

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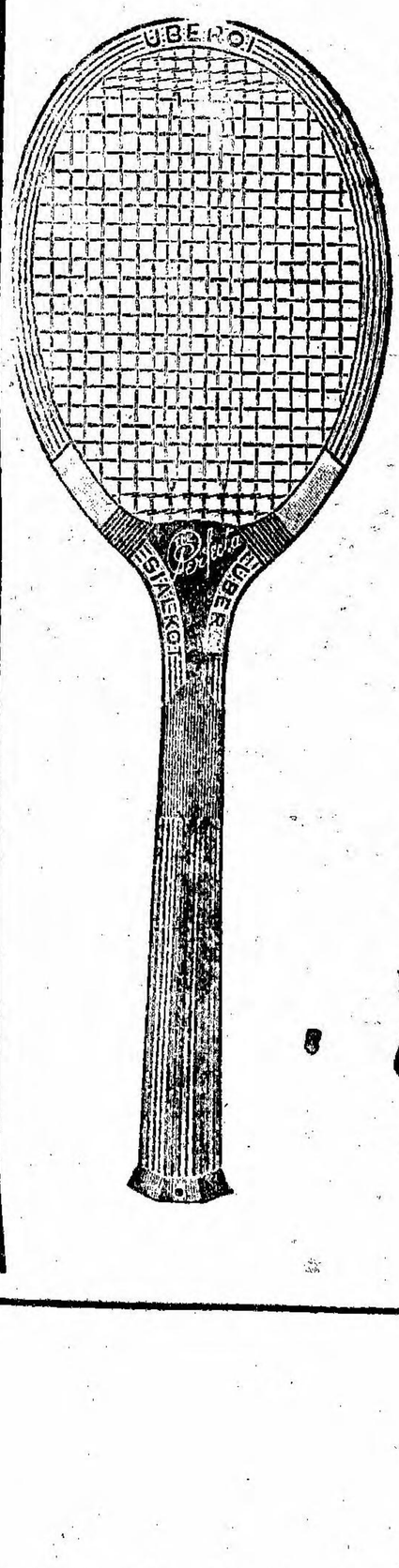
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By Mr. Mohamed Ali, B. A. (Oxon.)

(Published in 1907.)

Price, As. 8.

Some Press Opinions.

. . . Mr Mohamed Ali has read widely, and has thought well over the present conditions of India. He has the ardent temperament of the East, controlled by knowledge, and he wields a powerful and attractive pen. Above all he is absolutely honest. We recommend the study of his brochure, because it is a frank statement of the views of many educated Indians, and without the sympathetic appreciation of those views it is impossible to approach that great problem in the governance of India—the position of educated Indians in the State. , . Mr. Mohamed Ali has found so strong a supporter as the Secretary of State. We believe that his diagnosis of the complaint is substantially accurate . . .—*The Times of India.*

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To be had of The Manager of "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.

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¶ 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.