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WEATHER FORECAST: UNSETTLED WEATHER.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 5, 1914

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## BATTLES RAGING ON LAND AND SEA; BRITAIN FIGHTS NAVAL BATTLE OFF U. S. COASTS

### NAVAL BATTLE OFF U. S. COASTS

Engagement Marks First Sea Fight of British-German Or French-German Warships.

### SHOTS WERE HEARD SOUTH OF PORTLAND

Eight English, French and German Ships Have Been Hovering off the U. S. Coast For Days.

Portland, Me., Aug. 5.—The firing of heavy guns off the Maine coast was heard early today. Eight or ten shots within two minutes were heard shortly before 7 o'clock by the keeper of the Portland observatory.

The sound seemed to come from a point 25 or 30 miles southeast of Portland and probably in the vicinity of Seguin Island.

The shots were also heard at the harbor forts and at points between here and Bath. Seguin is a small island off the mouth of the Kennebec river, a few miles below Bath.

New York, Aug. 5.—Eight cruisers—five German, three British and two French—are hovering about this port somewhere. For days incoming steamships have reported fragmentary wireless messages indicating that these vessels were near port but no skipper was able to place their whereabouts. The shots fired this morning marked the first engagement between the German and British or the German or French ships.

The cruisers are the Herwick, Essex and Lancaster of the British navy; the Dresden, Strassburg and Karlsruhe of the German and the Conde and Descartes of the French navy. These vessels have been primarily concerned of late in attempts to intercept merchant vessels of the enemy and several big liners, notably the Kron Princessin Cecelle which put into Bar Harbor, Me., yesterday after abandoning her trip to Europe, have had narrow escapes.

The White Star liner Olympic managed to creep safely into New York harbor today, as did the North German Lloyd liner Kaiser Wilhelm II. All have been running with only makeshift lights burning. The Lusitania, of the Cunard line, a British boat, slipped out of the harbor after midnight similarly darkened, hoping to be conveyed by some of the British cruisers as far as New Foundland and later to be conveyed to the other side by some other British ship. The British freight steamer Etonian, which left New York yesterday for Antwerp, put back yesterday when about sixty miles east of Sandy Hook. She received word last night of the declaration of war between England and Germany and returned to port rather than risk capture. The captain reported that about 5:30 o'clock last night he sighted what he believed to be a war vessel. He could not make out the vessel's identity in the darkness. The Hamburg-American liner President Lincoln from Hamburg and Bologna arrived here this morning.

Nothing has been heard from the British steamer Kron Prinz Wilhelm since the steamer slipped out of New York harbor Sunday night.

Another steamer, the French liner Lorraine, expects to make a dash for home today. She is to take 1,200 reservists who hope to fight for France.

### MEET TO CONSIDER COTTON SITUATION

Washington, Aug. 5.—Senator Overman and Representative Underwood called on President Wilson today to discuss the situation with regard to cotton, growing out of the war in Europe. They said they were chiefly fearful of the lack of trans-Atlantic transportation. The entire south, they told the president, had been greatly affected in the malling off of the cotton price.

Mr. Overman and Mr. Underwood outlined to the president plans that had been made by southern congressmen to find out how much of the cotton crop can be turned into cloth in the United States and how many of the mills of Europe will be closed down. Representative Underwood predicted that the war in Europe would cause the mills of the United States to run night and day to care for the cotton crop of the south.

### JAPAN REGRETS U. S. COULD NOT MEDIATE

Tokio, Aug. 5.—Count Okuma, Japanese premier today regretted that the United States had not been able to mediate in the European controversy, which if it continues, he said, means the destruction of western civilization. Japan, he continued, would have been happy to join the United States in mediation, but her treaty with Great Britain made this impossible now. If Japan were compelled to intervene she would protect the British colonies, but under no circumstances would she send a fleet or an army to Europe.

### EXPECTED TO MAKE GRAVER STATEMENT

London, Aug. 5.—The Times this morning says the foreign secretary, Sir Edward Grey, is expected to make to parliament this morning a statement even more grave than that of yesterday. It adds that it is probable diplomatic papers will throw an unexpected light on Germany's motives which it is supposed is aimed at acquiring French colonies and that as the price of British neutrality Germany was prepared to give a guarantee that she would not annex any portion of France in the event of a French defeat.

### SHELLING OF TOWN OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED

Paris, Aug. 5.—It is officially confirmed today that the German cruiser Breslau bombarded Bona, a fortified seaport town in Algeria. The cruiser fired sixty shots to which the port batteries replied. Details of the fight are lacking. Later the Breslau sailed in the direction of Gibraltar and is supposed to have been captured by the British fleet guarding the straits. It is reported from Vallais that French torpedo boat destroyers captured two large German sailing ships.

### GIVES NOTIFICATION OF STATE OF WAR

London, Aug. 5.—The Gazette, the official newspaper today publishes the notification of the state of war existing between England and Germany as well as a royal order relating to German merchant vessels. The order specifies as absolutely contraband arms of all kinds, clothing and harness of a military character and animals suitable for war purposes. Articles specified as conditional contraband are foodstuffs, fuel, harness, telescopes and field glasses.

### MESSAGE TO JELICO FROM KING GEORGE

Washington, Aug. 5.—King George today sent the following message to Sir John Jellicoe, who has been made vice admiral of the British fleet: "At this grave instance in our history I send you, and through you to the men of the fleets of which you have assumed command evidence of my belief that you will renew the old glories of the royal navy and prove once again the sure shield of Britain and her empire in the paths of the oceans."

### FAR EASTERN GERMAN FLEET HAS SAILED

Shanghai, Aug. 5.—Guns were mounted today on the North German Lloyd liner Prinz Eitelfriedrich at Tsing Tau. The far eastern squadron of the German fleet, followed by a number of merchantmen, left Tsing Tau today and it was reported that the warships were proceeding northward. Large numbers of Chinese coolies have been forced to work under armed guards on the defenses of Tsing Tau.

### SAILING OF RELIEF CRUISE POSTPONED

Washington, Aug. 5.—The navy department today announced that the sailing of the armored cruiser Tennessee for Europe with gold for the relief of Americans had been postponed until tomorrow morning in order to complete all of the necessary arrangements. The armored cruiser North Carolina will probably accompany the Tennessee.

### Vessels Arrive

New York, Aug. 5.—Arrived: steamers Uranium, Rotterdam and Halifax; Yonah, Marcellus.

## FRENCHMEN SINK GERMAN CRUISER

### Russian Troops Reported To Have Driven German Forces Back From Frontier -- Russian Aeronauts Killed.

## BELGIANS ARE COMBATTING INVASION OF THE GERMANS

### Germans Said To Be Burning Many Villages--Russians Capture Merchantmen--Alsations Are Shot-- Wilson Offers His Good Offices.

Washington, Aug. 5.—President Wilson has offered his good offices to all nations involved in the war.

Washington, Aug. 5.—Colville Barclay, char d'affairs in England has asked that the United States embassy take over interests of foreigners in Berlin. Formal announcement that a state of war exists between England and Germany was cabled to this country by the charge.

Algiers, via London, Aug. 5.—Authentic confirmation of the destruction of the German cruiser Panther and of the capture of the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau was received here today.

Leige, Belgium, Aug. 5.—The capture of the frontier Belgium town of Vise was effected by German troops after an engagement lasting for several hours. It is stated that the visitors set fire to the town, killing those of the population who resisted them. The town of Argenteau, also is in flames. One hundred thousand Germans are reported to be marching on Liege.

Washington, Aug. 5.—The army general staff is investigating the neutrality of the German-owned wireless stations at Tuckertown, N. J., and Sayville, L. I.

Brussels, via London, Aug. 5.—The Belgian minister of war in an official statement today said: "The Belgians are successfully combating the German invasion. Belgian losses are trifling as compared with those of the Germans."

Bremen, Aug. 5.—According to the Neue E Frie Presse a Russian aeroplane carrying a pilot and passenger was seen above Luxemburg, an important point on the Prussian border. The plane was shot at, brought to earth and the officers killed.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 5.—The Russian fleet is between Memmel and Lebieu in the North sea. Russian warships in the Black sea have captured many German merchantmen.

London, Aug. 5.—Russian troops have been in contact with their enemy along almost the entire frontier. The Germans are reported to have fallen back and to be burning villages over an enormous stretch of country which they had invaded.

Paris, Aug. 5.—It is reported from Montbelliard, in the department of Doubs, that the Germans have violated the neutrality of Switzerland.

Berlin, Aug. 5.—An embargo today was laid on Russian balances at the great banks of Germany. These funds are considered by Germany as property belonging to a hostile force.

London, Aug. 5.—The Germans have invaded Dutch territory at Tilburg. It is reported the German troops met with resistance after crossing the river Meuse at Eysden, Belgium.

Paris, Aug. 5.—An official announcement today says seventeen Alsations, while endeavoring to cross into France, were captured by the Germans and summarily shot.

Brussels, Aug. 5.—The government states that the German troops continuing their march, today were out of range of the forts and evidently they wished to reach the French dominion of Meuse by following the course of the river Meuse.

Constantinople, Aug. 5.—The Dardanelles and the Bosphorus were closed today in order to preserve the neutrality of Turkey.

Copenhagen, Aug. 5.—A German torpedo boat destroyer was sunk today near Cedzer lightship on South Gedzer by the explosion of one of her boilers. Thirty men were drowned and taken aboard the lightship.

London, Aug. 5.—Detectives, during a raid on houses occupied by Germans in London, in one place discovered a large number of bombs and rifles. Several arrests were made.

Antwerp, Aug. 5.—Serious anti-German rioting occurred here today. An angry mob sacked the German cafes and restaurants and tore the escutcheon from the door of the German consulate. The police being unable to check the disorders, the Belgian military government placed the city under martial law and ordered the expulsion of all German residents.

Brussels, Aug. 5.—The official gazette states this morning that the entire seventh and tenth German infantry has reached Remouchamp and neighboring towns. The German artillery bombarded some small forts in their advance. Premier de Broqueville announced in parliament this morning that Emil Vanderville, the great socialist leader had joined the parliament. During the past fifteen years no like number of men have been called to the colors.

Tokio, Aug. 5.—Considerable activity among the vessels of the Japanese navy followed the announcement of the declaration of war between Germany and Great Britain. The light-houses along the Siberian coast have been extinguished.

Washington, Aug. 5.—Arrangements are being made to return the gold shipments aboard the Kron Princessin Cecelle to the American bankers in New York.

New York, Aug. 5.—Mails for European ports were being transferred from foreign ships to American vessels here today and it is believed the latter will sail soon to deliver this cargo to European cities.

## GERMAN CABLE TO U. S. IS CUT

### OVERHEARD GERMAN VESSELS' MESSAGE

New York, Aug. 5.—The French steamer Venezia, in port today from Naples and Palermo, reported that yesterday she overheard both German and British cruisers talking with the wireless station at Sayville, L. I., but was unable to decipher the contents of the message. The vessel changed her course to avoid capture by warships. Her operator was warned not to send any messages.

The Uranium liner Uranium arrived today from Rotterdam via Halifax.

### RIGHT OF WAY FOR REFUGEE RELIEF BILL

Washington, Aug. 5.—A bill appropriating \$250,000,000 for which President Wilson asked in a message yesterday, was brought into the house for passage today under a suspension of the rules and to the exclusion of all business. It contained authority for the use of army and navy facilities and the charter of ships. Secretary Bryan and McAdoo stated it was the plan to use first the neutral lines and then charter army and navy transports as a last resort.

### COPENHAGEN VIRTUALLY IN STATE OF SIEGE

Copenhagen, Aug. 5.—This city was practically in a state of siege today. Nearly 1,000 Americans are here who had intended sailing for America on the Imperator and other liners. Most of them left their baggage in Germany. Some of the Americans will endeavor to reach America by way of England, while others will sail on the Danish liner United States.

### WAR BULLETINS.

London, Aug. 5.—Rumors that a naval engagement had taken place off Cromarty, Scotland was officially denied today.

London, Aug. 5.—The German ambassador is not expected to leave Berlin until tomorrow. It was reported a British cruiser might be placed at his disposal to insure his safe passage over the channel. He visited Count Haldane at his private residence this morning.

Stockholm, Aug. 5.—The German ambassador to Russia with his staff arrived here yesterday from St. Petersburg on a steamer flying the American flag. They proceeded to Berlin.

London, Aug. 5.—A dispatch from Serbia today announces that Admiral Radnik Putnik, chief of the Russian staff has fallen ill and that his son was wounded in a recent battle.

Vienna, Aug. 5.—The Austro-Hungarian government today took drastic measures to prevent price advances for food. The government requested actual accounts of food in hand and provided drastic penalties for any attempt to withhold them.

West Point, N. Y., Aug. 5.—Major J. Ryan and Captain Julius Linsey, Herman Glade and Frank Wilcox, on duty at the military academy here have been detached as military observers in Europe. They left West Point today for New York where they will board the cruiser Tennessee.

Paris, Aug. 5.—No official confirmation has been received here of the capture or destruction of German warships by French battalions off the Algerian coast.

Shanghai, Aug. 5.—The squadron of United States warships in Chinese waters has discontinued its cruise and is now on its way from Chifu to this port.

Tampa, Fla., Aug. 5.—Several phosphate mining companies have shut down and ship charters were generally cancelled today.

Norfolk, Aug. 5.—The steamer Kirkowald, Captain Williamson from Naples, empty, for coal, arrived here today and reported seeing off the Virginia capes at 11 a. m. yesterday, a big German steamer bound south.

Newport, R. I., Aug. 5.—Racing by the intended cup defenders Resolute and Vanitie has practically ended, although no official word has come from Sir Thomas Lippin regarding his withdrawal from the races because of the war.

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All Cable Communication With Germany Stopped—Line Probably Broken by the British Warships.

### COUNTRY NOW HAS TO DEPEND ON WIRELESS

Or News Will Have to Filter Through Hostile Countries—No Hope of Immediate Restoration.

New York, Aug. 5.—Direct cable communication with Germany was stopped today.

The German Atlantic cable service from New York to Emden, via the Azores was cut at 1:30 a. m. at some point east of the Azores, probably by British warships.

The Commercial Cable company which operates the American end of this line, made the announcement of the cutting today, and refused to accept messages for Germany. It was denied that the line had been cut by British warships on this side of the Atlantic. The cable was working, according to the announcement, as far as the Azores.

Charles H. Adams, second vice president of the cable company, said there was no trouble with the regular commercial cable company's lines which run from New York to Nova Scotia, and thence to points on the English coast. Communication with England over these lines is still being maintained. No hope was held out however, for any immediate restoration of communication with Germany over the direct lines.

The German cable being cut virtually cuts off that nation by cable with the outside world except as messages can be sent by wireless. Hereafter all news of the happenings in Germany will have to filter through hostile countries; Russia on the east, France on the west and England on the north.

All submarine lines in the Mediterranean belong to the Eastern Telegraph company, an England corporation and all news that did make its way through southeastern Hungary would not be transmitted over the lines of this company.

News of the cutting of the German lines between Germany and England, may be expected at any moment. Already these lines are in the hands of British authorities where they land on British territory. The only other possible outlet, telegraphically for Germany is on the east but on this side she is hemmed in by Russia, with who she is at war. All the land lines from Germany in every direction, except to Austria-Hungary already have severed.

Cable communication from Germany to the north, to Germany and Sweden which still may be in operation, is practically valueless because news so transmitted to the outside world would have to be transmitted to England. The last news message received by the Associated Press was between 12 and 1 o'clock last night. The account of the German ambassador's statement to the foreign office of the declaration of war by England and his request for his passports was recounted in this message.

The Atlantic Communication company, a German wireless organization, has a high power station at Sayville, Long Island, N. Y. This station has at times communicated successfully with Nauen near Berlin. The company announced Sunday that it was closed for all private business having been turned over to the German government.

Stone Renominated.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 5.—Returns today showed that William J. Stone was re-nominated on the democratic ticket by an overwhelming majority at the democratic primary yesterday. Thomas J. Aikens, of St. Louis, seems to have secured the republican nomination.

Washington, Aug. 5.—The senate today ordered favorably reported Secretary Bryan's twenty new peace treaties.

New York, Aug. 5.—Arr.: Steamers Kaiser Wilhelm II, Bremen; Ancona, Naples; President Lincoln, Hamburg.