

NEWS WITHOUT
BIAS
VIEWS WITHOUT
PREJUDICE

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FIRST BIG BATTLE IS NOW IMMINENT

Armies of France and England Confront Germans in Belgium. Alsace Lorraine Will Also be Battle Ground

BY HERBERT PEELE

The great European conflict is and a great battle between the contending forces is now daily expected if indeed it has not already been joined.

Up to this time, however, news from the seat of war has been in complete, conflicting, and insufficient. Immediately upon the opening of hostilities German troops advanced across Luxembourg into Belgium where they were checked, as reported in the last issue of this paper, by the Belgians at Leige. Up to yesterday morning there was still doubt as to whether that city had fallen. Berlin claimed that it had been taken and jubilation in that city over the success of German arms was reported in Sunday's papers. London, however, claimed to be still in doubt as to the city's fate. All this discussion over the question of the fate of Leige may lead the casual reader to overestimate the importance of its capture. Whether it is already in the possession of Germany or not; its eventual capture by the Germans is granted.

French and English troops are hurrying to the aid of the Belgians and it is between the combined forces that the great, and perhaps the decisive battle may be expected. The Belgians, as soon as their French and English allies reach them in sufficient number, expect it is reported, to take the offensive in further military operations. Meanwhile the French troops to the Southwest have already assumed the aggressive and crossing the German frontier north of Switzerland have entered the province of Alsace-Lorraine and seized a number of unimportant outposts. The French admit that the seizure of these points is not of any considerable strategic importance but they think that the moral effect of the successful march of the French across German territory will be of considerable advantage to France. The capital of the province is Strassburg which is strongly fortified and oc-

FRANK MERCER DEAD

Old Trap, N. C., Aug 8th—Frank Mercer, the last charter member of the Shiloh Lodge of Old Fellows, died last Wednesday morning. Mr. Mercer had been growing weaker and weaker for the last year or two and his death was not unexpected.

The funeral services were conducted by the I. O. O. F. and attended by the Masons of which order he was also a member. These services took place last Wednesday afternoon at Old Trap Methodist Church and the interment followed in the family burying ground below Old Trap.

Mr. Mercer is survived by three sons and one daughter, William Mercer of Norfolk, Joe Mercer, Barwel Mercer, and Mary Baker of Old Trap.

EXCURSION TO NAGS HEAD

The First Baptist Sunday School will run their annual excursion to Nags Head on Tuesday August the 18th.

The boat secured for this trip is the well known Annie L. Vanseiver with capacity for five hundred passengers. The Vanseiver will leave the foot of Main street at 7:30 Tuesday morning and will stop at Shiloh for passengers.

upon Italy to support her allies in the present struggle and Italy has refused to take up arms against England. Germany's reply to this refusal is the threat that unless Italy comes to the support of Austria and Germany armies from these two countries will immediately begin the invasion of Italy.

The suddenness with which the war came to a head and involved practically all of Europe has stunned and startled the world. Up to the present time the only source of information in regard to developments have been the

In Number of Soldiers Available for War Triple Entente Is Superior

	Peace Strength.	Reserves.	Total War Strength.	Available for Duty Un-organized.
Austria	390,000	1,610,000	2,000,000	8,000,000
Servia	32,000	1,610,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
TRIPLE ALLIANCE.				
Austria	390,000	1,610,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
Germany	870,000	4,430,000	5,200,000	1,000,000
Italy	250,000	950,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
Totals	1,510,000	6,990,000	8,400,000	5,200,000
TRIPLE ENTENTE.				
Russia	1,290,000	3,300,000	5,500,000	5,200,000
England	254,500	475,500	730,000	2,000,000
France	720,000	3,280,000	4,000,000	1,000,000
Totals	2,264,500	7,055,500	10,290,000	8,200,000

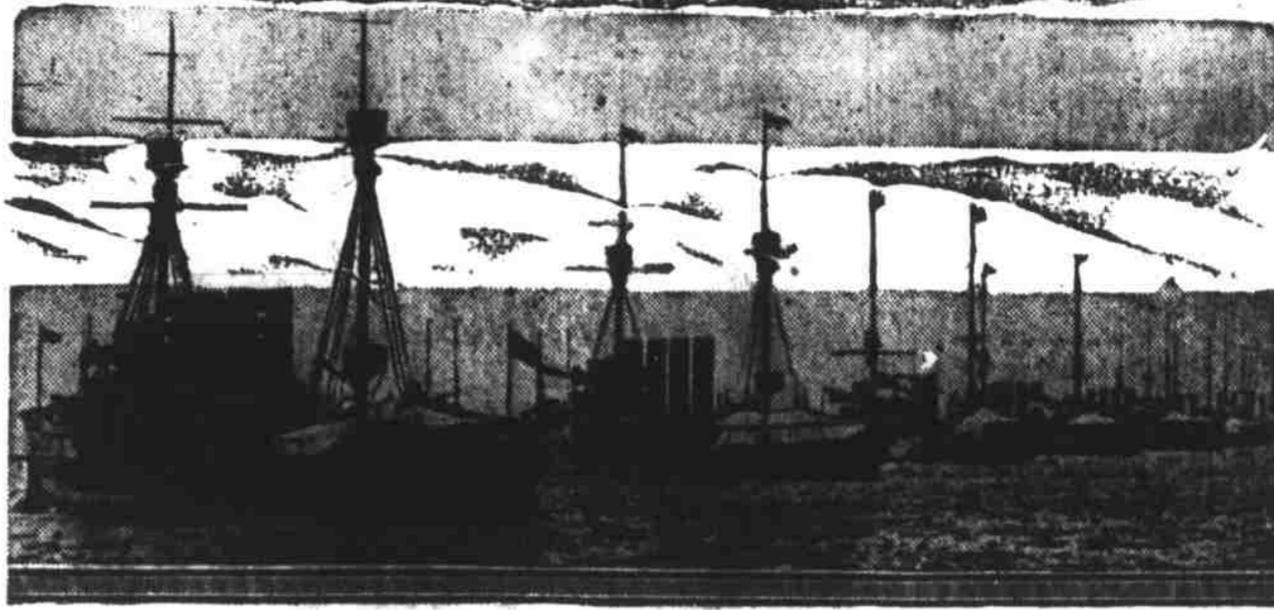
cupied will no doubt be resisted. Indeed, one report from London yesterday's daily papers was that Emperor William himself, had left Berlin for the Alsatian frontier. Perhaps then as the operations in Belgium reach a turning point, important developments may take place in the neighborhood of Strassburg.

This paper's predictions as to Italy's probable attitude toward the war has been fulfilled in every detail. Germany has called

daily papers and the reports as they appear in these are so incomplete and conflicting that the matter of gaining an intelligent view of the situation is almost impossible.

However, following its policy to developments has been the all the news of first importance, this paper will endeavor to keep track of the trend of things in Europe as long as hostilities continue. A fuller discussion of the situation may be expected in the

CRACK SQUADRON OF THE GERMAN NAVY



GERMAN CAVALRY DIVISION DURING MANEUVERS



WAR SPIRIT AT FEVER HEAT IN SERVIA



On the right is shown Servian soldiers receiving the blessing of the church. The insert shows Servian volunteers on the way to enlist.

NEGRO KILLED IN MILL

Columbia, N. C., Aug., 6th—A negro employed by the Richmond Cedar Works at Frying Pan was accidentally killed last Wednesday. He was tonging logs when the tongs slipped and struck him in the breast killing him almost instantly. His body was sent from Columbia to his home in Norfolk today.

Another negro was shipped in Friday night on the Norfolk Southern with his left leg broken in two places and also his left arm broken in two places. Dr. Spruill aided him with medical attention. The negro was hurt while working for the Arbuckle Lumber Company near Creswell.

next issue. Meantime readers of the Advance who have not done so and who expect this newspaper to keep them posted about this great struggle should be sure to read the article on the European war appearing on page two of the issue of Friday, August 7th.

ENTERTAINMENT AT POPLAR BRANCH

Poplar Branch, N. C., Aug 9—A very interesting entertainment will be given at the Poplar Branch high school auditorium next Saturday night.

The entertainment is given under the auspices of the school Betterment Society for the benefit of Poplar Branch's new school building and the cast is composed of members of the Poplar Branch School.

A musical program composed of choruses, duets and quartets will open the evening's entertainment, and the leading feature of the entertainment will be a play, "Anita's Trial". Music will close the program.

No Serious Damage Done

Columbia, N. C., Aug., 6th—Fire broke out in Mr. Webb Hasell's residence last Monday evening. Fortunately it was discovered in time to be put out before serious damage was done.

TEACHERS AT HERTFORD

Hertford, N. C., Aug., 10th—Under the direction of W. G. Gaither, Superintendent of the Schools in Perquimans County, the County Teachers Institute will open here on August 10th, and will continue for two weeks.

The Institute will be conducted by Prof. S. L. Sheep of Elizabeth City in the building of the Hertford Graded Schools, and preparation is being made for a large number of teachers. A number of teachers from the adjoining counties, will attend the Institute.

HURT IN FIGHT

Columbia, N. C., Aug., 6th—Johnnie Hudson was badly hurt in a free for all fight in which he took part while at Gum Neck a few days ago. A large knife wound which he received is proving quite serious.

NEW ENTERPRISE IN OPERATION

Pasquotank Hosiery Company Plant Started up Yesterday

The Pasquotank Hosiery Mill knit its first pair of hose yesterday, the operation being completed at about one o'clock. It will be the last part of the week, however, before these hose have passed through the last dyeing process and are ready to be put on the market.

The new mill began operation yesterday morning at seven o'clock with less than dozen operatives. The number, however, will be larger today and by the end of the week it is expected that a force of thirty operatives will be kept busy. The manager of the new mill, Mr. Dennis VanHorn, stated yesterday to a reporter for this newspaper.

The capacity of the Pasquotank Hosiery Company now is three hundred dozen pairs of hose a day. This means that the cost of operating the mill will be about \$900 a week, over half of which will be paid to the employees.

It is the purpose of the directors of the Pasquotank Hosiery Company to double the capacity of the mill within a short time. This will mean the bringing of the weekly pay roll up to about \$1,000.

The operatives in this new plant begin work at seven o'clock in the morning and knock off at six o'clock in the evening with an hour's intermission at noon. On Saturday work will end at twelve o'clock, giving a work week of fifty five hours. The Elizabeth City Hosiery Company up to the past two weeks has been working its force sixty hours a week, but both mills now are running the same number of hours.

Hosiery mill workers are among the best paid factory operatives in the South, some of the young girls making from \$9 to \$15 a week.

WILL SHOW WAR PICTURES

The Alkrama will show a most thrilling and realistic story of the Mexican War next Thursday night, July 13th in moving pictures.

The play is entitled "For the Honor of Old Glory" or "The Stars and Stripes in Mexico". The life of our boys on the frontier is shown and the spectator gets an idea of the real things that recently took place in Mexico. The play is given in four parts and is full of thrilling scenes and thrilling rescues. Mr. Kramer says you'll never be happy again if you fail to see this unusually interesting show.

Advertisement.

IMPROVING STREETS

Columbia, N. C., Aug., 6th—The official town board of Columbia have greatly improved the streets recently by purchasing a new street grader. The grader has been used on nearly every street in town and the place has an entirely new appearance since its use.

LOST—Between Spence and Hollowell's and the old depot on Monday morning between 7 and 8 o'clock, a blue coat with the initials 'G.P.P.' embroidered in inside pocket. Return to post of fice for reward. 1t. pd.