

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Monday, August 31, 1914.

The British papers which are now coming in tell the story of how many of them fought the spectre of a war with Germany. Not only were many of the leading papers opposed to it but a neutrality league was formed and gained many strong adherents especially from the rank of scholars. The following from a contemporary shows how the tide turned:—

What was it, then, that swept away all this opposition to war with Germany, or rendered it futile? What finally broke down English patience? It was unquestionably the German invasion of Belgium. This reckless tearing up of a solemn international treaty, guaranteeing the neutrality of Belgium, and regarded for eighty-five years by all the Powers as a part, in Professor Westlake's words, of 'the permanent system of Europe' could not but fill England with alarm, could not but frustrate the efforts

of the peace party. Early in the discussion the "Manchester Guardian" had admitted that a violation by Germany of Belgian neutrality would be intolerable; and when the thing was done, and the die was cast, it could only bow its head in grief and say: "Now there is nothing for Englishmen to do but to stand together and help by every means in their power to the attainment of our common object—an early and decisive victory over Germany."

Sir Edward Grey put the case in a way to which every Englishman could not fail to respond. "If it is a case that Belgium's neutrality is gone, no matter what might have been offered her in return, then her independence is gone; and the moment her independence goes, that of Holland will follow." This statement, declared Prof. J. H. Morgan, is one to which "every student of international law will unhesitatingly subscribe."

He pointed out by how many binding agreements Germany was estopped from setting foot on Belgian territory. It was not merely a case of the Treaty of London. This was carefully observed by Germany in 1870, when Bismarck was in charge of German diplomacy. After Sedan, Germany thought of transporting her wounded home through Belgian territory, and asked permission to do so. Belgium objected, and Germany acquiesced. Later she took upon herself a still more sacred obligation never to do what she has now done in Belgium. The Hague Convention of 1907 contained this explicit provision: "Belligerents are forbidden to move troops or convoys of either munitions of war or supplies across the territory of a neutral Power." To that Convention Germany was a signatory!

If any doubt remained that it was Germany's disregard of her treaties and ruthless invasion of Belgium that threw away her last chance of retaining, we will not say the friendship, but the neutrality of England it would be dispelled by Sir Edward Grey's speech in the House of Commons, the full text of which has now reached us. He reviewed the whole matter of the relations of England to France, and of the earnest and unceasing efforts of the English Government to prevent the Austrian clash with Serbia from drawing the other nations into war. He had no word of animosity to Germany. But he solemnly pointed out the inevitable consequences of violating the neutrality of either Holland or Belgium, both of them states which had no desire except to be left alone and independent, quoting with great effect the words of Mr. Gladstone, that a wanton disregard of the international guarantee of Belgium's independence would be "the direst crime that ever stained the pages of history."

But, of course, none of these things moved the German General Staff! It had its military plans all made for striking at the heart of France through Belgium, and nothing must be allowed to stay their execution. But the plans themselves have already failed, and in bringing England against Germany have a thousand times outweighed any immediate military advantage that might have been gained. It was a colossal blunder.

SOUTHBOUND

Passengers who left on the Princess May for the south were W. J. Rafty, A. P. Surges, George Stevens, E. J. Hoburg, D. J. Dempsey, Jas. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Justice Morrison, Mrs. C. W. Peck, W. W. Wright, Mrs. W. W. Wright, Miss Portmore, Miss Stewart, J. W. Stewart, B. B. Kelliher, Miss D. Lister, Mrs. P. K. Lister, Miss Edith Wheller, Mrs. Chas. Peters, M. Roberts, N. Gleason, J. M. Rolston, W. T. Robinson, A. K. Preston, W. W. Brown, Mrs. W. W. Brown, Dan T. Brown, Mrs. M. Taylor, J. M. Ingersoll.

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In the Letter Box

WHEN PRISONER ESCAPED

Editor News.
Sir,—I would like to explain my part in the escape of the recent prisoner. This man had been allowed to do work around the jail for three weeks and when I was on duty while the jailer went to dinner I simply allowed him to do what he had been doing all along: empty ashes and carry coal. The chief was standing outside the station when the man went out and then went back to his office. When the prisoner didn't come back quickly I went to look after him and found the coal bucket and the prisoner gone. I told the chief at once and he went in the direction he saw the man go.

For my part in this I was fired. The chief told the commission he fired me at once, but I was not fired till the chief returned from the commission sitting. I was not given a chance to state my side of the case and I think I was entitled to this.

Another meeting of the Commission was called for Friday and I pointed out the inconsistency of the chief's position, and that such a prisoner should be kept locked up as the orders called for and that the fault was not mine, but those in authority.

Notwithstanding this they refused to do anything in the matter.

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COUNTY COURT

List of Cases Before Judge Young September 8th

Elliott vs. Klaidan, et al., \$145.
Morris vs. Beirnes, \$87.
Broughton & McNeill vs. Strauss, \$193.90.

Due Noy and seven other Chinamen vs. Lakase Hot Springs, et al., \$916.78.

Pacific Fisherman vs. Can. Fish & Cold Storage Co., \$300.
Flewin vs. B. C. Accident Co., \$316.

Neilson vs. Bowen, \$350.
Jardine vs. Boyd, \$30.75.

Darney vs. Watson, for account.
Williams, Carr L. Co. vs. Carter & Co., \$669.

Herman vs. Knott, \$395.15.
Knightall vs. Gampp, \$400.
Jamieson vs. Rodda, \$75.

Hie vs. Michand, \$165.
Aldous, et al., vs. Miller, \$200.
Roy vs. Leek, spec. perf.

Hanson vs. B. C. Canning Co., \$80.15.
McLeod, et al., vs. North Coast Towing Co., decn.

Richards vs. Davis, \$44.75.
Jabour vs. Mussalem, \$202.65.

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