

THE PAPER THAT BOOSTS KEOKUK ALL THE TIME.
Subscribers of The Daily Gate City are served the full Leased Wire Service of the United Press Associations.

The Daily Gate City.

THE WEATHER
Fair and warmer. Local temp—7 p. m. 25; 7 a. m. 22.

VOL. 119. NO. 119.

KEOKUK, IOWA, TUESDAY, NOV. 17, 1914

EIGHT PAGES

EUROPEAN WAR--MEXICAN PEACE

TRENCHES OF THE GERMANS ARE WONDERFUL AFFAIRS

Elaborate Series of Ditches Which Give the Soldiers a Great Advantage Over the Assaulting Enemy.

ALLIES HAVE LEARNED A LESSON

War in Western Theatre Has Developed Into a Series of Sieges by the Men in the Trenches.

[By William Philip Simms, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

PARIS, Oct. 30.—(By mail to New York.)—Germany will have to "bleed to death," slowly, drop by drop. She fights so well defensively that there is no telling how long she can stay in the game.

Competent, impartial military observers here are coming more and more to the belief that the Germans are prepared to hold on indefinitely and to fall back by inches rather than by miles. The secret lies in the wonderful German system of trenches.

Even French military experts now admit France is far behind Germany in the art of concealing and protecting her armies in the field.

German officers have studied every recent war profoundly. No war has been too small for Germany to ignore. She has found something in all of them to put into practical use.

The French army since 1870 has made use of the three usual means of concealing infantry—sitting, kneeling and standing room trenches. The individual soldier, advancing a few yards at a time under fire makes use of a shallow, individual trench which he digs himself, throwing the dirt in front and placing his knapsack on top of the dirt. A company of 250 carries 80 picks and 80 shore handed spades, attached to the knapsacks. It takes several minutes to get at these utensils. These means of entrenchment have been found to be insufficient and dangerous. The practice of placing knapsacks in front of the individual trenches, makes it easy for the enemy to count the exact number of men with whom they have to deal.

The German plan is different. The

German trenches are made as invulnerable as possible and in series. There is an advanced trench two feet wide by five deep. The evacuated earth is sprinkled about so that at a distance of 300 yards the trench is invisible. Back of it, and connected by zig-zag runways is a second trench, the same size as the first. The runways permit the Germans to fall back without exposing themselves. These two trenches are 100 yards apart. A third trench, 100 yards behind the second is carefully constructed. In it are the machine guns, under turrets. It is usually covered with green logs placed cross wise. On the logs earth and bushes are placed to conceal the trench.

But the Germans do not stop even here. As soon as this series of three trenches is completed, even though they are under fire at the time, a second series, far more elaborate is being constructed. This second series of trenches is skillfully and intricately protected not only against infantry attack but from exploding shells as well as to be almost equal to permanent outer defenses of a fortified place.

It must be said, however, that since the war began, the French have profited by viewing the German trenches from which they have driven the enemy. For this reason the war has developed into a series of sieges, or it might be called a war of the trenches; for frequently those entrenched positions are so close to each other that Gaelic and Teuton soldiers pass many moments "kidding" each other. "Sniping" has become the pastime of the days.

GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Nov. 17.—German losses during the last four days' fighting in Flanders are estimated at 100,000 by the correspondent of the Daily Mail at Dunkirk.

Despite the blizzard which has veiled, fighting has continued. On Monday, Germans directed a fierce attack upon the allied lines near Ypres. This was repulsed and the allies in turn assumed the offensive. Casualties in the allied ranks were heavy, but favorable progress was made.

NAVAL BATTLE EXPECTED. LONDON, Nov. 17.—A naval battle is believed imminent in the Baltic sea. Unofficial advice received from Copenhagen declares the German fleet in those waters is about to be engaged by the Russians.

The Russian fleet has left Helsingfors. The squadron was steaming southeast.

RUSSIANS DRIVEN BACK. BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville), Nov. 17.—The Russian armies, defeated in the east, have been forced back until the Vistula is now between the two forces. The Germans occupy excellent strategic positions.

In case of further defeats, the Vistula will prove a great barrier to the Russians.

The latest German victories in the east have greatly increased the difficulties of the enemy, although it cannot yet be foretold whether the Russian advance has been definitely stopped. The Russians near Soldau were driven over Lipno to Plock. The army defeated by General Vonhinderberg was forced southward over the Kutno instead of back upon their line of advance. This movement put the Vistula between the Russian forces. The losses to the enemy, including prisoners, will doubtless exceed an entire corps, but a conservative view is taken of the victories as it is pointed that the Russians are operating in great force.

The situation in the west has almost been forgotten in Berlin in view of the victories in the east and the lack of fighting in Flanders owing to bad weather. It is pointed out, however, that the eastern victories must not be over estimated until it is known whether the Russians have been forced to retreat or brought to a standstill.

PRaise FOR VALOR. LONDON, Nov. 17.—High tribute is paid the valor of the Prussian guards today in an eye witness story from the front issued by the war bureau. The report, which is under date of November 13, vividly describes a German guard corps' desperate but unsuccessful attempt on the eleventh to capture Ypres and break through to ward the coast.

"Fighting at close quarters," the eye witness states, "the Germans succeeded in holding our front trenches in three places after having penetrated our lines and being driven back.

"We mined one of our trenches and then abandoned it. When the Germans occupied the trench the charges were exploded and several men were blown to atoms. The guards corps admittedly retains the reputation for courage and contempt of death they earned in 1870."

The story cites several exploits of German spies wearing British and French uniforms.

"On one occasion," it is stated, "a German disguised as a British staff officer, walked along the line of our trenches, saying 'the situation looks serious.' A general retirement was ordered. His identity was discovered too late to prevent the retirement from the trench."

A German soldier's diary is quoted as reflecting on the leadership of the Germans and indicating that the enemy is running short of food supplies. "Our leadership is really scandalous," the diary states. "The enormous losses on our side are partly from our own fire, for our leaders know the location of neither our positions or the enemy's. In the evening our only food is a cup of rice and one-third of an apple. Such war is too awful. The English shoot like mad. If no reinforcements come, we must retire."

CRUISER IN NORWAY. COPENHAGEN, Nov. 17.—Mystery today surrounded the German cruiser Berlin, which has arrived off Trondheim, Norway. Reports that submarines are near the Lofodow Islands leads to the belief here that the Berlin may be acting as a parent ship to this flotilla.

The only reason seen here for dis-

(Continued on page 2.)

FRANCE

[United Press Staff Correspondent.] PARIS, Nov. 17.—With the fighting from Nieupport through Dixmude and on to Ypres almost entirely confined to cannonading, the German and allied armies on the Aisne and in the Argonne are showing greater activity.

The official communique issued today reports an attempt of the Germans to cross the Aisne near Vailly. In the Argonne the German trenches were blown up by mines planted by the French.

The cannonading in Flanders has become more violent, the statement declares. Despite repeated repulses, the German's continued attacks about Ypres and south of Bixchoote. All assaults have failed and the allied line is held at all points.

The attempt of the Germans to cross the Aisne near Vailly was also defeated.

The Germans have been washed out of their trenches at many points in the inundated section about Dixmude and on toward the coast. Many of them have been drowned. Commands cut off by the waters have been wiped out by the allied artillery fire.

An artillery battle of great ferocity is reported in the official communique between Armentiers and La Bassée. Rheims faces another fierce bombardment as the German attack of that section develops.

Shells have already fallen in town. Extended movement of troops is now practically impossible in Flanders. German trenches are half filled with water. In many places French and British troops are in water up to their knees, but valiantly holding their positions in the face of German artillery fire.

Owing to the danger of electrocution to their own men, both the allies and Germans have shut off the electric current with which wire entanglements before the trenches were charged. The water rising above these entanglements greatly increasing the deadly power of the charged wires, resulted in numerous fatalities.

AUSTRIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] AMSTERDAM, Nov. 17.—Probably 40,000 Austrians are buried in one trench in Galicia, according to a Galician priest's letter published here today by the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant. He said the monster grave was over two yards wide and about four miles long. The bodies were laid side by side in three layers.

WOMEN GET MEDALS. LONDON, Nov. 17.—Three Austrian women have been awarded the gold cross of merit by Emperor Franz Josef. The women were in charge of the postoffice at Kienark when the town was attacked by Russians. Despite a rain of shells which fell about the postoffice and shattered nearby buildings, the plucky women continued their duties and refused to leave.

ON OFFENSIVE NOW. BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville), Nov. 17.—Reports from Vienna indicate that the German and Austrian armies are ready to assume the offensive. In the Serbian campaign Valjevo and Obrenovac have been taken by Austrians, removing further obstacles for the march on Belgrade.

Town Wiped Out. ESCANABA, Mich., Nov. 17.—The town of Powers, twenty miles north of here, has been practically wiped out by a fire which started in a saloon at one o'clock this morning. The telephone exchange, postoffice, bank, two hotels, a church, a barber shop and three saloons were destroyed. Aid was sent from Gladstone and the fire was under control at nine o'clock, although still burning.

Lord Roberts' Funeral. [United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Nov. 17.—The funeral of Lord Roberts will be public and will be held at St. Paul's Thursday. It was announced today.

Intervention will also be at St. Paul's. Lord Kitchener, secretary of war; Winston Churchill, first lord of admiralty, and other cabinet ministers as well as members of both houses of parliament will attend the funeral services.

Cleveland May Have Boxing. CLEVELAND, Ohio, Nov. 17.—Cleveland's recently appointed boxing commission holds its first meeting this afternoon. It is expected to recommend that Mayor Baker lift the lid on professional boxing here. If the lid is removed rules similar to those in vogue in New York and Wisconsin will be drawn up.

RUSSIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] VENICE, Nov. 17.—A portion of the city of Cracow is in flames and the inhabitants have fled panic stricken before the advancing Russian army. Advances by way of Trieste say the investment of Cracow began Saturday. The Russian forces advancing upon the Austrian stronghold from the north, opened bombardment as soon as their big guns were brought up from Miehchow. The northern section of the city was soon in flames.

Violent assaults upon all defenses are now being made by the Russians. The force advancing from the east which has now passed Tarnow, is moving rapidly and the capture of Cracow is expected momentarily.

CRAWLED TO VICTORY. PETROGRAD, Nov. 17.—How Cossacks crawled on their hands and knees up a steep hill protected by wire entanglements, and steel stakes embedded in the ground and then carried the position by storm, is told in details of the fighting about Goldap, here today. All despatches from east Prussia clearly indicate the determination and bravery with which the new Russian advance is being made into east Prussia. The main defense of Goldap was taken by direct assault.

The Russians took the Germans completely by surprise by their rapid advance. After eight days of fighting about Bacalarzewo, they arrived within two miles of Goldap before a German aeroplane scout discovered them. Russian dragoons and artillery were then ordered to make a flank attack. This was carried out with the greatest dash and bravery. A hill regarded as impregnable was carried by storm.

The Germans were entrenched on three sides of this hill. It was also protected by ingenious entanglements. Several of the Cossacks' mounts fell on concealed spikes imbedded in holes, before they were discovered. Then all dismounted. Crawling up the hill on all fours, they cut the barbed wire entanglements and pressed on, leading their horses. The advance was made in this way until the Russians reached a position within 300 yards of the German trenches. There they mounted, reformed, charged the trenches, and drove the Germans before them.

FIGHTING THE TURKS. PETROGRAD, Nov. 17.—Official reports of fighting in the Caucasus indicate the struggle between Russia and Turkish troops is practically a duplication of the battle in Flanders. Russian warships in the Black sea are aiding the land forces, and have inflicted heavy losses in the Turkish ranks.

Today's official statement declares: "On the Black sea, the Turkish offensive on the coast road near Liman has failed. Attacked on the rear flanks by fire from our war ships, the Turks suffered heavy losses. Their reserves were annihilated. Our troops operating in the Klytchaduk pass near Khamur completely defeated the Ottoman forces and numerous bands of Kurds."

ADVANCE RESUMED. PETROGRAD, Nov. 17.—It was asserted here today that the advance toward Thorn will soon be resumed. A strong German counter-offensive has developed along the Vistula toward Plock. This has not been checked, however. The advance in east Russia is progressing favorably.

The King of Burglars. [United Press Leased Wire Service.] HILLSBORO, Texas, Nov. 17.—This city is in terror today over the work of a burglar who is a master at his art. For the last week he has robbed one or more houses nightly and never has his face been seen.

The climax came last night when the mysterious robber entered the home of B. L. Hodges, although every door and window was fastened on the inside and apparently had not been disturbed. This activity, with his robbery Sunday night when he extracted money from a pillow beneath a sleeping woman's head, extracted the pillow and placed it over her sleeping husband's head, nearly smothering him, caused great concern. The police have no clue. The police are in fear of his nightly visit.

FRANCE—Heavy cannonading from Nieupport to Ypres; German attacks repulsed; German trenches blown up by mines in Argonne; attempt to cross Aisne defeated.

AUSTRIA—Portion of Cracow reported in flames, inhabitants fled. Investment of city begun Saturday.

GERMANY—Officially denied American aid to Belgium refused. Situation at the front declared satisfactory.

TURKEY—Continued victories over Russian forces claimed.

ENGLAND—Daily Mail correspond-

SATISFIED WITH OUTLOOK IN MEXICO AT PRESENT

Revolution Torn Republic Will Not Be Asked to Pay Indemnity to United States For Losses.

COUNTRY IS ALMOST BANKRUPT

Uncle Sam Willing to do Everything Possible to Put the Country Back on Her Feet Once More.

[By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Satisfied that peace is certain in Mexico within a very short time, the administration today considered the best means of aiding in the restoration of that shattered republic. Reports that General Carranza was inclined to recede from his promise to quit, were not credited here. It is explained that naturally Carranza is trying his best to drive a bargain that will be advantageous to himself and his close lieutenants, but that elimination with that of Villa is certain. One thing Mexico will not have to face will be a demand on the part of the United States for indemnity, resulting from the war-like demonstrations on her coasts and the occupation of Vera Cruz. The expenses will be born by the United States. Every assistance possible will be given by the United States to Mexico to refill her bankrupt treasury. American financiers will be urged to make loans on liberal terms to the new government just as soon as it is established in Mexico City on a stable basis.

Discussing the reasons why this government will make no claims on Mexico, a high official today explained: "Such action at this time would be the equivalent of asking a bankrupt, who had failed for 100 per cent, to pay his creditors in full on penalty of jail. What we want to do is to restore the republic of Mexico to just its place in the situation and we will try to aid that government to secure the necessary cash. Because of the European war, Mexico must depend on the United States and the South American countries for money."

Carranza is expected to go to Savana within a week or ten days for a lengthy stay. Those who know him best believe he will be out of Mexico before the American troops are recalled from Vera Cruz next Monday. With Villa it is different. He wants to tour the United States. Advances here indicate the first place he will steer for will be Washington. There it is expected he will be granted an audience by Secretary Bryan and other officials. The state department has instructed Consul Stillman at Mexico City to keep it informed regarding negotiations with Carranza. Bryan does not know why Carranza has failed to quit, but explained his delay will not complicate the situation. The special consul representative has told the department that Carranza has promised to go. It is supposed the halt is due to his desire to turn the government over with due formality in order to pre-

serve his status and pave the way for his candidacy for president at a regular election. Administration officials now say only some unforeseen complication can upset a peace program. But because of disappointment in the past, they prefer to withhold comment until the Gutierrez government is actually in the saddle in the northern capital.

IN EASTERN THEATRE. LONDON, Nov. 17.—Three provinces in the eastern theatre of war laid waste by one invasion are now again the scene of battle. Villages in Poland, east Prussia and Galicia are being overrun for the second and in some cases the third or fourth time. The Russian advance into east Prussia is proceeding along the same route taken soon after the war was declared. A desperate battle is in progress at Soldau and Neidenberg. This district felt the force of the initial Russian advance and then the retreat. Now it is overrun again.

Evidently in an attempt to draw a part of the invading force from east Prussia, the Germans started an offensive movement from Thorn toward Plock in Poland. This move is now declared to have been checked and the plan of the German general staff to divide the Russian offensive by this advance has been frustrated. In Galicia, conditions are similar to those in east Prussia. After the advance sweep of the Russians, the invaders were driven back by the combined Austrian and German armies. Przemysl is invested again, however, and the Russians have pressed westward through toward Cracow to a point beyond Tarnow.

An official statement from Vienna claims a sweeping victory over the Servians at Kulbarra in which 6,000 prisoners and numerous cannon and machine guns were captured.

Carranza Will Retire. WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Carranza has agreed to eliminate himself from Mexican affairs under certain conditions and Provisional President Gutierrez has agreed to these conditions, according to state department advices from Consul Stillman today, based on information he gleaned from Mexican newspapers. The conditions were not stated.

Stillman also stated that according to the newspapers the negotiations between Carranza and Gutierrez were accepted by Generals Obregon and Gonzales. The state department had no confirmation of reports that Villa

(Continued on page 2.)

What the War Moves Mean

By J. W. T. Mason, Former European Manager of the United Press.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—(11 a. m.)—Persistent praise of the valor and daring of the German troops has become a regular feature of the British government official reports of the fighting in France and in Belgium. While British papers are vainly pleading for permission to send correspondents to the front to report the unchronicled heroism of British soldiers, the Kitchener government is issuing statement after statement idealizing courage and discipline. Such conspicuous and insistent praise of the enemy is very unusual in warfare. It is curiously supplemented by a censorship policy which is still keeping from the British nation the disaster of the Audacious. Praise of German skill on the seas is not apparently acceptable to the British government, while praise of the German army is much desired. Undoubtedly this is due to careful military reasons. There is no need to encourage recruiting for the navy, nor to prevent surrenders by warships, nor to inspire volunteer seamen with desperate courage. Apparently, however, Lord Kitchener who now is practically the dictator of Great Britain, thinks the allies' land forces need to be taught lessons.

An additional reason for praising the Germans may be a desire to offset the bitterly anti-German tone of a part of the British press. Lord Kitchener may think that the irreconcilable attitude of certain influential English newspapers is driving Germany

to a condition of desperation and despair that can only result in useless prolongation of the war. Still another reason may be the old device of explaining an inability to make progress by referring to the fanatical disregard for the life of the enemy.

Primarily, however, there can be little doubt but that Lord Kitchener wants the Germans extolled in order to spur the new recruits among the allies to deeds of emulation and to fire young Englishmen with the volunteering spirit. It is a fact freely admitted by the English papers that there has been a disappointing response to Lord Kitchener's call for volunteers, while the necessity for conscription is now being discussed. The principal reason for Kitchener's failure as a recruiting officer is attributed in England to the Kitchener censorship which allows nothing to pass likely to fire the martial ardor of Englishmen.

Now, however, Lord Kitchener seems to have admitted that aids to recruiting from the front are necessary; only instead of agreeing that these aids should be descriptions of British heroism, he has reached the opposite conclusion that stories of German valor can best serve his purpose. At the same time, it is probable Lord Kitchener hopes reference to the splendid discipline and courage of the Germans will have an effect of reducing the apparent disparity in the numbers of prisoners taken by the Germans and by the allies.

(Continued on page 2.)

The War at a Glance

Summarized by John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] FRANCE—Heavy cannonading from Nieupport to Ypres; German attacks repulsed; German trenches blown up by mines in Argonne; attempt to cross Aisne defeated.

AUSTRIA—Portion of Cracow reported in flames, inhabitants fled. Investment of city begun Saturday.

GERMANY—Officially denied American aid to Belgium refused. Situation at the front declared satisfactory.

TURKEY—Continued victories over Russian forces claimed.

ENGLAND—Daily Mail correspond-