

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.

VOL. 120. NO. 42.

KEOKUK, IOWA, THURSDAY, FEB. 18, 1915

EIGHT PAGES

GERMANY'S DEATH ZONE ENCIRCLES ENGLAND TODAY

Situation is Grave and United States Officials Admit That the Foreign Problem Looks Dangerous to This Country.

INTERNATIONAL RULES TO BE BROKEN

Germany Insists She is Acting in Self Defense and Has Given All Neutrals Plenty of Warning.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Germany's "death zone" encircles the British Isles today. With it is imminent danger to American commerce and lives.

The Washington administration grew more troubled than before, inasmuch as England's supplementary reply to the United States shipping protest, politely warned that England would retaliate against Germany and hinted that it would not stop at a few international rules in so doing.

The German government's reply to the United States warning against the "death zone" was expected soon, though enciphering and deciphering coupled with cable delays, may keep the government in the dark for another day.

Officials did not attempt today to disguise the gravity of the situation. Privately they admitted that the whole foreign problem was pregnant of danger to this nation.

The British supplementary reply gave the administration little satisfaction. About the only gleam of hope in the note was the fact that it makes practically no promises. England has related her earlier seizure plans.

The Japanese and Mexican situation added to the anxiety in official circles today.

Consul Stillman has been dispatched to Vera Cruz to deal directly with Carranza, but this was said today not to involve recognition. Carranza forces were unofficially reported to have evacuated Mexico City in the path of attacking Zapatistas.

Although Berlin press dispatches said Germany's reply to the American warning concerning the war zone was handed Wednesday to the American embassy, an official message received by the state department today under Wednesday date, stated that Ambassador Gerard had presented the American note to the Berlin foreign office, but had not yet had an answer.

President Not Worried.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—President Wilson views the international situation despite all its complications and grave possibilities, with optimism, it was officially stated today.

Secretary of State Bryan hurried to the white house for an early morning conference with the president, but left after a half hour's visit, declining to discuss the situation.

The German war zone proclamation, effective today, was giving the administration considerable concern but the president regards it as highly improbable that any American ships will be torpedoed by German submarines.

Added to the long list of serious developments was the significant statement in the last paragraph of the latest British note. Some officials were inclined to regard this as equivalent to saying that if Germany is not going to respect international law, Great Britain will also disregard it. The president is giving the closest consideration to the note and further reply to it will be framed within a few days, it is understood.

Germany's Reply.

BERLIN (via Amsterdam) Feb. 18.—While the complete text of the German reply to the American note, protesting against the contemplated submarine blockade, is withheld pending its being made public in Washington, summaries printed here make it evident Germany stands firmly by her original intention.

Great Britain having refused to lift her food embargo, Germany takes the position that she is well within her rights in ordering the sinking of British merchantmen. It is also explained that in giving fourteen days' previous notice of the contemplated blockade, Germany has done all that could reasonably be expected of her.

The note is declared to be couched in terms of sincere friendship. It points out, however, that the allies have been buying unlimited quantities of supplies in America and that not only conditional, but absolute contraband are being freely imported from the United States to England and France. The government explains that it is most anxious there shall be no misunderstanding or disagreement with the United States and pays high tribute to the extreme

GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BERLIN, Feb. 18. (Via wireless to London.)—The German war office admitted a material reverse in the Argonne region today. It states that the village of Norroy and the hill commanding it, previously captured from the French, were evacuated in the face of a superior force. Before leaving, the German troops are declared to have destroyed with dynamite the entrenchments that had been constructed by the French.

Very heavy fighting continues to the north of Rheims, about Lille and Arras and to the north of Perthes where the French and British have succeeded in penetrating the German advance, only to be later driven back. The series of battles is constantly increasing in intensity and the German reports declare that the enemy is losing very heavily.

General attacks by the French along the Bourlille-Vauquois line south of the forest of Argonne are declared to have completely failed.

It is stated that the number of prisoners taken yesterday has been increased to eleven officers and 785 soldiers. In the eastern arena it is stated in the district northwest of Grodam and near Tauroggen, the pursuing German forces are now engaged with the enemy.

North of Lomza and near Plock and Racolinz engagements have terminated in favor of the Germans who have taken 3,000 additional prisoners. Nothing new is reported from Poland south of the Vistula river.

The total number of prisoners captured on the east Prussian frontier is placed at 64,000 with seventy-one cannon, more than 100 machine guns, three hospital trains, air craft, 150 cars filled with ammunition, searchlights, countless cars with loads and horses and not all of the booty is yet accounted for.

IN SOUTH ATLANTIC.

BUENOS AYRES, Feb. 18.—Following the arrival here today of the German collier Holger with the crews of three steamers and two sailing vessels sunk in the south Atlantic by the converted German cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm, a report was circulated that other British vessels were sunk by the German vessel whose crews were not rescued. It was reported that three vessels were sunk in attempting to escape and their crews could not be taken off because of the approach of a British warship. Officers of the Holger positively refuse to discuss the subject. Rescued crews said they saw nothing as they were kept below decks. The Kronprinz in addition to the armament placed on her immediately after she cleared from New York is said to be carrying guns taken from the steamer La Corrientina. In addition to the crew the Highland Brae also carried a number of passengers. They were allowed to take their personal effects with them on leaving the steamer.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 18.

Word reached here today of serious riots in Schoneberg, a suburb of Berlin, as a result of the shortage of potatoes. The municipality announced that it would conduct a sale of potatoes at cheap prices. Thousands of women and children lined up for hours in a pouring rain in front of the municipal building. Finally an official appeared and announced that the potatoes would only be delivered on production of previously issued receipts for potatoes issued at a former distribution and after certain other formalities were complied with.

The bedraggled women who were

RUSSIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PETROGRAD, Feb. 13.—Distinct successes over the Germans and the Austro-German forces in Galicia, the Carpathians and at isolated points along the northern battle line, are claimed by the war office today. It declares that the fighting on the left bank of the Vistula is continually increasing in violence but that neither side has been able to gain any ground. North of the Nieman where the Russian forces have taken up new positions, the exchanges have been confined to cavalry patrol exchanges with little damage and balance of success resting with the Russians.

In Galicia, the Germans attacked in force along the front from Khava to Viktoroch and further east, but were repulsed with heavy losses. In the Lubne-Studene region another German attack was repulsed and 1,400 prisoners and three machine guns were captured.

In the Carpathians, at Wyszok pass, the Germans have delivered a series of impetuous assaults, pushing forward in the direction of the main Russian positions commanding the pass. They were finally checked by a series of bayonet charges, one entire battalion being either killed or taken prisoner.

AUSTRIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] VIENNA, Feb. 18.—The war office today claims a distinct success over the Russians. It is stated that after two days of fierce fighting, the Russians have been driven from Kolomea and that the city is now in the possession of Austrians. The Preuth bridge was captured by a brilliant bayonet charge just as the Russians were attempting to place dynamite in position to destroy it. More than 2,000 prisoners and several cannon and machine guns were captured.

In the Carpathians, the battle for control of Wyszok pass continues with unabated ferocity. The Austrians have made slight gains at several points and they have taken 4,040 prisoners.

GOOD BYE JOHN TO IOWA SALOONS

Clarkson Bill Repealing the Mulct Law Was Passed by the House This Morning

CLOSE J. CLARK'S FIRST SIGNATURE

All That Remains Now to Make the State Dry, is for Governor Clarke to Add His Signature.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] DES MOINES, Iowa, Feb. 18.—After two hours debate, the house at noon voted 77 to 28 passing the Clarkson bill repealing the mulct law. It now goes to the governor for signature and if he signs it, all Iowa saloons must close January 1, 1916.

How They Voted.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Feb. 18.—By a vote of 79 to 29 the Iowa house today passed the Clarkson bill to repeal the mulct law, effective January 1, 1916, the senate having passed the bill last week. The final vote came only after a two hours battle during which the forced sixteen roll calls and did their best to delay action, force an amendment which would insure another senate vote or tangle up the dyes with a parliamentary ruse.

Some of the amendments were in the nature of amending the present mulct law; others sought to extend the limit of operation from January 1, next, to 1919, and still other moves were to get the Clarkson bill laid on the table with an amendment which the dyes did not like.

There was a crowd in the gallery to listen to the oratory, and cheers when the final vote was announced. Here it is:

Ayes—Anderson, of Davis; Anderson, of Greene; Anderson, of Montgomery; Anderson, of Winnebago; Atkinson, Ball, Barry, Bauman, Bingham, Brady, Brammer, Bruce, Buxton, Clark, Coast, Cochran, Craven, Crozier, Darrah, Dore, Durant, Eggleston, Elwood, Freeman, Garton, Gilbert, Gilwood, Grason, Gray, Greene, Hadley, Hall, Jesson, Johnson, of Hamlet, Johnston, of Lucas; Jones, of Cerro Gordo; Jones, of Dickinson; Kepple, Kopp, Lee, Lenockker, McFarlane, McFerran, Mackie, Moore, Munro, Murray, Neff, Nicholson, Nordyke, Pitt, Purdy, Rayburn, Rees, Rowe, Richards, King, Roberts, Rone, Rowles, Schmedika, Shaeffer, Shortess, Slaughter, Smith, Stone, Sullivan, Swain, Taylor, Thompson, Turner, Wayman, Wensterand, Wydahl, Wilson, of Cherokee; Wilson, of Louisa; Wilson, of Mahaska; Wilson, of Mitchell; and Withauer—79.

Nays—Baldy, Becker, Bronson, Conkley, Griffin, Hale, Helms, Herman, Holbert, Hotchem, Ingwersen, Jamison, Kane, Kelso, Kimberly, Luedes, Klinker, McDermid, Michael, Miller, Oldenburg, Peterson, Rogers, Sawyer, Spitz, Steelsmith, Stokes, Swenson and Tucker—29.

Waterloo Postoffice.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The post office department announced today the reorganization of the Waterloo, Iowa, postoffice under the two division plan with D. L. Corson as superintendent or mails.

Scholar Was Hazed.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] ERIE, Penna., Feb. 18.—Arrests of a number of pupils of Burns school, who cruelly hazed Charles Anderson, were promised by the police today. The boy was found by his school teacher, bound and underneath an overturned piano box. His wrists and ankles were lacerated by the ropes.

ENGLAND

[By Ed L. Keen, United Press Correspondent.] LONDON, Feb. 18.—"Der Tag" dawned cold, wet and gloomy throughout the British Isles. A driving rain swept over the various harbors and checked outside dock labor, but there was no halting of any sailings anywhere. British imperturbability was utterly unaffected by the inauguration of the German submarine blockade. Englishmen told each other that there would be losses, but they will be received as "all in the game" and there is the most supreme confidence that the British navy will prevent any interference with the big liners or the food ships.

There is a minority of Britishers who believe that the entire affair is a gigantic bluff and that Germany will do no more in the future than she has in the past with her submarines.

Private advices from Berlin from really dependable sources declare that Germany has not less than 100 submarines available for service in the war zone. Ever since last August the public and private yards have been working day and night adding to the submarine flotilla. All of the new craft are of the fleet type with capacity of remaining away from the base for three or four weeks at a time and equipped for phenomenal long trips. These vessels are expected to operate off the Irish coast and at the entrance to the channel.

Typical indication of the light heartedness of the average British clubman was the betting in the clubs last night where many wagers were laid at three to one that not a single merchantman would be sunk before midnight tonight.

There has been absolutely no interruption of channel service or general coastwise shipping. Passenger service to and from Holland has been temporarily suspended because companies did not care to assume responsibility for the safety of anything but their own crews. The freight sailings will continue four times a week as usual.

All navigable waters about the British Isles are today being patrolled by the greatest fleet of war craft that was ever placed in active service. The complete destroyer and torpedo boat flotilla, augmented by heavily armed merchantmen and hundreds of trawlers and mine sweepers are steaming to and fro along the shipping lanes watching for the top of a periscope to appear above the water. Substantial rewards have been offered by the various shipping associations to officers and crews of merchant ships or trawlers not in government service that sink submarines. Many of the trawlers have had their bows reinforced in order that they may ram a hostile submarine on sight.

A great French patrol is also on duty along the French coast. All coast towns are under control of the military and unusual precautions are being taken because it is believed either an aerial raid, or invasion may be among possibilities of German action.

The only instances of sailors funking on account of German threats, was when five members of the crew of the steamer Lapwing refused to sail for Amsterdam unless the captain agreed to raise their wages and pay their widows each 250 pounds. The captain had them arrested and in police court each was fined fifteen shillings.

A competent naval authority in discussing the blockade told the United Press that it would require not less than 400 submarines on constant duty to make the blockade effective.

FRANCE

[By Henry Wood, United Press Staff Correspondent.] PARIS, Feb. 18.—Thousands of French soldiers are hopeless cripples today, whose limbs might have been saved had the doctors known what to do for them. This fact was emphasized in an order issued today which amends the military regulation concerning the care of troops in the field. Hereafter it is made compulsory that each French soldier shall remove his shoes and socks for not less than fifteen minutes twice in every twenty-four hours. Failure to do so will involve severe punishment. Since the opening of the winter campaign one of the most terrible results of the war has been the thousands of men turned back with "frozen feet." In nearly every instance gangrene has set in and amputation was necessary.

Dr. Temoin of Bourges, who treated many of these cases was struck by certain cases. He could not understand that only the feet were frozen, and hands, ears and noses untouched. So he investigated. He discovered what had taken place was checking of blood circulation in the feet. Men in the trenches have had to stand in their shoes, puttees or stockings. The water makes all of them contract. The water increases the circulation becomes slower and slower. At last it stops

(Continued on page 2.)

PFANSCHMIDT NOT GUILTY IS VERDICT OF THE JURY

Accused of Murder of Four People, He Has Been Acquitted on Three of the Charges Against Him.

MAY DISMISS THE LAST COUNT

One of the Most Sensational Crimes in Western Illinois Was Laid at His Door and Three Trials Were Held.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PRINCETON, Ill., Feb. 18.—Ray Pfanschmidt, young Quincy, Illinois, a school teacher who boarded at the Pfanschmidt home at Quincy, by a jury that returned a verdict at 9:30 this morning after deliberating from six o'clock yesterday evening, was acquitted on three counts, on the charge of quadruple murder against young Pfanschmidt, which has been one of the most sensational crime cases in the history of western Illinois. The bodies of the Pfanschmidt family and Miss Kaempfen were found buried in the Pfanschmidt home over two years ago. A charge of murder of the boy's mother was nolleed. Pfanschmidt was convicted at Quincy on the charge of murdering his stepmother, Blanche, but on a reversal by the supreme court and retrial at Macomb a verdict of not guilty was returned.

On Monday the court will take up the charge of the murder of the father. In view of the two acquittals, it is possible that a motion to dismiss will be made and allowed. It is not thought that any new evidence can be presented.

During most of the night the jury in the case stood 9 to 3 for acquittal. The minority were won over this morning.

Few persons were in the court room when the verdict was read. Little interest was manifested in the conclusion of the case. A few friends shook hands with Ray and the little crowd filed out.

Pfanschmidt himself was apparently the least affected of all the characters in the trial. He maintained the same stolid unconcern which he has borne in prison and court room. He appeared to take no interest in the arrangements for trial on the remaining charge.

The end of the third famous murder trial came at 5:50 o'clock, with the reading of instructions by Judge Joe A. Davis. The twelve men whose hands rested the fate of Ray Pfanschmidt went to supper and returned to the court house shortly before 7 o'clock to review the evidence.

Bailiffs closely guarded the doors to the jury room and the outcome of the first ballots is unknown. That a disagreement between the twelve men as to the innocence or guilt of the prisoner was the prevailing opinion was

known when Attorney O'Harra finished his argument at 4:30 o'clock.

People crowded about the court house and sat in the court room until the instructions came that the twelve men would sleep over the case and attempt to reach some form of a finding in the morning. The crowds slowly filed away and the majority voiced opinion that a disagreement between the jurors would be the result.

The instructions by Judge Davis were not as lengthy as expected. He finished reading them in a little more than an hour. The court disregarded many of the instructions handed him by the prosecution and counsel for the defense.

Judge Davis carefully examined the papers which have been in his possession since last Monday. On Saturday he notified the attorneys that the charges must be handed him by that time.

Attorney O'Harra made a wonderful closing address for the prosecution. His talk compared favorably with the eloquent plea by Attorney Emery Lancaster and the ticking of the clock was easily heard through the afternoon as the Carthage barrister unfolded to the twelve his reasons why Ray Pfanschmidt is guilty of the heinous crime that snuffed out four lives.

A strange fact about the argument by Attorney O'Harra was his failure to refer to the penalty in the case. Not once did he mention the imposition of death or a term in the penitentiary but confined his closing remarks to the asking of a conviction.

Attorney Wolfe and Attorney Eckert asked for the extreme penalty but Attorney O'Harra by his long experience as a lawyer, probably knew that death on the evidence introduced was out of the question.

Meningitis in Navy.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Feb. 18.—In the house of commons this afternoon Under-Secretary of the Admiralty, McNamara announced that there have been fifteen cases of meningitis at the naval brigade's training quarters in Crystal Palace, of which eight have proven fatal.

Muscantine Bridge.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—A Mississippi bridge at Muscatine, Iowa, was authorized by the senate this afternoon.

What the War Moves Mean

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

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—(11 a. m.)—Fifty German submarines at most, begin today the impossible task of trying to blockade the coast line of the British Isles, which measures about 2,000 miles. This gives a maximum of one submarine for every forty miles of water, but even then only for a very brief time, since under-sea boats must return to their bases frequently for new fuel or more torpedoes. There is no evidence that any country has succeeded in establishing supply bases for submarines on the ocean. As far as known no navy has submarines capable of being opened with safety below the surface. Otherwise submarine crews could rescue themselves by bobbing to the surface in case of accident. Germany's submarines cannot keep the sea for a considerable period unless they remain inactive and their offensive power thus lessened by their necessarily frequent return home.

If, therefore, Germany has as many as fifty submarines ready for action in the new war zone, this number must be cut in half as far as continuous activity is concerned. One half will be refitting at Cuxhaven, or another base, while the second half of the flotilla is making war on merchantmen. Instead of a submarine to each forty miles of British coastal waters,

the proportion is reduced in reality to one in eighty miles—and this upon the most favorable estimate of Germany's under sea strength.

Eighty miles is about the distance from New York to Atlantic City. A single submarine could not maintain a blockade of the Jersey coast; between those points ten submarines might attempt it with some theoretical prospect of success. On this basis Germany in theory might hope to blockade the British Isles if she possessed 500 instead of a possible fifty submarines.

But, this is only theoretically true, for the more submarines there are, the easier becomes defense against them. The most effective part of a submarine's offensive is the element of concealment and surprise. Long before the number of blockading submarines reached 500, their whereabouts would be accurately known to the defending nation and many of them would be destroyed. Experience has not yet demonstrated the maximum strength of a submarine flotilla that can operate in a given area without endangering its own concealment; but the number is strictly limited and this fact, coupled with the extreme vulnerability of submarines, makes it impossible that the present type of under sea boat will ever be able to maintain an effective blockade.

(Continued on page 2.)

(Continued on page 2.)