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The Daily Gate City.

THE WEATHER
Probably showers. Warmer.
Local temp—7 p. m. 76; 7 a. m. 6.

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KEOKUK, IOWA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, '15

EIGHT PAGES

AUSTRO-GERMANS ENTER LEMBERG

ROCKED BY EARTHQUAKE DURING THE EVENING

Some Loss of Life Reported in California and Mexico When Ground Quivered and Houses Topped Over.

FIRES STARTED IN THE WRECKAGE

Two Distinct Shocks Were Recorded on the Instruments in Washington, Caused by the Sliding of Strata.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] EL CENTRO, Calif., June 23.—Looters are reported to have been shot down in Mexicali, also, but last night's earthquake is believed to have caused loss of life there, according to refugees arriving here today.

Scores of persons slightly injured in Imperial valley towns but rumored large loss of life has not been confirmed. Bed wires caused many fires here in Brawley, Calexico and Impe but they were quickly extinguished. After the hour of terror from nine o'clock, hundreds, fearing re-entrer their homes, slept on the streets. Miraculous escape from wholesale deaths were reported today. Falling walls from the Brites Savins bank building, shattered. Baidridge's drug store, wrecked at the time. A few persons slightly injured.

The Masonic temple here was split through the middle, did not collapse, and the occupants of the structure escaped in safety. Numerous brick buildings in the valley were wrecked by the three shocks noted here with a noticeable circular motion spraying the bricks and debris in all directions. Remarkably few persons on the streets were hit.

While lightning pl throughout the district were put of commission, a bright moon side relief and salvage work, which an immediately after the tremors ended.

The property loss the quake district was estimated \$250,000. Irrigation systems not seriously damaged. A mob of contraband Chinamen detained. Mexican disappeared after earthquake and may have escaped to the United States.

Recorded in Washington. WASHINGTON, June 23.—The seismograph in the Gettown observatory here registered about midnight, two distinct earth shocks. The first began at 11:12 and lasted until 11:27, and the second from 12:12 until 12:25.

It is stated that these were the earthquakes that reported to have caused much damage California. The shocks were described at the observatory as "over strong." They were of abnormal intensity. The sliding of strata was given as the undoubted reason for the tremors.

Tremors Tomorrow. EL CENTRO, June 23.—Additional tremors were felt this morning, but no new damage done. The damage done property hereabouts by last night's shocks is conservatively estimated at \$1,000,000. The loss of life in Mexicali is not

positively confirmed but the town was almost completely destroyed and fatalities were numerous, it is believed here. Work of clearing the wreckage in Mexicali and searching for dead bodies began this morning.

Wires Are Down. LOS ANGELES, Calif., June 23.—Meagre telephone advices today reported that probably a score of persons were killed in earth-quake tremors that last night shook the Imperial Valley neighborhood.

Nearly all wires are down. Meagre reports say the greatest loss was at El Centro, Calif., where a dozen or more buildings were shaken down and fires started.

Mexicali, Mexico, just across the International line also reported great damage and probably loss of life. The military authorities have taken charge of Mexican cities and no estimate is as yet obtainable of the exact losses there.

In El Centro it was reported that twelve persons are missing. A number of fires were started by the earthquake.

Calexico, Calif., is patrolled by United States troops. Many walls fell and fires broke out in several places. Fifteen persons are reported missing, but may be among the hundreds on both sides of the Mexican border who fled from their tumbling abodes after about 8 o'clock until shortly before nine.

At the first tremor the people in the valley towns rushed into the streets. Lighting plants were almost instantly put out of commission and the inhabitants were forced to flee in darkness to open places where they camped during the night. In El Centro, police immediately took charge of the situation. Sidewalks were roped off to prevent accidents, when walls were rendered shaky. Mounted armed guards protected property from

Thirteen Mexicans Killed. EL CENTRO, Calif., June 23.—Thirteen dead at Mexicali, Mexico, and heavy property damage throughout the Imperial valley were the reported results of last night's earthquake. Fifteen persons are reported missing, but may be among the hundreds on both sides of the Mexican border who fled from their tumbling abodes after about 8 o'clock until shortly before nine.

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ington administration would approve any promising plan of this kind. Four Plotters. NEW YORK, June 23.—Four men, who a few years ago, were the central figures around whom waged the battles of revolution-ridden Mexico, are holding daily conferences in New York, it became known today. They are Gen. Victoriano Huerta, deposed dictator of Mexico; Gen. Felix Diaz, who led the coup that overthrew Madero; Gen. Aurelio Blanquet who is remembered as the executioner of Emperor Maximilian and who deserted Madero at a critical moment, and Gen. Manuel Mondragon, famous artilleryist and chief lieutenant of Felix Diaz in the overthrow of Madero.

The War in Mexico

Latest Developments Among Our Revolutionary Neighbors of the South.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, June 23.—Mexican leaders all had been warned today that foreigners' lives and property, especially in Mex City, must be respected. The warning followed news of threatened street fighting in the capital. Communications being cut, it was known whether Carranzistas had applied the city. The Sonora situation seemed improved. The Vill commander at Guaymas had undertaken to get for signs out of that valley. It was hoped an American landing would be unopposed. Leading Mexican and in Cuba continued efforts led the factions together. It was fitted the Wash-

GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville, L. I.), June 23.—The German Zeppelin raid on the British northeast coast on the night of June 15 destroyed the navy yard arsenal at South Shields and caused enormous losses by fire, according to the officers of the Swedish steamer Iotum which has arrived at Stavanger.

Many bombs were dropped on the Armstrong gun works, near New Castle, the steamer's officers reported, and seventeen persons were killed and forty injured.

TAX ON UNMARRIED. AMSTERDAM, June 23.—A bachelor and spinster tax, graduated according to age, has been imposed in a number of Austrian and German villages to meet deficits caused by the war. Young bachelors and spinsters under thirty are lightly taxed, but in some instances those over 40 years of age are forced to pay \$250.

ENTHUSIASM OVER VICTORY. BERLIN, June 23.—Reliable reports that Lemberg had fallen reached Berlin late last night though they were not confirmed until today. The news was spread by newspaper extras, and by telephone and by ringing church bells all over the city. Great throngs crowded the public squares and parks, flags were hung out and bands paraded the streets. Everywhere the capture of Lemberg is regarded as an important step toward a final victory.

According to the correspondent of (Continued on page 2.)

ITALY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] ROME, June 23.—Austrian regiments from Galicia have been hurried to the defense of the Austrian frontier. General Cadorna reported to the war office here today. Several battalions of Galician mountaineers from the Carpathian region attacked the Italian Alpini, near Monte Nero. Though outnumbered, a single battalion of Alpini repulsed the attack and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. Desultory infantry attacks against the Italian positions north of Gorizia are of daily occurrence.

"We have consolidated our positions (Continued on page 2.)

FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PARIS, June 23.—Continuing their advance into Alsace, French troops have occupied Sondernach, on the east bank of the river Foch, two miles southeast of Metzeral.

Terrific battles are being waged at several points along the battle line reaching from the sea coast to the Swiss frontier. In the western Argonne, the French have rushed and captured another German trench. Near Lintrey, the Germans hurled thousands of shells in an attempt to wreck newly captured French positions, but the attack failed.

In the Vosges around La Fontenelles, the Germans have launched a violent offensive. Superior German forces temporarily occupied 200 yards of French trenches. A quick counter-attack drove the enemy out of most of the new ground.

North of Arras the most desperate fighting of the past twelve hours has occurred. East of the "labyrinth," the Germans were driven off.

ENGLAND

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, June 23.—The British steamer Belgrave has been torpedoed off the coast of Pembrokeshire and it is believed her crew has been lost. The ship was towed into Broadhaven today, bottom up.

VICTORIA CROSSES. LONDON, June 23.—Victoria crosses were today awarded to Captain Francis Springer of the Fourteenth battalion of the Canadian Royal Army medical corps, of the Royal Montreal regiment; to Color Sergeant Fredk. Wm. Hall of the Eighth Canadian battalion, and to Lance Corporal Fredk. Fisher of the Thirteenth Canadian battalion.

GERMAN ANSWER PARTLY WRITTEN

Will Be Finished and Sent Here by the L. I. Part of week

ENGLAND IS NERVOUS Great Britain Announces That Hereafter She Will Be the Boss of Shipping to Holland

[By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, June 23.—Germany's reply to the United States has been partly completed, Ambassador Gerard has advised President Wilson. He indicated the answer will not be forwarded before the latter part of next week, if present plans are adhered to. Consequently, President Wilson, who will leave here tonight for Cornish, N. H., via Rosslyn, Long Island, will not return until July 6, and the answer is not expected to receive official consideration before July 7, when the president will hold his first cabinet meeting after his brief vacation.

Simultaneously with the report that the German reply can be expected to be very conciliatory, come disquieting developments in connection with the British-French interference with American trade. Captain Pretyman's announcement in the house of commons yesterday that the government plans practically to take charge of Holland's commerce by prohibiting shipments from entering that nation unless consigned to The Netherlands Overseas Trust, amazed officials here. It is believed to foreshadow the holding up of all cargoes from this country, a neutral nation, to Holland, another neutral nation, as a matter of right by Great Britain, that nation only permitting such goods to pass through as suits the plans of those directing her war policy.

The administration had not anticipated any further action by Great Britain that would complicate the relations between the two countries. The British embassy here has been advised of the pressure on the administration to demand promptly of the latter's order in council. Hopes were expressed that England's new coalition cabinet would appreciate the administration's position.

President Wilson will consider all of the data showing how American trade is dependent on the British admiralty's whim, possibly while at Cornish. It is certain that the administration is being urged strongly to send to England a note with "teeth in it"—one at least as decisive as those to Germany.

President's Vacation. [By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, June 23.—Elaborate (Continued on page 2.)

AUSTRIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] VIENNA, June 23.—Lemberg has fallen before the triumphant sweep of the combined Austro-German armies. The Galician capital, occupied by the Russians since September 3, 1914, is now free of the enemy and the first Austrian troops have entered the town. The Slavs are falling back in a northeasterly direction toward Brody.

A brief bulletin was flashed here from Austrian field headquarters today. It indicated a desperate struggle at Oleska on Sunday and a few miles west of the town.

"Our second army has conquered Lemberg after a violent fight," read the official bulletin. Though no details of the victory have been received here, it is not believed the Austro-German booty will be large. Reports to headquarters indicated that the enemy withdrew heavy guns and ammunition supplies several days ago, and movement of the main body of Russian troops over the railway to Brody began early in the week. In the final charge at the western gates of Lemberg, it is probable that the small body of Russian defenders were either annihilated or captured, as was the case at Przemyel.

Capture of Lemberg deprives the Russians of their last military base in Galicia. Several railroads center from the town. The important lines were in the hands of the Austro-Germans before the city fell.

The moral effect of the recapture of the city overshadows the military victory. The capital of a great Austrian province has been reclaimed from the enemy; the Russian grip upon Galicia has been loosened if not entirely shaken, and the people of Austria have been raised to the high pitch of enthusiasm over Austro-German successes.

The Russians, it is believed here, will fall back more than twenty miles, making their next stand near Busk, between the branches of the Bug and Styr rivers. There is every reason to believe that the Austro-German pursuit will continue to the Galician border if not into Russian territory. Headquarters' plans, it is understood, contemplate driving the last Russian out of Galicia, and an invasion of Russian Bessarabia on the southeast.

REPORT CONFIRMED. VIENNA, (via Berlin wireless), June 23.—The war office today confirmed (Continued on page 2.)

TURKEY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CAIRO, June 23.—Thirteen hundred Turks were killed in an all day fight for a Turkish position at the Daranelles on June 19, an official bulletin stated today. The allied troops rushed the Turkish trenches and drove the enemy out, despite a heavy bombardment from Turkish guns.

RUSSIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PETROGRAD, June 23.—The Russians have begun evacuating Lemberg. The withdrawal of troops began Monday night and continued throughout yesterday. Less than 40,000 men were defending the western approaches against fierce Austrian attacks early yesterday and it is possible that this force has retired eastward, leaving the Galician capital free to the enemy.

Official circles accepted the retirement before the enemy's artillery onslaught as necessary to the carrying out of the grand duke's strategic plans and made the point that the city itself was of little military value. An official statement issued today touched only lightly on the situation at Lemberg, but dwelt on Russian victories on both flanks of the combined Austro-German armies.

In southeast Galicia, along the front from Stanislaw to north of Czernowitz, the Russian left wing inflicted two severe defeats on the Austro-Germans, taking 4,500 Germans and large quantities of ammunition, the official statement said.

"Below Nisanof, fifteen miles north-east of Stanislaw, our forces at daybreak on Monday defeated an enemy force that crossed the Dniester on June 15," reported the war office. "We stormed and captured a series of fortified positions at Snowidow, though the enemy offered desperate resistance. We took 3,500 prisoners and numerous machine guns. The enemy retreated in disorder across the Dniester, pursued by our cosaks."

"The enemy is also retreating along the Zaleszczyki front. We crossed the right bank of the river at this point, capturing the villages of Balamouty, Rzhawensky and Grometki and taking 1,000 prisoners, including the commander of the forty-second Honved division. At this point also we took many machine guns.

"The artillery and rifle duel around Lemberg continues. Northwest of Lemberg our forces who retired beyond the river banks, suddenly crossed the river at Oleska on Sunday and annihilated a battalion of the enemy. Along the Rava Rucka front several enemy attacks were repulsed Monday night. Our forces took 850 prisoners and three machine guns.

"In the Shavli region we captured and destroyed an enemy ammunition transport."

BALKANS

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] ROME, June 23.—The newspaper Tribuna, commenting today on the Balkan situation, proposed that Greece, Bulgaria, Roumania and Serbia send representatives to Rome to confer with representatives of the allies. Such a conference, the Tribuna said, would quickly remove all obstacles now preventing Greece, Bulgaria and Roumania from entering the war on the side of the allies.

ADVANCING ON SCUTARI. ROME, June 23.—Three columns of Montenegrin troops are advancing on Scutari, principal city of Albania, according to the Giornale d'Italia, and are meeting with little resistance.

GERMANY

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According to the correspondent of (Continued on page 2.)

BLUE BEARD'S BATH TUB AS CASKET FOR HIS BRIDES

George Joseph Smith is on Trial Charged With Drowning Three of His Six Wives Within a Few Years.

LIFE INSURANCE AS THE TEMPTATION

It Was Always But a Few Days After the Will Had Been Signed in His Favor, That Wife Was Dead.

[By Wilbur S. Forrest, United Press Staff Correspondent.] LONDON, June 23.—The crown offered its first witnesses today in the trial of the famous "bride's bath tub" murder case. George Joseph Smith, charged with drowning three of his wives in a bath tub, sat upright in the dock and scowled when Herbert Mundy, uncle of his first alleged victim, took the witness box to testify.

Beatrice Mundy, the witness testified, inherited \$10,000 by the will of her father, a bank manager. She met Smith, who posed as Henry Williams, and married him after a three-day courtship at Weymouth, August 25, 1910.

Over her relatives' protests, she gave him \$500 in gold. Smith then deserted her, the witness said, but two years afterward the two met accidentally at Weston-Super-Mare. Two months later she made a will, leaving him the balance of her \$10,000 fortune, Mundy said.

The will was signed on July 8. On the morning of July 15 the nude body of Beatrice Mundy was found in the bath tub of a rooming house. Smith, the witness said, collected the money due him under the provisions of the will.

Smith's Six Wives. [By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, June 23.—The crown offered its first witnesses today in the trial of the famous "bride's bath tub" murder case. George Joseph Smith, charged with drowning three of his wives in a bath tub, sat upright in the dock and scowled when Herbert Mundy, uncle of his first alleged victim, took the witness box to testify.

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Wife No. 6—1914—On Dec. 17, as John Lloyd Smith married Margaret Elizabeth Lofly. She made out her will to him and on Dec. 18 she died in a bathtub. Arrested as result of trying to collect \$3,500.

It was in 1898 that George Joseph Smith was first married. Why he cheated Caroline B. Thronhill, at Leicester, and told her his name was George Oliver Love, no one knows. However, it was better to be cheated than to be murdered. Mrs. Caroline Thronhill Smith, the only woman of the six who is entitled to bear the sinister name of George Joseph Smith, is now on her way to London from Canada, and will testify in the coming trial. Ten years later Smith met Edith Mabel Pegler at Bristol. He made a whirlwind courtship. Women always, it seems, gave in to him; their wills were as nothing in his hands. The trial will show that he was always able to make them say his words and even to think his thoughts.

Within a very short time they were married, on July 30, 1898. He was dealing then in antique furniture. The pair traveled much, from city to city, in his quest for antique furniture. They spent two industrious years in this way and then came back to Miss Pegler's home at Bristol, in 1910. There he left Miss Pegler and went to Weymouth.

It was the fate of Beatrice Mundy, daughter of a bank manager, to meet Smith at Weymouth. She was living on the interest of \$12,500 which had been left her by her mother.

She loved hotel life and wandered from place to place in England. Within three days after their meeting, they were married, as the woman thought. Within a few days more Smith began to try to get the \$12,500. The relatives fought him and Smith gave up. He took \$500 in gold from the woman and left her. Her relatives found her senseless, and took her home, but George Joseph Smith had not gone out of her life. The time was coming when she would again succumb to his woman compelling will, forgive him—and die in a bathtub.

Straight to the Pegler woman he went. He paid off a \$400 mortgage on the house in which the Pegler woman lived.

(Continued on page 7.)

What the War Moves Mean

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

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, June 23.—(11 a. m.)—The fall of Lemberg practically concludes the German operations in Galicia. The Russians must now fall back on their own border, while the Austro-Hungarian province, which was to be annexed to the czar's empire after the war, is returned to its former possessors. The series of defeats the Russians have suffered since the German drive began eight weeks ago, are among the most damaging of the war, not only because they take from the Slavs their only conquered territory, but also because they reveal both a moral and military disintegration in the Russian army.

The Russians probably will not again resume a serious offensive unaided. If Roumania keeps out of the war and if the western allies continue unable to compel the teutons to deplete their eastern defenses, it is difficult to see how Russia can recover her military vigor. The Slavs have shown no aptitude for a sustained offensive at any time since the war began. Their defensive qualities were admirable until the Galician operations began, but now they have lost even this power, under stress of a

strong attack. Unless, therefore, Russia is assisted to her feet, her future importance in the war will constantly diminish. Russia, in fact, is the first of the belligerents to be beaten. The shortage of ammunition which is said to prevail among the Slavs does not account by itself for the extent of the Russian collapse. Other causes are at least partly responsible for defeat. Probably foremost is Russia's low degree of organizing skill and absence of foresight. After having won Galicia, the Russians did not prepare proper defensive positions, such as the Germans, French and English have constructed in the west. When the German drive began, therefore the Russians were caught unprepared.

It is highly probable that the morale of the Russian troops has degenerated and that the best-fighting units were killed earlier in the war. The enormous number of prisoners captured by the teutons during the Galician drive, seems to substantiate this conclusion. Three factors, therefore, apparently have contributed to Russia's defeat—moderate insufficiency of ammunition, scarcity of prepared defenses and low fighting quality of the new troops with the colors.