

## ITALY SATISFIED WITH YEAR'S WAR

Rome, July 1.—Letter to the Freeman-Tribune From John H. Hearly, United States Correspondent: Italy today is fully satisfied with the results of the first year of the Austro-Italian war.

The once strongly fortified Austrian mountain line from Giudicarie to Monfalcone practically is all in her hands. Only a small section of Italian territory in the neighborhood of Sette Comuni has been taken.

The history of Italy's war on land reads like fiction. When the European strife began, the Italian kingdom was unprepared. The standing army of 280,000 was disorganized and unequipped. Big and petty politics were dangerously mixed in it. The country's finances were in a bad way.

Italy's military house had to be put in order. All eyes turned to Luigi Cadorna, chief of the general staff. His father before him had led the Italians into Rome in 1870. Like him, he is a quiet man of few words and big deeds. Cadorna in twelve months worked wonders. The army was increased to more than 1,500,000, trained and equipped for all kinds of warfare. The hum of munition and gun-making machinery was heard through the land.

The enemy, it was believed, would attempt to enter the country through the Trentino in the west and the Isonzo in the east. The Italian campaign was planned to retake Trent and Trieste, lock these two gates against invasion and press on possibly to Vienna. The meeting of two Austrian armies on the historic plains of Lombardy for a possible conquest of Italy had to be prevented. The great battle Napoleon had fought on Lombardian soil had taught its lessons.

Cadorna and his intimate associate, General Porro, laid their preliminary plans well. Both knew the tricky mountainous frontier of Austria, with its natural defenses and fortifications, perfectly. Disguised as beggars, they are said often to have studied every nook and cranny of the hostile border.

Four fronts with 14 zones were established, the Trentino, Dolomite, Carnia and Isonzo. At the very beginning of hostilities the right bank of the Isonzo, excepting the bridgeheads of Gorizia and Tolmine, fell before the Italian arms followed by the capture of Monte Nero and Plava. These things took less than a month.

During July and August the invasion of Austrian territory continued. Extensive inroads on enemy soil were made, especially in the Carso and Trentino. By October the Isonzo front was blood-soaked. The fighting about Gorizia, the key to Trieste, grew heavy early this year. March and April crowned the Italian offensive with the capture of Col di Lana. The Austrians in May delivered their first big offensive. A fierce onslaught was made on Monfalcone which fell, but later was retaken.

Meanwhile on a fifty-mile front in the Trentino 400,000 Austrians and immense quantities of ammunition were concentrated. Then came the tremendous attempt to open the way to Venetia. Thousands of Italians were mowed down. For the first time in the war the enemy set foot on Italian soil and about 500 square kilometers of territory was occupied. It was mountainous country dotted with Alpine hamlets. The Italians still held about 4,000 square kilometers of enemy soil, including the fertile plains of Monfalcone and important villages.

The Italians then began to rush back the enemy, slow up-hill work. Meanwhile General Brusati was openly charged with responsibility for the Austrian invasion and deprived of his command for "neglect of duty." This invasion cost the Italians 20,000 in prisoners and almost as many in killed and wounded. Austrian losses were heavy too. The initiation of the Russian offensive in early June relieved the pressure on the Italian front.

By then, Italy's army had grown to almost 4,000,000 men and plans for adding a million more were made. The Italian campaign has taken a tremendous toll in dead and wounded because in the beginning Victor's forces were deposited in unfortified valleys while the Austrians were strongly entrenched on the overlooking mountains. Uphill fighting had to be waged for many months before it was equalized.

The Alpinists have been the heroes of Italy's war. Their catlike agility is marvelous. They have been forced oftentimes to climb sheer walls of mountains, pulling up men and cannon behind them to begin the slow process of fortification. Trenches had to be tunneled in the

rock or hewn in solid ice. Moving glaciers and avalanches added to the dangers as also did heavy snows and bitter cold. Alpine warfare developed many innovations in military science. Like giants throwing huge snowballs, one army hurled avalanches at the other. Mountain hamlets and hundreds of combatants and non-combatants were wiped out by this picturesque arm of war. Specially made smoked glasses had to be worn by the soldiers as a protection against snow-blindness. Freezing weather warmed the invention of extremely warm but light clothing for the military.

The spirit of the Italian army is fine. Unofficial estimates place the Austrian losses at approximately 450,000, about 80,000 of which are said to be in killed. Austrian prisoners are rumored to be near the 100,000 mark. These enemy damages, it is asserted, are not counter-balanced by the Italian casualties. The presence of the King in the field is an inspiration to the fighters.

## THREE DROWN IN WHIRLPOOL

Dayton, Ia., July 31.—While wading across the Des Moines river near here yesterday afternoon, three men were caught in a whirlpool and before aid could be given they were drowned.

The dead are: Peter Sternholm, 40 years old, of Gowrie, Ia.

Constans Anderson, 25 years old, of Gowrie.

Albert Swan, 25 years old, 1421 Mattern avenue, Des Moines.

The dead man and their families and other relatives were at a camping ground on the river bank, holding a family reunion. The party, over a dozen in number, had come from Des Moines and other points for a day of recreation. The victims are brothers-in-law.

After the picnic dinner had been eaten, it was proposed by one of the men that they should go swimming. Investigation showed that at that point the river was exceedingly shallow.

For about half an hour the men swam in the shallow water. Suddenly one of the party proposed that they should go across the river where the stream was deeper.

They had hardly reached the middle of the stream when Sternholm was caught under the swirling waters. Then the two other men suddenly lost their foothold.

Siegfried Anderson, another of the party, was caught in the current but was able to get out of the water. The three victims were swept down the stream and failed to reappear. Aid was summoned immediately, but up to a late hour last night the bodies had not been recovered.

**National Guard on Trial.**  
Des Moines Capital: Already the topic of discussion among the friends and relatives of the members of the national guard is, when will the troops be ordered home?

Major General O'Ryan of the New York, predicts that his men will eat their Christmas dinner among the cactus. The war department at Washington has intimated that units made up of college students will be sent home September 1, so that they may continue with their school work. The department has given no hint as to when the border patrol, so far as the guard is concerned, will be lifted.

President Wilson has declared that the guard is not mobilized for drill but that it is defending the country. This is an indication that the administration does not place full confidence in the peace overtures of General Carranza, although on the surface we are treating them as genuine.

There is much grumbling among the guardsmen, according to the stories of some of the correspondents. Undoubtedly there was just cause for complaint over the lack of equipment when the troops first arrived. But after the men are once comfortably encamped, grumbling will come with bad grace. The men who say that they want to fight or go home are not living up to a soldier's ideals. The guard is undergoing a test. The government is learning to what degree of efficiency the guard can be brought after a few weeks of intensive training. It also is studying the morale of the troops when responsibility is placed upon their shoulders.

The government has determined that the best interests of the nation depend upon a strong patrol of the border. The national guard has been delegated to do that patrolling. If it can be done without firing a shot, so much the better. The guard has never had a better opportunity to demonstrate its usefulness.

## THREE DEAD, MANY MISSING IN BIG BLAST

Dozens of Carloads of Ammunition Explode, Shaking Cities for Many Miles About.

LIBERTY STATUE IS DAMAGED

Shrapnel Laden Barges, Afire, Drift A Sea, Carrying Widespread Menace of Death.

Jersey City, N. J., July 31.—Charles Albert Hickman, the Lehigh Valley railroad's agent, and Alexander David, superintendent of the National Storage company's warehouses, were arrested here today charged with gross neglect of duty. Four deaths, twenty-five missing and one hundred and sixteen injured, with property damage estimated from twenty to fifty millions of dollars, resulted from the explosion on Black Tom Island last night.

Washington, July 31.—It is reported that the government was told several days ago that an attempt would be made to blow up the warehouses of the National Storage company. It was claimed that some Irishmen had been employed by German agents to do the job. Just what steps were taken to avert the catastrophe is not known.

Jersey City, July 31.—Three persons are known dead, fifty are missing and sixty are injured, many reported fatally, as a result of the explosion of sixty-nine carloads of ammunition destined for the entente allies and stored on Black Tom Island near Jersey City early yesterday morning.

The loss occasioned to the munition companies and the National Storage company, whose plant was wrecked, is estimated at close to \$25,000,000.

The detonations, which were felt in five states, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, nitro-cellulose and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shells which literally showered the surrounding land and water for many miles around.

Black Tom Island is an area of reclaimed land, which projects into New York bay from the Jersey shore, immediately behind the statue of liberty. Six Lehigh valley railroad piers and the National Storage houses comprising thirty-four three-story brick buildings about a hundred feet deep, were the principal sufferers.

Between \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000 worth of property belonging to these two companies was hurled into the air by the force of the explosions. Thirteen storage warehouses and their entire contents were burned, a dozen barges and their contents burned or blown up and probably three tug boats sunk.

About a million dollars worth of damage was done on Bedloe's island and Ellis island suffered severely. Countless homes and business places running up into the hundreds of thousands were more or less damaged in Jersey City, Hoboken, Manhattan, the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, Bayonne, Staten Island and adjacent cities and towns. Smashed plate glass windows was the principal loss suffered. A conservative estimate of this loss is \$1,500,000.

The origin of the blaze which caused ruin and death has not yet been established. This fire, as nearly as can be established from eye witnesses, began either in a freight car on the "explosive pier," or on a barge moored to the pier, about ten minutes after midnight.

**A Very Peculiar Death.**

One of the missionary bishops of the Methodist church met death in a peculiar way last Tuesday. Bishop William P. Eveland was found dead under a railroad bridge near Mt. Holly Springs, Pennsylvania, and everything pointed toward the explanation that he was electrocuted by his steel fishing rod coming in contact with a high tension electric wire overhead.

Bishop Eveland's work was similar to that of Bishop Johnson, a former local pastor, who last May was elected missionary bishop for Africa. Bishop Eveland was elected to his office in 1912, as missionary bishop for the Philippine Islands.

Paint for everything at Teed's.

## PERSONAL BRIEFS.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

—Mrs. Ada Howland and Mrs. Alfred Isoo of Charles City, mother and sister respectively of Mrs. W. H. Snow of this city, arrived here today for a visit with the Snow family, who reside in the Farmers & Merchants telephone building.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hughes and daughters and visiting relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Garrett and daughters of Norfolk, Neb., left yesterday for Clear Lake to spend a few days at a cottage there.

—Mr. and Mrs. Roy Tubbs leave for Lake City tomorrow to make their home for a time. Mr. Tubbs is employed by W. J. Zitterell.

—Peter Hove and family of Stanhope were in town today, en route to Lake Okoboji for a week's outing. They expect to spend tonight with Mr. Hove's brother, Hans Hove, formerly of Stanhope, now of Winnebago county, and tomorrow will continue their trip to the lake.

—Homer A. Miller, president of one of the Des Moines banks and also one of the directors of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad and a former Webster City boy, is in the city today in company with members of his family, guests at the Dr. F. E. Whitley home, having made the trip overland.

—Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Jones arrived home last night from a month's trip in Connecticut and Massachusetts, having come directly from Plymouth, Mass. J. M. Jones is still in the White Mountains enjoying the cool mountain breezes and will not arrive home for some time.

—Nelson McAninch is home from a three or four days visit with his son and family at Waterloo.

—W. B. and Byard Dodge left yesterday for a visit with relatives in Chicago. W. B. goes to join his wife and baby who have been spending several weeks at the home of Mrs. F. L. Anderson and family.

—Mr. and Mrs. Warren Coladay and daughter, Virginia, of LaPorte, Indiana, are guests at the John R. Kamrar home. Mrs. Coladay was formerly Miss Hallie Smith and both she and Mr. C. are old Webster City residents. Tomorrow morning Mr. and Mrs. Kamrar and their friends will motor to Des Moines in the former's car where the Coladays will spend a week with Mrs. C's mother.

—Mrs. Will F. Smith and the C. D. Hellen and David Eyer families.

—E. D. Petrie arrived here yesterday from a business trip to New York City and will join his wife and daughter in a visit at the Charles and Geo. E. Younkee homes before returning to their home in Salt Lake City.

—Miss Hester Huff returned this morning from a brief visit with Miss Della Shafer at Blairsburg.

—Mrs. H. T. Gath and little son of Jewell were callers here yesterday.

—Miss Minnie Rushia of Jewell was in this city yesterday.

—Miss Selma Christenson of Jewell met Miss May Fredrickson of Alden here yesterday, the latter returning home with Miss Christenson for a few days visit.

—Miss Nancy M. Huston of Columbus Junction, who has been a guest of Miss Agnes Moore, left this morning for Dexter to join her sister in a visit with a friend residing there.

—Miss Kathryn Mason went to Stratford this morning for a visit with her sister, Mrs. S. F. Holaday.

—Miss Josephine Beck, who is enjoying a two weeks vacation from her duties in the LaVogue Style Shop, left this morning for Grinnell to visit friends.

—Mrs. Walter Harris went to Des Moines this morning on a brief business trip.

—Miss Gertrude Riley of Jewell was a visitor here yesterday.

—Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Osborn and little son of Ames spent yesterday here, guests at the J. C. Sterling home.

—Mrs. R. W. DeLa of Jewell spent yesterday in this city.

—Mrs. C. A. Neel and daughter, Wilma, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Neel, the W. A. Neel and Alexander Groves families, returned to their home in Des Moines yesterday afternoon.

—John Sturdevant returned to his home in Lehigh today following a visit with his granddaughter, Mrs. G. H. Maffit and family, 202 Dubuque street.

—Herbert Lund, son of Major and Mrs. F. J. Lund, came down overland this morning from Laurens with his cousins, Harry, Chester and Lyman Lund of that place, the three latter boys going on to Stanhope to visit relatives. Herbert says they have started threshing in that section of country. Herbert is developing into a regular farmer. He will return to Laurens with his cousins next Tuesday.

—Mr. and Mrs. Ole I. Kleaveland of Jewell were in the city last evening

on their way to Madison, Wisconsin, for a visit with friends. Mr. K. says the corn around Jewell is a little better than around Webster City, as they had two good rains there since the fourth of July. He returned a few days ago from southern Minnesota where he owns a farm in Faribault county. They have had good rains up there the past week and crops are looking fine.

—Arthur Chapman, of near Blairsburg, is in town today.

(From Monday's Daily.)

—Mrs. J. W. Dill and father, B. L. Dill, left today for Detroit, Mich., for a six weeks visit with friends and relatives.

—Mrs. Frank T. Sparks left today for Clear Lake where she will be joined by her daughters, the Misses Hazel and Arline Sparks, who have been visiting friends in Buffalo Center. They will be accompanied to the lake by a number of these young ladies and the party will remain for a two weeks vacation.

—Miss Rachel Hale of Blairsburg is in town today.

—Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Petrie and daughter, who have been guests of the Younkee families, left this forenoon for their home in Salt Lake City.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. S. P. Moyer and daughter, Miss Lella, of Ceresco, Neb., who have been visiting Mr. Moyer's sister, Mrs. D. C. DeFrance and the Dan Kimmel, C. J. and W. J. DeFrance families, left this forenoon for a visit with relatives in Lake View.

—Mrs. W. D. Stevens and children, who were called to Cherokee, Okla., about ten days ago by the death of the former's sister, are expected to return home tomorrow.

—The Misses Eleanor Davis and Jessica Fox, both of Williams, are spending the day in this city.

—Enoch W. Olson is a Fort Dodge caller today.

—W. F. Wood of Eldora and Mrs. Nanny Huff of Decatur, Ill., father and aunt of Ray Wood, returned to their homes this noon after having spent a couple of days here.

—Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Mullins and children, who have been visiting in Algona, spent the day here en route to their home in Blairsburg.

—The families of Dr. H. W. Lundell and V. L. Clifton, who have been enjoying a two weeks outing at Pillsbury Point, Lake Okoboji, have returned home.

—Rex Swanson and brother Dean have been enjoying a few days outing at Lake Okoboji and returned home last night.

—Olaf Amosson and daughter of Roland are guests today at the Peter Mathre home en route to their home from Lake Okoboji. They are making the trip overland.

—Harold Mabbott of this city and Ray Wilson of Blairsburg motored to Osceola yesterday where they spent the day visiting friends.

—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Crandall of Des Moines are in the city for a week's visit with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Crandall, and other relatives.

—Mrs. J. McCauliff and Miss Lila McCauliff of Hampton, mother and niece of Dr. G. T. McCauliff, are here for an extended visit.

—Mrs. R. C. Foster will return home today from a week's visit with her daughter, Mrs. Lloyd Lindley and family, at Alpha, Minn.

—Miss Olga Amundson Sundayed at the home of her father, S. Amundson, in Eagle Grove.

—Mrs. Phillip Axtell and little son, of Nashville, Tenn., are here for an extended visit with the former's cousin, Mrs. J. B. deValcourt and husband.

—Mrs. C. D. Gardner of Ft. Dodge is a guest at the Fred B. Downard home. Mr. Gardner also spent a short time here, returning to Fort Dodge yesterday.

—The Misses Ruth Rosenfeld and Leona Srigley and the Messrs. Harold Smock and Roy Daniels, the latter of Kamrar, motored to Clear Lake yesterday in the Daniels automobile. Miss Rosenfeld and Mr. Smock also made a short visit at the home of the latter's uncle, N. F. Christenson, formerly of this city, who lives near Hanlontown.

—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mann and children left early yesterday morning in their car for St. Joseph and other points in central Missouri. They will spend two weeks among relatives.

—Dr. and Mrs. Harry A. Boyesen and children drove over from Waterloo yesterday morning in their car for a visit with the Dr. F. A. Boyesen family, returning home last night.

—Ralph Gerber of Chicago, a former Webster City boy, now one of the foremost Chicago organizers, who has been visiting relatives and friends in this city, returned to Chicago Saturday forenoon. His wife will remain for a few days longer visit with her mother and sister, Mrs. S. C. Zitterell and Mrs. Ansley Jacobs and husband.

## WEATHER MAN SAYS COOLER WEATHER

Washington, D. C., July 31.—Only for scattered sections of the country is relief from the heat wave in sight. The weather bureau expects "some moderation" by Tuesday in the lower Ohio valley, along Lake Michigan, and in the upper lake region; and a shading down in temperatures already has resulted from thunderstorms in the west plains states and on the eastern slope of the Rockies.

Meantime, the high temperature area has extended into the middle and south Atlantic sections and has advanced in the far west to the Pacific coast. New England and the middle Atlantic seaboard, where it has been cooler for a day or two will be warmer again tomorrow.

## TOWNS WIPED OUT BY FOREST FIRES

Englehart, Ont., July 31.—Forest fires raging in northern Ontario have resulted in the loss of from 150 to 200 lives. Other scores of persons have been injured and it is feared many of them may die.

Several small towns have been wiped out by the flames that have been raging for forty-eight hours. Reports thus far received show that fifty-seven perished at Mushka, a French Canadian settlement, and thirty-four at Matheson. Cochrane has eighteen dead and thirty-four injured; Iriquois Falls fifteen dead and many injured and Ramore fifteen dead. The number killed at Porcupine Junction is not known but the entire town was destroyed except the railroad station.

## REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS AGREE

Washington, July 31.—Passage of a Workmen's compensation act for government employes, on lines suggested by the American Federation of Labor, today was agreed on by Democratic and Republican leaders. For six years it has gone through all the stages of congressional action except final passage. Something always stopped it there. This year the federation demanded of both conventions the passage of the bill before congress adjourned to take up the Fall campaign, on pain of the federation's doing a little campaigning itself.

The bill provides, in case of: Death—thirty-five per cent of wages to widow or widowers, until their death or remarriage, with 10 per cent additional for each dependent child.

Total disability—two-thirds of wages, in no case to be less than \$33.33 monthly.

Partial disability—two-thirds of the difference between wages earned before and after injury. Refusal of a partially disabled man to do what work he can do makes him ineligible to any payment.

Medical care for a reasonable time after an injury is suffered in government service is provided; and in case of death, \$100 for funeral expense is allowed.

Intoxication or wilful carelessness on duty makes a federal employe ineligible to benefits under the act.

## SWIFT & COMPANY PENSION PLAN

Chicago, July 31.—Two million dollars was the gift made by Swift & Company to their employes today. Announcement of the accumulation of this sum during the past six years in the form of a pension fund occasioned much gratification to workers in the plants and branch houses in all cities where it was made simultaneously. It is estimated that more than 30,000 men and women are eligible, in time, to come under the provisions of the fund, which becomes active August 1.

One of the striking features of the plan as outlined is that the employes do not contribute to the fund, the company furnishing absolutely all money needed to pay pensions. In this connection it is expected that Swift & Company will be called upon to pay \$400,000 a year in addition to the income from the fund, in order to meet the demands.

In Chicago alone 8,000 persons will come under the plan as outlined. "Swift & Company have had a

pension plan under consideration for over six years and during that time have accumulated for the purpose a fund of two million dollars," said Louis F. Swift, president of the company, today. "In that time we have studied dozens of pension plans in effect in other organizations, both contributory and non-contributory and we believe that we have selected the best points of these and have added a number of good features that are distinctive. We have made it possible for every man and woman in our employ to provide for his or her old age simply by giving efficient work and continuous service. It has been the aim of Swift & Company to tie its employes to itself in many ways. We have worked to that end for years because we believe that our employes become more valuable to us with every year of their continued service. The pension plan is our scheme for rewarding this faithful service."

**Col. Slocum, Commanding the Post at Columbus, N. M., Exonerated From Blame by Investigation.**

Washington, July 31.—Col. Herbert J. Slocum of the Fifth cavalry, commanding the post at Columbus, N. M., has been exonerated of any blame in connection with the incident of the bandit raid on that town in which a number of Americans lost their lives, by the War Department as a result of its investigations.

El Paso, Tex., July 31.—Two troopers of the Eighth cavalry were killed and one wounded in a running fight with Mexican raiders near Hancock this morning. Five Mexicans were killed in the engagement. The Mexicans probably crossed the Rio Grande for the purpose of raiding ranches. The bandits escaped.

**Telling the Truth.**

It is not pleasant and profitable always to tell the truth in the columns of a newspaper. Men who have tried this heretofore have always come to grief. Only a few days ago the editor of a paper in Indiana grew tired of being called a falsifier and announced that he would tell the truth in the future; and the next issue of the paper contained the following items:

"John Bonin, the laziest merchant in town, made a trip to Belleville yesterday.

"John Coyle, our grocer, is doing a poor business. His store is dirty and dusty. How can he do much?

"Rev. Styx preached last Sunday night on 'Charity.' The sermon was punk.

"Dave Sonky died yesterday at his home in this place. The doctor gave it out as heart failure. Whiskey killed him.

"Married—Miss Sylvan Rhodes and James Colin last Saturday, at the Baptist parsonage. The bride is a very ordinary town girl, who doesn't know any more about cooking than a jack rabbit, and never helped her mother three days in her life. She is not a beauty by any means, and has a gait like a duck. The groom is living off the old folks all his life and is not worth shucks. It will be a hard life.

"The governor of our great state, a very ordinary man who was elected by accident, was in town Saturday. He has very few friends here now. He promised some of the voters of this precinct a piece of pie in event of his election, but he had forgotten all about it when the time to hand over the little office rolled around."

**The Hawk-Eye the Best.**

Cedar Falls Record: The Record is willing to venture the prediction that the Hawkeye Highway will within the next two years be the best road crossing the state of Iowa. There are some bad spots on the road from Cedar Falls west to Iowa Falls, a few bad ones near Epworth on the east end, but taking it in all it is now so much better than the fabled Lincoln Highway that there is no comparison. The benefit accruing to the communities through which such a highway passes cannot be measured in dollars and cents alone. A frequented road makes a pleasant road. One meets old time friends along such a highway and for this reason alone every county through which the Hawkeye passes should be interested in having the very best possible road for the money available.

That man who is the most watchful is the least sinful.—William Secker.

Finest perfumes and toilet goods at Teed's.

**IOWA STATE FAIR and EXPOSITION**  
DES MOINES, IOWA  
AUG. 23-SEPT. 1, 1916