

MARSHALL TELLS OF EXPERIENCES

American Ambulance Driver Has Harrowing Story of Terrible Conflict

(From Saturday's Daily.)

The most realistic description of the giant European struggle, ever heard in Ottumwa, was told Friday evening at the First Methodist Episcopal church by Verne Marshall, managing editor of the Cedar Rapids Gazette.

For six months Mr. Marshall drove in American ambulance in France and the graphic word pictures of his experiences left an impression upon the minds of 500 men and women who heard him which will never be forgotten.

To use his own words his talk was a series of narratives, more or less disconnected, rather than a lecture. His easy natural way of talking and his choice of descriptive language helped him in a large measure to carry his audience with him.

Goes in a Hurry.

One day in February, 1916 Mr. Marshall was eating lunch with Bob Tombs, a friend from Marion. Tombs was to go in a few days to France to drive in American ambulance and the meal was a farrowed affair.

Before they had finished it young Marshall had decided not to say goodbye to his friend but to go with him, in a week he had secured his passport, passed his examination for work with the ambulance corps and was ready to sail on the Lafayette from New York.

Eight days later they landed at Bordeaux and proceeded by train to Paris. Although the young Iowans asked to drive ambulances between the hospitals in the city for a month or six weeks, in order that they might improve their French, rather than to Marshall said he did not know a word of the language, they were sent immediately to the front.

Far from Front.

That is, they went as near the front as the ambulances were allowed to go for stationing.

Then they were several miles from the first trenches and only at night did they advance to pick up their wounded and dying and carry them back to the base hospitals.

Driving along shell ridden roads without a light for fear the German artillery forces would see the car, was an experience never to be forgotten by this young Iowan.

One day, soon after he arrived at the front, Marshall went scouting into an old stone quarry. He drove his car to the place, down between two hills, and stopped outside an ambulance station built in a dugout.

His First Shell.

As he stood in front out in the road, in broad daylight he heard his first shell bursting and says he will never forget it.

The best description he could find to bring it home to his hearers was that of a goat or a bee buzzing about the ear. This multiplied by two or three million would give some idea of the sound. As it increased and seemed to rush nearer and nearer Marshall says he was spellbound. He could not move. It seemed to him that the shell was going to strike him squarely between the eyes; he could see nothing but he could feel it rush on and on, straight toward him. Then it burst. Away over the hill he saw it and the detonation where he stood was awful.

It was then that he felt a violent tugging at his coat tail. It did not let up but he kept his feet for several yards as he was yanked in the reverse direction. When he finally landed on his shoulders in the bottom of the field base hospital dugout he saw that he was in the company of French officers. They warned him, in a perfect conglomeration of French, that it was a very dangerous thing to stand out in a roadway in broad daylight and let the enemy fire shells in that direction. Marshall, in imperfect French, agreed with them and the rest of the afternoon was spent in the dugout.

Later, after dark, there was work by the ambulance driver and he was busy carrying the wounded back to his field hospital.

Driving Difficulties.

After about three months Marshall was transferred to the Verdun section. The Americans were stationed twelve miles from the firing lines and even there the constant booming of the big guns the cracking of the small shells and the bursting of the larger ones was terrible.

It was one of the first nights in that vicinity that brought the young Iowan some of his worst experiences with driving.

The call came to go to hill 207 and bring back a load of wounded. The route lay through one village to another, first to the right and then to the left, down hill and up.

All of this over an unknown road, no lights burning and a Frenchman who had never been over the route before, as a guide.

They were driving along, feeling their way up a hill when they saw a shell burst several yards ahead of them. When they reached the spot they found a hole ten feet in diameter and six feet deep.

Again they took the wrong road and went six miles out of their way. The nearer they approached the lines the more terrific was the shell firing. The pieces fell in every direction and all about the car.

Twisting and turning, jerking and bumping, in holes and out of them, the plucky Iowan and his silent French guide made their way to the hill hospital.

They were the first out of twenty machines to reach there that night.

Hunting for Mementos.

Often, when they were not actively engaged in their work, Marshall and his friends would scout around through the trenches, about the fields and among the ruined buildings hunting for souvenirs, something to bring home.

One night they came across a ruined church. It had been built for 600

GERMANS DESTROY AS THEY RETREAT

CORRESPONDENT WITH ALLIES IN FRANCE DESCRIBES ADVANCE AGAINST FOE.

With the French armies on the French front, March 29, via Paris, from a staff correspondent of the Associated Press.—The progress of the French advance today in the vicinity of Coucy-le-Chateau, now firmly in French hands, continued methodically. Both cavalry and infantry are forcing the Germans to hasten the speed of their retreat.

From the strength and thorough preparation of the German defensive works it was evident that a longer stand was intended.

The castle of Coucy-le-Chateau, an historical monument constructed in the thirteenth century, was found by the Associated Press correspondent today to be a mere heap of stones.

The French pursuing column first sighted the castle from a long distance on March 21. While the French were approaching the castle seemed to rise in the air and, after an awe-inspiring explosion, resolved into dust.

What object the Germans could have had in destroying this relic remains a mystery, as the castle was useless in modern warfare. Its walls were in some places thirty-four feet thick.

The entire surrounding country has been laid waste. The correspondent passed the sites of what had once been the flourishing villages of Follebray, Guny, Troisy-Lolre, St. Aubin, Blancourt and Cuts and over hundreds of acres of sawed down orchards.

IOWA WOMAN HAS 128 DESCENDANTS

Winterset, March 30.—The funeral of the late Mrs. Eleanor Wilson Ruth was largely attended.

She would have been 100 years of age had she lived two and a half months more. Born in West Virginia in 1817, she lived in Pennsylvania and Ohio during pioneer days and with her husband came to Madison county in 1868. Her husband died forty-five years ago.

Her living descendants number 128 including seven children, thirty-nine grandchildren, sixty-five great grandchildren and seventeen great great grandchildren.

She was a member of the Presbyterian church for fifty years.

FINED FOR TAKING FOOD FROM HOUSE

Hannibal, Mo., March 30.—John Gilker, who was arrested by Acting Constable C. V. Helton, was fined by Judge A. E. Dent, charged with petty larceny. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$5.

Gilker, who is a man over sixty-five years of age, was arrested on a warrant sworn out by E. D. Bowen, who charged the defendant with taking a dollar's worth of eggs, a chicken of the value of one dollar and preserves to the value of one dollar from his home.

Nothing was left but the spine and it had withstood a slow timed shell which passed through the base.

As they dug around in the ruins Marshall's hand came upon a pewter holy water dish. He took it.

It was so dark that they could see nothing and their groping had brought nothing to their hands for his friend's souvenir. Marshall suggested that his companion light the little French lamp, similar to a cigar lighter, and then they could see just what was in the place which they might take.

It was in an out of the way place and they did not think the enemy's lines would be able to see them so Tombs risked and struck the light.

Saw The Christ.

There in that far away, ruined church of the fourteenth century, amid the debris and horrors of modern warfare, the young Iowan looked down directly into the face of—Jesus Christ.

He was standing squarely on the breast of a life sized crucifix which had fallen as the shell passed through the building.

Neither man spoke. They could not. Marshall says it seemed to him that a million thoughts passed through his mind in those minutes.

He wanted to run away from the place yet he could not move. The impression which that experience has made on Mr. Marshall is plainly seen in his tense description of it.

Finally both men turned and ran as fast as they could away from the church. When they reached their dressing station they lay down and neither spoke for a long time. The nervous shock and impressiveness of their experience had placed them both far beyond anything so commonplace as spoken words.

Has Many Weapons.

To more vividly bring out his descriptions of the great struggle about Verdun when 600,000 Frenchmen and 800,000 Germans were lined up against each other Mr. Marshall has many relics.

These were all picked up in the Verdun vicinity and many were taken from dead soldiers. They include hand and rifle grenades, gas masks, steel and leather helmets, bayonets, Sengulase attacking knives, shells, torpedoes and identification tags and markers.

Finishes Term.

Mr. Marshall's six months' term as an American ambulance driver ended in the last days of August and he came home last fall.

He first told his narrative to a group of friends in Cedar Rapids. They insisted that he tell it again to others and so it has grown until he has been compelled to temporarily give up his position with the newspaper and he is dated for many weeks ahead this spring.

Miss Wormhoudt Sings.

The affair was given here under the auspices of one of the church circles. Preceding Mr. Marshall's talk Miss Bertha Wormhoudt sang two solos. Mrs. F. P. Hofmann played her accompaniments.

PLANS FOR OPEN MEETING APRIL 7 PROMISE WELL

Quartet of Agriculture Men Will Be on Program at Big Farm Gathering

COVERDALE TELLS OF COUNTY AGENT

The big open meeting for farmers that is to be held in the Commercial club Saturday, April 7 at 1:30 p. m., under the auspices of the farm improvement bureau, promises to be the biggest gathering of the farmers of the county ever held in the association rooms and the liveliest meeting of the kind that has ever been attempted in these parts.

The farmers of the county are thoroughly active in the movement for the improvement of farming and agricultural conditions generally. The plans for the proposed meeting have been underway for several weeks past and daily the interest in it increases. The farm bureau has taken up the project with a zest that assures success and the number of prospective members for the farm bureau that will be turned in at the big open meeting April 7, is certain to be large.

The new county agent, C. R. Scott of Mason City will be here the beginning of next week and has written that he will arrive April 5 five days previous to the big gathering. Professor Churchill of Ames was to conduct the seed testing work in the county, is expected to arrive in time for the big gathering and an effort is being made to get Rex Yackey of Ames who was here a few days ago talking to the children of the school on the garden contests. Prof. J. W. Coverdale the state leader of county agents, has promised to come and will be one of the chief speakers at the meeting.

Scott Has Good Record.

Mr. Coverdale, upon whose recommendation the choice of Mr. Scott as county agent was made, has the following sketch on the life and qualifications of the new county agent which he has sent to the Commercial club:

"C. R. Scott, the man selected for the position of county agent of Wapello county, comes to his new work with a wealth of practical and technical experience. He was born on a farm near Newton, Iowa, later moving to a Polk county farm where he lived until twenty-two years of age. At that time he entered the animal husbandry course at the Iowa State college and graduated with the class of 1905.

"In college Scott was known as a good stock judge and represented his college in the international stock judging contest at Chicago in 1904. Upon his first place that year in the general average and brought back to Ames a trophy for winning in the horse judging work.

"Upon graduation in 1905, Scott took charge of a dairy farm near Colorado Springs and for a year and a half was busy supplying the city with milk. It was here that he got his first-hand knowledge of dairying.

"He returned to Polk county in 1907—married and settled down to farming. Four years ago he bought a farm in Cerro Gordo county where he has since resided and where he would probably have stayed had it not been for the seed corn campaign of a year ago.

"At that time the extension department was very short on help and Scott was persuaded to leave the farm for a month to conduct one of the county campaigns. His work in this connection was highly satisfactory, and he himself became greatly interested in the opportunities along this line with the result that he had finally taken up county work.

"Wapello county is especially fortunate in getting a man like Scott who has not only had a large experience in general farming but who also is a keen judge of livestock. What Wapello county needs especially in order to maintain and build up fertility is more and better livestock. With a well organized farm improvement association, engineered by a man thoroughly sympathetic with the livestock interests, Wapello county has a bright future ahead.

"This little sketch would not be complete without a word on the home side. In addition to getting an education and buying a farm, he has gone into partnership with an Iowa girl, established an ideal home, and has four small boys. One of these boys won first and sweepstakes at the Iowa State Fair at Des Moines. Two others won fourth place at Iowa State Fair. One of these also won first place at Mason City Fair. The fourth boy has not been shown in competition—doubtless he is a prize winner too. Who can beat this record?"

HANNIBAL URGES BIG GARDEN PLOTS

Hannibal, Mo., March 30.—The use of every vacant lot in Hannibal for a garden spot is the aim of the committee in charge of the garden campaign of the home economics club. Every person who has a plot of ground which can be used, is asked to report to Mrs. John Logan, chairman of the vacant lot committee. Persons who have not the ground, but wish a lot upon which to grow a garden, are asked to report their names. Mrs. Logan has a committee of two women from each ward, which is endeavoring to enroll every available foot of vacant ground in the city for gardening. The owner can not use it for this purpose, he is asked to allow some other person the use of it for the summer.

PROTECTION FOR CITIZENS NEEDED

SENATOR-ELECT JOHNSON SAYS U. S. MUST ACT; PATRIOTIC DEMONSTRATIONS.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 31.—Senator-elect Hiram W. Johnson of California, speaking at a patriotic demonstration at historic Independence square here today, declared that, for the United States to refuse to maintain its democratic ideals and protect its citizens would be to sow "within itself the seeds of dissolution."

"Democracy, to survive, must ever be ready to protect its own," he said. "Every normally constituted man abhors war. A nation such as ours, determined that common folks may have their fair share of common happiness and a comfortable place in the sun, will suffer much, even to the very tenor of honor, before engaging in bloody strife. But a nation such as ours, dependent for its perpetuity upon the character of its citizenship, that dare not maintain its ideals and will not protect the lives of its citizens, sows within itself the seeds of dissolution."

CHICAGO ENTHUSIASTIC.

Chicago, March 31.—Chicago today staged a great patriotic demonstration, which is to conclude tonight with a mass meeting that promises to mark an epoch in the history of the city. The day was set apart by Mayor William Hale Thompson as "flag day" and thousands of the national emblems were displayed.

Parades were held during the day by national guard organizations, military academy cadets, Spanish-American war veterans, boy scouts and other patriotic organizations.

Recruiting officers utilized the patriotic sentiment in an intensified campaign to bring the number of enlistments, which already has passed all local records, to the highest possible point. Dozens of chorus girls from a musical comedy appearing here accompanied a detachment of the first Illinois infantry through the streets in hope of obtaining recruits. Chicago bankers and brokers, it was announced today, will equip a regiment to be placed in the field in the event of war.

Jacob M. Dickinson, former secretary of war, will preside at tonight's meeting. Governor Frank O. Lowden will be one of the speakers and resolutions which, it is understood, will pledge the support of Chicagoans to the government in any measures it may adopt in the present crisis, will be offered.

DES MOINES IS LOYAL.

Des Moines, March 31.—A state wide movement which has for its object "promotion of patriotism and advancement of the idea of universal military training" will be started here April 4, it was announced today by H. Polk, chairman of the Des Moines Loyalty day committee.

Mr. Polk's statement said that more than 10,000 people had pledged themselves to participate in the ceremonies to be held, at which the chief speakers will be Rear Admiral Peary and H. L. Stimson, former secretary of war.

AGENCY.

Miss Adah Connelly spent Tuesday evening with her friend, Miss Grace Freelon, in Batavia.

Several local people attended the minstrel show in Ottumwa Monday evening.

The Rev. Mr. Pointer, now of Hedrick but formerly a missionary to Africa, gave a very interesting lecture and stereoscopic views at the M. E. church Tuesday evening.

The members of the Agency-Ottumwa club were entertained Thursday at the home of Mrs. C. C. Cremer in Ottumwa. Several local members attended.

A spelling contest will be held in the town hall tonight. Everybody is invited to attend and enter the contest.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Shearer and Mrs. Fred Rutz were in Burlington this week to attend the funeral of Mr. Shearer's brother-in-law.

The picnic dinner held at the M. E. church Wednesday was well attended.

The Rev. Mr. Pointer gave a very interesting talk to the high school Wednesday morning.

Forrest Miller left Tuesday for a visit with relatives at Barnes City.

Oscar Hill, Delbert C. Shew and Gladys Allan have returned to their school work after being absent on account of the mumps.

Mrs. Fannie Giltner, who has been spending the winter in California, has returned home.

HOLLWEG RAPS U. S.; MAKES NO PROMISES LIKE ONES EXPECTED

Says War With Americans Will Not Be Fault of German People

WILSON'S PROGRAM IS TAKING SHAPE

London, March 30.—A Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam today adds the following to the wireless version of the speech of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor, in the reichstag:

"Regarding the military situation I have little to add to the army reports in the east, impassable roads prevent operations on a great scale.

"In the west our backward movements are being effected, according to plan and lead to daily increasing freedom of movement."

"In Macedonia, Bulgarian and German troops are splendidly repulsing French attacks on a great scale.

"Regarding the submarine war, the secretary of the admiralty today made a detailed statement to the main committee of the reichstag."

Discussing internal politics, the dispatch quotes the chancellor as saying: "Although I would like it best if we could make reform in the franchise tomorrow, I doubt whether the moment when we are concentrating all our strength in fighting the enemy is the right one for inaugurating a new electoral law. We must subordinate everything to bringing the war to a happy conclusion."

TO DEFEND CANAL.

Washington, D. C., March 30.—The strengthening of the military forces in the Panama canal zone was ordered today by the war department and a board of three officers was named to report upon organizing civilian employees in the canal zone for military defense purposes.

Batteries F and E of the tenth field artillery, Connecticut national guard, were called into federal service today by war department orders. No explanation of the call was made by the department but they probably will be used for police protection purposes.

Orders were being prepared today calling out additional guard forces in several eastern states. They contemplate adding at least two regiments of infantry to the fifty thousand guardsmen already added to the federal service for police protection work.

Program Takes Form.

Steps in anticipation of action on whatever recommendations President Wilson may make to congress next week to meet the national emergency, began today to take final form. These steps were:

The president held a final conference with his cabinet preparatory to starting to write his address.

House democrats held a caucus to consider plans for organization of the house by their party.

A committee of twenty-seven republicans met to prepare its final recommendations for organization of the house which will be laid before a caucus of republicans tomorrow.

Plans for raising revenue were considered at a meeting of democratic members of the house, ways and means committee.

Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the senate military affairs committee, announced he would press for prompt action in the senate on the regular army appropriation bill.

The senator assured the president he already has authority, without congressional action, to raise immediately an army of more than 700,000 by increasing the regular army to war strength and calling out the entire national guard at war strength.

Reports of submarines having been seen off Montauk Point Monday night were believed today to have been disposed of by Secretary Daniels' announcement that they were patrol boats on trial trips.

President Wilson now has before him recommendations of his principal cabinet advisers and in a general way has heard the sentiment of the country.

The preponderance of opinion forwarded to the white house is for a declaration of a state of war exists between the United States and Germany. Telegrams addressing the president are being received in large numbers. Many of them, couched in identical language favor the maintenance of peace.

WAR SEEMS CERTAIN.

Washington, D. C., March 30.—As the cabinet met today with President Wilson for the last time before the assembling of congress Monday, the consensus of opinion was that the United States was about to actively enter into war with Germany.

Cabinet members took to the meeting reports on preparation to put the country in a state of preparedness.

Taking for granted from the speech of the German chancellor that Germany will not abandon her submarine campaign of ruthlessness, officials generally have given up hope that an actual clash with Germany can be averted.

Secretary Baker said that the early graduation of the upper class at West Point was under consideration, but had not been determined upon.

Secretary Redfield said everything was in readiness for turning the ships and crews of the coast geodetic survey, over to the navy department for other purposes. Preliminary plans have also been made for having the navy take over direction of wireless plants.

Secretary Wilson said that satisfac-

IOWA "BONE DRY" UNDER NEW LAW

PASSAGE OF WHITMORE BILL BRINGS ABOUT REAL PROHIBITION IN STATE.

[Special Correspondence]

Des Moines, March 31.—Iowa will go bone dry July 4, regardless of any act of congress.

The house of the Iowa legislature Friday afternoon passed the Whitmore bill to make the place of delivery the place of sale of all intoxicating liquors. The vote was 59 to 23. The measure has already passed the senate and will become law when the governor signs it to go into effect independence day.

The laws of Iowa today prohibit the sale of liquor within the state. Interstate commerce is sidestepped in the Whitmore bill which makes the place of delivery the place of sale. All liquor delivered in the state is sold in the state and in violation of the law. Thus liquor is barred from the state just as effectively as if the Reed amendment had never passed congress.

The house also passed another Whitmore bill prohibiting the advertising of liquors in Iowa.

Several representatives classed as "wets" voted for the bone dry bill.

Star at School Head.

The senate Friday voted to return the election of the state superintendent of public instruction to a vote of the people.

The superintendent is now appointed. Opposition to the appointive method was due largely to the activity of the present superintendent in forming consolidated school districts.

The measure now goes to the house where its standing is uncertain.

Change Insurance Law.

With the repeal of the anti-discrimination fire insurance law establishing a private rating bureau by the adoption by both house and senate of the Rogers bill, the senate insurance committee yesterday introduced a measure to establish a state rating bureau.

The senate adopted the Rogers repeal bill Friday by an overwhelming vote. The main complaint against it was that it permitted insurance companies to establish a combine and that the result of the bill had been the increasing of insurance rates.

The senate committee's bill now proposes that the state rating commission shall consist of three men, the insurance commissioner, the fire marshal and a rating commissioner to be appointed by the governor.

BLOOMFIELD

Mrs. I. T. Russell visited relatives at West Grove Tuesday and Wednesday. Miss Lillian Tomney was a passenger to Ottumwa Tuesday.

The following Pulaski folks were in Bloomfield Wednesday: Mr. and Mrs. Omer, Nellie Gresham, Mrs. Ada Lauer, Mrs. T. J. Taylor.

Mrs. George Garner was shopping in Bloomfield Wednesday.

Mrs. G. A. George returned to her home at Queen City, Mo., after visiting her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith.

John Henderson was shopping in Ottumwa Tuesday.

Mrs. C. Porter of Martinsburg is visiting at the home of his daughter Mrs. Jess Hitchen.

Mr. and Mrs. Golden Prosser visited the parental Prosser home in Ottumwa the first of the week.

Paul Kinnen was in Ottumwa Tuesday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jones, Ethel Hinkle and Winnona Jones were in Ottumwa Saturday.

Mrs. P. Stodghill has returned from visiting at Centerville.

Miss May Clouse of Waterloo is visiting Prof. and Mrs. John Brininger this week.

Norman Newton is suffering with the mumps.

Mrs. George Goode is recovering from an operation performed last Friday.

Mrs. and Mrs. G. H. Lawson left for Martinsburg to reside in the future.

Prof. Brininger of the high school has been elected by the school board as superintendent for the next two years.

Mrs. L. Leugh of near Savannah is moving to this city, occupying the Jim Evans property.

Misses Lurie Sowers and Florence Rominger came home from attending school at Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. S. S. England spent the first of the week in Ottumwa the guest of her sister Mrs. J. S. Minks.

Miss Marie Selman returned from visiting her cousin Mrs. Russell Hardy of near Drakeville.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Carpenter returned Thursday from a short visit with relatives and friends in Ottumwa.

Miss Grace Colwell is home after teaching the Round Grove school near Pulaski the past six months.

DERBY VOTES TO KEEP OLD MAYOR

Derby, March 30.—J. J. George was reelected mayor of Derby without opposition. A total of forty-nine ballots were cast. W. H. Decker and W. B. Greene tied for fifth place for councilman. Other officers were elected, as follows:

Treasurer—U. G. Penick.
Assessor—C. D. Mosler.
Councilmen—G. F. Niblock, F. C. Wyatt, J. M. Grimes and G. C. Pollard.

Progress was being made in plans for mobilization of labor resources.

Members of the cabinet who are also members of the council of national defense reported that everything possible is being done to co-ordinate all of the resources of the nation for the government in war.

SOLDIERS GUARD BRIDGES ON ALL MAINLINE ROADS

Co. M From Fairfield Comes to Ottumwa; Will Protect Transportation Routes

WILL MAKE CAMP IN CALDWELL PARK

Ottumwa was given its first actual intimation Friday night that war with Germany is more than a probability when Co. M of Fairfield, second Iowa infantry, came to this city on Burlington passenger train No. 179, which was several hours late. The guardsmen arrived here at 7:15 and their equipment in three cars was separated from the balance of the train and sidetracked near the union station where the men camped for the night.

Today Caldwell park is being converted into a regular field camp for the guardsmen. City officials accompanied Capt. W. C. Smith of Co. M to the park this morning and it was decided to locate the soldiers on the beautiful eminence overlooking the river and the west end. The site as a camp is believed by the officers of the company to be very good and owing to the character of the work of the soldiers while here, it is more central than any place else that might have been available.

Come Without Orders.

The Fairfield company came here without orders as such. Their final destination or duties would be save that they would report to Ottumwa. The orders followed their arrival here as to what they would do during the evening. Sergt. Crowther was detailed to take a platoon of ten men to the Burlington's Des Moines river bridge known as the Four Mile bridge. That was the first direct knowledge the men had of what they were to do. The orders called for the guarding of main line railroad bridges and such other property as might be endangered in the event of hostilities and the destruction of which would interfere with the public welfare or the country's defense.

Thus far three of the bridges in and about the city are and have been under guard for several hours. The various details were changed this morning about 10 o'clock, a fresh platoon relieving the men who stood guard during the preceding twelve hours. The Burlington's bridge west of the city, the Milwaukee bridge in the west end and the Wabash bridge at the foot of college street are all being guarded.

A switching crew on the Burlington took out Sergt. Falkner and a change of guard to the Four Mile bridge this morning about 9:30 o'clock, bringing back the men who spent the night guarding the structure. This is the busiest of the main line railroad bridges in this vicinity, being a double track structure with an immense transcontinental tonnage and passenger traffic passing over it daily.

Camp Kitchen Attracts.

A number of persons were attracted to the union station this morning and visited Ballinaltra park where they watched the kitchen detail busily engaged in preparing breakfast and dinner for the men. Stoves were placed on the ground and a few soldiers squatted here and there peeling potatoes and other vegetables as well as watching various articles of diet for the inner man. The platoons that left for guard duty had sandwiches for every man to stave off hunger while watching the property assigned to their care.

Those not otherwise engaged might have been seen doing the ordinary pastimes of healthy young Americans, playing the national game of baseball or in groups reading and chatting, but at all times very orderly and well behaved.

Park Superintendent P. B. Cain went out to Caldwell park early to turn on the water in the various hydrants for the use of the soldiers and the city officials and park commissioners will do all in their power to make the stay of the soldiers in Ottumwa as comfortable as possible. Just how long the company will be stationed here is not known.

There is little that the officers of the company are free to say regarding the orders received and what disposition is to be made of the men, but while here the people of the city will lend every aid possible to the guardsmen. The command includes eighty-five men under Capt. W. C. Smith, whose staff of company officers includes First Lieut. Robert L. Fulton, Second Lieut. Elmer E. Flackie, First Sergt. Ray L. Simmons and Mess Sergt. John E. Crall.

WORKING ON PLANT.

Grinnell, March 31.—Work on the new \$200,000 power plant of the Grinnell Electric company is progressing rapidly and the plant will probably be running in six weeks supplying current not only to Grinnell, but to Searsboro, Lynnville, Sully and Newburg and other surrounding towns.

Bring your troubles to me. If you need a new corn planter, I have one of the best in either two wheeled or four wheeled. All makes of plow shares. All makes of corn planter, disc harrow and cultivator repairs. "Repairs for Everything."

Bell Phone 664

JAS. H. SHEPHERD
"New Shepherd's Ranche"
209, 211 W. Main St., Ottumwa, Iowa