

The Telegraph Service of The Daily Gate City and Constitution-Democrat is received over our own leased wire.

# The Daily Gate City

and Constitution-Democrat.

THE WEATHER  
Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday. Local temp—7 p. m. 56; 7 a. m. 35.

VOL. 126. NO. 75.

KEOKUK, IOWA, FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1918

TEN PAGES

## GERMAN ADVANCE IS NEAR STANDSTILL

### BRITISH GAIN GROUND BY STRONG COUNTER ATTACK

Field Marshal Haig Reports Positions Maintained North of Somme and Some Advance Made.

### HEAVY FIGHTING IS CONTINUED

Side of Battle is Rising and Hills are Strewed With Corpses in Grey Green Uniforms.

American army officials in Washington believe the big allied counter-offensive already is under way. They see in Haig's thrust on the right flank and Petain's sharp attack on the south flank the first stages of the passing of the initiative to the British and French, according to a United Press despatch from the capital.

Further the American military authorities believe the necessary troop positions have been made and that "the army of maneuver" authorized by the Versailles inter-allied council is about to strike. The whereabouts of this body of American, British and French picked troops has been one of the mysteries of the German drive. The hurrying of this force into the combat has been a daily expectation.

But the allied commanders, if they are indeed ready to strike back a major attack, have held off until the Hindenburg machine has been battered and exhausted until it has reached the zenith of its vulnerability.

Haig, in his official statement today, reported the recovery of some ground by counter attacks, together with the capture of a number of machine guns and machine guns, north of the Somme. Elsewhere north of the river, which halves the battle front, he declared that heavy enemy attacks had been thrown back with severe losses. South of the Somme, he admitted a retirement a short distance "from advanced points."

The elements have now joined the allied forces. The American commander sweeping the west front battle field, according to a United Press despatch from William Philip Simms.

Much of the success of the German drive has been attributed to the favorable weather that enabled them to maintain a maximum of transport, rush forward their reserves and permit their artillery to keep pace with the infantry.

If the rain continues for any extended period, the German transport system not only will be crippled, but the allies have in past operations proved themselves the better "mud-horses"—to borrow an expression from the race track.

America, through General Pershing, has asked for a more active part in the present battle. The American commander visited General Foch at the front and personally proffered the aid of the entire American expeditionary force, the French war office announced today.

The rapid growth of fighting in the erstwhile "eastern theatre" is detailed in a United Press despatch from Petrograd, dated Wednesday. Since the capture of Odessa, Kherson and Nicolaioff, the Russian Bolshevik forces have ejected the Germans from a number of small villages in the Charkoff region.

The Russian press is now openly agitating a redeclaration of war against Germany and the Ukrainians have objected so strenuously to enforcement of some of the provisions of their peace treaty with Germany that some have been modified.

This activity in the east, it is believed, is bound to create at least one diversion from the west front.

The capture of Lemontchel by the French, announced officially by Paris, shows the allies are striking back directly toward Montdidier which is only two miles northeast of Lemontchel.

The French communique also declared the Anglo-French were holding the Avre and that Petain's men are retaining the villages they recaptured yesterday, despite strong counter attacks.

The enemy has progressed some, occupying the front line trenches at Orange Hill and Neuville-Vitasse. The cold stinging rain made night fighting difficult. The moon which, since the commencement of the offensive, turned night into day, was obscured, rendering the night as black as the pit.

As a result, there was a comparative lull in the Somme valley and astride the Somme, following a hard day, although under brilliant flares suspended from parachutes, outposts and patrols clashed in constant maneuver for advantageous getaway at dawn.

While Von Below gained ground in the north, the British held Von Hofacker to petty advances in the region of Albert.

Four heavy attacks were repulsed late in the afternoon north of the Somme.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

The enemy dead are littering the ground south of the Somme. After repeated assaults all day, the German forces were repulsed.

### Pershing Offers All Troops to Take Part in Battle

Asks That American Forces be Allowed to Go Into Thickest of Fight Just Now

PARIS, March 29.—General Pershing, in a conference with French officials at the front yesterday, asked in his own and his country's name that the entire American forces in France be engaged in the present battle, the war office announced today. Pershing said the American army was entirely at the disposition of the French. He made his request of General Foch, while Premier Clemenceau, Minister of Munitions Lecheur and General Petain were conferring with Foch. "I come to tell you that the American people would feel highly honored if our troops were engaged in the present battle," General Pershing said. "I ask this in my own name and in the country's name."

### ANTI-GERMANISM MORE INTENSE

Russians Are Now More Angry at Kaiser Than at Any Time Since Start of the War.

### PREPARING FOR FIGHT

Newspaper Urges People to Return to the War on the Side of the Allies.

### ANTI-GERMANISM MORE INTENSE

[By Joseph Shaplen, United Press Staff Correspondent.] PETROGRAD, March 27.—German Foreign Minister Kuehlmann, replying to a protest, declared Germany was justified in sending armed forces into Finland, on the ground of American Ambassador Francis' statement regarding America's readiness to assist in regaining the status quo in violation of the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty. Members of the Russian soviet replied that Francis merely repeated President Wilson's message to which ratification of the treaty furnished a rejoinder.

Anti-Germanism throughout Russia is more intense than at any time since the beginning of the war. Kuehlmann, replying to a protest against German occupation of Odessa, declared Odessa is in Ukrainian territory.

After the Russians recaptured Odessa, 10,000 workmen in Charkoff (350 miles northeast of Odessa and 250 miles east of Kiev) resolved to disregard the soviet's order to evacuate and decided to defend the city to the last. They also began moving big stores and metals.

Reinforcements are being rushed from Smolensk (250 miles west of Moscow) to Orsha (75 miles west of Smolensk). They also are being sent from Suma to Orshba to check the Ukrainian-German advance against Charkoff.

In addition to the advance on Charkoff, the enemy is seeking to cut off the soviet forces from Poltava (75 miles west and south of Charkoff). Red guards tonight hurled back the enemy forces attempting to reach Suma.

After a battle near Niznednie-Provsk, sixty versts (39.6 miles) from Ekaterinoslav (75 miles south of Poltava) the soviet forces retreated. Former workmen are organizing for the defense of Ekaterinoslav.

The Germans have modified their demands for Ukrainian supplies. M. Grushchewsky has urged the members of the rada who resigned, to return to that body, admitting that while the peace treaty favors Germany, resistance will result in wiping out Ukrainian independence.

Advices indicate the Ukrainian people are increasingly sympathetic toward the Russian revolution and may rise against both Germany and the rada.

The newspaper Den editorially urges Russia to return to the war by the side of the allies.

The Investia urges warfare against the rada, but independently, for the sake of the socialist fatherland and an international socialist revolution.

Russian Menace to Germany. WASHINGTON, March 29.—Germany, now drawing on her Russian forces for west front reinforcements.

(Continued on page 2.)

### ANOTHER MESSAGE TO WORLD

President Wilson May Speak April 6 at Big Liberty Loan Meeting in Baltimore.

### MATTERS TO CLEAR UP

America's Determination to Fight to a Finish, to Be Again Set Forth.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, March 29.—That President Wilson is preparing to drive home again the war purposes of America to the battling allies—and do it soon—was held certain here today.

It is believed likely he will select as his opportunity a great Liberty Loan demonstration in Baltimore April 6. Strong pressure is being brought to bear on the president to speak at that time. At the white house today it was stated that no conclusion had been reached by the president, but he has it "under consideration."

Such an occasion as the Baltimore affair, would give the president precisely the back ground for setting forth this country's determination to fight the war to a successful termination—weight unusually heavy upon the enemies of democracy.

There are a number of matters the president has on his books to clear up. There is the matter of German dealing with the western Russian provinces and the great Russian people themselves.

There is the ruthless threat of the Austrian foreign minister—Count Czernin—who gave Rumania the choice of abject surrender or complete destruction. These chapters in Teuton diplomacy have been closed since last the president spoke—holding out a friendly hand to Czernin. They are chapters that this country will not accept, and the president will let this be known clearly. Then there is the late question of Japanese intervention in Siberia. On all of these points, it is intimated, the president has been awaiting a proper time to speak.

The big Liberty loan campaign and the opportunity of addressing thousands of soldiers now at Camp Meade give strength to the appeal of those urging the Baltimore event as a proper time and occasion.

Senate Stops Wrangling. [By L. C. Martin, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, March 29.—With a lull expected today in the partisan dispute in the senate, action upon vital war measures was hoped for by the leaders.

Confronted with Lloyd-George's plea for reinforcements from the United States, the senate planned to dispose of the measure drafting all men who

(Continued on page 2.)

### NO BREAD CARDS FOR IOWA PEOPLE

Farmers of State Are Not Hoarding Their Wheat and Food Shortage is Doubtful.

### FLOUR BECOMES SCARCE

Northwest Retail Flour Trade May Go on Card Basis, But Loan Tickets Not Expected.

### OREGON AS PIONEER

PORTLAND, Ore., March 29.—Oregon, pioneer state in adopting the wheat card to American institutions, is ready to go the whole route and establish the card system for each small purchase of flour or bread. This was the opinion expressed today by W. B. Ayre, federal food administrator for Oregon. Following the lead of Oregon, Idaho and Washington have adopted the card system to flour purchases as they are made by millers and jobbers. Each buyer must fill out a card for each purchase and each is limited to 75 percent of his purchases for 1917.

### Much Wheat Unmarketed.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The food administration today was keeping sharp watch on some 175,000,000 bushels of the 1917 wheat crop yet unmarketed.

This vast stock—now urgently needed to the last grain for domestic and foreign use—will be turned into the market between May 1 and 15. So far the food administration is relying on farmers' patriotism to market it by that time. But, if there is any substantial holding back, confiscation under the authority of military necessity may be expected to follow immediately. It was made clear in high quarters here today.

In this connection the action of the house of representatives on the senate \$2.50 wheat price legislation was being closely attended.

Passage of this measure, with the two-thirds vote to override the veto the president is deemed certain to impose would at once tie up a greater part of the present crop while holders awaited the new 1918 price.

### Flour Card Basis.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 29.—Decision to place the entire northwest retail flour trade on a flour card basis may be reached at a conference here next Tuesday of food administrators from Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. State

(Continued on page 2.)

### AT LEAST 100,000 AMERICANS TO HELP SMASH ENEMY

Germany has About Drained Her Reserves and Counter Attack by Allies Comes Soon.

### TEUTONIC PLANS ARE ALL AWRY

Austrians Surprised That Troops Have Not Been Taken From Italy for West Front Fight.

[By Carl D. Groat, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, March 29.—Continued and expectedly, America looked out upon the west front death struggle.

Today and tomorrow, army officers said, will tell the tale of good news for democracies on the "frontier of freedom" or will mark for them a gloomy chapter.

All the news before the authorities early today, however, cheered them. They foresaw that British and French legions with some American victory reserves, would stand off the Germans hammering at the gates of western civilization.

News from General Pershing indicated that the enemy has drained his reserve to the utmost and has now drawn upon the east front for further reinforcements. He is staking his all on the west line, but the British, French and American strategic reserve apparently is now getting rapidly into the struggle. The German spike driven out at Montdidier is menaced. The gallant French pounding at the flank apparently are developing a strong counter offensive which will menace the Germans considerably. Meantime, the British defense is solidifying. The German has been slowed down and his vitality is being sapped by death and injury.

The extent to which American troops have participated and will participate is still a matter of secrecy. They are known to have had some part and it is assumed by high officers that perhaps 100,000 will have a share in smashing the foe.

The German drive about Arras is regarded as an effort to straighten out his line so that it would not be menaced by a British counter attack there.

But though yesterday the tide of battle veered considerably on the British section, the struggle there as a whole was favorably viewed by American military men.

They now incline to the belief that Hindenburg designed to crash down upon the channel ports, but they believe that this move—or a drive for Paris—has been and will continue to be thwarted.

While their line operations proceed, the Germans apparently are reorganizing their submarine force. Last week the loss of twenty-nine vessels is the largest since the United States entered the war.

Naval experts believe the Germans are putting every available U boat on the ocean to aid the land drive by bagging the hurrying transport ships. On the psychological side of the situation diplomats saw possibility—admittedly based mainly on a hope—that the Teuton casualties will stir up revolution in Germany. They pointed out that Germany is now saying her losses

(Continued on page 2.)

### ROOSEVELT MADE SPEECH AT REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

State Meeting in Maine Hears Former President Talk About War.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PORTLAND, Maine, March 29.—Permanent preparedness after the war and vital need for beating Germany to her knees to win lasting peace, stood out today as some of the strong points in Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's address before the republican state convention here last night.

"War is won by brains and steel, not by kid gloves and fine phrases," Colonel Roosevelt shouted. Some of the most important branches of the

(Continued on page 2.)

### ONE WOMAN KILLED WHEN PLANT BLEW UP

Three Explosions Wrecked the Building and Rocked Houses.

The detonations rocked the village and shattered windows, set a bridge on fire and crippled telephone service. It was reported the first explosion occurred at a table where several young girls were working on primers. One of these primers, accidentally discharged, set off the others.

Two men employes, crawled into a shed near the main building, raised a trap door and lowered 500 pounds of fulminate of mercury into a water flume below, thus preventing a threatened catastrophe. The international Explosives company was making primers for the allies.

(Continued on page 2.)