

OVERWHELMING IMPRESSION OBTAINED FROM PREPARATIONS TO RESIST INVASION.

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NO DETAIL IS OMITTED

Masses of Concrete and Steel Seen Fit to Outlast Pyramids—Even Slaughter of Trees Is Done With Thorough Method.

BY JAMES O'DONNELL BENNETT. (Copyright 1915, by the Chicago Tribune. Published by arrangement with GRAUDENZ, Germany, April 16.—I have just had the privilege of making an inspection of the new fortifications which girdle the rich city of Graudenz, one of the key places of the frontier of West Prussia, owing to its superb situation, 209 feet above the waters of the Vistula.

The three officers—two Prussians and a Saxon—who acted as guides, appeared to hang together to leave anything in obscurity. Nothing was concealed and I was not asked to omit from this dispatch anything I had seen. The secret of the opportunities afforded me for examining all the over works that are guarded by scores of sentries may be that the military authorities in the Graudenz region were not averse to having a neutral observer stumped by what they were going to show him.

Impression Is Overwhelming. If that was their wish they got it. And, granting that such was their purpose, it was perhaps just as well that the visitor should be a layman. He would give the large impression of preparedness and not the minute technical details which would be of surpassing interest to a military critic, but which the public could by no possibility be persuaded to read.

The impression, then, is overwhelming, which is precisely what the authorities wanted it to be. At the end of a day in the new works the large impression one takes away is of the combination of a first-class hotel, a coal mine and a fairy village. Now roads connecting crucial points have been cut through great reaches of municipal forest. Barracks, kitchens, stables, wells and water tanks have been hidden away in glades through which one might pass without detecting any unusual feature in the landscape, no cunningly have the roofs of many of the structures been pitched over to conceal them from the enemy's flyers.

In one place you come unexpectedly out of winding galleries in a field and confront a mass of steel and concrete that looks as if it would outlast the pyramids. Entering into the mass by tiny doors, you are amid brightly lighted corridors, bathrooms, dynamo, ventilating fans, telephone exchanges, gleaming copper kettles, electric cook stoves and the latest devices in sanitary plumbing.

Every Detail Is Arranged. A few kilometers further along in this ring of steel one climbs through thick woods to the battery positions. The ammunition is piled in cellars excavated at one side of the guns. Detailed instructions for the gunners are tacked around Graudenz to help fire and hurl iron. The earth is honeycombed with trenches and between the lines of trenches little villages of pine and canvas have sprung up. It is overpowering.

Not the least amazing part of it is that a layman would pass within a few rods of the Atlantic world and the rolling fields had been at all disturbed. For the vitals of the system are mostly underground—buried in earth and turf and planted over with young trees.

The building material is steel, concrete and wood—no stone in sight. Then the layer of earth, the layer of turf and the young trees. Descend into the vitals of this system and instantly there comes to the lips that word that is forever on German lips in these war days—the word "kolossal."

Fortifications Are Blunt Facts. Turn to the western borders of the empire and you find the steel and concrete and the rolling fields had been at all disturbed. For the vitals of the system are mostly underground—buried in earth and turf and planted over with young trees.



Money is the servant of intelligence. It will dress you in a manner that will show your real worth to the critical crowd.

A clever appearance pays dividends to a man's self-respect and self-confidence. The well-dressed man knows that the material, style and workmanship of our suits have brought them satisfaction and service.

Let us show you a Schloss or Sophomore at \$15, \$20, \$25 and up.

Phegley & Cavender, Cor. Fourth and Alder Sts.

face should have been so scrupulously finished off in every detail.

As I have said, the whole place in its scheme of sanitation, its massiveness and its multiplicity of open meeting for convenience is like the utilitarian parts of a modern American fireproof hotel, and you could be as comfortable there, though not as luxurious, as you could be in the Fuerstenhof in Berlin.

Trees Slaughtered Ruthlessly. Around Graudenz the field and forest fortifying has not involved much havoc among the trees.

But on the outskirts of Thorn, 30 miles to the south and the first of the important border cities the Russians would strike if they did effect a drive into West Prussia, the slaughter of trees has been dreadful, partly to enable the gunners to get the range and partly to create, by means of tracts thickly studded with stumps, an area well nigh impassable for cavalry, for an advancing enemy would be clearly visible above the stumps and be frightfully incommoded by them.

It would suffer all the inconvenience of moving in a thick forest and yet enjoy none of the protection of a forest.

But, though the Germans are town requires the destruction of a forest, they cut judiciously when the requirements are not so pressing. When they cut for firewood and building material in the Russian forests their principle is not to lay the trees down, but to cut one tree and spare the next, and so on from edge to edge of the forest, working when possible as carefully as the work in their own woods when the planting is young.

Even so, the slaughter of trees is going to equal the slaughter of men before this war is over. Twenty years will not cover the scars.

PARIS, May 8.—The following official statement was issued by the War Office tonight: "There have been artillery engagements around Graudenz captured by our battalions, by a sudden attack, captured a fortified work held by the Germans west of Lens."

On the right bank of the Focht River we have advanced nearly one kilometer (about two-thirds of a mile) along a front of 1500 meters (nearly a mile) in the direction of Metzlar. The report issued earlier in the day by the War Office said: "In Belgium yesterday at daybreak the Germans delivered a violent attack against the British lines near Ypres. This attack was repulsed, and the enemy suffered heavy losses."

"South of Ypres, at Hill No. 69, the British troops yesterday recaptured a further section of the trenches lost by them three days ago."

LONDON, May 8.—An official communication, issued by the British War Office tonight, says: "Yesterday fighting continued south-east of Ypres without any material change in the situation. We recovered a trench that we had lost the day before."

"This morning the enemy started a violent attack on our trenches on the front between the Ypres-Poelcapelle and the Ypres-Bresegottes. The attack was preceded by a heavy bombardment. The fighting continues, and counter-attacks are in progress."

"On the remainder of our front there has been no fighting."

Advertisement for 'REMOVAL SALE' featuring 'MR. AND MRS. NEWLY WED.' and 'EDWARDS REMOVAL SALE'. Includes an illustration of a man in a suit and a woman in a dress.

Advertisement for 'RUGS' and 'CARPETS' with 'REMOVAL SALE PRICES'. Includes a large illustration of a patterned rug.

Advertisement for 'Curtain Stretchers at Removal Prices'. Includes an illustration of a wooden curtain stretcher.

Advertisement for '10% DISCOUNT ON REFRIGERATORS'. Includes an illustration of a refrigerator.

Advertisement for 'Layer Felt Mattress'. Includes an illustration of a mattress.

Advertisement for 'Regular \$11.50 Tourist Go-Cart \$9.75'. Includes an illustration of a bicycle-like go-cart.

Advertisement for 'EDWARDS' Will Continue During the Month of May'. Includes an illustration of a building and a cherub.

Advertisement for 'WASHING MACHINES' and 'OIL STOVES'. Includes illustrations of a washing machine and an oil stove.

Advertisement for 'CURTAIN STRETCHERS AT REMOVAL PRICES'. Includes an illustration of a wooden stretcher.

Advertisement for 'REED ROCKERS AND OLD HICKORY'. Includes an illustration of a rocking chair.

Advertisement for 'OIL STOVES AT REMOVAL-SALE PRICES'. Includes an illustration of an oil stove.

Advertisement for 'DINING CHAIRS'. Includes an illustration of a dining chair.

Advertisement for 'A GOOD PLACE TO TRADE EDWARDS CO'. Includes the company name and address.

Advertisement for 'YOUR OWN EASY TERMS'. Includes an illustration of a table.

ARTILLERY BUSY IN WEST

FRENCH SAY SUDDEN ATTACK CAPTURED GERMAN POSITION. Violent Attack Against British Lines in Belgium Reported Repulsed, With Heavy Loss to Foe.

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SWISS AFFAIRS NORMAL

LEGATION SAYS BUSINESS CONDITIONS ARE IMPROVING. Factories Busy, Food Plentiful, Hotels Open and Visitors Invited—Trade With America Grows.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—(Special.)—In view of the numerous inquiries which are being received by the Swiss Legation relative to conditions prevailing in Switzerland, the Legation desires to make the following statement: "During the past few weeks general business conditions in Switzerland have shown marked improvement."

While the whole army had been mobilized at the outbreak of hostilities, the Swiss Federal Council found it possible to demobilize about half the forces with the advent of Winter. The general industrial activity suffered therefore only a brief interruption and all the Swiss factories are not only active, but their outputs have greatly increased during the last few months.

If there ever existed any anxiety about the food question, it has proven entirely unnecessary. The country has an abundant supply of foodstuffs of every description and the cost of living has by no means increased. The conditions in Switzerland are normal and are furthermore illustrated by the fact that practically all the hotels are open and

BANKERS ARRANGE MEET

GROUP ONE CONVENES WEDNESDAY AT NEWBERG FOR TALKS. Speakers to Discuss Business Conditions in State and Report to Be Heard From East.

NEWBERG, Or., May 8.—(Special.)—From a business standpoint the convention of bankers to be held here next Wednesday will be one of unusual interest. At the 1912 meeting it was decided to divide the state into groups so that those members who found it difficult to attend the regular meetings, which are still continued, might attend conferences in their own vicinity. To carry out this purpose the state was divided into groups.

The convention to be held in Newberg is of group No. 1, comprising the counties of Multnomah, Washington, Yamhill, Tillamook, Clatsop, Clackamas, Columbia and Hood River. An attendance of about 60 representatives of banks is expected and as the proceedings will be open to the public a large number of business men will be able to hear discussions of trade conditions.

The convention is to be held in the rooms of the Commercial Club. There will be an address of welcome by Clarence Butt, an attorney. H. G. Miller, of the State University, will speak on "The Relations of the University to the State" and will deal particularly with the subject of crop reports. E. G. Crawford, vice-president of the Lumbermen National Bank of Portland, will speak on "The Evolution of Bank Credits."

KELSO SCHOOL CENSUS TO START

W. C. Patterson has been selected by the Kelso School Board to take the school census for this year and will commence Monday. School attendance has gained considerably during the past year and it is expected that the census will show that the school population has increased, following a slight decrease last year.

Twenty Payment Life Policy Maturated in the Old Line Bankers Life Insurance Company

Gentlemen: The receipt today of check for \$813.84 covering maturity of my Policy No. 3135 is very satisfactory. I have had insurance for One Thousand Dollars for Twenty Years and there comes back to me considerable more than I paid the Company.

I am so well satisfied that I have applied for, and have received another Policy from the Company. Yours truly, ROBERT BROCK.

Ask the man who owns one of our policies. Assets \$8,400,000.