

WORLD'S GREATEST WAR DAY BY DAY

HOW A GREAT ARMY IS KEPT IN CONTROL

TIME and again I have been asked how it is possible to control the general advance of over a million men who are ranged along a line of battle 250 miles in length, says a German army officer in the Kansas City Star. The questioners have all apparently been of the belief that along such an enormous line of attack several million men are facing each other and at a given command will begin hostilities. It is true that the actions along the war line are controlled by orders from the general staff and that the different movements are made to conform to definite and well prepared plans. The different armies, however, act to a certain extent independently, and while the commander in chief of each army corresponds with the general staff, it is up to him to carry out the instructions as best he can.

The beginning of hostilities in Belgium gave the best illustration of how absolutely the German general staff depends upon strict execution of orders. The commander of the German troops entering Belgium was given orders to gain the French-Belgian frontier. The resistance of Liege was surely more or less unexpected, but as long as it formed an obstacle

the town was attacked, besieged and taken.

To the casual observer it might be a near lying thought why this commander did not march around Liege and thus carry out his instructions. An advance which does not gain full control of the territory covered is entirely out of consideration, for it endangers communication and supply service from the main body and creates a continuous menace in the rear military operations, would be entirely cut off. Aside from all this such action would show a decided weakness and would both demoralize the spirit of the advance corps and strengthen the confidence of the enemy.

The individual German armies are of course in constant touch with each other through their different flanks, and in this way practically present a solid battle array of 250 miles length. This arrangement enables each army to exchange assistance in case of defeat, and also to take advantage of victories at certain points. In the main, however, the present fighting in Belgium and on the French border is a series of separate battles in which the victory depends entirely on the superiority of the opposing forces.

GETTING WAR NEWS

GETTING the news from the seat of war is vastly different than watching the bulletin boards for the score in the world's series.

The fact that one must wait some time after a big battle is fought to learn the truth regarding the outcome is not at all new. What hurts is the fact that we are so used to getting information right hot off the bat, and in this, the most important of all "games" instead of extra facilities for spreading the reports by innings we are left very much in the dark at the most critical points.

On the 18th of June, 1815, James Gallatin, who went to Europe as secretary of his father, Albert Gallatin, one of the American commissioners who made the treaty of Ghent, wrote the following: "There was a rumor today that a battle had been fought and the Duke of Wellington was crushed. Tonight that is contradicted. One cannot believe anything."

In the Franco-Prussian war the news was sometimes as much delayed as now and was generally less reliable. Soon after the armies got in the

field in that struggle Napoleon III accompanied the French commander with an army of 25,000 in attack on the unfortified town of Saarbrück, defended by 1800 Uhlans, and when the place was taken there was wild rejoicing in Paris as the result of the report sent in. As a matter of fact it was the only time the French men crossed the German frontier during the war except as prisoners. A few weeks later two battles were fought, Weissenburg and Gravelotte. The French troops behaved with gallantry in these encounters and the reports sent to the capital called them great victories over the Prussians. As a matter of fact, however, the result was that the French army was penned up in Metz, with retreat cut off, and the foundation laid for capturing the flower of the French army a few days later in the memorable battle of Sedan.

All of which goes to show that reports from the battlefields are less satisfactory than from the baseball diamond.

Why Germany Has Failed To Carry Sentiment Of U. S.

GERMANY at peace was one of the greatest glories of modern civilization. It was the Germany of Luther and Goethe no less than of the great Frederick and of Bismarck. It was the home of art and science, of history, music and philosophy. Its scholars had for a century led the world of scholarship. Its statesmanship, the patriotism of the Teutonic peoples and the military genius of Prussia had made the jarring German principalities a great empire. Its sons and daughters by millions had swarmed into the United States and contributed mightily to our development, fighting loyally for the American Union in 1861-5 as Steuben had helped our fathers in their war for independence. Since 1871 it had developed its industries and commerce on a colossal scale and with a scientific thoroughness that challenged the admiration of the world, rivaled the progress of the United States and attracted foreigners in thousands to study German methods and achievements. The American people had and still have the heartiest liking and respect for the Germans.

Why, then, is the sentiment of the United States, with only negligible exceptions, virtually unanimous against the German government for its part in the world war?

In the first place the government of Germany is not a government by the people, but is a government by autocrats and bureaucrats, where as the government of the United States is government by the people. The framework and character of German government consist of government of the masses by the aristocracy and the army, and the temper of these is feudal and military.

"THIS IS THE HOUR OF MY REVENGE."

PARIS, Sept. 17.—(By mail to New York) —Those who have heard the story of the white-haired woman living in a little village near Paris in a little village near Paris in a house whose shutters were always closed are thrilled with one of the most touching stories of the war.

No one could remember when the shutters of the old woman's house had been opened or when it had not always appeared solitary and sad, but on the day France declared war the shutters were suddenly opened and in every window appeared the tri-color.

The old house took on a new life. That evening the story locked in the breast of the old woman who lives there was known.

Walking through the village the aged woman made her way to the fort.

"I have a request to make," she told the commander, "I should like to have you send one of your men with me.

every day to take the evening meal

obstinately opposing the progress of democracy. The legislature of Germany does not control the executive, which consists of emperor, his chancellor and their appointees, and in effect the German people are governed from above rather than govern themselves and the rulers. With this system American democracy can have no sympathy, even when Germany is fighting absolute autocracy as expressed in Russia.

In the next place, the spirit of militarism dominates German civilization, whereas that of peace controls American culture. Militarism has infected the German government with ambitions incompatible with the real welfare of the German people themselves and has for more than a generation affected the national character for the worse. Under its masterful influence the German empire has resisted such movements as those of the American government in favor of arbitration and suggestions tending to the reduction of armament. The people of the United States feel that the German government bases itself at bottom on brute force.

Such are some of the reasons why the informed intelligence and moral sense of the American people have compelled public opinion in the United States to take an unfavorable stand toward Emperor William and his government.

"He will be my guest!" "Forty-four years ago, my fiance, after dining with me, went away to fight. They brought him back with two German bullets in his breast. "Since then no man has ever entered my house, but this is the hour of revenge. In his place at my table should like each day one of those who are about to avenge him."

WILL MAKE GERMANY PAY

Czar Says Money Kaiser Has Taken From Belgium Must Be Turned Over With Interest.

COPENHAGEN, via London, Sept. 18.—The Emperor of Russia in a letter to a relative of his in this city says that all the money that Belgium has been made to pay to Germany, the latter country will be forced to repay with interest in East Prussia.

War Poem Stirs Englishmen

Wild Enthusiasm Greets Kipling's Verse as it Appears in London LONDON, Sept. 18.—Wild enthusiasm has been created here by Rudyard Kipling's war poem "For All We Have and Are," which appeared a few days ago in the London Times. It is being sold on every street corner and is acclaimed as one of the finest poems from the pen of the famous author-poet. The text of the poem has been cabled to France where it will be printed and distributed among the English soldiers battling there.

The poem is as follows: "For All We Have and Are." (Copyrighted by Rudyard Kipling) Courtesy of New York World

I. For all we have and are, For all our children's fate, Stand up and meet the war! The Hun is at the gate. Our world has passed away. In wantonness o'erthrown. There's nothing left today But steel and fire and stone. Though all we know depart, The old commandments stand; "In courage keep your heart! In strength lift up your hand!"

II. Once more we hear the word That sickened earth of old; "No law except the sword, Unsheathed and uncontrolled!" Once more it knits mankind; Once more the nations go, To meet and break and bind A crazed and riven foe.

III. Comfort, content, delight— The ages' slow-bought gain— They shrivelled in a night, Only ourselves remain To face the naked days In silent fortitude, Through perils and dismsays Renewed and re-renewed, Though all we made depart, The old commandments stand; "In patience keep your heart! In strength lift your hand!"

IV. No easy hopes of lies Shall bring us to our goal, But iron sacrifice Of body, will and soul. There's but one task for all— For each one life to give, Who stands if Freedom live? Who dies if England live?

SHAW SCORES RUSSIA.

London cable New York American: It is idle and somewhat exasperating to talk of "lifting the acts and thoughts of the British people to the plane of the noblest and purest patriotism" with such a business in hand as the present war.

The hard fact is that we have placed ourselves in such a position that we cannot, without the most cowardly treachery, refuse to throw ourselves with all our might into the war on the side of France.

But we are all three—France, Germany and England alike—committing a crime against civilization for the benefit of Russia, and to ask me or any other sane man to create an illusion of nobility and purity and patriotism around such a crime is to ask honest people to do the work of dupes and fools.

We shall have to fight and die and pay and suffer with the grim knowledge that we are sacrificing ourselves in an insane cause, and that only by putting up a particularly good fight can we bring ourselves out of it with credit.

For my part, I can only hope that all the western powers involved will quit themselves so heroically that they will be forced to divide the honors of war and shake hands forever.

For what is to happen if we smash Germany and smash Sweden, if we have forced Sweden to join Germany? Simply that we shall have to defend both Sweden and Germany against Russia, and to defend them when we are exhausted by a fratricidal war.

And if Germany smashes us and annexes the coast of the North Sea, what sort of back seat shall we and France occupy—we, who might have dictated the destinies of western Europe if we had stood for civilization and not for loans to Russia and capitalist exploitation in Persia?

It is fortunate for us all that smashing is schoolboy brag. We can display tremendous bravery and exhaust one another in the face of inexhaustible Russia, (not more inexhaustible, however, than we three shall be when we unite); but we cannot smash one another.

For the present there is only one thing to be done besides fighting for all we are worth, lest we be shamed as weaklings and cowards, as well as fools and madmen, until we learn to respect one another and respect our high destiny as the joint standard-bearers of western civilization as against the half-civilized eastern legions to whom we have taught the art of killing by machinery.

And that one thing is to set to work immediately to draft the inevitable treaty of peace, which we must all sign when we have our belly full of murder and destruction.

G. Bernard Shaw.

ITALY TO REMAIN NEUTRAL

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ROME, Sept. 18.—The Italian premier today gave out this official statement: "The Italian government is firmly determined to maintain the strictest neutrality, this corresponding to the feeling of the people, although deep-rooted sympathies are felt for England."

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