

sional president, will institute certain social and political reforms before holding elections. [See current volume, page 1044.]



Eulalio Guterrez was chosen provisional president by the Aguas Calientes convention on the 2d, for a term of twenty days. The briefness of the term is due to the fact that the Zapata delegates were not empowered to vote for a provisional president, and the twenty days are provided in order that the delegates may obtain credentials and power from General Zapata. General Guterrez is known in the Constitutionalist army as the "tiger of Conception del oro." He was made provisional governor of San Luis Potosi by General Carranza, with whom he is said to be most intimately associated.



One of the surprises of the convention is the respectability assumed by the Zapata faction. General Zapata, who began as a rebel against President Diaz, and continued his opposition to Madero, Huerta, and Carranza as each failed to keep faith with the people, has been referred to as a bandit. His army is said to be composed mainly of Indians, and the reports of his operations that reached the outside world have come through his enemies. He is now represented in the Aguas Calientes convention, and his delegates and those of Villa are said to control the convention. General Carranza's estrangement from Zapata and Villa has led to the substitution of what is known as the Ayala plan for the Guadalupe plan. The Ayala plan, which is urged by Zapata and accepted by Villa, calls for the confiscation of one-third of the land held by large holders, to be distributed to the poor farmers, who do not own the soil they till. Legal recourse is provided for the land owner, as well as the penalty for a refusal to abide by the decision of the court, which penalty is confiscation of the remaining two-thirds.



#### The European War.

The thirteenth week of the war leaves the struggle barren of decisive results. In Eastern Europe the Germans have been compelled to retreat in Poland, and the Austrians have made no further headway in Galicia. In the West the Allies have made small gains in Belgium and Northern France. Along the rest of the line the gains and losses have balanced each other. Dispatches announced the bombardment of Odessa and two other Russian Black Sea ports by Turkish warships on the 29th. Russia recognized a state of war with Turkey by a manifesto issued on the 3d. [See current volume, page 1043.]



#### The Campaign in Western Europe.

Little change has taken place in the long battle

line extending from the Franco-German border at Switzerland to the North Sea at Ostend. What is spoken of as the severest fighting of the war is reported from the northern end of the line. From La Bassee, south of the Belgian border, to Newport, near the sea, much activity has been shown; but it is between Dixmude and Roulers where the Germans have made desperate attempts to break through the line of the Allies, that the severest fighting and the heaviest losses have occurred. The great sacrifices made by the Germans in crossing the Yser seem to have been in vain, for they have been compelled to withdraw to the north bank again. The week's fighting favors the Allies in that the Germans have made no headway in their efforts to push their right wing down the coast to Calais, and so shorten and strengthen their line. It is reported that they are bringing up their heavy siege guns, which by over-reaching the artillery of the Allies have heretofore broken down opposition. The use of these guns, however, will be rendered doubly difficult because the Belgians have flooded all the low lands, which has made the movement of troops difficult. The Germans made a local gain ten miles east of Soissons, where it is announced they drove the Allies to the south of the River Aisne, but were unable to follow up the success. Farther to the east, in Lorraine and the Vosges mountains, the French claim gains. Experts think they see the effect of the advantage held by the Allies in having more men to draw from in sending re-inforcements to the front. Opposed to this is the German advantage of heavier artillery. No decisive battle is looked for in the west in the immediate future.



#### The Campaign in Eastern Europe.

Reports of the campaign in Poland still favor the Russians. The advance of the Germans on Warsaw completely failed. The army in East Prussia, which was to have supported the army advancing from the west, did not effect a junction. It is thought another advance in Poland will be attempted, with support from the army in western Galicia. Little change is announced in the struggle between the Russians and Austrians. Since all this eastern territory is absolutely excluded from the eye of the outside world, and the reports from Petrograd, Berlin, and Vienna are so conflicting, it is difficult to determine the real situation. Reports of the operations between Serbia and Austria are vague and confusing. Vienna announces a new invasion of Serbia by an army that crossed the rivers Save and Drina on the first. Reports of cholera in Austria persist, but the extent of the disease is not known. Some friction has occurred between Greece and Italy over the control of the Bay of Avlona on the coast of Albania; but it is supposed to have been adjusted.

**Turkey.**

The eleventh country entered the war of nations on the 29th when Turkish war vessels fired on Russian Black Sea ports. Odessa, Novorossyk and Theodosia, in Crimea, were shelled, but without serious damage. The apology tendered by the Turkish Grand Vizier gives color to the claim that the attack was made by the German officers on the Turkish vessels, and without the authority of the Ottoman government. Both the army and navy are officered largely by Germans, and the German cruisers, Breslau and Goeben, that were caught in the Mediterranean at the outbreak of hostilities, took refuge in Turkish waters, and were reported purchased by the Turkish government. The Goeben bombarded Sebastopol, but was reported disabled by the shore batteries. Battles between Russian and Turkish troops are reported in the Turko-Russian border in Asia Minor near Trebizond. The ambassadors of Russia, France and England demanded their passports of the Turkish government; but before they left the city the Turkish Grand Vizier assured the Russian ambassador that the attack on the war vessels was unauthorized by the government. The ambassador replied that his government had ordered him home, but that if Turkey would dismiss all the German officers in her army and navy, he would, when assured they had left the country, return to his post. The Turkish ministry is split on the question of war, the Grand Vizier representing the peace party, and the Minister of War the war party, which makes compliance with Russia's demands doubtful. The Ottoman government has annexed Egypt officially, and the British government has declared martial law in Egypt. Rumors of a Holy War are heard, but the British express little fear of such a result. Bulgaria is reported to be mobilizing her second line of troops since Turkey broke her neutrality; but her answer to Turkey's inquiry as to which side she favors has not been received.

**Japan.**

No decisive action has occurred in the investment of Kiau-Chau. It is officially reported from London that an Indian contingent has joined the forces of Japanese and English.

**South Africa.**

The vigorous action of General Botha, who took the field in person, is rapidly restoring order among the disaffected Boers. General Beyers and his band were dispersed by the defense troops under General Botha. At Brandvlei and Understedoorsn 100 Boers surrendered without resistance. Colonel Alberts defeated a band of rebels in the Lichtenburg district in the Transvaal, killing 13, wounding 30 and capturing 240. Colonel Conrad Brins, who had charge of the force sent against Colonel Maritz in Northwest Cape province, reports that the invasion has been broken.

**On the Sea.**

The German cruiser Emden, flying the Japanese flag, entered the harbor of Penang on the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, and torpedoed a Russian cruiser and a French destroyer. The British cruiser Hermes was sunk in the Straits of Dover by a German submarine. Owing to the laying of mines by the Germans to the north of Ireland, and the increasing difficulty of patrolling the coast waters the British admiralty has closed the North Sea. This includes the mining of the waters at any point, and necessitates the following by neutral shipping of the routes mapped by the admiralty. After November 5th shipping entering the North Sea by other than the routes prescribed will do so at its own peril.

**Italy.**

The Italian cabinet resigned on the 31st. The cabinet was united as to neutrality, but was divided on the question of armament. One faction wished preparations pushed at any cost; the other, while admitting the need of greater preparation, held that such action would imperil neutrality. Decreasing revenues and growing deficit were the immediate cause of the cabinet's fall.

**Belgium.**

The hardships and privations of the Belgians become daily more desperate. It is estimated that 200,000 have gone to England and 800,000 to Holland. The mass of those remaining in Belgium are homeless and destitute. Three million women and children, according to Walter H. Page, ambassador to Great Britain, are actually suffering from hunger. Foodstuffs collected by Americans are being forwarded from the United States and England. The Rockefeller foundation of New York, whose capital is \$100,000,000, has undertaken to relieve distress in Belgium, and in other war afflicted territory that may be found in want. One ship load of food has been shipped from New York. A commission representing the foundation has gone to Europe to investigate conditions.

**Porto Rico's Labor Question.**

A formal reply to the recent demands of the Free Federation of Labor was given in writing on October 10 by Governor Arthur Yager of Porto Rico. The Governor promises to recommend to the legislature that it adopt measures for survey of public lands and for examination into titles of privately owned tracts. These measures are to be preliminary to adoption of means "to encourage and enable the laborers of Porto Rico, through their labor, to acquire the ownership of small parcels of land." As a measure of temporary relief he says the Bureau of Labor has sent letters to landholders "to encourage their laborers who are now living upon their lands to cultivate gardens