

General Gutierrez declares most emphatically that dictatorship has ended in Mexico for all time, and that the military factions now in control realize that only a government directly commissioned by the people themselves can hope to reorganize Mexico and place the republic on a stable basis. [See current volume, page 1094.]

#### The European War.

Nothing that leads directly to the conclusion of the war is to be noted in the fifteenth week of the fighting. The main efforts of the Germans have been directed toward breaking through the northern end of the Allies' line in order to carry out their plan of reaching the coast on the British Channel; but there has been little change in the lines. On the Eastern border the Germans have retreated to their own territory, where they have stopped the advance of the Russians. Austria has continued to yield a little to the Russians, but seems to have advanced somewhat in Serbia. The reports of the Turko-Russian struggle in Armenia are still too confusing and contradictory to convey a definite idea of real conditions. Nor has anything of moment occurred between the Turks and British. The war still appears to be an endurance struggle. [See current volume, page 1094.]

#### The Campaign in Western Europe.

The ruling motive of the Germans during the past week appears to have been to destroy the Allies' forces that stand between them and the coast cities of Dunkirk and Calais. To this end troops that have been opposing the Russians in the East have been transferred to the army in Belgium and the north of France, but so far without avail. The desperate struggle about Dixmude, on the Yser, and at Ypres has continued day and night. The German forces succeeded in crossing the Yser a second time, and finding a lodgment on the west bank, but were finally compelled to withdraw. Much of the lowland has been flooded by the cutting of the dykes, which has hampered the invading army's operations. Dixmude has changed hands repeatedly during the long struggle, and at present the ruined little city is in the hands of the Germans. Ypres also marks a crucial point in the struggle, but remains in the hands of the Allies. The fighting has continued with such desperation that the casualties are said to be enormous. The net result appears to be favorable to the Allies, since they have held their ground against the concentrated German attack. It is reported that the Canadian troops have been sent to the front, together with some of the English reserves that have been in training. A large number of French reserves also are said to be ready. This is taken to indicate that the Allies are about ready to begin an offensive movement. Earlier indications that

active hostilities might subside during the winter are not borne out by present appearances. The weather has been cold, with much rain and some snow, but the campaign continues as vigorously as before.

#### The Campaign in Eastern Europe.

It is thought that when the German advance against Warsaw failed, and the army began its retreat toward the German line of defense, considerable numbers of troops were transferred to the Western field in a supreme effort to break down the Allies' defense in Southern Belgium. Now that the Russians are on the German border there is supposed to be under way a transfer of troops from the West to the East. The Russians have made some progress in East Prussia, but are likely to make little headway against the Germans in the near future. The latter are concentrating troops at Thorn, Posen, and Breslau in sufficient number to prevent any further advance of the Russians, even should they reach these fortified towns. In Galicia, however, and Southern Poland the Russians are still forcing back the Austrians. They have reached Cracow, the capital of Galicia and the intellectual center of Poland during its national existence. It has over 150,000 population but is not strongly fortified. The Russian investment has already begun, and unless the Germans succeed in a movement to arrest the siege, the city is expected to soon yield. Tarnow is in Russian hands, and the Austrian line from that point to the Vistula is west of the Donajeo River. Przemysl, the stronghold of Galicia, is still held by Austrians, but has been isolated by the Russians. An attempt to succor Cracow from Przemysl has been ineffective. The Austrian campaign on the south appears to make some headway against Serbia. They hold their position east of the Drina River, where they report success in routing the Servian forces. Serbia, however, claims to have held the Austrians in check. Nothing yet indicates the action of the Balkan States.

#### Turkey.

The Balkan states having refused Russia permission to move her army across their territory to attack Turkey, her operations are still confined to the territory east of the Black Sea. Reports of operations in this field are too contradictory to admit of any definite judgment of what has actually been accomplished. The Russians announce two invasions into Turkish territory in an advance upon Erzeroum, while the Turks claim to be advancing upon Batum, the Russian Black Sea port. Word comes from Constantinople that the Khedive of Egypt, who has been in that city since the beginning of hostilities, and who owes spiritual allegiance to the Sultan of Turkey, is about to set out in command of Turkish troops to begin operations

against Egypt. It is also reported from Constantinople that a Holy War has been declared by the head of the Mohammedan faith. This is supposed to arouse Moslems against Christians in all countries, but a general response is doubted by well informed Englishmen and Frenchmen. In exhorting his soldiers and sailors to bravery, the Sultan said: "Not only the fate of our own country but the future existence of 300,000,000 Moslems depends on your victory." No further reports have come regarding the bombardment of the forts of the Dardanelles by the Allies' fleet.



#### Japan.

The formal occupation of Kiao-Chau by the Japanese, and the joining of their warships in the search for the German vessels still at large in the Pacific waters comprise the news from the far East.



#### Italy.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron Sonnino, has requested the Italian ambassadors in the European capitals to return to Rome to confer with him regarding Italy's international policies. The growing pressure from without, and the discontent and impatience within, is thought to be forcing Italy to some expression regarding her relations toward the warring nations.



#### South Africa.

No further reports are at hand regarding the Boer disaffection in the Union, but there is much speculation on the part of publicists as to the probable outcome. There is no indication that Great Britain considers the matter serious.



#### Belgium.

Relief work for the destitute of the stricken country continues upon all hands. The London relief committee has received \$3,000,000 from the Belgians themselves, which will be devoted to sending in food. The committee estimates that food-stuffs to the value of \$4,000,000 a month will be necessary for seven or eight months. Of this amount \$1,000,000 a month will be required for transportation. The relief work in the United States is so widespread, and the organizations so numerous that President Wilson will appoint a central committee to take charge of the work in this country, and co-operate with the international committee. Many of the relief movements conducted by newspapers have had liberal responses from the public. Food is now pouring into Belgium in amounts sufficient to alleviate the grosser sufferings of the people.



#### On the Sea.

One of the severest disasters that have overtaken the British fleet occurred October 27, when the

superdreadnaught, Audacious, was sunk by a mine off the Irish coast twenty-seven miles northeast of Lough Smilly. The news was not given to the press, however, until the 14th. The White Star liner, Olympic, took off the crew of 800, but was unable because of the rough weather to tow the disabled ship into a harbor. No official statement regarding the disaster has been made. A German submarine on the 11th came within a mile of the English coast, and sank the small gunboat Niger in the Downs north of the Straits of Dover. It is reported that German guns on the Belgium coast disabled three of the light draught British ships that have been co-operating with the army by shelling the German troops when they came within reach.



#### England.

Field Marshal Earl Roberts, England's soldier-idol, died in France on the 14th. General Roberts, who was 82 years of age, and had seen 60 years of service, had gone to the Continent to greet the Indian troops with whom he had served in India. After reviewing the troops, he was stricken with pneumonia. Parliament on the 16th acceded without a dissenting vote to Premier Asquith's request for further credit to the amount of \$1,125,000,000, and an additional levy of 1,000,000 soldiers; \$54,000,000 will be lent to Belgium, and \$4,000,000 to Serbia, without interest, till the close of the war. Apart from this new levy, England already has under arms 1,100,000 men in addition to the territorials. All parties in Parliament assured the government of their full support.



#### The Christmas Ship.

The United States Collier, Jason, left New York on the 14th with a cargo of Christmas presents from the children of the United States to the war orphans of Europe. The cargo consists of over a hundred carloads of toys, clothing and food, numbering more than 5,000,000 presents. It is the result of a suggestion made by the Chicago Herald, and taken up by newspapers and prominent persons throughout the country. It received the endorsement of the administration at Washington, and is welcomed by the representatives of the foreign nations. The fact that the gifts are for children from children lends peculiar interest in view of the continuation of the war.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—Toll collections on the Panama Canal aggregated \$735,182 from the time of opening to November 1.

—The Russian government has placed an embargo on all kinds of lumber, to prevent its exportation. Special mention is made of walnut, including Cir-