Contents

List of figures .......................... page vii
List of tables ................................ x
Acknowledgements ...................... xi

Introduction ............................. 1
Soldier newspapers: a new medium 12
Men, women, family: gender in Wilhelmine Germany 13
Fathers in the frontier: Germany's superiority over its neighbours 15

1 Authorship, censorship, readership 16
A brief history of German soldier newspapers 18
Soldier newspapers: authorship, censorship, readership 21
Production: creation and distribution 31
Censorship: apparatus, propaganda, audience 36
Reading newspapers 40
Excursus: comparative history 49

2 National culture, national cohesion 55
Songs and theatre .......................... 57
Humour ................................... 70
Sport ....................................... 76
Everyday life ............................... 80
Soldiers' homes ............................ 82
National culture, national cohesion 85

3 Comradeship ............................. 88
Soldierly comradeship ........................ 93
Friendship .................................. 98
'Front community' .......................... 103
Workers and shirkers ........................ 107
The enemy .................................. 115
Colonial soldiers and comradeship 124
Technology, war and comradeship 133
Manly justification .......................... 151
Contents

4 German comrades, Slavic women
   Kameradinnen – the women at home 155
   Nurses 168
   Women of the occupied western front 171
   Women of the occupied eastern front 179
   Loyalty 186
   Crisis at home, or German impropriety? 189

5 Occupation and justification
   'From "our" France' 193
   The languages of the occupied 198
   Allied armies and local populations 202
   'Our issue is the East' 204
   Languages and the East 223
   Excursus: Ostjuden 224

6 Conclusion 237

Appendix: German soldier newspapers 245
Bibliography 250
Index 266