

# Morning Oregonian



VOL. LVIII.—NO. 17,913.

PORTLAND, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## LULL COMES OVER BATTLE IN FRANCE

### Allied Line Holds Intact During Day.

### ARTILLERY DUELS RAGE

### Cold, Rainy Weather Sweeps Over Front, Adding to Difficulties of Armies.

### LOWLANDS VAST QUAGMIRE

### British Hold La Bassee Canal Against Enemy Attempts to Force Way Across.

LONDON, April 19.—There was no change during the day along the British front in France, Field Marshal Haig reported this evening to the British War Office.

PARIS, April 19.—There was no infantry fighting during the course of the day, but there were lively artillery engagements in several sectors, according to the official statement issued by the War Office tonight.

The French last night reduced German machine gun nests on the front of yesterday's attack southeast of Amiens. There was heavy artillery fighting in this region.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Over the battlefields of France and Flanders, where terrific struggles have been waged almost without intermission since March 21, there has come what appears to be a lull.

Official reports tell little of actual conditions. They say that the situation is unchanged, which may indicate that both sides are exhausted by their exertions in the engagements that have been fought, or that they are busy bringing up artillery and fresh troops to renew the struggle.

Correspondents at the front tell of miserable weather—cold and rain and sleet—to add to their already known bad condition of the lowlands, which are virtually quagmires, through which the men and materials can be moved only with difficulty.

Ground is Very Muddy.  
The opposing armies have been fighting in a flat, marshy country since April 9, and this ground, difficult enough under normal conditions, has been made still more nearly impassable by rains and the tempest of high explosive shells that has blasted roads and fields.

It appears, however, that the Germans have not repeated their thrust along the line running north of Bethune, where they met with a sanguinary repulse Wednesday and Thursday. They employed about 75,000 men along a line variously reported to be from six to ten miles in length, but gained little or no ground. The La Bassee Canal front is still in British hands, and bridges flung across it by the Teutons have been swept away by the artillery fire.

### French Desist in Attack.

The blow aimed by the French at the very apex of the German lines in Picardy, in front of Amiens, apparently has not been followed up. It is difficult to believe that the allied counter-offensive, when it comes, will be launched in this sector. Advances from France would seem to indicate that the blow will be struck at another part of the battle line.

The southern end of the battlefront in France has shared in the quiet that has enveloped other sectors of the line. Only raiding operations and artillery duels are reported there.

An interesting dispatch tells of the moving of Italian troops to France. This would point to one of two developments. Either the Italian front is in no particular danger at the present moment or else General Foch is calling every available man to swell the army that he will hurl at the foe when the moment for battle arrives. It is probable, however, that the force of Italians en route to the French front is comparatively small.

The German torpedo-boat flotilla has been active along the coast sector of the battle line and has shelled Belgian positions there. This may fore-shadow a German attempt to drive westward through Nieup-et.

### The long-range bombardment of

## PRESIDENT RIDES IN TANK, BURNS HAND

### WILSON TAKES PART IN LIBERTY LOAN DEMONSTRATION.

### Executive's Injury Received by Coming Into Contact With Exhaust Pipe in Big Fighting Machine.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—President Wilson participated in an impromptu liberty loan demonstration today in a British battle tank by riding through the White House grounds in the great machine. He burned his hand severely while trying to climb out on top in the presence of a great throng at the front gates.

The president appeared to enjoy the experience, despite a bleeding and seared palm. The injured hand was bandaged tonight and it was said the wound was painful but not serious.

Thousands had followed the slow-moving tank up Pennsylvania avenue, had bought bonds from solicitors mounted on its roof, and waited at the White House gate while the President climbed through the little hole as movie cameras clicked and the big crawler turned carefully in the asphalt court and passed out the driveway to Pennsylvania avenue.

The tank is making a tour of a number of American cities.

The third liberty loan campaign will be half over tomorrow and indications are that half of the \$2,000,000,000 minimum total will be subscribed.

This record, although better than that of the first or second loans, does not satisfy Treasury officials entirely, because they actually are aiming at a \$3,000,000,000 loan with 20,000,000 subscribers.

Pledges will have to roll in much faster in the remaining two weeks than in the past to pass the higher mark.

The total reported tonight to headquarters here was \$1,204,714,350, an addition of \$14,979,350 within the last day, covering subscriptions received at banks together with the initial 5 per cent payment up to the close of business last night.

### ALASKAN DAY TOO LONG

### "Land of Midnight Sun" Makes No Gain by Moving Up Clocks.

FAIRBANKS, T. A., April 19.—(By mail to San Francisco.)—In order that the clocks of the "Land of the Midnight Sun," may register the same time as those in other sections of the United States, Fairbanks, Nome, Dawson and other cities close to the Arctic circle have set their timepieces in accordance with the daylight-saving status passed by Congress. But no daylight has been gained.

Summer days here are light the entire 24 hours. For a brief period the sun never drops below the horizon and the change in time effects no saving in daylight.

Northern Alaskans would welcome some Congressional action by which part of the Summer daylight might be conserved for the Winter, when the sun is seldom seen for nearly six months.

### WOMEN POLICE TO CENSOR

### Newly Annexed Bureau, Instead of Board, to Watch Vaudeville Shows.

Women operatives annexed to the police bureau recently for war work will do the censoring of vaudeville shows instead of this being left to a board of vaudeville censors, as requested in a petition sent recently to Mayor Baker from a committee of women.

The Mayor yesterday forwarded to the City Council a report to the effect that the women police have been given this as part of their duties, and that they can do the work better probably than could a censor board.

### HUNS TO ASK INDEMNITIES

### Prince Wilhelm Declares Rejection of Peace Justifies Demand.

AMSTERDAM, April 19.—Germany intends demanding indemnities from her enemies, according to Prince Friedrich Wilhelm of Prussia, son of the late Prince Albert, regent of Brunswick, as quoted by the Cologne Volks Zeitung in a speech at Brussels, says this newspaper. Prince Friedrich Wilhelm said:

"The enemy's rejection of the hand of peace justifies us in demanding economic and financial indemnities. Such indemnities also are needed for our economic development."

### ZEPHYRS WRAP COOS BAY

### Warmest Day of Year on Coast Finds Thermometer at 82.

MARSHFIELD, Or., April 19.—(Special.)—Coos Bay experienced Summer weather today and had a temperature of 80 to 82. Persons who have been wearing Winter clothing generally discarded it on the supposition there will be no more cold periods.

### KANSAS WHEAT AREA HUGE

### Acres of 4,309,563 Twice 1917, With Condition Much Better.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 19.—Condition of Kansas wheat was 77.5 per cent of normal on April 19, according to the first monthly crop report of the season, issued today.

The 4,309,563 acres of growing wheat on April 19, with a condition of 77.5 per cent of normal, compares with 3,379,000 acres at this time last year with a condition of 60.13 per cent.

## ENEMY DECIMATED BY BRITISH GUNS

### German Ranks Melt Under Terrific Fire.

### GIVENCHY STRUGGLE FIERCE

### Boche Onslaughts Preceded by Intense Bombardment.

### ENGLISH GIVE NO GROUND

### Teutons Make Furious Attempts to Cross La Bassee Canal, but Time After Time Assaults Fail and They Finally Desist.

### WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, April 19.—(By the Associated Press.)—Along the northern battle front today the Germans rested on their arms after the bitter defeat which they suffered yesterday in their great drive. Apparently they have not recovered sufficiently to make any further threats in this line. They are rushing the reorganization of their badly hammered forces.

Each successive report gives further confirmation of the terrific losses sustained by the assaulting infantry during yesterday's sanguinary struggle.

Between Givenchy and Festubert the German dead and at many other points on the long front of action excessive casualties were inflicted by the British artillery and machine gun fire, which mowed down the unhappy storm troops in countless numbers.

The British machine gunners worked their weapons in many cases until the enemy was only 50 yards away.

There was no chance of missing these point-blank targets. Time and again the enemy line wavered and fell back, unable to withstand the deluge of bullets, and where they succeeded in getting to close quarters they left a heavy trail of dead and dying behind.

### Many Teutons Surrender.

In the neighborhood of Robecq many Germans threw away their rifles and swam the canal to the British side to surrender when they could no longer bear up under the stream of machine gun bullets which was sweeping through them.

The British trench mortars also did great execution, throwing their high explosives into dense enemy ranks at close range.

The artillery bombardment about Givenchy and from La Bassee northward along the canal yesterday morning perhaps set a new high mark for intensity. Veterans of many battles declared they had never seen anything like it, although many records have been broken since the offensive began March 21.

### German Effort in Vain.

It was the intention to wipe Givenchy off the map, and in order to accomplish this they increased three-fold their efforts.

## PRO-HUN SUSPECT HANGED BY CROWD

### OFFENDER, NEAR END, SPARED FOR TRIAL.

### Crowd Overpowers Police Official, Takes Suspect From Cells and Hangs Him in City Hall.

COLLINSVILLE, Okla., April 19.—Henry Rheimer, suspected of disloyalty, was hanged by a crowd of 50 men here tonight, but after he had swung until he had become semi-conscious the police persuaded the would-be executioners to cut him down on the promise that he would be given a trial by the County Council of Defense tomorrow morning.

Rheimer is 50 years old and says he is of Russian birth, although evidence in the hands of the Council of Defense is said to indicate that he is a German, and that he made unapologetic remarks. At the direction of the Defense Council Rheimer recently was instructed to fly an American flag from the front window of his house and keep it there for the period of the war.

Today reports reached Collinsville that the flag had been removed. Rheimer was placed under arrest and brought to town and lodged in jail. At 10:45 tonight the crowd entered the jail, overpowered Assistant Chief of Police Charles Miller and two patrolmen and took Rheimer from his cell to the second floor of the City Hall, stood him on a chair, wrapped a doubled electric light cord twice around his neck, attached the other end to the supports of a basketball goal, and commanded him to kiss every star in the flag.

Rheimer complied and apologized for whatever disloyal statements he may have made. When the chair was removed Rheimer's writhing body swung twice past the goal post.

"Give him a chance," Miller pleaded. "Give him until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning and we'll see that he gets a real hearing."

The mob relented and the cord was loosed. Rheimer, it is said, was active in supporting a German school recently closed by order of the Council of Defense.

## ICE FLOE HALTS FERRIES

### Ship Will Carry Provisions to Ill-Fated Ship.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 19.—The Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh car ferry, Ontario No. 1, bound for the port of Rochester late today, was caught fast in the floe of ice which has imprisoned its sister ship, the Ontario 2, since yesterday.

The ships have only two days' provisions on board, and are in danger of being crushed by the ice.

### WAR INDEMNITY DEMANDED

### Senate of German Cities Ask Prussia to Secure War Spills.

COPENHAGEN, April 19.—The Senates of Hamburg, Lubeck and Bremen have adopted resolutions that the Prussian diet should make a demand for war indemnities.

The Wasser Zeitung declares that a large majority of the diet will support such a demand.

## MACHINES COLLIDE; POLICEMAN KILLED

### Mishap Ends Life of G. L. Litzenberg.

### AUTO STRIKES MOTORCYCLE

### Death Follows Within Few Minutes of Crash.

### DRIVER HELD FOR INQUIRY

### Automobile in Charge of E. Ehlenberger Said to Have Been Going at Moderate Rate—Tragedy Occurs at "Blind Corner."

G. L. Litzenberg, member of the motorcycle squad of the Portland Bureau of Police, was killed almost instantly when he collided with a five-passenger automobile driven by E. Ehlenberger, employe of Twohy Bros., at the intersection of East Seventh and Beach streets at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Litzenberg was riding west on Beach street, following about 50 yards behind Motorcycle Policeman L. P. Russell, who said he was going at the rate of about 25 miles an hour. Ehlenberger was driving south on East Seventh street and, according to a statement he made to the police, was traveling about 15 miles an hour. He did not see the officer until he was almost directly in front of him and immediately steered his car to the right. The motorcycle struck the front fender of the car and the officer was thrown into the air, falling head first on the pavement. He suffered concussion of the brain, dying about five minutes afterwards.

### Automobile Driver Held.

Chief of Police Johnson and members of the motorcycle squad immediately went to the scene of the tragedy and after making an investigation took Litzenberg to police headquarters. He is being held in jail without bail on a tentative charge of manslaughter. Though, from the evidence obtained, the accident appeared unavoidable, Deputy District Attorney Ryan, who, with Captain Harms, of the traffic squad, closely questioned Ehlenberger, insisted on holding the automobile driver until the case is more fully investigated.

In his statement to the police, Ehlenberger said he was on his way home after taking five workmen employed at the Twohy Brothers plant to their homes in Albina. He had just started his car a short distance from the street intersection and was driving at a moderate rate of speed when he saw the motorcycle officer almost upon him. The intersection is known as a "blind corner" and Ehlenberger said he did not see Litzenberg until the crossing was reached and the officer started to circle around ahead of him. Neither the motorcycle nor the automobile was badly damaged.

### Litzenberg Leaves Widow.

Litzenberg had been a member of the

## GOMPERS EXPOSES SOCIALISM IN U. S.

### MEREELY GERMAN PROPAGANDA, SAYS LABOR LEADER.

### Alleged Political Organization Held to Be Poisonous—Labor Is Urged to Buy Bonds.

CLEVELAND, O., April 19.—Socialism in America was branded as poisonous German propaganda by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a speech in behalf of the liberty loan at the City Club this afternoon.

While the labor chief was excoriating socialism and calling on labor and capital in Cleveland to join hands in speeding up the city's subscription race, Douglas Fairbanks, moving picture actor, was making a loan appeal before a crowd that jammed the largest theater in town.

"There is no such thing as an American Socialist party," Mr. Gompers said. "The American Socialist organization is merely a branch of the one in Germany—it is part of German propaganda."

Mr. Gompers declared he had been changed from "the most active pacifist in America to a good fighter," and he said that labor will not meet in a peace movement until the war is over and labor parties of all countries can be represented.

### IDLE MEN MUST GET BUSY

### Forest Grove Authorities Propose to Tolerate No Loafers.

FOREST GROVE, Or., April 19.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the Commercial Club here last night, addressed by Oscar Baldwin, Assistant Federal Labor Commissioner, of Portland, and County Agent Jamison, the club unanimously adopted a resolution asking the City Council to pass a vagrancy act requiring all able-bodied men to find work and assist in relieving the labor shortage.

Mayor Peterson endorsed the plan, and every man in the town not employed will be required to get busy.

## SCIENTISTS COMING WEST

### Eastern Men Plan to View June Eclipse at Baker.

BAKER, Or., April 19.—(Special.)—Mayor C. L. Palmer received word today from S. A. Mitchell, president of the Leander McCormick University, of Virginia, that he and five others of the faculty of the university would arrive here April 28 to make preparations for observing the eclipse of the sun June 8.

Mr. McCormick said that six other members of the party would arrive the following day.

The eclipse will be total at Baker for 296 seconds, and will occur at 4:03 P. M.

## INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

### The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 78 degrees; minimum, 49 degrees.

TODAY'S—Fair, nearly stationary temperature; moderate easterly winds.

### War.

German attacks fail to budge allied line. Page 1.

United States Engineers help British stop Hun. Page 2.

Germany to continue unrestricted submarine warfare. Page 3.

Secretary Daniels says Germany will be defeated even should present offensive in France succeed. Page 4.

German complete destruction of city of Rheims. Page 4.

Washington officials express belief that Huns are stopped in drive. Page 5.

Germany, decimated by British guns, forced to rest. Page 1.

### Foreign.

British authorities prepare to deal with threatening situation in Ireland. Page 2.

Turkish invaders of former Russian territory massacre city of Kara. Page 3.

Food easy for rich to buy in Germany, says writer. Page 9.

### National.

Borah attacks Chamberlain sedition bill. Page 1.

Schwab clears way for shipbuilding progress by clearing way for prompt steel deliveries. Page 4.

President signs woman spy bill. Page 4.

President Wilson slightly injured while riding in battle tank in liberty loan demonstration. Page 1.

Government expected to fix prices for wool. Page 1.

Treasury announces 40 per cent of third liberty loan subscribed. Page 6.

Delay in war work severely criticized in Congress. Page 15.

### Domestic.

Pro-Hun suspect hanged by crowd in Oklahoma town. Page 1.

Gompers denounces Socialism in America as part of German propaganda. Page 1.

James A. Farrell predicts increase of world's wealth that will go far toward compensating for war losses. Page 3.

Professor Thomas and Mrs. Granger freed when city prosecutor drops charges. Page 6.

### Sports.

Washington wins from Columbia in close game. Page 18.

Judge McCredie visiting buckaroo training camp. Page 18.

Veau Grass loses pitching battle to Washington, 1-0. Page 18.

Oregon defeats Aggies, 3 to 2, when Lind Smiths home with two on in eighth inning. Page 18.

### Commercial and Marine.

Increased cereal production assured on Pacific Coast. Page 18.

Corn higher at Chicago, owing to colder weather. Page 18.

Stocks rise briskly at New York, but gains are later retraced. Page 18.

Wool trade is awaiting action by Government. Page 18.

Members of Columbia crew set strike date for May 1. Page 14.

### Portland and Vicinity.

Druggist held for selling boys camouflaged liquor on trial today. Page 20.

Policeman killed when auto and motorcycle collide. Page 1.

Dr. Brounger says victory in war means that America must be united. Page 8.

Hill Hart is only one of several notables to appear here for liberty loan. Page 12.

Fuel oil to be denied all plants not indispensable to prosecution of war. Page 8.

Parties to recent Hun-Library controversy bury all differences. Page 12.

Dealers and fuel users object to new wood prices. Page 7.

Viola House to be dedicated on Sunday, May 5. Page 14.

J. C. Hart, ex-convict, arrested charged with forgeries exceeding \$300. Page 8.

Weather report, date and forecast. Page 18.

## TREASON CHARGED TO NON-PARTISANS

### League Held Twice as Bad as I. W. W.

### MINNESOTAN GOES ON RECORD

### Judge John F. McGee Heard by Senate Committee.

### NEW SEDITION LAW URGED

### Borah Opposes Chamberlain Bill on Ground That It Is Too Drastic and Would Be in Violation of Constitution.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Immediate enactment of legislation to permit the military authorities to deal directly with spies and German propagandists was urged before the Senate military committee today as the only way to curb lynch law against disloyalty and enemy agitators.

Representatives of the Army and Naval intelligence departments and other witnesses told the committee that the situation is serious and cannot be handled under existing laws.

Judge John F. McGee, of Minneapolis, Minn., a member of the powerful public safety commission, organized by citizens of that state to aid the Government in the prosecution of the war, declared the department of justice's efforts have been a "ghastly failure" in Minnesota and that the I. W. W. is not one-half as dangerous as the Non-Partisan League members, who he characterized as "traitors."

### Anarchy Declared Possible.

"Give us the military court, or when the casualty lists come back and the crop hangs on the door, you will have a state of anarchy in this country," Judge McGee declared.

Judge McGee told of the intense feeling prevailing in sections of Minnesota. In the German counties, he said, stores are being installed by Germans to compete with Americans. Banks also were being established, he said, until the state bank examiner established a rule refusing to grant charters to banks until applications had been submitted to the committee on public safety.

### Committee Postpones Action.

The testimony was given in connection with Senator Chamberlain's bill which would transfer from civil courts to military courts-martial trials of all persons charged with violating the espionage act. After the hearing the committee postponed action until next week and Chairman Chamberlain announced that other witnesses might be called.

While the bill was being considered by the committee, opposition was developed in the Senate. Senator Borah declared that the bill, if passed, would be unconstitutional and several members of the committee also questioned its validity.

Delay of civil courts in prosecuting cases involving the espionage and other acts intended to stop German propaganda and seditious utterances was criticised by Norman H. White, of Brookline, Mass., and Colonel R. H. Vandeman, both connected with the military intelligence section.

### Grave Offenses Unchecked.

Twenty thousand aliens in New York alone, Mr. White said, have refused to give their finger prints to the Federal authorities as required by law, and no effort is being made to compel them, owing to the rush of work due to the war now facing the Department of Justice.

There are also hundreds of cases, he asserted, in which heroin is being sold American soldiers by Germans and others in the theatrical district in New York, but under the present law it can be stopped only with difficulty.

The Chamberlain bill was endorsed by Captain McCauley, assistant director of the naval intelligence service, who declared that the delay in prosecuting martial would deter many persons from committing acts which they would not hesitate to do if they were sure only trial by jury would follow.

Despite the united efforts of the Department of Justice and the Army and naval intelligence forces, he admitted little progress is being made against spies and propaganda.

Senator Borah issued a statement denouncing the bill, while witnesses were urging its passage before the Senate military committee.

### Unconstitutional, Says Idaho Man.

"The bill as it is presented is, it seems to me, clearly in conflict with some of the plainest and most fundamental principles of the Constitution," said Senator Borah, "and I do not see how it could be changed and accomplished without its being clearly and unmistakably unconstitutional."

"Furthermore, there is no necessity for such a measure at this time, even assuming that we had the power to pass it. There is practically no indication whatever of the courts and the machinery of the courts of this country are not able to apprehend criminals and punish crime."

### Civil Courts Preferred.

"I am very much opposed to any thing like this measure. I have been in favor of drastic laws, but I am thoroughly in favor of administering them through the courts and juries of the country."

