

GERMAN DRIVE IS HALTED

Reports From All Along the Line Show That Enemy Cavalry and Infantry Are Being Held In Check.

PRESIDENT WILSON SENDS MESSAGE OF CONFIDENCE

Day and Night Fighting Continues, Airplanes Giving Aid--Authoritatively Stated That No Americans Have Participated With the British.

Field Marshal Haig's statement this morning is the most optimistic he has issued since the German offensive started. According to Haig's report the enemy advance has been stopped at all points, temporarily, at least.

The gist of Haig's statement is that the Germans have been temporarily halted. The enemy is again attacking north and south of Bapaume, which is apparently his immediate objective.

Cavalry Attacks Repelled (By William Philip Simms)

ON THE BRITISH FRONT, March 25.—Under the eyes of captains and kings the battle proceeds without pause. The Kaiser, Crown Princes, Hindenburg and Ludendorff are consulting on one side against Haig on the other. The struggle continues both night and day. By moonlight airplanes drop tons of explosives over a wide area and few towns escape. In the day light scout fleets fly over the battle zone in frantic haste to direct the fire of the artillery. The Prussian cavalry which has been attacking at several points has been repelled everywhere. Terrific encounters with mounted and unmounted enemy forces between the Tergnier canal and Ham resulted in the Germans being driven back.

Cross Somme But Ejected

LONDON, March 25.—The Germans crossed the Somme south of Peronne, but counter attacks ejected them. Haig reports that the first hostile attacks this morning developed on both sides of Bapaume, though raging with the greatest violence everywhere north of Bapaume. Powerful attacks north of Bapaume last night were sanguinarily repelled, the Germans reaching the British trenches in only one place and this they were unable to retain.

The king has sent the following message to Field Marshal Haig: "The empire stands calm and are confident in the soldiers."

French Relieve Part of Shock

PARIS, March 25.—French forces have relieved part of the allies' shock. There is hard fighting in the Noyon region and violent artillery northwest of Rheims, also at Courcy, Loivre, Arracourt and Vosges. Enemy attacks east of Suippe and east of Bendenwillers, where Americans are fighting, were repulsed. Mysterious shells fell in Paris this morning. The people are undisturbed.

American Lines Bombarded

ON THE AMERICAN FRONT IN FRANCE, March 25.—It is authoritatively stated that no Americans participated with the British in the new battle. American lines were heavily bombarded and machine gunned this morning.

Intensity Increases

WITH THE BRITISH FRONT, March 25.—Fighting continues from Scarpe to Oise with increasing intensity. Troops on both sides are fatigued but continue fighting. Captured prisoners say the worst blow is yet coming. At an appalling cost the Germans progressed across the old Somme battlefield, but the British line was everywhere kept intact. Fighting was severe all last night, especially at Sapignies, on the Bapaume road. In the moonlight the British machine guns caked the dense masses of the Germans. The enemy is advancing almost without artillery support, hoping to smash the British line by sheer weight of numbers. Airmen are constantly staying the fighting.

Germans dressed as British soldiers were arrested in a town behind the lines as they were warning the people to flee, saying the Germans were in the next village.

President Wilson Sends Message

WASHINGTON, March 25.—President Wilson has cabled Field Marshal Haig confidence in his forces. "Americans feel that you will win a secure and final victory," was a part of the message to Haig.

LATE REPORT NOT FAVORABLE

LONDON, March 25.—The war office tonight announces that the British were pressed back at several places south of Peronne. The British sustained heavy losses in war materials, including a number of tanks. The enemy captured Nesle and Guseard.

LATEST FROM BATTLE FRONT

ON THE BRITISH FRONT, March 25.—Enemy cavalry is doing its utmost to harass the British forces which are withdrawing. The situation is now necessarily obstructed with ceaseless attacks and counter attacks on both sides, both under the sun and under the stars, as is inevitable in such cases. The Germans have taken very little British material and few prisoners. The spirit of the men is fine as the prospect of still harder fighting opens.

GERMANS CELEBRATE VICTORY AMSTERDAM, March 25.—The Kaiser and von Hindenburg have visited Peronne. The Kaiser has ordered the flags hoisted for a holiday throughout Germany in celebration of the fall of Peronne. The German losses in taking Bapaume were comparatively heavy Berlin states.

SAYS MORE IS TO COME. COPENHAGEN, March 25.—The present German offensive is only a link in a great offensive and it will be a long time before a final result is reached is indicated in a report from the Austrian General Auffenberg, who says in the Austrian: "The most violent fighting will be near Verdun, and important things will happen in Italy."

AMERICAN VIEW OF CONFLICT NEW YORK, March 25.—The next twenty-four hours will probably mark the climax in Hindenburg's unprecedented slaughter of his own troops in the effort to overwhelm the British. If the Britons hold their own during that period, von Hindenburg's battle is lost. For the present, the Germans have gained two objectives. They have largely improved their own defensive positions in guarding the chief lines of communications in western France; they have disarranged the British offensive plan for the summer. But the Germans have not yet regained all the territory that they voluntarily abandoned last March, when they retired to the Hindenburg line. As long as the British orderly retirement proceeds, German attacks must continue to exhaust Germany's man power without a corresponding compensating advantage.

WEDGE DRIVE EVIDENT NEW YORK, March 25.—A German communique indicates that von Hindenburg is again concentrating to attempt to drive a wedge between the British and French sectors, where Berlin says the Americans are fighting on the direct road to Paris. These Americans, if the Berlin statement is true, may be a few units who have been with the French in the Chemin des Dames region. The German statement, if true may mean the Americans have taken better positions.

FIRING HEARD IN ENGLAND LONDON, March 25.—Extremely heavy firing was heard along the Kentish coast last night. Houses were shaken by the concussions.

ATTEND THE LUNCHEON

"Something New" is the slogan for the business men's luncheon at the Foley hotel tomorrow noon. All men interested in the "Get Together Spirit" are urged to be present. Four able speakers have been secured and an octette of young ladies will render a musical selection. Mr. Forrest Ivanhoe, who is with the paymaster corps in the United States military service, will be present and will give a short talk. The luncheon will start at 12 o'clock sharp.

OFFENSIVE ON ITALIAN FRONT

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Italian embassy cables that the Italians are preparing an offensive on the Italian front as soon as "natural conditions" return in Northern Italy. Austrian divisions are steadily arriving.

MISCONDUCT CHARGED. Head Of Boy Scouts Object Of Federal Investigation.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Charges citing twenty counts of misconduct in office have been received by the attorney-general against Col. Livingston and James E. West, head of the Boy Scouts in America. The complaints are made by John D. Gluck. Federal authorities will investigate before taking any action.

HEAVYWEIGHTS WILL MEET

Agreement Is Signed Between Fulton And Willard.

CHICAGO, March 25.—Fulton and Willard have signed an agreement to meet July Fourth for the heavyweight championship. The place is not named. Willard is to get three-fourths of the receipts and Fulton is to get \$20,000.

SEED SURVEY Under Way

Efforts are being made to get accurate information as to the supply of seed, both for grain planting and for other purposes. This work is in charge of Mr. A. B. Cherry, who is the deputy in the seed reporting service for this district.

Congress is taking action in the matter of assisting worthy farmers who may be short of seed, either by furnishing seed grain on credit or in the loan of money for purchases.

Another matter in this connection is that of finding out what surplus stocks of seed grain may be available. A circular covering these points was received from headquarters by Mr. Cherry this morning.

Mr. Cherry would be glad to hear from farmers who may be able to plant spring grain if they can get the seed. Just make out the kind of seed you want and the amount and forward it to Mr. Cherry. The other information is also desired—that as to who has surplus stocks of seed grain. This information the district seed reporter would like to have as soon as possible.

As the season is rapidly advancing, all this information is desired by Mr. Cherry at the earliest possible date.

IS ONLY BACHELOR GENERAL IN ARMY



Girls, Maj. Gen. John Biddle is the only bachelor general in the army. And girls, he has red hair. He has just been assigned to command the United States troops in England. Biddle comes from an old English family, and is known for his ability as a linguist, speaking French and German as well as English.

MANY LETTERS ARE RECEIVED FROM FRANCE

ALL MEMBERS OF LA GRANDE HOSPITAL UNIT REPORTED WELL.

IN ACTUAL SERVICE ALONG THE FRONT

Kenneth Carpy, "Bobbie" Pattison and Albert Palmer Transferred to French Hospital

Yesterday's mail brought many letters from the members of the La Grande hospital unit now in active service along the battle front in France. While reports have been received and circulated as to the work the hospital unit is now doing these rumors have been principally by inference. The last batch of letters brings the direct news that the training period is at an end and that the boys are seeing service and plenty of it.

Kenneth Carpy writes in effect that they are so close to German villages that they can almost throw stones into the houses.

According to the letters received the boys are all well and enjoying themselves as well as could be expected under the conditions. Kenneth Carpy, "Bobby" Pattison and Albert Palmer have been transferred to the French evacuation hospital for training. This is understood to mean that they are not essentially segregated from the owners of the hospital unit, but are in the French institution where surgical work is done.

Nearly every mother or other relative of the hospital boys is in receipt of messages in the recent mail, and the general tenor of all is that the boys are getting along all O. K.

Dr. Plomondon Coming Home.
Dr. Plomondon, who was with the hospital unit, has been relieved from service on account of poor health, and is now in New York on his road home. In a telegram to Pat Foley, the doctor says that he will probably reach La Grande this week. He comes direct from the hospital unit headquarters and the telegram to Mr. Foley further confirms reports to the effect that all the boys are well and happy.

FIRE AT COVE.

Boy And A Match Destroys Two Barns.

COVE, March 25.—(Special).—The little four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Simmons, while playing in a barn yesterday, lighted a match which started a fire in the barn owned by Mrs. Francis Wilson. The little boy narrowly escaped death as a storm wind spread the flames so quickly he was almost suffocated before his mother reached him. The large barn across the road, owned by Mr. J. Duffy, which was filled with hay, grain and livestock, was practically destroyed, but the stock and an auto were removed. The damage, amounting to \$500, is covered by insurance. The loss on the Wilson barn is estimated at \$200, and was not insured.

RED CROSS DANCE

Big Event Billed for Easter Monday Night.

S. O. S. signals to replenish the Red Cross fund in this city have gone out from headquarters and one of the first material efforts to meet the want will be a Red Cross dance next Monday evening at Rex hall. Mrs. Roscoe K. Neal is general chairman of the arrangements, and if things don't go awry entirely, the event will turn over a very substantial sum of money to the Red Cross chapter, which for several days has been running short of funds with which to operate.

It is announced that the Monday night dance will be a pay-as-you-go affair and there will be punch served. This will be the first post-Lenten event of the spring and doubtless will draw a fine crowd—and the need for liberal support is apparent.

The general committee has a scheme in mind that will be a happy surprise to those who attend, being unique and novel in its conception.

NEW WRINKLE FOR THE DRIVE

LIBERTY HEADQUARTERS WILL BE LOCATED ON ADAMS AVENUE

Large Tent to Be Placed on Platform Will Be Used as Rallying Point in Drive

Portland may have its Liberty Temple, built of wood, and to serve as Liberty Loan headquarters, but the Liberty Loan committee in La Grande is not to be outdone by Portland. It will establish Liberty headquarters in the center of Adams avenue in the block bounded by Depot and Elm street. A large tent, familiar to chautauqua patrons, is to be erected on a platform in the center of the street, and there general headquarters will be located and "General" A. T. Hill will be the "Pershing" behind the table. From there the emissaries will rally forth to glean the simoleans and from there the myriad committees who handle scores of different phases of the work will go out to fulfill their missions.

The tent to be used is the W. R. Jones family summer home at the chautauqua and is equipped with a porch arrangement. It will make a very suitable headquarters. The publicity committee has some novel plans afoot with which to attract attention to the institution, and the committee is now making arrangements to put an indicator on the tent by which the public can always keep in touch with the advance of the drive, which begins April 6, to last one month.

O'Neill and Thye are Matched

Jack O'Neill, well-known local grappler, and Ted Thye, popular athlete, now located here, have been matched to wrestle to a finish at catch weights, some time the coming month.

As both men reside here and each has a large following who is anxious to have them meet on the who is the best wrestler, a match mat and settle the question as to between those two clever scissors and toothed exponents should be in splendid condition.

The time, the place and the particulars will be announced later.

MR. AYER EXPLAINS.

Patriotism Of People Should Make Inconveniences Welcome.

PORTLAND, Ore., March 25.—Commenting upon the numerous inquiries and thoughtless complaints being made at the Food Administration offices here, Federal Food Administration W. B. Ayer said:

"I wonder if the people of the state understand that the Food Administration bill passed by Congress did not give the President authority to fix the price of any oil, grains, wheat, and that in consequence the Food Administration has been unable to control the price of substitutes. It must have been a great war necessity that compelled the President to issue his recent 'fifty-fifty' proclamation, calling upon the people to conserve additional wheat. Serious thought should be given to this fact by those who are complaining about the unavoidable little difficulties with which they must contend under the new rule. Of course, there are some hardships and inconveniences bound up with the 'fifty-fifty' order, but we should all remember that we are at war and that these food regulations are war measures and military necessities. It is as much the duty of the people of this nation to supply wheat flour for the armies at the front and for the women and children of the countries allied with us in this war as it is for us to supply men to fight in the trenches. It seems to me that the patriotism of the people here at home should prompt them to welcome, rather than at resent, the opportunity of offering a little inconvenience or even hardship, for the sake of sending the supplies so sorely needed, to those who are hopefully waiting for them in Belgium, France and England."

WEATHER FORECAST.

PORTLAND, March 25.—Rain.

STOCKMEN WILL MEET IN ONTARIO

CALL IS ISSUED FOR FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION ON APRIL 23 AND 24

REDUCED FARES ON ALL RAILROADS

On the Day Following the Convention There Will Be a Public Sale of Shorthorn Cattle

President Wm. Pollman of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon, has issued a call for the fifth annual convention of the association, which will be held in Ontario on April 23 and 24. All railroads in the territory have issued notice of a one and a third fare to Ontario on the certificate plan. A number of prominent speakers have been secured for the event and the meeting will be open to all stockmen.

On the day following the convention, April 15, the Northwest Shorthorn Breeders' association will hold a public sale of Shorthorns.

The Ontario Commercial association and the stockmen of Malheur county will have charge of the reception of delegates and visitors. In this connection the Ontario Commercial club issues the following unique announcement:

"Ontario on the Snake", expects to iron out her best gingham and sweep off the front stoop for April 22, 23 and 24. We hope every one of you boys of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon will be in our midst at that time. This corner of the sagebrush is as bonedry as any other, but don't let that worry you. Ain't nobody at our house can warble paens of welcome in grand opery style, but we'll all be there with the glad mitt. Canter in early, hang your saddle on the town pump, and let 'er hang there till the last dog's hour.

"Yours cordially,

"ONTARIO COMMERCIAL CLUB."

FORREST IVANHOE HERE.

Forrest Ivanhoe, son of Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe, arrived in La Grande last night on a visit to his mother. He has been away from La Grande seven years, during all of which time he has been in the navy. He now holds a commission in the paymaster's department. After his visit, which will extend over a period of about a week, he will report at Samsa. The young man expresses himself very well pleased with his part in Uncle Sam's sea forces, and is glad to return for a visit with his mother and to meet his former friends and schoolmates in La Grande.

BITTEN BY TARANTULA

Robert Pattison Finds Venomous Visitor Among Bananas

Robert Pattison, of Pattison Bros' grocery establishment, was bitten on the hand by a tarantula while unpacking bananas at the store Saturday evening. Surgical aid was immediately sought. A good portion of the tissue surrounding the wound was removed and antiseptics applied. Today Mr. Pattison is at his place of business as usual, although his hand is considerably swollen.

MUST BE 100 PER CENT

La Grande will not only be famed for her "Over the Top" methods, but also for reporting the smallest deficiency in various drives. The management of the Red Cross and the Army Y. M. C. A. are making an effort to close these drives without any deficiency. All persons who have subscribed to these funds are urged to make their final payments now. Other drives are being contemplated, and it is the hope of the committee that these funds can be reported as 100 per cent collected, before another drive is started.