

GERMANS ARE MAKING APPALLING SACRIFICES

Loss Is 280,000 Since Thursday, Before the French Alone.

BRITISH PUSH ENEMY BACK A MILE NEAR TOWN OF CORBIE

Teutons Compelled to Abandon Attempt For Better Positions, With Great Gaps Torn Through Masses By British Guns.

(By Henry Wood.)
WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES, April 8.—Two hundred and eighty thousand German reserves have been sacrificed since Thursday before the French alone. This sacrifice was expended in attempting to encircle Amiens, and in small local attacks, the Germans, owing to French pressure have been compelled to abandon the attacks to improve their positions.

GERMANS PUSHED BACK.

LONDON, April 8.—An official report says the British troops advanced the line slightly east of Villers-Bretonneux and south of Corbie, along the south bank of the Somme. They took prisoners north of the Somme, near Arras.

"On the whole of the British section of the battle front, the enemy has increased his artillery activity last night. There is intense hostile gas shelling between Lens and the La Bassee canal."

Haig indicated that the Germans had been pushed back at least a mile near Corbie.

(Corbie is due east of Amiens.)

ON THE BRITISH BATTLE FRONT, April 8.—President Wilson's decision to hasten support of the allies with troops came none too soon.

Every American fighter is golden now. Daily there is more conclusive proof that von Hindenburg is commanded to force the issue most rapidly to end the war this year. German prisoners stubbornly and obstinately insist that the drive is not stoppable. Captured officers doggedly insist that the drive will continue with brief pauses, until the war is won. They talk and behave like desperate gamblers staking all on one play. They try to appear indifferent, but their voices are hollow and feverish, and their eyes are gaunt.

SURPRISE ATTACKS FAILED

PARIS, April 8.—There was violent artillery last night, especially on the left bank of the Oise, it is reported in a French official communique. "We took some prisoners. In the Argonne an enemy surprise attack failed."

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES,

April 8.—British guns pulverized the Germans when they were attempting to capture better positions south of Bapaume on Sunday, tearing huge gaps in the masses. The Germans eventually abandoned their efforts.

The Germans also attacked Hangard Wood, but the British immediately launched a counter attack, capturing prisoners, and retaining most of the wood.

ALLIES POSITIONS IMPROVE

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Each passing day finds the allies in a better position to successfully resist the German offensive. The British and United States reserves are swiftly reinforcing the lines," is stated in a summary by General McLachlan, British military attaché. "Doubtless the Germans will make further great efforts before acknowledging the failure of their great spring drive."

BERLIN REPORTS SUCCESSES

LONDON, April 8.—Shifting the main attack from the Meuse region and Albert, the Germans have advanced four miles on a five mile

front at the extreme southern flank of the offensive front, a Berlin official report declares. The German night communique on Sunday declares that the continuation of this attack has "brought fresh successes."

Big Rush in Congress.
WASHINGTON, April 8.—The House has considered fifteen military bills which is intended to pass before adjournment. Leaders urged the elimination of needless debate. The senate debated a bill for jailing propagandists who are lying to delude America.

Reported Explosion Denied.
NEW YORK, April 8.—Bethlehem steel officials denied the report of a serious explosion at the Sparrow Point plant at Baltimore. It is said that a hot slag reaching the water made a loud noise, resembling an explosion. There was no damage.

Congress Gives Support.
WASHINGTON, April 8.—Congress gives unanimous support of the president's warning to the Kaiser and both houses are working on measures designed to strengthen America's fist.

JOSEPH PEOPLE THRILLED.

ALREADY BEYOND QUOTA ARE STILL AT WORK.
JOSEPH, April 8.—(Special)—The people of Joseph were thrilled today by the addresses of President Kerr, of O. A. C., and Captain Humphrey. There was a large audience to hear both speakers and the day has been one of patriotic demonstration. The bond subscriptions, more than completed before the appointed time, still continue to come in.

Big Meeting at Summerville.

SUMMERVILLE, Apr. 8.—(Special)—The community gathering at Summerville last Saturday was a huge success. The Red Cross supper went beyond expectations. Everybody was in a happy frame of mind and when the speaker for the evening closed his address pandemonium prevailed. The entire audience arose and cheered and yelled. It was a happy gathering. The Ladies Aid society will meet next Thursday at Mrs. Simon Woodell's. A silver offering will be taken for the pastor at Summerville.

MACHINE BADLY DAMAGED

Bert Hughes' auto was badly used up Saturday evening by colliding with a telephone pole in the eastern part of town. While Mr. Hughes escaped without injury, the other occupant, "Goose" Goodall, was thrown through the windshield and was slightly cut in the lip. The machine stood the most serious damage. Mr. Hughes paid a fine of \$25 for speeding.

Lieut. Williamson Will Speak.

Tomorrow evening at the City hall the officers and members of the La Grande Home Guard are to listen to an interesting discussion on balloon observation branches of the army. Lieutenant Joseph Williamson, who is here on furlough, will be the speaker, and the lecture will displace non-commissioned officers' school tomorrow evening. Lieutenant Williamson has been a close student of the newest development of warfare, and the Home Guarders will be interestingly instructed without doubt.

The Weather.
PORTLAND, April 8.—Showers.

BOND BUYING VERY HEAVY

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The American people have already bought two and a half billion dollars worth of the Third Liberty Loan bonds, according to estimates based on reports so far received. The indications are that the fixed amount of three billions will be largely over-subscribed.

EMPIRE EXPRESS WRECKED.

Engineer and Fireman Killed and Forty Were Injured.

NEW YORK, April 8.—The engineer and fireman were killed and forty persons were injured when the Empire state express plowed into the wreckage of a derailed freight train at Port Johnson at noon today. The wrecked freight was blocked on the east and west tracks.

ITALIANS ARE PLEASED.

President's Baltimore Speech Received with Approval.

ROME, April 8.—The Italian public detecting a change of President Wilson's attitude towards Austria and more in sympathy with Italy's claims, applaud the speech. All circles, including the Vatican, believe the speech indefinitely postpones peace.

CROP OUTLOOK IS IMPROVED

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The condition of the winter wheat crop of the United States on April 1 was 78.6 of normal against 63.46 on April 1, 1917, and 83.6 average condition the past 10 years on April 1, the agricultural department has announced. Crops of production is 560,000,000 bushels against 418,000,000 last year.

WILL NOT PROTEST.

Government to Continue Hands-Off Policy at Vladivostok.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Official confirmation has reached the state department that British forces were landed at Vladivostok with the Japanese to preserve order. This country will continue the "hands-off" policy. It is authoritatively stated there is apparently no reason for United States to protest.

UNION COUNTY ALMOST FINISHED QUOTA SATURDAY

With a burst of speed that again brands Union county as a stayer in the race it set long ago in the matter of war support, the populace of this county got behind the Third Liberty Loan Saturday with such force that the job was four-fifths done in one day. With one exception, the principal towns and communities went over the top Saturday and the exemption will be finished this afternoon.

Precise figures in La Grande haven't been checked up and recited. The quota of \$112,000, which this city was called upon for, has been subscribed—voluntarily—but the sum total on the books represents a considerable amount over-subscribed by people who live outside La Grande, but in Union county. These amounts must be credited to their own districts, and when that is done, there will probably be a slight discrepancy in the La Grande district.

At any rate, the Liberty Loan text

was closed up today and will be taken down tomorrow, about three weeks earlier than expected.

Clerical workers are buried in the maze of details today, but as they progress it becomes apparent that the odds and ends to come in from various sections of the county will put the county safely over the top.

It is plain today that if volunteers arrive during the day as is expected, the entire county will be fully and wholly subscribed by nightfall.

Railroad People Generous.

Thirty thousand dollars was the sum subscribed by railroad employes and officials up to an early hour this morning. This figure does not include the amounts given by railroad employes located at other points in the county or those who have been out on their duties since Saturday morning.

The response from employes and officers alike was most generous and patriotic.

Red Cross Rooms a Busy Place

A treat that every citizen of La Grande should avail themselves of is a visit to the Red Cross rooms on Saturday morning, when the local chapter receives the donations of the surrounding big towns and prepares them for shipment. There are dozens of beautifully made sweaters, socks, coats, caps, bed shirts, pajamas, underclothes and drawers, children's aprons and shirts, towels, compresses, bandages and every other article that can be thought of for the comfort and needs of our boys "over there," and the helpless Belgians. Under the able direction of Mrs. E. P. Mossman, chairman of military relief, and Mrs. H. C. Grady, inspector, the different articles are unpacked, sorted, sized, tagged and tied into neat bundles, then repacked into large boxes, twice lined with water proof paper and labeled with the American Red Cross and are then ready for shipment to headquarters.

Much credit is due to Master Walter Stoddard, son of Mrs. George Stoddard and Master Harry Stoddard, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Stoddard, who, when most boys are to be found enjoying their school holiday, are giving their time to the Red Cross. These two boys do all the lining and

the labeling of the boxes and the assistance is certainly a great help to the committee.

Union Knights Coming.

A number of Knights of Pythias of Union will make a return visit to the La Grande Knights this evening. There will be work in the ranks of Esquire and Knight. Every member is requested to be present at 7:30. A Hooverized lunch will be served after the lodge work.

"WE'LL CELEBRATE"

"We'll just celebrate; that's all," said A. T. Hill regarding the business men's luncheon tomorrow noon. Mr. Hill, county chairman and also appointed as chairman of the luncheon tomorrow, gave the foregoing reply to the question propounded by an Observer representative as to the features for the luncheon tomorrow. "I had thought when I was appointed as chairman that the luncheon would be on the necessity of bond subscriptions, but there is no need now. Instead of a campaign meeting it will be a celebration." That's the advance tip for all who attend the luncheon tomorrow.

DIGGING IN



ELDER FORD HAS RESIGNED FROM CHARGE

PASTOR OF CHRISTIAN CHURCH WILL ENJOY GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

La Grande Citizens Regret His Decision to Leave but Wish Him Success.

Determined to join the service of Uncle Sam although the meter of time has registered sufficient years to place him far away from the draft age, Elder H. L. Ford, pastor of the First Christian church of La Grande, has tendered his resignation and will leave La Grande about the first of May.

Elder Ford came to La Grande nearly three years ago and his work in the Christian church has borne good fruit. During his administration not only has the organization prospered financially but he has increased attendance and added to the church roster. The Elder's wide travel experience has made him, aside from the religious side of his life, a decidedly entertaining speaker and many La Grande and Union county people owe a great deal to him for the information he has imparted to them of foreign lands.

A new parsonage has been erected since he came to La Grande the value of which is probably nearly \$2,000 besides many improvements having been made to the church edifice. At present he is at the head of the local ministerial association and has carried that responsibility with dignity and good judgment. The most cordial relations exist between Elder Ford and his congregation and he does not leave La Grande for any other reason than that he wishes to serve his country in a more active manner during this world conflict.

There is a lot of wit, humor and fun in Elder Ford and he refuses to believe that a minister of the gospel should go forth with bowed head and a long face. On the contrary he meets everyone with a word of cheer and believes in happiness for all. A good joke is one of his favorite pastimes. One night at a social gathering some one in a jesting spirit asked the toastmaster what was the difference between Henry Ford, the automobile manufacturer, and Henry L. Ford, elder of the First Christian church. Before the toastmaster had time to put the question Elder Ford arose asking for the privilege to answer the question. It was granted and the Elder remarked, "There is a - - - of a difference."

His activities in social and civic matters have made him of great usefulness to the community as a whole than had he confined his work to the church of his choice. For this reason and for the fact that he is an excellent citizen La Grande regrets his decision to leave but rejoice in his spirit of serving his country bidding him God's speed wherever he may be placed.

WATER SUPPLY PROMISING.

Manager and Superintendent Return From Inspection Trip.

City Manager Currey and Water Superintendent Hoyt have returned from a trip of inspection over the Beaver Creek water supply system and find the outlook for a water supply for the coming summer months most encouraging. On the higher altitudes the snow is four feet deep. The whole territory was thoroughly soaked full by the rains of last December and there is plenty of moisture yet to come.

Mr. Hoyt is inclined to the belief that the high water period will be in June this year, and this will be according to the schedule of former years, which has been upset to a great extent the past two or three seasons.

LUNGMOTOR RECEIVED.

Apparatus For Emergencies Is Owed By The City.

Bringing to a conclusion some plans the city has had on hand for some time there was received today a "lungmotor" which is designed to be used to induce artificial respiration in cases of persons being overcome by gas, water or electric causes of suspended respiration. The apparatus is now at the city building.

LIBERTY DAY PARADE WAS BIG SUCCESS

GREATEST DISPLAY OF PATRIOTISM THAT LA GRANDE HAS EVER KNOWN.

Startling Facts Revealed as to the Necessity for Conservation of Food.

The largest parade ever given in Union county was the Liberty Day parade Saturday night, which preceded a tremendous patriotic meeting in the L. D. S. tabernacle at which time the service flag of La Grande lodge No. 433 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was dedicated.

Forming at the Elks building on Depot and Washington streets the Home Guard Military band led off, followed by the following organizations in order named: La Grande Home Guard, High School Cadets, Girls' Honor Guard, all under command of Major Coolidge. Grand Army of the Republic in autos, Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of Red Cross, directed by Dr. M. K. Hall. Fraternal orders, with Railroad Section in charge of James F. Corbett, all under direction of E. C. Herzog. Citizens in machines directed by C. D. Emahizer.

The parade covered many blocks, and the most intense enthusiasm was shown by the large crowds lining the streets. The line of march began at the Elks' home, followed Washington street to Fir, Fir to Adams, up Adams avenue to Fourth and then on Fourth to the L. D. S. tabernacle.

Over 2,000 people packed the building, and listened to the evening's program.

Elks' Service Flag Dedicated.
The program opened with prayer by Rev. Feese, in which he fervently appealed to a Higher Power to protect and guide the allied armies.

Chairman W. B. Sargent then called upon the audience to stand and sing the national hymn. This was followed by a very classy bunch of Methodist Sunday school boys, who sang catchy patriotic songs, both to program number and to encore.

Unfurling the beautiful silk flag, with its forty-three stars, representing the number of Elks from Lodge No. 433 who are now in the service, Chairman Sargent impressively spoke of these heroic men and read their names in order of enlistment.

A vocal solo by Mrs. T. J. Seroggin, with Mrs. Geo. Birnie as accompanist, sent a thrill of patriotism through everyone present. In her always delightful manner she sent every word to its proper place and her song carried the full message she intended. The intense applause was earned and her encore selection was equally well received.

The Elks' address on the service flag was delivered by Bruce Dennis, member of lodge No. 433, after which Mrs. A. L. Richardson sang most beautifully "Our America." This selection is different from the national air and Mrs. Richardson brought out the fine points of the song in a most impressive manner. She seemed to sense the feeling of the great audience on that occasion and every tone blended with the thoughts of those present.

"Keep the Home Fires Burning" was her encore selection, and it also was well rendered. She suffered from a severe cold, but rather than disappoint the large audience she appeared in her number, and although plainly fatigued, her selections were well rendered. Mr. Frank Clarke was her accompanist.

Startling Facts Revealed.

Dr. W. J. Kerr, of the Oregon Agricultural College, who has lately returned from Washington, D. C., spoke for one hour telling of conditions obtaining in Europe. He said, "Surprising as it may seem with all the Hoover work that has been done during the past few months this nation has only decreased its home consumption of wheat about ten per cent."

Dr. Kerr then told of the delicate condition of France and warned the audience that unless we can begin to send more wheat to our Allies that France may crumble as did Russia. He said the breaking up of Russia was due to the food famine in that country, and that the first break of Italy was also caused by poor food conditions. Then he made fervent appeal

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