

An Independent Newspaper. Prints the News the Day It Happens

# La Grande Evening Observer

Phone The Observer the News and Your Want Ad. Main 37

VOLUME XVII

LA GRANDE, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1918

NUMBER 171

## BRITISH HOLDING AT ALL POINTS IN FLANDERS FRONT

### SEVENTY-FIVE GERMAN DIVISIONS WITHDRAWN ON ACCOUNT OF LOSSES

#### Desperate Attempt by Enemy to Imperil Sector at Messines Ridge

LONDON, April 13.—(By United Press.)—The British are holding at all points on the front in Flanders and have advanced slightly at one point, according to an announcement made by Field-marshal Haig today. The official report is as follows:

"We advanced slightly, taking a few prisoners near Festubert. East of Locon, the enemy, in a strong attack, entered our lines at certain points, but was beaten off, and was again driven back when he again attacked us.

"The heavy fighting which opened yesterday around Neuve Eglise and Wulvergem is continuing with unabated ferocity. An enemy attack west of Merville last night was repulsed.

"South of the Somme, near Hangard-en-Santerre, some positions which were captured by the enemy were regained by the Franco-British in a counter attack. North of the Somme artillery is again active, and the western front, from the Ypres-Comines canal to the Oise is now practically one continuous battle line, the area being probably one hundred and fifty miles.

"The most severe fighting is still centered in Flanders, where the enemy is trying to capture Bailleul and Bethune. The Germans are again on the offensive to the south of Arras and are driving towards Amiens, gaining slightly against the French.

"Vimy Ridge, the recognized key to important positions on a sixteen mile front between La Bassée and the Scarpe river, is now separating the two major battle fronts. Already the heavy guns are at work in this sector, and with Arras as his objective, it is certain that von Hindenburg will strike at this famous ridge."

#### GERMAN DIVISIONS WITHDRAWN.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES, April 13.—(By United Press.)—Of the two hundred German divisions on the western front, one hundred and fifteen have been engaged. Seventy-five of these have been withdrawn because of losses. Probably the losses average about 2,500 to the division. Adding the estimated losses of the division still engaged to this total, it is probable that the total German losses are three hundred thousand men.

#### GERMAN PRESSURE CONTINUES.

(By William Philip Simms.)

ON THE BRITISH FRONT, April 13.—(By United Press.)—The British front was withdrawn west of Merville early this morning, following continuous fighting from La Bassée to Messines ridge yesterday.

Massed German divisions concentrated their greatest pressure in the neighborhood of Bailleul, evidently determined to widen the breach and thus imperil the Passchendaele sector at Messines Ridge.

From La Bassée to Hollebeke the German army did not cease its pressure for one instant yesterday. Abundantly reinforced with fresh troops, the divisions were hurled into action from all directions, under a glittering sunshine. Greatly outnumbered, the British, with prodigious valor, manied their guns until they were overheated, the artillery blazing point blank at unmissable targets among the advancing Germans.

#### ENEMY ATTEMPTS MOSTLY BROKEN.

PARIS, April 13.—(By United Press.)—The Germans renewed their attacks on Apremont forest, in the Toul sector, which is held by the Americans. An official report says: "The Americans and French, in co-operation, have fought vigorously against the enemy, and have captured forty prisoners since yesterday. We have also broken down most of the enemy attempts."

#### ALLIED TROOPS RECAPTURE VILLAGE

PARIS, April 13.—(By United Press.)—Allied troops have recaptured the entire village of Hangard-en-Santerre south of Amiens, says an official report, which continues: "Between Montdidier and Noyon, heavy bombardment is now proceeding. Two enemy surprise attacks failed. The city of Rheims is under continual bombardment, and is now afire."

#### AMIENS CATHEDRAL HIT BY ENEMY.

LONDON, April 13.—(By United Press.)—German heavy gunfire scored a direct hit on Amiens cathedral today.

## ENLISTMENTS IN MARINES ARE NEEDED

### DRAFT REGISTRANTS ARE ELIGIBLE UNDER CONDITIONS

Recruiting Station At La Grande Is Again Open Under Sergt. Henry.

Sergt. J. L. Henry has arrived in La Grande to represent the United States Marine Corps. After a long delay the recruiting station at La Grande is again opened under Sergt. Henry, who says that 20,000 are needed and the recruiting stations are again enlisting Soldiers of the Sea. Men of draft age may enlist, provided they secure certificates from their local exemption boards stating that their class and order numbers are so far down that they will not be called to fill the current quotas.

The Marine Corps Recruiting Station is at Post Office Building, La Grande, Oregon.

#### MANY LIVES LOST

Sad Results Of Fire In Oklahoma State Asylum.

NORMAN, Okla., April 13.—(By United Press.)—Thirty-five boys, inmates of the Oklahoma state insane asylum, are missing, following a fire. They are probably dead. Three frame wards were destroyed from an unknown cause. The superintendent said that all the victims were idiots and probably did not recognize their danger and thus made no attempt to help themselves.

The attendants valiantly rescued 125 of the inmates.

## TUESDAY IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER

### THIS IS FOR PERSONS WHOSE REGISTRATION CARDS ARE TO BE REVISED.

New Voters Are Also Included and List of Rules Covering Other Cases.

Next Tuesday, April 16, is the last day to register. This registration is to complete the registration cards up to date and is for those who have changed residence for voting privileges.

County Clerk McCormick reports a few registrations of voters in the past week but it is evident that many more are due and all such persons will do well to take notice that the coming Tuesday is the last day.

The following are those who come within the registration requirements:

Any person who has registered and voted in any of the last two elections and is living in the same precinct need not apply.

Any one failing to vote at the last two elections must register now.

Any person changing from one precinct to another must have their registration changed so as to save confusion at the polls and to entitle them to vote.

Any one, male or female, arriving at maturity—21 years of age—is entitled to register.

Any person of foreign birth must present his final citizenship papers to the registrar or deputy.

Any American-born woman who has married a man of foreign birth must present her husband's full citizenship papers.

Any foreign-born woman marrying an American-born man does not need any paper to register.

Those who are otherwise eligible but whose names have been changed by marriage since the last registration.

## SMILES OF VICTORY



General Foch and General Pershing

## Future Drafts Based on Number in Class One

WASHINGTON, April 13.—(By United Press.)—Future drafts will be based upon the number of men in class one. The House, by a vote of 325 to 3 today passed the draft law amendments, to that effect.

### GERMAN SHELL PIERCES SAMBIES' SOUP KETTLE

By Fred S. Ferguson, (United Press Staff Correspondent.) WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE LORRAINE FRONT, April 13.—(By Mail.)—There's a certain cross-roads back of a certain sector on the American front that the Germans take particular delight in shelling. Near the cross-roads there is a dug-out. Men working nearby live there. Just at supper time on a recent evening the Boche began shelling the road. The men were in the dug-out. They heard a shell coming. Then it arrived, it came straight through the door, and went smack through the soup kettle.

### STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN AGAINST GERMAN LANGUAGE

Wisconsin Loyalty Legion Has Launched the Movement.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 13.—(By United Press.)—The Wisconsin Loyalty Legion has launched a statewide campaign to bar the German language in the high schools. One of the municipal courts bans the German language.

### CUTTING MACHINE ASSURED

Many Further Donations Received Since Yesterday Evening.

In a few moments after the Observer was in the hands of its readers last night, the phones of the Red Cross Chapter officers began ringing.

"Mrs. A. L. Richardson wishes to give \$25 towards the cutting machine." "Mr. A. T. Hill will give \$25 on the cutting machine."

By this time bells, joy bells too, all over the city and county began telling the good news. No doubt today will see the rest voluntarily subscribed and Monday the machine will be ordered by wire.

### FILINGS MADE BY PRESENT INCUMBENTS

Some of the present officials within the county have made with the county clerk their filings for the primary election. Among them are the following:

For Justice of the Peace, La Grande District—Arthur C. Williams, Republican.

For Constable, La Grande District—L. W. Faulk, Republican.

For Treasurer—John Frawley, Republican.

For Sheriff—Lee Warnick, Democrat.

For County Clerk—C. K. McCormick, Republican.

For County Commissioner—Geoff Galloway, of Elgin, Republican.

## "MUST BE NO MORE RETREAT"---HAIG

Great Britain's army stands at bay in France and Flanders after a three weeks' combat that has eclipsed anything that has taken place during the entire four years of the war. Field Marshal Haig has issued commands to his men to hold the ground at whatever cost and to fight with the knowledge that their blows are for the safety of their home and freedom of mankind.

The end of the first phase of this giant struggle may be considered as past. "There must be no retirement," is Haig's admission which adds that the British are fighting with their backs to the wall. The withdrawal in Picardy was officially reported part of the allied strategy, but the period for such practice seemingly has gone into history.

The order issued by the field marshal contains another sentence which may be pregnant with significance: "The French army is moving rapidly and in great force to our support," he said. This is the first intimation that the allies are ready to strike back at the German invaders. This blow will not necessarily fall in Flanders or Picardy, but may be aimed at some part of the line that Generalissimo Foch believes he can thrust through the German front and compel the Teutons to relax their pressure against the British.

WANT A CLEAN SWEEP. Bond Committee Anxious To Make Oregon 100 Per Cent.

PORTLAND, April 12.—(Special to the Observer.)—Only two towns in the state remain in the yellow column this morning in the Third Liberty Loan campaign. These towns are Flora in Willamette county and Oakland, in Douglas county. Only sixteen remain in the red column, that is, over fifty and under 100 per cent. All other towns in the state are oversubscribed. Marion, Morrow, Josephine and Jackson counties are all that hold Oregon out of the 100 per cent over the top column. As the aim of the campaign headquarters is to make Oregon the first one hundred per cent state in the union, it is hoped every county and town will rally to this end.

## ORDER YOUR FUEL NEEDS RIGHT NOW

PORTLAND, Ore., April 13.—(By United Press.)—"Order your next winter's fuel now." This is the advice of Fred J. Holmes, fuel administrator for Oregon, who has just received information indicating that the strain on transportation will increase rather than decrease from now on.

"America's response to the Allies' urgent call for more troops in Europe means that more freight cars must be diverted for transportation of war supplies to the seaboard," said Mr. Holmes today. "As our army grows in France its needs will increase also and they must be supplied first."

"Industrial plants and individuals can prevent a shortage this coming fall and winter by getting their supplies now. By distributing the burden of fuel production over the summer months it will be possible to maintain a constant production sufficient to fill all the needs of Oregon. The big danger of a fuel shortage next winter lies in the habit of putting off ordering until fall. This throws a great load upon fuel dealers and under present conditions Oregon can easily experience a fuel famine next winter due to labor shortage and the lack of cars sufficient to meet the normal seasonal demands. Fill the woodshed and fill the coal bin—and DO IT NOW."

### KING WILL GO TO FRONT.

At a special meeting of the La Grande Y. M. C. A. directors, the resignation of J. Garfield King, secretary and manager of the local "Y" for the past two years, was accepted to take effect on May 1.

Mr. King will leave immediately following May 1 for France, where he has been engaged to do Y. M. C. A. work among the troops.

He has been in La Grande for about two years, having come here from Roslyn, Washington, and under his direction the Y. M. C. A. has become a very prosperous institution.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—(By United Press.)—Liberty Loan subscriptions at the end of the first week is \$539,400,000, according to the treasury's official report.

## FARM HELP IS THE NEXT GREAT DRIVE

No agency is being overlooked by the U. S. Department of Labor to insure the success of the recruiting drive in this State for emergency farm workers. A personal letter has been sent by Secretary of Labor Wilson to all pastors requesting them to urge the eligible men and boys in their congregations to help on Oregon farms.

In his letter Secretary Wilson says: "You can materially aid this endeavor by calling attention to your church notices to the U. S. Boys' Working Reserve, and if you will particularly accent that organization's endeavor to throw about the boys who leave school and home for work on farms, every possible influence for good.

"Unless every available source of labor supply is mobilized to increase food production this current year the war will be prolonged. One of the best single untapped labor sources is the magnificent army of young men who are not yet old enough to enter the army but are old and strong enough to do the work of men on the farms.

"Enrollment of boys will be undertaken chiefly through the High schools and Y. M. C. A. Boys who are eligible to enroll should report to the principal of the nearest high school, or Association Boys' Secretary.

"You can further aid this patriotic undertaking of you can find it possible by sermon or otherwise to rouse the patriotism of the boys and men of your congregation and to direct it into this channel of National service."

Oregon's job in the national drive to recruit boys for farm labor which opens on April 15th, is to enroll at least 9,500 boys for work on Oregon's farms, fruit ranches and dairies. It is a big job and is being handled in a big way. Considering the activities that have been set in motion to promote the work, it will be surprising if the total number of boys enrolled does not greatly exceed the allotment fixed as Oregon's quota.

The recruiting is being conducted by the State Office of the Boy's Working Reserve, 309 Corbett Building, Portland, in co-operation with the State Council of Defense and through the public schools, private schools, M.C.A.'s boy scouts, play grounds and every organization that deals with boys, is expected to reach every boy in the State between the ages of 16 and 21.

Governor Withycombe and the Mayors of all the large cities of the State have issued proclamations appealing to the boys to do their bit in the Land Army. Workers will be placed on farms through the office of the Farm Help Specialist of the Department of Agriculture, and O. A. C., who is the federal state director of the Reserve.

### NO AMERICANS LANDED AT VLADIVOSTOK

WASHINGTON, April 13.—(By United Press.)—Governmental Vladivostok dispatches of yesterday's date do not mention the landing of American marines at that place. Hence, official assume, no marines have landed.

### AIR RAID KILLS MANY IN PARIS

Nine Men and Fifteen Women Lose Lives in Paris.

PARIS, April 13.—(By United Press.)—Nine men and fifteen women were killed and fifty injured in last night's air raid, says an official report today.

The raid started at 10:15 o'clock and continued for 45 minutes.

OVER HALF BILLION Official Report of First Week's Subscription to Third Loan.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—(By United Press.)—Liberty Loan subscriptions at the end of the first week is \$539,400,000, according to the treasury's official report.