

DAVID R. FRANCIS



David R. Francis, former governor of Missouri, selected to succeed George T. Marye as Ambassador to Russia.

BRIEF WAR NEWS

The situation remains unchanged on the Russian and Austro-Italian fronts. Advices from a diplomatic source in Constantinople say that an attempt has been made to assassinate Enver Pasha, the war minister, who was wounded.

The Germans admit that in the region of Ypres the British recaptured the positions the Germans took from them February 14, but say the British were immediately driven out of most of them. The British, however, declare that they have held these positions.

The Russian occupation of Bitlis, in Turkish Armenia, is regarded in Petrograd as a development of first importance, opening farther the way to Bagdad for the Russian armies. The Turks now will be greatly hampered in bringing up reinforcements for their army that met defeat at Erzerum and is retreating westward, while the southward thrust by the Russians has driven a wedge between the Turkish forces west of Lake Van, in Armenia, and those operating to the east in Persia.

The Germans have resumed their heavy offensive in the region of Verdun, with the French everywhere strongly opposing it.

The German armies at the gates of Verdun are hammering them hard with heavy artillery. In the last fighting reported the initiative was on the side of the French, who desperately drove back at the Germans in a counter attack which gained them ground.

The German thrusts in the new phase of the titanic struggle are being delivered with heaviest force at present on the salient to the northeast of the fortress in which lies the Douaumont plain. Here the French last week were driven out of Fort Douaumont village to the west.

In and around the village the battle has been raging with violence and with heavy losses on both sides.

SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

Iowa's anti-tipping law was declared unconstitutional.

The queen mother, Elizabeth of Roumania (Carmen Sylvia), is dead.

William F. Kullley, the American consul at Rome, was found dead in a chair. Death was probably due to heart disease.

It is reported that there are 100,000 cars, loaded to the roofs, backed up on storage tracks between Chicago and New York.

Former United States Senator Theodore Burton of Ohio asked that his name be withdrawn as a candidate for the republican presidential nomination in Nebraska.

Word has been received from Petrograd that D. M. Francis of Missouri will be acceptable to the Russian government. He will succeed George T. Marye, who resigned.

E. J. Burkett, of Lincoln, Neb., ex-senator, filed with the Iowa secretary of state his affidavit of candidacy for the republican nomination for vice-president of the United States.

The Standard Oil company of Indiana in 1915 earned 53.32 per cent on its outstanding \$30,000,000 stock, as compared with 21.96 per cent in 1914. This was revealed at the stockholders' meeting held at Whiting, Ind.

G. A. R. Encampment Arranged. Kansas City, Mo.—The national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held in Kansas City from August 29 to September 1, next. It was announced after a meeting of G. A. R. national officers.

Sweden Warns Travelers.

Stockholm.—The Swedish foreign office issued a warning against Swedish nationals traveling on armed belligerent ships.

ATTACK BY FRENCH STOPS FOE'S DRIVE

Battle of Verdun Continues Desperately. With Germans Holding Douaumont.

London.—The driving German assault on Verdun has halted for the second time in the Douaumont sector northeast of Verdun, on this occasion in the face of a formidable counter-attack by the French in an effort to retake Douaumont village. The clash of the opposing armies at this point was desperate.

The French now hold the summit of the knoll which dominates the village from the south. Parts of the town had been taken and retaken repeatedly, and each time that the fortune of battle has changed more dead from the thick masses of German assailants have been added to the piles behind which their surviving comrades have sought brief protection.

Reinforcements brought up by the Germans since the inauguration of the second phase of the battle on Wednesday of last week are estimated here at 250,000 men, raising the total forces utilized by the assailants to more than half a million. Estimates of losses show wide variance. Details of local actions and the size of the reserves brought up cause French observers to make the deduction that the Germans have paid a heavy price for the six square miles of ground they have gained.

In front of the village of Vaux alone 4000 German corpses were counted after the eighth unsuccessful attack. This part of the battle, though overshadowed by the fight for Douaumont, is regarded in Paris as a serious check for the attackers. The Germans carried on the assault with great courage until the dead lay thick on the field.

CRUISER MOEWE RETURNS TO PORT

Berlin.—The German cruiser Moewe arrived in a German port (said to be Wilhelmshaven), according to an official announcement made here. She had on board 199 prisoners and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars.

The Moewe, previously made famous by her exploits, has performed one of the most spectacular features of the war on the seas by reaching a home port in safety. The great German naval port of Wilhelmshaven is on the North Sea, which is patrolled with ceaseless vigilance by British warships. It is through these waters, which have been blocked off in districts for patrol by the different British units, that the Moewe must have threaded her way to home and safety.

3130 LOST WITH PROVENCE

French Admit That Armed Transport Carried 4000 Soldiers When Lost.

Paris.—That the French auxiliary cruiser La Provence, when she was sunk in the Mediterranean on February 26, carried a list of 4000 men, was the announcement made by the minister of marine.

It is now estimated that upwards of 3130 lives were lost.

This constitutes the greatest ocean disaster of modern times. Up to the present, the largest number of lives ever lost in one wreck, was when the White Star liner Titanic struck an iceberg off the Newfoundland banks on April 14, 1912, and sank with a death loss of 1595. The rescued numbered 743.

Bitlis is Taken by Russians.

London.—The Russians have taken by storm the fortified city of Bitlis, in the Armenian Taurus. Bitlis lies 110 miles south of Erzerum, the great Armenian fortress captured by them on February 15. The army of Grand Duke Nicholas has thus covered within a little more than two weeks more than one fourth of the distance from Erzerum to Bagdad, which is about 500 miles.

Railroads Have Record Business.

St. Paul, Minn.—Railroads in the northwest are doing the largest business in their history as the result of a revival in earnings following the January lull, officials asserted here.

Roosevelts at Trinidad.

Port of Spain, Trinidad.—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt have arrived here to remain ten days.

New Secretary of War Named.

Washington.—Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, has been selected by President Wilson for secretary of war.

Fall of Bagdad is Near.

London.—The fall of Bagdad is considered imminent, according to an Athens dispatch.

NEWS NOTES OF IDAHO

The senate has confirmed the nomination of R. L. Pennell as postmaster at Lewiston.

The Idaho State Audubon society was organized with more than 30 members at Boise.

A bold robbery occurred at Weiser when the vault of the Hotel Washington was robbed of \$500.

The Soda Springs hotel, one of the best known hostleries in southeastern Idaho, and a landmark, was destroyed by fire.

Ex-Sheriff William M. Buchanan, a pioneer of the Little Potlatch section, died at Moscow at the age of 58, following a sickness of two years.

Whitman College defeated the University of Idaho basketball five at Moscow for the second time in one week by the score of 25 to 21.

Plans for the big Buhl Pioneer Day celebration are already well under way and the indications are that it will be the biggest event ever pulled off in Buhl.

The annual meeting of the forest rangers and officers of the Selway national forest, under the direction of Superintendent Charles F. Howell, was held in Kooskia.

Assessor Christopher estimates that there will be over 200,000 head of sheep to be assessed as migratory stock in Canyon county this year, he having assessed nearly that number already.

A representative exhibit of ore from the various mining properties in Bonner and Boundary counties will be exhibited at the Northwestern Mining convention, to be held in Spokane March 20 to 25.

Idaho progressives are making plans to send a delegation to their national convention at Chicago, and a meeting of the state central committee will be held Friday, March 10, at Caldwell, to call a state convention to select delegates.

"Better highways throughout Nez Perce county" is the slogan of the road overseers recently named by the board of county commissioners and it is expected material improvements throughout the county will be effected during the year.

C. D. Cole, representative of the Goodrich Rubber company, assisted by county employes, is now compiling the necessary data for inscribing the road posts of Nez Perce county. The statement is made that approximately 125 posts will be required.

Upon the request of R. E. Shepperd and D. C. McWatters of the Twin Falls North Side Land & Water company, the state land board has modified its order of Feb. 4 in which it forbids the company from reselling water rights under its pumping segregation.

Within the next few days work of enlarging the Meridian cheese factory to a capacity of 20,000 pounds of milk per day will be commenced. Need for enlargement has become urgent, and even with the greater production contemplated it is hardly thought the factory can supply the demand for the Meridian cheese.

Dr. Laubaugh, state bacteriologist, has received the heads of two dogs and one coyote to be tested for rabies. C. C. Baker of Burley sent in the heads of one coyote and one dog. The animals had acted suspiciously, wrote Mr. Baker, and he believed they were rabid. Another dog's head was forwarded by Dr. Dill of Shoshone.

The Current Events club of Moscow has decided, after months of investigation and discussion, to launch a movement for the introduction of motion pictures in the public schools. The investigation shows that the University of Wisconsin has already in operation such uses of the "movies" as is to be suggested for the public schools of Idaho.

Lieutenant Paul Frederick Foster of Idaho, a former student of the state university, in accordance with an act of congress approved March 3, 1915, was recently presented by the navy department with a medal of honor as a recognition of the distinguished services in the line of his profession rendered at the seizure of Vera Cruz, Mexico, April 21, 22, 1914.

An answer has been filed by 150 land owners in the Nampa-Meridian Irrigation district, to the petition of the district for the examination, approval and confirmation of the assessments and distribution of the costs of the drainage works in the district. The answers deny the right of the district to assess their land for drainage or that the contract with the United States Reclamation service to drain the land is legal.

The formal call reconvening the republican state committee to make legal the irregular action of a minority of the committee Feb. 12 has been issued by State Chairman Evan Evans, of Graugville. The call convenes the committee in Boise March 11 for the purpose of naming the time and place for the next state committee. Chairman Evans states in his call that he is satisfied the action taken by the minority of the committee was irregular and he does not want a cloud placed on the delegation sent to Chicago.

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