

# Morning Oregonian



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## VICTORY OF YPRES REAL WAR CLIMAX

### Importance Only Beginning to Appear.

## BRITISH CLOSE LAST GAP

### Accepted Strategy Rejected by Sir John French.

## GREAT ADVANCE CHECKED

### Will Irwin Describes Turning Point for Allies in Most Sanguinary Campaign in History—Story Told for First Time.

BY WILL IRWIN.  
From high official sources Will Irwin here gives the first authentic story of Ypres, the battle that ranks as the second great engagement of the war, the crisis of the Kaiser's attack on France. At the final closing of the road to Paris there came the most heroic and spectacular fighting of the war.

Until now only the bare facts of Sir John French's official report, significant chiefly for what it left unsaid, have been available. Here is written for the first time the true story of this struggle in the Belgian lowlands, where a thin British line held against vastly superior forces and through the daring of one man, calm in disaster, discarding every accepted rule of strategy for the one chance of victory, saved the day for the allies.

LONDON, March 4.—In a Parliamentary debate, held during February, the opposition expressed a strong hope that members of the press might have access to the British lines in order that the public might know about the "Battle of Ypres" and the glorious feats of British arms thereat performed.

To many, to most of the English, this was the first news that any part of the great, confused, and mysterious war was being fought.



Will Irwin.

The confused immensity of this war, the veil drawn by military censorship, the novelty of military science brought about by new servants of death, such as the aeroplane, have so confused the situation, so muddled the public mind, that even the military experts at home have only begun to realize that a great decisive action, separate from the rest of the war in its character and consequences, occurred on the line between La Bassée and the sea in October and November of 1914.

A decisive action—perhaps the really decisive action of the war. Indeed, when history runs a thread through the confusions and obscurities of Armageddon, historians may call it the most vital battle in the annals of the island people. Not Crecy nor Blenheim nor Waterloo seem now more important. For it closed the last gap in the combined defensive-offensive operations of the western allies. It made impossible—short of an utter collapse of the allied armies—any further German move on Paris, or any move to take the French in the rear.

### Door to Calais Sealed.

Most important to England, it sealed the road to Calais, that vital, most critical point within eyesight of the English coast. Further, more British troops were engaged here than in any previous battle of the empire. More Germans than in the whole Franco-Prussian War—120,000 English against 600,000 Germans. Yet one thinks of the English force and rightly, as a "little" army in this war of unprecedented numbers; it seems in its relation to the whole picture, like one of those brigades which won immortal glory in old wars by holding a crucial point on a battle line.

Up to that brief breathing spell, when the British army shifted from its position on the Aisne to its new fighting ground on the western front, it had been engaged every day for seven weeks. There had been the attack at Mons, when its force, equivalent in numbers to two army corps, found themselves attacked by four German corps and outflanked on the left by another. There followed four days of a backward fight which every surviving Tommy of the British expeditionary force remembers only as a confused kind of hell. By night they dropped on their faces to wake to the sound of guns, to the bursting of shells, to more marching, more action. By day the massed German lines poured in on them four deep. Rank after rank the British mowed them down, until the riflemen and machine gun men retreated from very weariness of arm and horror of more killing.

Soldiers Restful in Retreat.  
The calm after four days a little respite, during which the English, for strategic reasons, continued their retreat.

## UTAH PROHIBITION MEASURE VETOED

### GOVERNOR SPRY FINDS MANY OBJECTIONS TO BILL.

### Drug Stores Substituted for Saloons in Rejected Act, Is View, and Other Laws Held Aisle.

SALT LAKE CITY, March 18.—Governor Spry filed with the Secretary of State this afternoon his veto of the Wootton state-wide prohibition bill, which passed the recent Legislature of a vote of 49 to 5 in the House and 25 to 3 in the Senate. As the Legislature has adjourned, the Governor's veto of the measure is final.

## HORSES TO HAVE LUXURIES

### New City Barn Provides Modern Conveniences for Equine Occupants.

Portland's new city barn, costing about \$45,000, was completed yesterday by Parker & Handford, contractors, and is now ready for acceptance by the City Council.

The barn is one of the most modern in the Northwest. It is 70 by 210 feet in size, and two stories in height on one side and three stories on the other. It occupies the site of the old barn at Sixteenth and Jefferson streets on the West Side.

## BIG SHINGLE MILLS OPEN

### Clear Cedar Plant Resumes After Shutdown Since January 1.

CENTRALIA, Wash., March 18.—(Special.)—After having been closed down since the first of the year, the Clear Cedar Shingle Company's mill resumed operations today. The plant is located at Helsing Junction, near Rochester, and has a big payroll. The mill was preparing to start up several days ago, but the washing out of a dam postponed the resumption.

## 80,000 HOMES DESTROYED

### Russians in East Prussia Said to Have Pillaged Property.

LONDON, March 18.—The Star has received a dispatch from its correspondent at Copenhagen who says that statistics furnished by the President of the Province of East Prussia show that 80,000 houses have been destroyed in East Prussia by Russian troops. Three thousand refugees are said to have been unable to return to East Prussia because they have no means of livelihood. Out of 100,000 houses only 6000 remain.

## MINE-LAYING DRILL BEGUN

### Practice at Fort Stevens to Continue Until Spring Fishing Opens.

ASTORIA, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—Mine-laying drills by the troops at Fort Stevens were commenced today under the direction of the officers on board the steamer Major Ringgold. The drills are being held in the night, a short distance below the Government wharf.

## STEAMER IS TORPEDOED

### German Submarine Gives No Warning, Says London.

LONDON, March 18.—The British steamer Glenartney, of Glasgow, was torpedoed today off Beachy Head by a German submarine, which gave no notice of her intention. In the scramble for boats one of the crew was drowned. The others, numbering 46, several of whom were injured, were picked up by a steamer and landed at New Haven.

## ALLIES CONSIDERED AS NOT ANSWERING

### Blockade Note Is Held Not Satisfactory.

## WASHINGTON WANTS DETAILS

### Declaration of Radius of Activity to Be Asked For.

## NEUTRAL RIGHTS ASSERTED

### Contention That Measures Are Retaliatory Declared Not to Affect Position of United States Toward Belligerents.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The United States Government considers that Great Britain and France, in the British order-in-council and in the accompanying notes, have not answered the questions propounded to them as to what warrant there is under international law for the establishment of an embargo on all commercial intercourse, directly and indirectly, between Germany and neutral countries.

It was declared officially at the State Department that this Government still does not know whether the action of the allies is intended as a legal blockade or whether the ordinary rules of contraband and non-contraband are to be the legal basis for future detentions. On a determination of this question probably will depend not only the nature of any steps which may be taken by the United States at this time, but also the basis for the many claims for damages arising out of interruptions to American commerce under the new policy of the allies.

## RADIUS OF ACTIVITY UNDEFINED.

In preparing the protest to be sent to Great Britain and France, the position of the United States Government is substantially as follows:

1. If the action of the allies is a blockade, all commerce directly with Germany can be halted by making the blockade effective, a certain "radius of activity" being allowed for the blockading warships off the German coast because of the newly developed activities of submarines.

But there can be no legal blockade of the coast of neutral countries of Europe, contiguous to those at war, under any circumstances, and commerce between the United States and neutrals, especially in non-contraband, should be free from interruption, irrespective of ultimate destination.

## Basis for Detention Denied.

2. If the action is not to blockade then there exists no legal right to detain cotton or other non-contraband.

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## INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.  
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TODAY'S—Fair, northerly winds.

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## Sports.

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## Portlands and Vicinity.

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## L. C. GILMAN ON WAY EAST

### Official to See Departure of Sister Ship to Great Northern.

L. C. Gilman, president of the North Bank Railroad and the Great Northern Pacific Steamship Company, left last night for St. Paul to confer with officials of the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific railroads.

Mr. Gilman will go to Philadelphia to witness the departure of the steamer Northern Pacific, which is scheduled to sail from that port for San Francisco next Thursday. Like her sister ship, the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific will bring a full list of passengers through the Panama Canal for Pacific Coast ports. She will go into regular service between San Francisco and Flavel some time in April.

## LAND OWNERS WANT CHILDREN TO WORK

### Cotton Field Hands Are Hard to Find.

## WOMEN TO HOE ALSO NEEDED

### Texas System Explained to Industrial Commission.

## FAMILIES BIG; HOMES TINY

### Labor Is Begun in Fields at Age of Eight Years, Owner of 12,000-Acre Tract Says—Crop Mortgage Declared "Bondage."

DALLAS, Tex., March 18.—J. Tom Pagitt, owner of 12,000 acres of Texas land, described some tenant problems on his estate from the land owner's point of view before the Federal committee on industrial relations at its American land question hearing today. The Pagitt place in Coleman County, he said, has 22 tenant families on about 3000 acres, the remainder being leased to cattlemen.

He said his agent prefers to get tenants with large families of children, because the country is so sparsely settled that the women and children form almost the only available source of extra labor supply in cotton picking season. The women among his tenants, he said, usually chop, hoe and help with picking cotton. Children begin work in the fields at about 5 years of age.

## Biggest Home Costs \$400.

A tenant, he said, would have difficulty hiring farm hands because he could not, as a rule, pay their wages until after the crop was sold.

Describing conditions, Mr. Pagitt said the cheapest tenant house on his place has two rooms and cost \$25, while the largest has four rooms, costing \$400. None are screened, he said.

"Would you object to a tenant who believed in certain principles of government or reform, advocating them while living on your place?" asked Mr. Walsh.

"No," replied Mr. Pagitt, "but I would not like a tenant who stirred up trouble by talking at the store and trying to make other men dislike his landlord."

"What hours should a tenant spend at work?" asked Commissioner Walsh.

"Well," replied Mr. Pagitt, "in crop season, some of them go to work at 4 in the morning, some at 5, and they generally work until dark."

Two witnesses today testified they believed landlords are not responsible.

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## Thursday's War Moves

THE next important battle on the western front, it is believed, will take place along the River Yser, held on one side by the recently reorganized Belgian army and on the other by the Germans.

As the floods have subsided, the Belgians, supported by the warships of the allies, already have pushed their line forward slightly, and this is almost certain to lead to counter-attacks by the Germans and a general engagement, as has been the case when similar movements were initiated elsewhere along the front. An artillery duel, in the way of preparation, has begun.

There may be a slight delay while the Germans are awaiting reinforcements from Germany, for they have been using most of their reserves to counter-attack the British troops at St. Eloi and Neuve Chapelle and the French north of Arras, but that a big clash soon will come nobody doubts.

The contest for the spur of Notre Dame de Lorette is still in progress, and, according to Berlin, further attempts of the French to advance in Champagne, where they captured an important ridge north of Le Manell, have been repulsed. The fighting in the Argonne Forest and the Vosges has slackened somewhat, owing doubtless to the return of wintry weather conditions.

Heavy fighting is going on in Russian Poland and Eastern Galicia. The Russian official dispatches report the capture of several villages and heights to the northeast of Przasnysz, in territory where some of the fiercest fighting of the war has occurred. Also, near the border town of Taurögen and in East Prussia, close to Marnel battles are being fought, which indicate the intention of the Russians of again forcing their way, if possible, into the country of the Germans.

Although the opposing forces in the Carpathians and East Galicia are struggling to their utmost in the deep snow and under the most trying conditions, no change worthy of note has taken place in the situation.

There is a temporary lull in the bombardment of the Dardanelles and Smyrna, according to an Athens dispatch, which gives no reason for this, but it is thought to be due to unfavorable weather conditions. The Turks are taking advantage of this to repair, as far as possible, the damage done to the forts and batteries, and they express confidence, which is shared by the German Field Marshal, Baron von der Goltz, that the straits are impregnable.

The belief is held in London, however, that as soon as the ships receive fresh supplies of ammunition they will resume the attack with even greater force.

The conference between the government and labor leaders to arrange for the acceleration on the output of war munitions was continued in London yesterday and adjourned until today to complete the agreement which has been reached. The labor men are desirous of making certain that the arrangements entered into now will not prejudicially affect the workers after the war is concluded.

Austria is reported to be continuing work on the fortifications all along the Italian frontier, and the garrisons have been reinforced by artillery and infantry.

Another British steamer, the Glenartney, from Bangkok for London loaded with rice, has been torpedoed by a German submarine off Beachy Head in the English Channel. Only one of the crew was drowned.

The entire Sudan, including Khartoum and also parts of Nubia, are held by the Dervishes, according to the story told by a German merchant who has returned to Berlin from Egypt. A British general, Hawley, and 2000 of his men are said to have been killed near Fasoda in December, while earlier in November Senussi tribesmen are reported to have killed 200 Australians near the Pyramids. Railroad and telegraph lines were destroyed, the merchant says. Available records do not show a British general named Hawley in the service.

The German Reichstag has adopted, without debate, the war estimates and also passed the foreign estimates. The French chamber of deputies has unanimously passed a bill authorizing the Government to raise the limit for the issue of Treasury bonds for defense from \$700,000,000 to \$900,000,000.

## 1 WOMAN IN 20 SMOKES

### Figures Are Applied to Chicago Where Policewomen Investigated.

CHICAGO, March 18.—One woman in every 20 in this city is a cigarette smoker, according to an estimate today after an investigation by Alice Clement and Mary Riley, policewomen. In the Jewish, Polish and Italian districts the percentage of smokers was smaller, they said, only 2 per cent of the women using tobacco.

"We covered all parts of the city," said Miss Clement. "Few working girls or girls of the middle classes smoke. The habit does not seem to be growing."

## RADIATORS IN STRAW HATS

### Eugene Business Men Discard Winter Headwear to Advertise Play.

EUGENE, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—The straw hat season in Eugene was rushed by a month or so today when 40 Eugene Radiators discarded winter felts and bloomed out in straws at a parade held in a brass band.

## 14 OF UNIVERSITY FACULTY RESIGN

### Action of Regents in Utah Protested.

## DISMISSALS CAUSE STRIFE

### Four Discharged, One Demoted, Are Non-Mormons.

## BOARD REFUSES INQUIRY

### Official Statement Denies Religious Questions Are Involved—One of Men Who Resigned Is Famous Archaeologist.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, March 18.—Fourteen State University professors resigned today as a result of the attitude expressed by the board of regents in a public statement regarding the recent dismissal of four professors and the demotion of the head of the English department.

Several of the men named have been with the university many years and are all well-known educators. Their action is a direct result of the attitude of the regents in upholding President Kingsbury's dismissal of the professors and demotion of the head of the English department and in declining to make an investigation of the facts in connection with the president's action.

## Sectarian Motives Denied.

Feeling in the state has been strong since the announcement of the dismissals was made a few weeks ago. The fact that all the five men affected are non-Mormons led to a discussion as to whether religious or political considerations entered into the situation. It was denied by some of the regents at the time that any such reasons were involved and this denial was repeated in detail in a long statement made public by the regents today.

The statement was authorized at a meeting of 12 of the 14 regents, four of whom voted against the adoption of the statement, which had been prepared in advance of the meeting.

## Regents Sustain President.

The statement of the regents strongly commends President Kingsbury and sets out that two of the dismissed professors had criticized the administration of the university and had spoken disparagingly of the chairman of the Board of Regents, and that the positions of two others had been abolished.

It also was intimated that Professor C. M. Marshall, head of the English department for 23 years, was demoted on account of impairment of his efficiency and vigor. He was appointed honorary professor of English, and O. J. P. Widoe, an instructor of the Latter Day Saints University at Salt Lake City, was appointed to succeed him as the head of that department.

## Investigation Is Refused.

In referring to the action of the alumni resigned, when a committee headed by ex-United States Senator Rawlins was appointed to request a public investigation of the dismissals, the statement of the regents pronounced the resolution of the alumni unfair and declared that no public or other investigation will be made.

The dismissed professors declined to appear before the regents until assured that evidence would be received as to the justice of the accusations made against them.

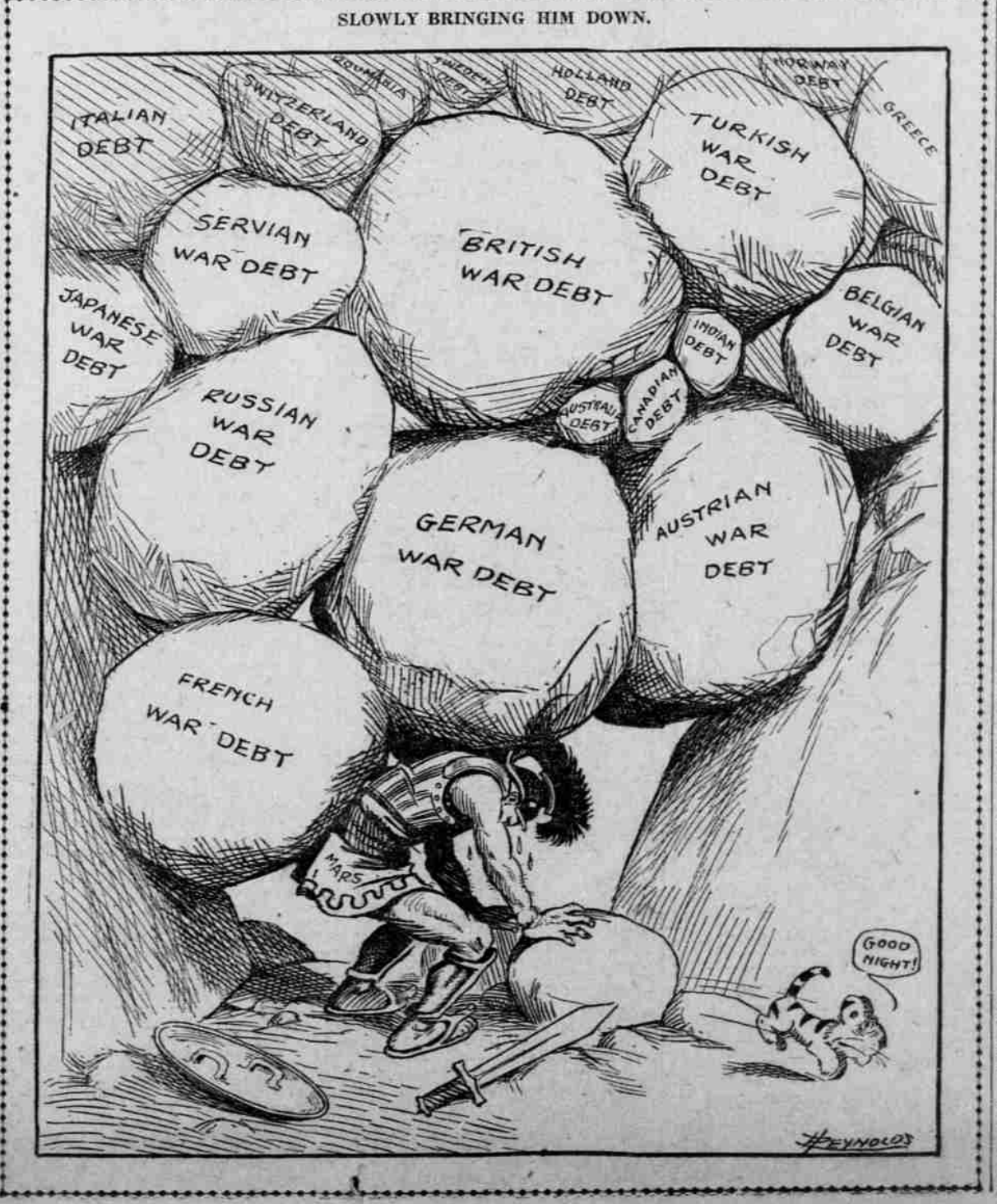
Almost all of those who tendered their resignations today indicate dissatisfaction with the present policies of the university. Their letters contain such expressions as "a policy that is a menace to academic freedom," "a policy of repression," "believe personal and academic freedom and a forward-looking policy is a richer endowment than large appropriations and fine goods will of outside interests, whether religious, political or financial," "cannot maintain allegiance to an institution which permits indefensible injustice to individuals," "a policy out of harmony with the rights and dignity of the profession" and "the present policy is continuing progressive men out of going or will go out of the institution and no real educator will come in."

## Nebrians Is Appointed.

The four men dismissed recently are A. A. Knowlton, professor of physics; George A. Winters, professor of modern languages; Phil C. Ring, instructor in English; and Charles W. Snow, instructor in English. The regents announced that Joseph E. A. Alexis, of the University of Nebraska, had been appointed to succeed Wiers.

The best known of the men who resigned today is Professor Byron Cummings, dean of arts and sciences. He has been with the university more than 21 years. The university athletic field bears his name and he has attained wide scientific recognition through his archaeological researches among the ruins of the ancient cliff dwellers in Utah and Arizona and his other explorations as head of the state archaeological commission.

The others who resigned are: William G. Roylance, professor of history; Charles Taylor, zoology and botany; Joseph Peterson, psychology; Ralph L. Byrnes, bacteriology; Henry A. Mattill, chemistry; Frank E. Holman, dean of law; H. C. Sharp, neurology and histology; Harold S. Stephens, lecturer in law; George A. Hedger, registrar and instructor in English; Lafayette Louis Butler, professor of English; F. C. Blood, instructor in English; Robert S. Lewis, mining and milliner; W. G. Skaugh, chemistry.



(Continued on Page 5.)