

GERMANS DRIVING FRENCH LINE BACK

Ten Men to Each Three Feet of Front Employed in Attacks, Says Paris.

THREE TOWNS ARE TAKEN

French Guns Answer Enemy Shell for Shell—German Works Pounded by Heavy Guns in Champagne and Argonne.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—Inspired by the presence of the Emperor and led by Crown Prince Frederick Wilhelm, the German troops continued all day today their desperate battle centering on the French fortresses of Verdun. Attack followed attack against the French line after bombardments, incessant and terrific, continuing for several days.

While the Germans have not been able, despite the rain of shells and the French onslaughts by the infantry, to break the French line, nevertheless the French on their right and left wings have been obliged to withdraw their lines respectively to the south of Ornes and behind the town of Samogneux, six miles north of the fortresses.

The French official statement issued at Paris tonight says that there were no infantry attacks during the day to the north of Verdun, but that the artillery duel was intense. Between the two lines, however, there were several furious German attacks, but the French front held.

In this region, says Paris, the Germans left the trenches dead on the ground, without succeeding in breaking through. A dispatch from Paris tonight says that the German military review estimates that the Germans are employing on the average 100 infantrymen to every three feet of front where the attack is fiercest. The German line is that is, over a line eight miles in length between Brabant and Ornes.

POWER COMPANY MOVES

UP-VALLEY CONCERN WILL DIRECT WORK FOR SPRINGFIELD. Change Will Be Made About April 1 and Follows Sale in Eugene to Municipal System.

SPRINGFIELD, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—The principal office of the Oregon Power Company will be removed to Springfield from Eugene as soon as the company's distributing system in Eugene is enlarged and fitted up, according to an official announcement today. This action follows the sale of the power company's distributing system in Eugene to the municipal plant there. The change will be completed about April 1.

OFFICERS WILL ENTERTAIN

Ensign Edward A. West to Be Honor Guest at Luncheon. Ensign Edward A. West, of the Oregon Naval Militia, who is to leave Portland Monday for Denver, Colo., will be the guest of honor at a luncheon at the Hazelwood Saturday by the officers of the Oregon Naval Militia. Ensign West has been a member of the Naval Militia for about a year.

EVERY STORE IS ROBBED

Thieves Take Advantage of Economy Move Eliminating Watchman. OCEANO, Cal., Feb. 24.—Every store in Arroyo Grande, northeast of Oceano, was robbed early today by men, who took advantage of the fact that the night watchman had been relieved of duty for reasons of economy. Arroyo Grande has a population of 300.

LAND BILL IS CHOSEN

Amended Chamberlain Measure in Committee Favor. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 24.—The Chamberlain land grant bill, amended as suggested

by the Attorney-General, will be favorably reported by the public lands committee in the near future," said Chairman Ferris at the close of today's hearing. "The other bills will most certainly be turned down."

"How about the amendment proposed by the Attorney-General, to make the opening contracts cover some \$9,000 acres of land, much of which is included in a contract with C. A. Smith?" was asked.

"In view of what has been disclosed, that provision will be scrutinized closely," replied Mr. Ferris. "If it contains anything that will be rejected."

At the time Mr. Ferris spoke Secretary Houston had not signed his report on the Chamberlain bill.

Talks with various members of the committee disclosed the fact that J. P. Blair, counsel for the Southern Pacific, did not convince the committee today that the railroad company is entitled to dispose of the timber on its grant before disposing of the land, nor did he convince the committee that the railroad has a greater interest than \$50 an acre in the grant lands.

Several times Mr. Blair spoke of a possible compromise, but said the company had never considered the Attorney-General, as it had never been invited to submit proposals.

Mr. Blair contended stoutly that the "alter, amend or repeal" clause of the granting act did not give Congress power to revert title to the grant lands in the Government on the mere payment of \$250 an acre, but thought the Government might recover title by exercising the right of eminent domain.

SCENE OF PRESENT DESPERATE FIGHTING ON WESTERN BATTLE FRONT.



Verdun, Near the Center of the Map, is Presumed to Be the Objective of the German Line. It is Strongly Fortified and Defended Additionally by Several Powerful Minor Forts.

Asked if he thought the Government could take over the lands in that way for a "public purpose," he replied in the affirmative.

"What would be that public purpose?" he was asked.

"Conservation, for instance," he answered, and the committee smiled.

MAIL CHIEFS ACCUSED

MR. HAWLEY SAYS MOLALLA INCIDENT SHOWS INCOMPETENCY. Daily Service Over New Route Denied in Face of Regulation Covering Case at Issue.

OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Charges of incompetence against the Postoffice Department is made in correspondence received here over the establishment of a mail route out of Molalla. J. K. Pickett, Acting Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General, E. J. Taylor, secretary of the Molalla Commercial Club, and Representative W. C. Hawley figure in the letters.

TAYLOR BILL SUPPORTED

SUTHERLIN MEETING WANTS ROAD BUILT THROUGH FORESTS. Crater Lake Cutoff Favored and Permanent Construction of Highway Is Advocated.

SUTHERLIN, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—One of the biggest good roads boosters in the country took place last night under the auspices of the Commercial Club. Fifteen members of the Roseburg Commercial Club were present, including President Seelye, of that body, and these took an active part in the program. The meeting at Sutherlin was one of a chain of meetings being held in the larger towns of Douglas County to arouse support for a cutoff from the Pacific Highway in the southern part of the county to Crater Lake.

BURGLAR BLAMES BRIDE

LESTER BUTLER BROUGHT BACK FROM OREGON CITY. Young Wife Planned Robbery of Pair for Whom She Had Been Bridesmaid, Declares Prisoner.

LYMAN IS THOUGHT CAUGHT IN FLORIDA

Man Arrested on Yacht Declines to Answer Questions as to Identity.

CHECK BEARS FIRM NAME

Stranger First Makes Show of Resistance, but Changes Mind and Is Taken to Jail—Word From New York Is Awaited.

TAMPA, Fla., Feb. 24.—A man answering the description of J. Grant Lyman, wanted in New York for alleged defalcations of more than \$300,000, was arrested late today on a yacht at St. Petersburg, Fla. He declined to answer questions as to his identity.

The man was said to have with him on the yacht several trunks and suitcases, containing an elaborate wardrobe, \$14,905 in cash and a certified check for \$5,594, payable to the bearer and drawn on the "Manhattan Company of New York." There were several indorsements on the check, police said.

The yacht is said to have been bought in Tampa last Saturday from two men whose names were given as "Smith" and "Olson," and who, police say, recently brought the vessel here from Chicago.

Search for Lyman began last Sunday on advices from New York. Pictures of Lyman were published and late today police at St. Petersburg were informed that a man whose appearance corresponded to the picture was aboard a yacht in the harbor there. The arrest followed.

Police Chief Easters reported that the man at first made a show of resistance, but apparently changed his mind and submitted quietly. He was taken to jail in St. Petersburg. To newspapermen he said that he was a "stranger" and that the police had arrested the wrong man.

It was announced the man would be taken to St. Petersburg pending word from the New York authorities.

PAIR, 60, TO HIKE AFAR

FAMILY WILL START 4000-MILE TRIP EAST ON MARCH 1. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Owens and Children Plan to Reach Portland, Me., Giving Shows Along Way.

A hike of more than 4000 miles from Portland, Or., to Portland, Me., has been arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Owens and family, of 427 Montgomery street, who plan to leave on the trip from the mountains to Pasco and Spokane. They will go east from there by Yellowstone National Park.

17 AT EUGENE GET PAPERS

Native of Ireland, 88, Is Among Those Admitted to Citizenship. EUGENE, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—James Casey, 88, a native of Ireland, who came to this country in 1846, father of 13 children and who had been a resident of Oregon for 49 years, was admitted to citizenship yesterday in Douglas County Court. James Casey was among 17 admitted to citizenship.

BANDON BEACH CONSIDERED

John M. Scott Silent as to Rumor of Western Pacific Extension. Bandon, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—John M. Scott, general passenger agent for the Southern Pacific, and J. A. Ormandy, chief clerk of the general passenger department, were in Bandon today investigating the industrial and beach resort possibilities of this section. The visit was made as a part of the company's survey of the new Willamette-Pacific road.

WEDFORD ALUMNI FORMED

Old Students of St. Mary's Academy Gather for Reunion. MEDFORD, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Sixty-five former students of St. Mary's Academy, most of them from the classes graduating between 1860 and 1870, gathered at the academy today for a reunion of old acquaintances and formed a permanent alumni organization, with the following executive committee: Miss Alice Hanley, Mrs. Mrs. Central, Mrs. Kate Andrews, Mrs. Lewis Ulrich, of Jacksonville, and Mrs. Ernest McKee.

TAX ON POWER FAILS

Effort to Amend Shields Bill Is Not Successful. ATTEMPT IS CRITICISED Congress' Authority Over Navigable Streams Declared Limited to Right to Police Them, Not to Exercise Tyranny.

EXPLOSION IS DOUBTED

NEBRASKA STATE CAPITOL IS NOT DAMAGED. Janitor Waits All Night to Report Alleged Bomb Blast in Basement of Building. LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 24.—Authorities at the State Capitol building minimized the report of the story told by a janitor that a bomb had exploded last night in the furnace room of the Statehouse.

PAINLESS PARKER--OUTLAW

His Confessions CHAPTER XVII. This perfect willingness of the Dental Trust to murder a man in cold blood for no other reason than to make it hot for me opened my eyes.

ing" of his young wife, who was Miss Anna M. Mills and whom he married February 8.

Information gained by his bride when she was bridled at the wedding of H. Hobbs and Miss Nordstrom was used, according to Butler, by his wife in "pointing the way" to tell him her friend's home was "the opportunity" according to Butler.

RAILROAD PARTY IS BACK

ROUTE OF NEW ROAD TO TAKILMA IS INVESTIGATED. Copper Mines at Town Are Operating Steadily Declares Emery Olmstead, Who Accompanied Officials.

Emery Olmstead, vice-president of the Northwestern National Bank, returned yesterday from Grants Pass, where he accompanied officers of the California & Oregon Coast Railway over the route of a new road to Takilma, 40 miles southwest.

With Mr. Olmstead were Robert Twoby, president of the road; R. E. Miller, vice president; and George W. Boschke, chief engineer. The line now extends 15 miles out from Grants Pass, ten miles having been built by the people of Grants Pass and five miles by Twoby Bros., contractors. It is probable that the line will be extended to Takilma this year.

Mr. Olmstead says that the copper mines at Takilma are operating steadily and that the ore is being hauled by wagon to the terminus of the railroad, 15 miles away.

"Business in Grants Pass is booming," says Mr. Olmstead. "Every house in the town is filled and new people are arriving every day. It was almost impossible to get a room in the hotel."

"It appears that Grants Pass and the neighboring territory offer many opportunities for the Portland wholesalers and manufacturers and doubtless they will be prompt to grasp them."

WOMEN'S PATENT LEATHER

DR. GEO. A. CUTTING EYESIGHT SPECIALIST. 322 1/2 Washington Street, Selling-Hirsch Block, Ground Floor.

WOMEN'S PATENT LEATHER

Patent Leather Black Cloth-top Military Boots \$3.00 THE PAIR in our STEPS TO ECONOMY DEPT' KNIGHT SHOE CO. Morrison St. Near Broadway

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Extra Stamps Today and Tomorrow Always Bring This Coupon COMBINATION ATTACHMENT. WATER BOTTLE. WATER-BOTTLE COVER.

This Regular \$2.25 Outfit Complete, Special \$1.49

98c Your choice of Men's Genuine Leather Wallets, Coin Purses, Card Cases, Cigar Cases, Black and tan, values to \$3.00.

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59c "MARK CROSS" Fine Leather or Wrist Watch Holders. Ladies' Hand-Pyrallin Ivory Hair Receiver. 89c 49c 89c

WOODWARD CLARKE CO. DRUGS. 25c Linen Finish on sale now for 19c.

WATERS OF NAVIGABLE STREAMS IS NOT ONLY THE COMMONEST TYRANNY, BUT BLACKMAIL IN ITS WORST FORM. Charge Not Sustained as Tax.

THE PENALTY For Eye Strain In Swift and Certain Treat Your Eyes as they deserve, and they will give you comfort, freedom from pain and headache and long rest.

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