FRENCH TAKE SLICE OF GERMAN FRONT

Vigorous Attack Cuts Into Trenches Held by Enemy Since March 1.

BERLIN ADMITS ITS LOSS

Canadians Attack Southeast of Lens and Take Prisoners—Austrians Claim to Have Damaged Italian Positions.

PARIS, March 15.—In the Champagne region west of Monte Cavrillet the French have regained trenches which the Germans had occupied since March 1, according to an official statement issued today. The French brought back 42 prisoners and two machine guns.

BERLIN, March 15.—A strong French detachment gained a footing yesterday west of the Nauroy road on the German Crown Prince's front (Champagne district), says today's army headquarters announcement.

The statement reads:

"During the afternoon a violent fire was directed against our position north and northeast of Prosnes. Strong French detachments advanced in the evening on a wide front, but succeeded only in obtaining a footing in our foremost trenches west of the Thuizy-Nauroy road. Elsewhere they were repulsed after hand-to-hand fighting.

Artillery Active at Verdun.

"On the eastern bank of the Meuse (Verdun) there was increased artillery fire during the day."

LONDON, March 15.—Canadian troops in the region of Lens again have attacked enemy trenches with success and taken prisoners, according to the British official communication issued this evening.

Attempted enemy raids near Passchendaele and south of the Menin road were repulsed by the British.

The text of the communication follows:

"At dawn this morning Canadian troops raided enemy trenches southeast of Lens and brought back 14 prisoners.

"A hostile raid was attempted last night in the neighborhood of Passchendaele by a large part of the enemy, who suffered heavily from our artillery barrage and machine-gun fire in their unsuccessful attempt to reach our lines. We secured a few prisoners.

"This morning under cover of a heavy bombardment a hostile raiding party attacked our posts south of Menin road, but was repulsed by rifle fire.

Lens and Messines Sectors Active.

"The hostile artillery was less active on most parts of the front, but it has shown somewhat greater activity in the Lens and Messines sectors and in the neighborhood of the Ypres-Comines canal."

ROME, March 15.—Raiding operations on the front between the Stelvio and the Piave are reported in the War Office statement today, which told of the repulse of hostile reconnoitering parties east of Monte Cristallo, south of the Stelvio in the Tonale region and east of Lake Garda.

LONDON, March 15.—An official statement from the Austro-Hungarian War Office received here says:

"Italian positions on Monte Pasubio were blown up yesterday with devastating effect over a considerable area. Our detachments occupied the ruins."

BOY SCOUTS ENLISTED

PRESIDENT ASKS YOUTHS TO AID IN LIBERTY LOAN CAMPAIGN.

Executive Explains Plans Fully in Letter Written to President of Boy Scouts' Organization.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Boy Scouts of America were mustered today into the army of workers for the third Liberty loan, which will open April 6, by request of President Wilson.

"As in the two previous campaigns," wrote the President to Colin H. Livingstone, president of the Boy Scouts' organization, "it is desired to have the Boy Scouts of America serve as 'gleaners' in a house-to-house canvass after the 'reapers' gleaned through the days set aside for your special campaign.

"It is my earnest wish that every troop of Boy Scouts and every scout official take part in your service activities, and especially in these liberty loan campaigns. Not only is this of practical service to our country in these critical times, but it is of great educational value to the boys in preparing them for the responsibilities of citizenship."

RATE INCREASE GRANTED

$58,000,000 ADDED TO REVENUES OF EASTERN RAILROADS.

Interstate Commerce Ruling Does Not Directly Affect Western or Southern Territory.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—A general increase of about 15 per cent in commodity rates was granted by the Interstate Commerce Commission to railroads east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers, supplementing a similar increase allowed last June in class rates.

The order applies only to articles shipped in large quantities, such as coal, brick, grain, foodstuffs, oil, stone, cement, lumber and other staple products shipped under the "commodity" classification.

The new rates will go into effect as soon as the railroads file new tariffs, probably within a few weeks.

The action will add about $58,000,000 to the revenue of eastern roads, although it will not actually increase their earnings, since the sum will revert to the Government under the system of common operation.

The increase does not affect territory west of the Mississippi, nor Southern territory, except for shipments originating in the East or destined to that district.

Western and Southern roads had planned to await action in the Eastern commodity case before asking increases for themselves. Now that the government controls the roads, action affecting those sections will be taken only by direction of the railroad administration.

Western roads originally were included in the 15 per cent case decided today, but withdrew several months ago. Southern lines had not asked increases.

Music-Dancing

8 P. M. to 12 M.

NEW REPUBLIC GRILLE

347½ Morrison St.

Popular Price Merchants' Lunch 11 A. M. to 8 P. M.

EUGENE HIGH BOYS GO

ENLISTMENTS OF LADS UNDER 18 CAUSES TEACHER TO ACT.

City Superintendent Files List of Boys' Names and Ages in Recruiting Office to Stop Exodus.

EUGENE, Or., March 15.—(Special.)—Enthusiasm for the war is running so high in the Eugene High School that City Superintendent of Schools W. R. Rutherford today filed with the recruiting office a list of boys in the school, giving their ages, to prevent enlistment of those under 18 years without consent of parents.

Several boys below the age limit have volunteered regularly. One boy, however, slipped by the recruiting officer this week with the statement that he was 18, while he only recently celebrated his sixteenth birthday. His parents were opposed to his entering the service because of his age, but after he had done so they decided it would be better not to protest.

Seven enlistments from among the boys this week have brought the total for the school in the various branches of the service up to 100.

High school boys who enrolled in the war forces this week are as follows: Howard Powell, Earl Ludford, Robert Mann, Carl Fielschmann, Bryce Popham, Fred Dunn and Dan Hoffer. Hoffer entered the medical corps. The others volunteered in the Aviation service.

SLASHINGS GREAT MENACE

Spruce Operators Carcless About Disposing of Debris.

In the rush to get out spruce for airplanes, some operators have been derelict in observing a state law requiring the removal of slashings and debris, according to information received by the State Board of Forestry. As a result the fire hazard in Oregon forests, particularly in some localities, has been increased.

In order to reduce the hazard to a minimum, State Forester Elliott yesterday was asked by the board to co-operate with Colonel Disque, of the Spruce Production Division of the Signal Corps, and to work out some plan of fire protection.

State Forester Tape, of Washington, and Fire Warden Joy, of the Washington Forest Fire Association, were present at the meeting and told what was being done along the lines of fire protection in the spruce operations in Washington.

FOREST GROVE MAN DIES

William Ridgley Buried Under Auspices of Veterans and Masons.

FOREST GROVE, Or., March 15.—(Special.)—William Ridgley, one of Forest Grove's best-known citizens, died here yesterday and the funeral was conducted here today under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic and Holbrook Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Ridgley was born in Ohio April 11, 1840, and resided there for many years. He was a veteran of the Civil War. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Maxwell February 13, 1867, and eight children were born to them, five girls and three boys, five of whom survive, as follows: H. H. Ridgley, of Seattle, Wash.; S. W. Ridgley, of this city; Mrs. Estella Watson, of Forest Grove; Mrs. Jane Olson and Mrs. Ilura Hines, of Gales Creek, Or.

Mr. Ridgley came to Oregon in 1876. Interment was in Forest View Cemetery.

HELP FARMERS, IS APPEAL

Walla Walla Council Asks All Land Owners to Assist.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., March 15.—(Special.) — Recommendations that every land-owner, retired farmers and all, get back to the land during the growing and harvest season this year to augment the labor supply were adopted at an executive session of the agricultural council of this county yesterday. It has also recommended that the places of clerks and business men in the cities be filled by women where possible in order that townspeople may assist in farm work. Recommendations were also made that in the matter of extra crop production the farmers stick to a standard crop with which they are familiar, rather than try experiments with new crops.

Only those who can grow feed for hogs are advised to engage in raising porkers. Farmers are asked to install more sheep to prevent waste and also to increase the meat supply.

SPOKANE DOCTORS TAKEN

Physicians Are Accused of Violating State Prohibition Laws.

SPOKANE, Wash., March 15.—Dr. M. F. Setters and Dr. W. Q. Webb, physicians, of this city, were arrested late this afternoon on charges of issuing prescriptions for whisky and beer to persons who did not require the liquor for medicinal purposes, in violation of the state prohibition law.

Evidence gathered by the police and turned over to the Prosecuting Attorney reveals that hundreds of similar prescriptions issued by the defendants have been filled by local drug stores in the last three months, J. H. Tilsley, Commissioner of Public Safety, declared.

MRS. J. COFFEY, 80, DIES

Resident of Portland Succumbs After Illness of Several Months.

An illness of several months terminated late yesterday in the death of Mrs. J. Coffey, 80, at her home, 325 Mill street.

John B. Coffey, ex-County Clerk and well-known insurance man, is a son. Mrs. M. A. Porter and Miss Margaret L. Coffey, daughters, also live in Portland. Mrs. Nathan Rounds, a third daughter, is a resident of St. Louis, Mo.

Mrs. Coffey had resided in Oregon for 29 years. The funeral will be held Monday morning from St. Mary's Cathedral, the time to be announced later.

BRYAN NAMED IN TEUTON WOOL DEAL

Alleged Conspiracy to Effect World Textile Corner Under Scrutiny.

FORSTMANN'S STORY HEARD

Passaic, N. J., Manufacturer Declares Nebraskan Indorsed Shipments From United States in Exchange for Dyestuffs.

NEW YORK, March 15.—Wool shipments to Germany in exchange for dyes badly needed in this country were indorsed early in the war by the American State Department, according to testimony given at the opening today of Attorney-General Lewis' inquiry into an alleged conspiracy to obtain for Teutonic interests a dominating position in the world's textile markets after the war.

The witness who made the assertion was Julius Forstmann, the naturalized German head of a Passaic, N. J., firm of woolen manufacturers.

He admitted, however, that he had acted as agent for German interests in wool purchases after March 26, 1915, the date on which American woolen manufacturers voluntarily submitted to regulations imposed by the Textile Alliance, Inc., a quasi-official agency created at the instance of the British government to control consumption of textiles from British colonial possessions so that none of these materials would reach Germany.

Orders Taken From Albert.

Early in his examination Forstmann said he had "instructions" from Count von Bernstorff, former German Ambassador, to take orders from H. F. Albert, then fiscal agent of the German government in this city, "in all matters relating to wool shipments" during the time the United States remained neutral. He maintained that these transactions for German interests were legal, as they had the approval of the State Department in agreement with the German Embassy at Washington.

The witness declared that William J. Bryan, then Secretary of State, endorsed the shipments because, in exchange for the wool, Germany released quantities of dyestuffs which were sorely needed by the American manufacturers.

Fortsmann declared that after his firm, on March 28, 1915, submitted itself to import and export regulations imposed by the Textile Alliance, he made no purchases or shipments of wool for German account except on contracts negotiated up to that time.

Deputy Attorney-General Becker, who questioned the witness, held that this would constitute a technical violation of the firm's agreements.

German Scheming Alleged.

Mr. Becker has stated that he expects to show during the investigation that when embargo regulations imposed by Great Britain became even more stringent through the entrance of the United States into the war, Germany schemed to accumulate stocks of wool, cotton and jute in the United States, South America, Australia and South Africa, which were to be gotten through to Germany when peace was concluded or sooner if possible.

This was to be accomplished, he asserts, by subsidizing American firms in possession of trading privileges who acted as nominal purchasers.

ST. LOUIS, March 15.—Five fires of unknown origin within two months have threatened the buildings of the United States arsenal here in which are stored Army supplies valued at more than $7,000,000, according to Fire Chief Panzer, who visited the arsenal at each alarm. The arsenal buildings are now guarded.

SCOTLAND, S. D., March 15.—William C. Rempfer, of Parkston, S. D., Socialist and executive secretary of the South Dakota branch of the People's Council of America for Democracy and Terms of Peace, and August Friedrich, of Tripp, S. D., were forced to leave Scotland on foot today by a throng of angry citizens.

The men said they were here soliciting memberships for the Socialist party. They left town after a crowd had started to form with the intention, it is said, of using tar and feathers.

WICHITA, Kan., March 15.—Indictments were returned here this morning by a Federal grand jury against 35 alleged members of the Industrial Workers of the World. With only one exception, the indicted men are now under arrest and some of them already have been interned for the duration of the war.

The indictments charge disloyalty, insubordination and interference with the production of oil and other products necessary to the prosecution of the war.

NORFOLK, Va., March 15.—Forty-three members of the crew of the Russian steamer Omsk, in port here, today faced charges of violating the espionage act as the result of their efforts Thursday night to seize the steamer.

CHESTER, Pa., March 15.—Stanley Lockavitz and Martin Pushkofki were held without bail today for a further hearing following their arrest.

Bomb Plot Suspected.

The men are believed to be implicated in the plot to blow up the Hog Island shipyards.

NEW YORK, March 15.—Accused of conspiring to sell to soldiers at military camps a drug that would produce aymptoms resembling Bright's disease and enable them to obtain a discharge from the Army, Dr. Philip G. Becker, a New York physician, and Harry E. Walters, a former soldier, have been arrested.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 15.—Dr. Frederick Konrad Krueger, former professor of modern languages at Midland College, Atchison, Kan., today was taken by local Federal authorities to Fort Riley, Kan., for internment until the end of the war. Papers derogatory to the American Government were found in his possession, the authorities said.

SUSPECTS ARE FREED

THREE INDICTED HERE IN LIQUOR CASE ESCAPE TRIAL.

U. S. Commissioner Holds Others to Appear in Federal Court. Bonds Fixed at $2000.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 15.—Dismissal because of lack of evidence was ordered by Francis Krull, United States Commissioner, here today in the cases of Eli Schumacher, Conrad Temps and William Hunt, Jr., indicted by the Portland, Or., Federal grand jury on a charge of shipping liquor into prohibition territory.

Three other defendants, William Hunt, Sr., Timothy Dwyer and Frank Lapsic, were held to answer to the United States District Court in Portland, with bonds set at $2000 each.

The men appeared on proceedings to have them removed to the jurisdiction of the Portland court. Commissioner Krull held that Schumacher, Temps and the younger Hunt were merely employes of liquor concerns involved in the indictments, and did not know of any of the alleged illegal transactions.

The removal order directed against the three others was to become effective tomorrow. Counsel for the defendants announced that an order would be sought to delay their removal.

DECLARATIONS ARE FILED

Ex-Mayor of Salem Candidate and LaFollette Seeks Re-election.

SALEM, Or., March 15.—(Special.)—Louis Lachmund, ex-Mayor of Salem, today filed his declaration as a candidate for State Senator from this county on the Republican ticket, his slogan being, "Will serve the best interests of my state and country." No platform accompanies the declaration.

Senator Aleck M. LaFollette also filed his declaration for re-election. He states in his platform he will work for the interests of the Nation and state and the taxpayers and citizens of Marion County "with the same interest and energy that I have employed to develop a farm in Marion County the past 48 years." His slogan is: "Will always work for the best interests of my country, state and county."

EX-U. S. SENATOR IS DEAD

Isaac Stephenson Passes Away at Marinette, Wis., Home.

MARINETTE, Wis., March 15.—Former United States Senator Isaac Stephenson died at 1:30 this morning.

Senator Stephenson had been ill at his home here for a week, due to infirmities of age.

His condition suddenly grew worse yesterday and physicians expressed doubt for his recovery, but later in the day he rallied and last night was resting comfortably.

This Man Is Reading in His Paper

Of a Great and Important

Shirt Sale

He Is Surprised, Astonished

AND DELIGHTED

For This Is What He Is Reading

Striped Poplin Shirts $1.29

The Same Material, the Same Quality, the Same Price That These Shirts Were Sold for LAST YEAR!

COME TODAY

Over 500 Shirts in POPLIN MATERIAL

—An extraordinary assortment of NEW PATTERNS may charm for the FIRST TIME. NEW COLORINGS, NEW stripes, all made extra full; COLORS GUARANTEED FAST, made with DOUBLE French cuffs, COAT style. See window display on Washington street. These are the snappiest shirts we have shown in a year. BUY ALL YOU WANT.

Main Floor, Just Inside Washington-Street Entrance.

Lipman Wolfe & Co.

"Merchandise of Merit Only"

SHIPS IN COLLISION

British Steamer Rathmore and Naval Vessel Crash.

26 PERSONS ARE MISSING

French Government Reports That During Week No Craft of More Than 1600 Tons Were Victims of Mine or Submarine.

LONDON, March 15.—Twenty-six persons are missing in consequence of a collision between a naval vessel and the British steamship Rathmore. Survivors have been landed at Kingstown, Ireland, by destroyers.

The Baltimore, a vessel of 1569 tons gross, owned in Dublin, was bound from Holyhead, Wales, across St. George's channel for Dublin. There were 640 passengers on board.

The collision occurred in mid-channel. The Rathmore, badly damaged, was towed to Dublin.

A dispatch to the Central News from Dublin says that about 40 persons were more or less injured in the collision between the naval vessel and the Rathmore and that four of these died while the vessel was being towed back to port.

PARIS, March 15.—For the week ending March 9, says an official communication, dealing with shipping casualties, 557 merchantmen entered and 1031 left French ports.

There were no French vessels of more than 1600 tons sunk by mines or submarines during this period. Four vessels of less tonnage, however, were sunk. No fishing vessels met with disaster.

During the week four unsuccessful attacks were made on French merchantmen.

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It makes no difference where you purchased your Victrola or Phonograph, you will be welcome at our store. Here you will find new features in record service—new, clean, well ventilated record rooms—competent, attentive, courteous salespeople.

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Mehlin, Packard, Bond, Lindeman Pianos — Welte-Mignon Players

CITY TO TAKE CONTRACTS

Maintenance Work to Be Done by Municipal Paving Plant.

Negotiations have been completed for the taking over by the city of all contracts held by paving contractors for the maintenance of pavement in the city. The work will be done by the city's repair plant.

An ordinance will be before the City Council Wednesday authorizing the cancellation of the existing contracts, involving about $14,000, which would have been paid to the contractors within the next few years. The contractors affected are the Warren Construction Company, the Pacific Bridge Company, Elwood Wiles, the Barber Asphalt Paving Company and the Oregon Hassam Paving Company.

Millionaire Medicine Man Dies.

THOMASVILLE, Ga., March 15.—Frederick F. Ayer, millionaire medicine manufacturer and financier of Boston, died here late yesterday. He was 96 years of age. Mr. Ayer had been spending the Winter here.

DOG DISTURBS CITY HALL

Attorney LaRoche's Bone Hound Wails While Master Tries to Work.

"Doesn't it beat all how much noise one little dog can make?" said City Attorney LaRoche yesterday, as he sat in his office trying to work while a dog outside kept up a continuous wail. And then Mr. LaRoche went on to explain.

As he left home yesterday in a big hurry his recently-acquired bone hound started to follow him. He sent him back, but when he had driven his automobile about a quarter mile found the pup with him once more. Rather than lose the dog, he put him in the machine, and upon reaching the City Hall, tied him inside the car with a towing rope nearly as big around as the dog's neck. And Mr. LaRoche was not the only one at the City Hall yesterday to comment on the dog's behavior during the day.

Read The Oregonian classified ads.

STAR

THE EYES OF THE WORLD

Special

Any School Student 10c Between 10 and 11 A. M.

LAST DAY!

GET THERE!