

EUROPE RELEASES FLOCK OF RUMORS

Great Events in War-Torn Old World Foreshadowed.

TURKS TO SURRENDER SOON

Austrian Emperor Reported About to Leave Country Preparatory to Abdicating Throne.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—There is no official information here to confirm any of the various interesting rumors coming out of European countries regarding developments in Austria-Hungary and Turkey.

An offer of surrender from Constantinople has been expected momentarily for days, but no notice of a new proposal had been received at the State Department tonight.

Likewise the department heard only through press dispatches of reports that Vienna newspapers were publishing announcements of preparation for Austrian demobilization and rumors that Emperor Charles was leaving the country preparatory to abdication.

LONDON, Oct. 26.—The Turkish Minister to Switzerland has handed the British and French Ministers to that country an offer of peace virtually amounting to surrender, according to a dispatch to the Daily Mail.

PARIS, Oct. 26.—Colonel E. M. House, who has arrived in Paris on a confidential mission for President Wilson, today made a statement to the Associated Press.

Colonel House Optimistic.

"It is with great pleasure that I find myself again in France. Upon my last visit, some 11 months ago, the allied fortunes, it seemed, had struck their lowest ebb. Those memorable days, when we counseled together and formulated plans looking toward military and naval unity and the co-ordination of war and industries, can never be forgotten.

"From that hour the clouds began to lift, and we could see, dimly at first, the stars of a better day. Today the day are shining with such a steady glow.

Difficult Problems in Sight.

"We are now confronted with difficult and more complex problems—problems which I feel confident will be met with high courage and with the wisdom which comes from lofty motives."

Colonel House said that his trip had no relation to an armistice, and that he had not received from President Wilson and the American Government special powers to negotiate on this question. As regards future negotiations which might arise, Colonel House declined to talk.

PARIS, Oct. 26.—The newspapers regard the arrival of Colonel Edward M. House as of great importance to the belligerent powers associated with the United States as a step toward the attainment of political unity which is considered to be equally as important as military unity.

"The only positive declaration interviewers were able to obtain from him," says La Liberté, "was that he arrives as the official representative of the United States and the President.

"It is no longer a question of private mission but an official representation accredited to the European allies. This is important. Henceforth the United States will be represented at the inter-allied council of Versailles in complete fashion—no longer for military affairs only."

LONDON, Oct. 26.—Arriving in London from Washington today, Sir William Wiseman, who has been acting as Washington liaison officer between the British War Cabinet and the United States Government, immediately went into conference with Lord Reading and members of the cabinet. Within a few days he will proceed to Paris to join Colonel House, now on a special mission from the United States.

It has been learned that the day prior to sailing Sir William had a long conference with President Wilson. On the occasion of Colonel House's previous visit to Europe about a year ago, Sir William was one of his closest advisers and he was very close to Colonel House while in the United States.

CLARKE FAR ABOVE QUOTA

Spruce Squadrons Subscribe \$150,000 to Liberty Loan.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Oct. 26.—(Special.)—Final figures in the fourth liberty loan campaign were totaled today and show that Vancouver and Clarke County subscribed almost \$1,000,000. Vancouver subscribed \$746,000, with a quota of \$429,000; Brush Prairie, \$15,100; Camas, \$78,200; La Center, \$24,700; Ridgefield, \$32,250; Washougal, \$41,000, and Yacolt, \$23,300.

There were 7214 subscribers in the county. The county's quota was \$662,000. The spruce squadrons here subscribed about \$150,000. The state of Washington subscribed \$1,000,000.

JOURNAL ARTICLE DECRIED

Penitentiary Official Declares Petition Story False.

SALEM, Or., Oct. 26.—(Special.)—An article in the Portland Journal charging that the Oregon Penitentiary was being operated as a business enterprise, was today declared to be entirely untrue by the warden.

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ing Frank Davey, bookkeeper at the State Penitentiary, with circulating a petition last Summer while Warden Murphy was away for the purpose of discrediting Murphy with the Governor apparently was manufactured solely for political purposes, according to statements of officials here.

Davey declares the story relative to the circulation of the alleged petition a falsehood, while Governor Withycombe says that no such petition ever reached him, regardless of the fact that the petition was said to be intended for presentation to him.

PIRACY MAY BE PUNISHED

REPRISALS ON GERMANY FOR SUNK SHIPS PROPOSED.

Chamber of Shipping Council of Great Britain Declares Enemy Vessels Should Be Taken Over.

LONDON, Oct. 26.—German ships should not be set free after the war "to extend their share of the world's carrying trade and so profit by the losses which their government by means mainly piratical has inflicted upon the ships of the allies."

"This plan is urged upon the British government in a resolution adopted by the Chamber of Shipping Council of Great Britain.

The council points out that heavy losses have been suffered by shipping companies at the hands of the Germans. Half of Germany's shipping is declared to be in neutral or other ports and Germany may be added to it by construction or purchase during the war.

The allied countries, the council says, will find themselves short of ships for some time after the war and declares that while Germany cannot make restitution of all shipping sunk, there is no reason why she should not make restitution in kind to an extent to which she is able. Each country should dispose of the tonnage among its subjects for cash.

One British company at the beginning of the war had 10 passenger steamers. Nine have been sunk by the Germans and the other captured. The council declares it is inconceivable that so long as there is an enemy ship in existence, Germany should be allowed to have that ship while the steamship company that has lost it is unable to resume its old trade.

German submarine activity reached such a low state this week as to be almost negligible as a war measure, notwithstanding that many more U-boats are lurking in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. The British admiralty looks on this situation as part of the German peace offensive. It is believed that the admiralty that Germany elects to fight to the end of her resources her greatest submarine effort may be expected late in December and in January.

COOS CAUCUS CALLED OFF

North Bend Candidates Will Be Nominated by Petition.

NORTH BEND, Or., Oct. 26.—(Special.)—As a result of the rigid enforcement of quarantine regulations in this city, the caucus scheduled for last evening to nominate candidates for city offices was called off. As a result, nomination of candidates is being made by petition today.

Petitions nominating the following men are being circulated: Mayor, H. C. Kern; City Clerk, C. E. Maysee; Treasurer, J. H. Greves; members of the Council, F. W. Wood, Robert Banks, James Thomas, Charles Cavanaugh, Dr. W. J. Phillips and J. A. Smith.

'SKIP-STOP' SYSTEM SAVES

Power Consumed in 24 States Is Curtailed 10 Per Cent.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Operation of the "skip-stop" system by streetcar companies in 24 states for six months saved coal or its power equivalent at the rate of 687,122 tons annually. It is estimated that the saving in terms of power amounted to 10 per cent.

Normal School Committee Named.

MONMOUTH, Or., Oct. 26.—(Special.)—The united war work campaign committee for the Oregon Normal School has been organized and the campaign will be opened soon. The committee is J. B. V. Butler, campaign manager.

HUNS BEGIN TO CRACK UNDER FOCH'S BLOWS

Advance Toward Great Trunk Line of Huns Foreseen.

YANKS FIGHT HUGE FORCE

Germans Pour in 30 Divisions and More Opposite Franco-Americans Northwest of Verdun.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—The German defense lines on the most vital sector in France—the Argonne-Meuse front—are beginning to crack under the strain of steady pressure by French and American troops. An early breaking of the German resistance and the advance of the French and American armies on a wide front toward the great trunk railway, which is the immediate objective of allied operations, is predicted by many officers here.

Official statements indicating that new German divisions are being poured into this sector clearly show the anxiety of the German high command over the situation. General March, commenting today on the military situation, brought out very clearly the effort the enemy is making to meet the American advance.

Foe Pours in Troops.

"In front of our own troops in the Argonne," he said, "a very large mass of German troops has been concentrated since it is imperative for the enemy to protect the railroad line which runs from Metz to Metz. General March pointed out that the front held between the Oise and the Meuse by the allies roughly parallels this great railway system throughout its length and "threatens it at all points."

From other sources it was learned today that more than 30 German divisions have been identified in the narrow sector immediately northwest of Verdun where American and French forces continue to work their way slowly forward.

The French have obtained a flanking position on the east bank of the Aisne River in the western outskirts of the forest of Argonne, while to the east of the Meuse the operations of American troops indicate that the line is being extended and straightened in preparation for a wide assault. There is good reason to believe that some part of the second American Army is holding this eastern extension of the Verdun front.

Troop Concentration Heavy.

At no other point on the whole western front, with the exception of the center arch of the line from the Serre to the region of Valenciennes, are the German forces massed in strength comparable to that being employed on the Meuse.

General March announced today that the Fortieth Division, composed of California, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado troops, had not participated in recent actions, but comprises a depot division.

RECALL MOVEMENT FAILS

MARSHFIELD PETITIONERS REMOVE NAMES FROM LIST.

Cancellation of 150 Signatures After Paper Is Filed Precludes Submission to the People.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Oct. 26.—(Special.)—County Clerk L. W. Oddy today announced that the question of the recall of County Commissioner Archie Philip, which has been before the county officials for the past two weeks, would not be on the ballot for the November election.

When the petitions for recall were circulated it was proposed by the promoters to recall all Commissioners and Judge Watson. At the filing, only the name of Mr. Philip was submitted for recall. The action today was said to be due to the cancellation of 150 signatures, names of people who resented the methods used in securing signatures.

The petitions as first filed were declared incomplete by District Attorney



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John F. Hall, owing to the fact only two had been sworn to as required by law. This defect was made good and the filing was again made. The next move was the cancellation of 150 names which definitely disposed of the movement. A report coming from the Courthouse late this evening said 50 additional names had been submitted and the situation might again be changed.

To aid a carver, a Denver man has invented a clamp which holds a roset of most firmly and permits it to be turned over easily.

Please Do Not Telephone

We again appeal to the public to stop telephoning except when absolutely necessary. By restricting the use of their telephones our patrons will help us to give proper service to the Government and war industries and to the hospitals and stricken homes of this city.

To those patriotic and conscientious subscribers who have already restricted their service are due the thanks of the Company and the community.

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