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## FRENCH SAY ALLIES FORCE GERMANS BACK IN BATTLES IN FRANCE TODAY

Encounters Indicated by Meagre Reports—Germans Thought to Have Started New Movement to Break Through to French Coast from Battle of Flanders

POWER OF KAISER'S WESTERN ARMY INTO STRUGGLE TO REACH BRITISH CHANNEL PORTS

Spain Claims German Army in Galicia Was Defeated With Serious Losses While Austrians Claim Russians Were Turned Back With Loss of 23,000 Prisoners

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

LONDON, Dec. 9.—Important advances of the allied troops in new effort to throw back the German invaders in France were reported today by the French war office. The German command gives no intimation, however, of such successes to the allies.

Although the French announcement gives few details, references to the capture of entrenched German positions and blowing up of a French trench by a German mine tends to show the engagements now in progress are being furious and contested. The statement refers to advantages gained by the allies from Arras southward along the Aisne, on the Meuse, in Argonne and the Vosges. Roughly speaking, this is all in the line from the Belgian border across France to Alsace.

Concerning the battle in Flanders, where the Germans undertook an attack which may mean a new attempt to break through to the French coast, there was little news. Germans are reported to have concentrated in this region the finest forces from the armies in the west.

In the Eastern arena, Russia alleges the Germans in the region of Cracow, Galicia, were put to route, their right wing turned and still being pursued. The German losses described as enormous.

German reports make no mention of defeat in Galicia, but the Austrian official statement flatly contradicts the German assertion, saying the Austro-Hungarian-German forces attacked the advancing Russians and captured 23,000 prisoners.

## FRENCH ANNOUNCE GAINS ALONG ENTIRE FRONT BY ALLIES LATELY

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

PARIS, Dec. 9.—The official communication this afternoon states: "Yesterday there was artillery firing from the sea to Lys. In the region of Arras and farther south, nothing new has occurred. All the positions won by us the last days have been organized and consolidated. In the Aisne, artillery exchanges and fighting by our infantry has resulted in appreciable gains.

Several German trenches have been occupied and we have made progress along the entire front, with the exception of a single point where the enemy blew up one of our trenches with a mine. On the heights of the Meuse and in the Argonne we made progress along the entire front and occupied German trenches. The same thing happened in the region of Lepretre. In the Vosges we repulsed several attacks west of Sinones."

## FORMER GERMAN CONSUL IN ENGLAND SENTENCED AS TRAITOR

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

LONDON, Dec. 9.—Nicholas Ahlers, former German consul in Sunderland Borough, was convicted today by the Durham court of high treason and sentenced to death. According to the indictment, Ahlers was naturalized in 1905. After the declaration of war, he helped German reservists leave England for Germany.

## WATER INFORMATION HARBORS CONGRESS AT WHITE HOUSE IS OPENED TODAY

Senator Ransdell Scores Critics of Recent Appropriation Bill—Bryan Talks

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—The National Rivers and Harbors Congress began its annual convention today with a large attendance of delegates from throughout the country. The convention was opened with an address by Secretary Bryan. A feature was the annual address of Senator Ransdell, president of the organization, who vigorously denounced the recent attacks on the rivers and harbors bill, saying the critics should have been able to suggest a better system than the one they criticize.

## Three German Cruisers Sunk by British Battleships Tuesday

### POINCARE AND CABINET TO PARIS TODAY

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

PARIS, Dec. 9.—President Poincaré and Premier Viviani arrived in Paris today from Bordeaux. Foreign Minister DelCasse and the members of the diplomatic corps were to follow later in the day.

### LEGION OF HONOR CROSS TO HERRICK

Grand Cross Bestowed on Former U. S. Ambassador for Services to France

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor is on its way across the sea from the president of France to Myron T. Herrick, in recognition of his services to the French people while American ambassador. It is the first time the cross was ever bestowed upon an American.

Herrick was decorated with the red ribbon, emblematic of the Cross, by the captain of the steamship Rochambeau, acting on wireless orders from the French ambassador at Washington, who said he was acting on instructions from President Poincaré. The announcement of the bestowal of the honor was made when the Rochambeau docked.

### MYRTLE POINT BANK CASE UP

District Attorney Liljeqvist Opposes New Trial for G. H. Miller (Special to The Times.)

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

COQUILLE, Or., Dec. 9.—The attorneys for George H. Miller, now serving a term at Salem for robbing the Myrtle Point bank, last night entered a motion for a new trial on the grounds that new evidence had been discovered. District Attorney Liljeqvist was present and opposed the motion, stating that he had not secured any evidence that would warrant a new trial.

This statement by Liljeqvist to the court is taken to mean that he does not place much confidence in the three alleged confessions concerning the Myrtle Point bank case which he is having the grand jury investigate. Judge Coke took the motion under advisement and will probably not announce his decision for several days or until after the grand jury reports.

**Bandon Cases Up.** The grand jury will start the probe into the Bandon tonight or tomorrow. Most of the witnesses are here. The cases of Joe Coach and John Herrod, charged with illegal liquor sales at Bandon, will probably come up Friday and be set for Monday.

### CARRANZA FORCE TAKES DURANGO

Villa's Garrison Ousted and Successful Force Moves Against Hermosillo

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—The Mexican Constitutional agency here announced the receipt of official advice that the Carranza troops had reoccupied Durango, expelling the Villa garrison, and that a large Carranza force is moving on Hermosillo.

Leipzig, Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Two Colliers Lost in Battle in South Atlantic

TWO OTHER GERMAN SHIPS ARE PURSUED

British Casualties Few in First Real Naval Engagement of European War

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

LONDON, Dec. 9.—It was officially announced that at 7:30 a. m., December 8, the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Nurnberg, Leipzig and Dresden were sighted near the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic by a British squadron under Vice Admiral Sturdee.

An action followed, in the course of which the Scharnhorst, flying the flag of Admiral Von Spee, the Gneisenau and the Leipzig were sunk.

The Dresden and Nurnberg made off during the action and are being pursued.

### KAISER ILL OF PNEUMONIA IS REPORT

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

LONDON, Dec. 9.—Emperor William is suffering from pneumonia, which is combined with nervous depression due to over exertion, according to telegrams from Berlin, forwarded by the Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Co. The message adds that the German emperor's doctors have advised him not to return to the front.

Two colliers were also captured. The British casualties were few.

Some of the survivors were rescued from the Gneisenau and Leipzig.

### BRITISH AND JAPANESE FLEETS SOUGHT GERMAN SQUADRON LONG

German Vessels Sunk Yesterday Were Part of Fleet That Sunk English Fleet off Chile and Carried Terror to Pacific Shipping.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The Gneisenau, Leipzig and Scharnhorst, with the cruisers Nurnberg and Dresden, composed the German Pacific fleet which in an engagement with the British squadron under Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Craddock off the coast of Chile on November 1 sank the British cruisers Mounmouth and Good Hope with the loss of about 1500 men. Since that time the British and Japanese squadrons have been searching for the German fleet.

The Scharnhorst and Gneisenau were the largest ships of the German fleet. They were sister ships of 11,500 tons displacement, 450 feet on the water line and were rated at a mean speed of 22 1/2 knots. Each carried a complement of 755 men and were armed with eight 8.2-inch guns, six 6-inch guns, twenty 2-pound, four machine guns and four torpedo tubes.

The Leipzig had a displacement of 3250 tons and carried 286 men. She was 341 feet long on the water line, had a beam of 43 1/2 feet and was rated at 23 knots. Her largest guns, of which she carried ten, were 4 1/2 inch. She also had ten 1-pounders, four machine guns and 2 torpedoes.

### FLIPPANT ANSWER MAY MEAN PRISON

Fred Gross of Bandon Scored by Judge Coke for Contempt of Court

Judge Coke sharply interrupted the testimony of the defendant in the case of Gross versus Gross of Bandon, in which the husband was up for not paying alimony as he had been directed and for being extremely careless in following out the court's previous order when a divorce had been granted to the wife.

"You are guilty not only of contempt of court but of perjury here as well," declared the Judge. "In the first place you let my instructions go unheeded and then on this stand you have sworn falsely." Friday at 1:30 o'clock is the time set for sentencing.

Gross, it was alleged, paid no attention to his court instructions and failed to pay his wife the alimony she had been granted. His answers to the court yesterday were flippant.

At one time he swore he had no property; shortly afterward he declared he did have property and followed this statement with another saying the property had been sold and before he was through he managed to declare his belongings have not been sold. It was such statements as these that aroused the ire of the Judge.

Having scored Gross for his actions in court, Judge Coke scored him heavily for his actions out of court, declaring that he, Gross, had also shown contempt of court by marrying a second time within six months after his divorce; declared that he had been too free in his attentions to women before and after his marriage and hinted at grand

### GOVERNMENT NOT TO ENTER MEXICO

U. S. Troops Sent to Naco to Stop Firing But No Aggressive Action Planned

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—No aggressive action on the part of the United States is contemplated in sending additional troops to Naco, Ariz. After a conference with President Wilson, Secretary Tumulty issued the following: "It has been thought wise to strengthen the forces at Naco because of the reckless carelessness of the contending factions there in failing to control the direction of their fire. Of course, no aggressive action is contemplated.

Later Secretary Garrison said that the commander at Naco were ordered not to fire across the border unless they received orders from Washington.

### KILLS GIRL HE TRIED TO REFORM

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 9.—Nannie Stricklin, 12 years old, was shot and killed in the front yard of her home today by Robert Bailey, deacon at a mission, who said he "had been trying to reform the girl." Bailey shot himself and was taken to the hospital in a dying condition.

Jury investigations. If these are made it is declared that a Marshfield man, well known here, may also face a similar investigation in the same case.

## GERMANS REPORT FRENCH SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES IN MANY ATTACKS

Berlin Official Statement Says Allies Were Repulsed With Severe Losses in Eastern Part of Argonne Forest—Assaults Made Around Souain and Varennes

CLAIM FRENCH FORCES NORTH OF NANCY LOST HEAVILY WHILE GERMANS SUFFERED LITTLE

Declare French Battery Hid Behind Building Marked With Red Cross Flag and Deceit Was Discovered by Aeronaut and Battery Later Destroyed by Artillery

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—The official statement this afternoon says: "West of Rheims, a fishery, although flying a Red Cross flag, was bombarded and set on fire by our troops as we ascertained by means of photographs taken by our aviators that behind the fishery was hidden a French heavy battery. The French attacks in the district around Souain and on the villages of Varennes and Vouquers, in the Eastern part of the Argonne forest, were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. In the Argonne forest itself, ground was gained in several places and we took a number of prisoners. The French suffered heavy losses in the battles reported yesterday north of Nancy. Our losses were small."

## JAPAN DENIES PROMISE TO RETURN KAO CHOW TO CHINA AFTER WAR

(By Associated Press to the Coos Bay Times.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The statement of Baron Kato, the Japanese foreign minister, in the diet yesterday that Japan had made no promise to any country to return Kiao Chow to China, attracts much attention in official circles here. Secretary Bryan would not comment on it today and referred inquirers to the statements already made.

## SAYS U. S. NAVY IS NOT PREPARED TO MEET STRONGEST IN WORLD

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Rear Admiral Fletcher, commander of the Atlantic fleet impressively told the House Naval Committee that the United States is unprepared to cope with the most powerful navy in the world. He mentioned no country. "You can safely say," he testified, "we are not prepared for the worst emergency that might arise to protect ourselves from the greatest force available."

"We would have to greatly enlarge our fleet to protect American interests against all possible combinations against us, or to control the ocean. We would have to take the offensive when we have a strong enough fleet."

## CHOLERA PLAGUE BREAKS OUT IN GERMANY AND IS BAD IN AUSTRIA

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

ROTTERDAM, Dec. 9.—The Berlin board of health has reported 36 cases of cholera in Germany during November. In Austria, especially in Galicia, cholera is spreading rapidly. In the first week of November, 844 cases were reported.

## SWEDISH PEOPLE IRATE OVER FINNISH MINES SINKING SHIPS

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Dec. 9.—The Swedish press is indignant over the planting of floating mines along the coast of Finland which has resulted so far in the loss of three large Swedish steamers and the drowning of 40 men. Navigation in Finnish waters hitherto has been unimpeded and no warning of the laying of mines has been given. German warships were sighted near the Finnish coast a few days ago.

**Sneddon is Sane**—A telegram was received late yesterday from Salem J. McKeown announced today that he would be compelled to advance the price of the merchants' lunch at The Chaudler from 35 to 50 cents. He said that war prices had increased the cost of nearly everything on him and that he was simply forced to do it. He said that he had decided that his patrons would prefer to pay the increased price rather than to have the luncheon, which has proved most popular, reduced in quality.

**Very Ill**—Mrs. E. M. Smith has received a telegram from her father, Robert Marsden, Sr., who was called to California by the illness of her brother, Samuel Marsden, stating that he was still very ill. No particulars were given.

**War Affects Prices**—Proprietor H. J. McKeown announced today that he would be compelled to advance the price of the merchants' lunch at The Chaudler from 35 to 50 cents. He said that war prices had increased the cost of nearly everything on him and that he was simply forced to do it. He said that he had decided that his patrons would prefer to pay the increased price rather than to have the luncheon, which has proved most popular, reduced in quality.

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