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Coos Bay Times

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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HEAVIEST FIGHTING IN WEEKS WAGED ON WESTERN BATTLEFIELDS

Gen. Joffre Said to Have Ordered General Advance on German Lines in France

CLAIMS THAT ALLIES HAVE BEEN MUCH STRENGTHENED

Germans Claim Allies Repulsed With Heavy Losses—Three Day Battle Near Warsaw

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The heaviest fighting in the west since the Germans made attempts to force a way to the English Channel is now in progress. The French and German statements of today show that yesterday's engagements were keenly contested along most of the front from Alsace to Flanders, and on each side claims are made of the capture of trenches and other victories of importance.

The German war office gave out what was described as a French army order signed by General Joffre and found on the body of a French soldier, calling for a general attack on the Germans. The order recites that heavy reinforcements have been received by the Allies and "it is now our business to clear the fatherland of the invaders." The Germans claim that the French attacks at Neuport were repulsed.

In Poland the Russians are offering a determined resistance to the German armies, which are advancing on Warsaw. Less than thirty miles from the city one of the most stubbornly contested battles of the campaign is still in progress, the Russians for three days having held in check the German column which is seeking to force a passage of the Bzura River.

RUSSIANS DELAY GERMAN ADVANCE

Czar's Forces Fall Back to Third Line of Defense. Over 200,000 in German Army

PETROGRAD, Dec. 21.—The Russian forecast is still holding at bay the German column which is seeking to cross the Bzura River at Sochaszew and advance on Warsaw, 30 miles away. For three days this German army of 200,000 men has been endeavoring to cross the river and throw back the Russians who are holding the right bank.

"Sochaszew continues to be the German objective in the attempt to reach Warsaw. The Russians on the right bank of the Bzura are heavily entrenched. Their artillery is so placed that it commands the river to miles north. Southward the Russian line extends to Opoczno, 25 miles east of Piotrkow, which recently was evacuated, and 45 miles east of Sieradz, where the Russians first opposed the German extreme right. It is pointed out that the Russians have thus assumed positions on their third line of defense. The Russians for the present are attempting nothing more than to retard the enemy and to defeat attempts at flanking movements.

NORTH BEND NEWS

Fred Reynolds, who is attending the U. of C. at Berkeley, plans to return home to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds of North Bend Heights.

Mrs. A. H. Imhoff left on the Redondo for Los Angeles.

A Christmas entertainment will be given by the North Bend Presbyterian church on Wednesday evening, December 23. The different classes of the Sunday school will take part. They will also have a Christmas tree. The Porter mill closed Saturday for the holidays.

G. W. Schelly has moved his family to Myrtle Point and Mr. and Mrs. H. Milliron have leased their North Bend home.

About 10 o'clock this morning the Adeline arrived in from San Francisco and made fast at the Smith mill for another lumber cargo. On her last trip the Adeline carried out 700,000 feet of lumber.

Great Battle of Warsaw has Not Been Fought out Yet

WHEAT MAY GO TO \$2 BEFORE LONG

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 21.—All grades of wheat reached the highest prices today in the history of the Portland wheat exchange, which at present is the highest primary wheat market in the world. Prices leaped two and four cents a bushel while the market held back, demanding even higher prices. February Blue-stem wheat was bid in at \$1.28 a bushel. 5000 bushels of February Club sold at 1.26 1-2. The rural districts are refusing to sell until the prices go higher. The demand of the European belligerent countries is responsible. Some are prophesying \$2 wheat.

GIRL PLOTTED TO KILL HER MOTHER

Julia Flake, of Galesburg, Became Infatuated With Step-father—Sees Murder

GALESBURG, Ill., Dec. 21.—Julia Flake, who plotted with her step-father, Robert Higgins, to kill her mother, has been sent to the state industrial home to remain until she is 21. The girl witnessed the shooting of her mother by Higgins, with whom she was infatuated.

RUMOR A GERMAN CRUISER WAS SUNK

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Persistent rumors are afloat that a German cruiser has been sunk off the coast of Scotland. It is also rumored that two British destroyers arrived at Liege, Scotland, badly damaged. No confirmation has been given the report.

GLANDERS CAUSE OF CYR'S DEATH

Dread Disease Contracted From Horse on Coos County Road Work

That Felix Cyr, who died in Spokane December 19, died of glanders, a dread disease that he contracted from a horse he worked on the road between here and Coquille, is the decision of Spokane physicians who attended the man. He left here several weeks ago, after about two months' illness, being placed aboard the Elder by the local order of Eagles, of which lodge he was a member, belonging to Missoula Aerie No. 32, which buried him December 14. The deceased was about 35 years of age and leaves a wife and child.

When Cyr came here from Missoula he had just sold a farm for \$7000 and expected to locate on Coos Bay. He went to work for the county while still looking for a location. A short time afterward he took sick and for a time it was thought consumption was the trouble.

Glanders is a highly contagious and very destructive disease that affects animals and sometimes is given to human beings. It is caused by an enlargement and induration of the glands beneath and within the lower jaw.

Both the Roamer and the Rustler are expected to leave out either this afternoon or tomorrow morning with cargoes of Christmas freight. The Roamer is bound for Port Orford and the Rustler for Florence.

English Military Observers Say German Claim of Great Victory Has to be Qualified

SIEGE OF CRACOW AND PRZEMYSL MAY BE BROKEN

Claim Austro-German Forces Sweeping Russians Before Them—Emperor at Front

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The great battle west of Warsaw has yet to be fought out, judging from recent Petrograd and Berlin dispatches. It appears to British military observers that the German contention that General Von Hindenburg scored a notable success over the Russians must be qualified. Farther south in southern Poland and Galicia, the Austro-German leaders declare they are sweeping the Russians before them. They assert that they have cleared all Russians out of West Galicia.

This means that the long siege of Cracow has been raised and if this advance on the part of the Teuton allies continues it may bring similar relief to the Austrian garrison at Przemyśl, beleaguered by the Russians since the early days of the war.

Emperor William has far recovered from his illness that he has gone to the front. The dispatches do not say which front, but it is believed he has gone to the west.

CIRCUIT COURT TAKES VACATION

Re-open Session January 4—Many Cases Yet on Docket After Two Weeks Work

Judge Coke this afternoon declared that if he is able tomorrow he will hold court for the purpose of giving his decision in the case of Jay Richards of Sumner, who pleaded guilty to the indictment charging him with a statutory offense; also in the case of a man named Gustavson who has broken his parole for the second time. He may also inquire into what amount of property owned by a man named Stein is subject to execution. Stein was arrested in Camas Valley by a warrant issued to his brother-in-law.

Judge Coke Saturday afternoon adjourned the Circuit Court until January 4 when the session will be continued. The grand jury, it is expected, will not meet again until either the latter part of January or early in February. Yesterday the judge returned to his home, where he is confined today with an attack of la grippe.

The Christmas vacation comes at a time when several important cases are yet pending. The perjury charges against the three women of Bandon are yet undecided; there still remains the Orlando Smith trial.

Lawyers declare that the present schedule is heavy enough to keep the court grinding until late in January and the belief has also been expressed that this month may not see the end of the season.

Saloon Men Protest.—The saloon men of Marshfield claim that more boys have been bothering them lately than in a long time. They may enter complaint to the City Council for further protection against minors and also against wholesale dealers selling at retail. There is talk among the saloons about raising the prices to ten cents for beer and making whiskey, etc., at least two for a quarter. John Burke and John Volz opposed it at the last meeting of the liquor men, but the others may do it anyway.

May Build.—Messrs. Telander and Hibarger are negotiating with F. E. Allen for two lots which he owns in West Marshfield, near Fourteenth and Highland. If the deal is made, they will erect a bungalow on some other lots which Mr. Allen has there in payment for the property.

HARRY THAW LOST FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—The Supreme Court today reversed the refusal of the Federal Court in New Hampshire to extradite Harry K. Thaw to New York.

GEN. SCOTT IS PROBING TROUBLE

Chief of U. S. Army Staff Continues Investigation at Naco—Rain Stops Battle

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—American Consul Silliman at Mexico City today transmitted a message sent by Governor Maytorena, the Villa commander at Naco, to Provisional President Gutierrez, stating his intention of moving his forces away from the American border. Saturday, he said, his forces refused to return a fire to avoid shooting into American territory.

NACO, Ariz., Dec. 21.—Brigadier General Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, resumed today his investigation of the border trouble. He is seeking information from those in touch with Mexican affairs which may aid in composing the situation here, where for ten weeks Governor Maytorena has besieged General Hill, entrenched across the border. The reinforced army forces here under command of Brigadier General Bliss now total 4700 men. Rain fell during the forenoon, causing a practical cessation of the Mexican fire.

TROY FOUND SLAIN

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 21.—William J. Troy, proprietor of several hotels, was found stabbed to death this morning in a hotel room. The fact that more than \$200 of Troy's money and a diamond ring are missing caused the police to work on the theory of robbery.

AMONG THE SICK

Alden Bessey, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bessey of South Coos River, yesterday underwent an operation for hernia at Mercy Hospital. The operation was an entire success and he is reported doing nicely today, much to the gratification of the many friends of the family. The injury was sustained some time ago while plowing, the plow striking a root and throwing him.

J. M. Wright is sick today with tonsillar trouble and is under the doctor's care.

D. D. Campbell, the old man who runs the wood yard north of the ferry alp, was seriously injured when he fell across a log this morning and broke a rib above his heart. He was also bruised about the legs and will probably be detained in bed for some time. Mr. Campbell is about 70 years of age.

FURNITURE FOR SALE.—Phone 217-J.

GERMANS CLAIM IMPORTANT GAINS AGAINST ALLIES IN MANY ATTACKS

FRENCH SAY ALLIES GAINED ALL ALONG

Official Statement Says Slight Advances Made at Many Point on German Lines

PARIS, Dec. 21.—The Paris official communication this afternoon says: "Yesterday brought nothing of importance to Belgium if exception is made of some progress in the region of Lombaertye and St. Georges and at a point southeast of Bixchoote, the occupation of some houses in Warletem and the bombardment by the enemy of the Ypres hospital. Between Lys and Aisne Rivers, we occupied a forest near the route between Nouillettes and Souchez, and we also took possession of all the first line of German trenches between this highway and the first houses of Notre Dame de Lorette, southwest of Loos. The enemy has bombarded Arras. Our heavy artillery silenced on repeated occasions the artillery of the enemy north of Carnoy. This artillery also demolished the German trenches and returned two cannon established near Hom. Our artillery also scored distinct advantages on the Aisne and near Rheims.

"In Champagne as well as in the Argonne, we made along the entire front appreciable advances. Northeast of Beaussart, we occupied 1200 yards of the enemy's trenches. In the Lagurle forest, we blew up four mined saps and established ourselves in the positions made. Between Argonne and the Meuse Rivers there has been progress along the whole front. On the right bank of the Meuse we gained ground at Lagroupe and in Consenvoy forest. On the heights of the Meuse we made slight progress in the forest Des Chevalliers."

Announce Anglo-India Troops Were Driven From Trenches Near Labassee Canal

MANY OFFICERS ARE AMONG PRISONERS TAKEN

Say Nothing New in West Prussia But Claim Further Advances in Poland

BERLIN, Dec. 21. (By Wireline). The official announcement this afternoon says: "The French attacks yesterday at Neuport were repulsed. Between Richebourg l'Avone and Canal Labassee we attacked the positions of the Anglo-Indian troops, stormed and captured the trenches and dislodged them with heavy losses. We captured one piece of artillery, five machine guns, two mine throwers and 270 Anglo-Indians, including ten officers. The trenches we lost December 18 near Notre Dame de Lorette have been recaptured. The French attack near Souhain was repulsed. They left four officers and 310 men in our hands and a large number of dead. In the Argonne, we captured an important wooded hill at Le Four de Paris, three machine guns, one revolver gun and 275 prisoners. Fierce French attacks northwest of Verdun were repulsed.

In the eastern theater, the situation in West Prussia is unchanged. In Poland we continue our attacks against the positions of the enemy."

HEAVIEST SNOW OF YEAR IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Thousands of jobless men who sought shelter in the municipal lodging houses last night were given employment today by the railroads, trolley lines and the city, clearing the streets and tracks of the heaviest snowfall of winter.

WILLAMETTE AND COLUMBIA ARE ICEBOUND IN VICINITY OF PORTLAND

River Steamers Have to Cease Navigating Streams But Steel Ocean Steamers Can Get Through—Coldest Since 1898.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 21.—The operation of all river steamers on the

Columbia and Willamette Rivers ceased today as the result of the thickening of the ice on the former and the appearance of large floes on the latter. The steel ocean steamers are still able to reach the mouth of the Columbia. The mercury dropped to 21 degrees, the lowest December temperature since 1898.

ICE BLOCKS PATH OF ELDER

LINER LOSES FOUR HOURS IN BUCKING JAMS IN COLUMBIA RIVER—PLOW PAYS FOR 60 MILES

Ice in the Columbia River held the Elder back 4 hours on her trip from Portland. She arrived in here at 3 o'clock bringing 400 sacks of parcels post from the north, 50 of which were consigned to North Bend. For 60 miles from the mouth of the Willamette River, the Elder bucked the heavy cakes of ice that blocked the river. Part of the distance was made at the rate of but three miles an hour even under full speed.

According to Captain Lofsted the ice was not formed in a solid mass across the river, but gathered there in jams, coming down from far up the river. He was not surprised to learn that today river boats on the Columbia have been forced to tie up until the ice breaks. The Elder brought in 65 passengers and will leave out at midnight for Eureka.

BRAKEMAN DIES ON HIS TRAIN

F. T. Utterboch Employed on Smith-Powers Line, Victim of Heart Disease Today

Brakeman L. F. Utterboch of the Smith-Powers Railway, was stricken by heart disease while working on a train switching at the headquarters siding near the Wagner ranch and died within a few minutes.

Utterboch had been working with the crew and all of a sudden collapsed on the car. He evidently felt the weakness coming, for he took off his gloves, sat down and placed the lantern between his knees. Others of the crew noticed it and quickly came to him but he could not talk. They were within a short distance of Dr. Munzer's office and he was carried in there, but expired just as they reached the place.

Utterboch is survived by a wife and child and had apparently been in the best of health.

DEATH OF C. H. SOUTHMAYD

C. H. Southmayd for fourteen years a resident of the Myrtle Point section, died at the home of his son, Frank, on the North Fork, after an illness of about fifteen months. Myrtle Point Enterprise.

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