

A PAPER THAT BELIEVES IN THE BEST AND ALWAYS BOOSTS

Coos Bay Times

A CLEAN WHOLESOME NEWSPAPER FOR ALL SOUTHWEST OREGON HOMES

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U. S. NOTE TO DISARM SHIPS

Congress Leaders Check Revoit Against Plans of President Wilson Today

GERMANY'S STAND

Say America Was Committed to Unarmed Merchant Ships by Proposals to Allies

ENGLAND CONSIDERS

Abs Consent of Allies to Leaving Merchant Vessels Without Armament—Revive Lusitania Questions—View of Berlin

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 26.—With the apparent quieting down of the situation in Congress, the submarine crisis today shifted back to negotiations between Secretary Lansing and Count von Bernstorff. Secretary Lansing said the State Department has heard nothing more from Berlin on the request for a declaration that the new submarine campaign would not be conducted in violation of the previous assurances.

The situation in Congress is apparently being held in check by administration leaders.

Based on U. S. Note From German sources comes the suggestion that the Teutonic governments were inspired to issue their new note by the American circular note to the Allied powers proposing the disarmament of merchantships, and the German belief is that the Allies will not accept the American suggestion.

U. S. Committed They point out that when the United States sent suggestions of disarmament to the Entente powers, it committed itself as believing this was the right thing to do.

From British sources comes a positive statement that the British government at least has not rejected the American suggestion but is consulting her Allies.

Italy Replies First One of the Entente Allies to which Lansing suggested disarmament of merchant ships, replied today but the nature of the reply or the name of the government will not be disclosed until all have answered. It was learned however, that the reply was from Italy and was argumentative rather than conclusive.

GREATER ARMY FOR U. S. A.

House Military Committee is in Favor of Standing Force of 140,000 Men

MORE THAN ASKED

Republicans Force Through Measure and Increase Number of Regular Officers

NATIONAL GUARD SECTION

Provides for Maximum Strength of 424,000 of Which One-half Must Be Recruited Within Two Years—Bill Ready

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 26.—The House military committee today voted for a regular standing army of 137,000 men with two percent allowance for recruiting, bringing the number up to 149,000, which is slightly more than the war department asked. Republicans and three Democrats carried the vote.

The voting in the committee began at the proposal for 220,000 men. The number was gradually scaled down until the proposal for 150,000 was beaten by one vote. Then the Republicans and three Democrats put through the provision as it was finally accepted.

PARIS KEEPS SILENT TODAY

London Says Only News of Fall of Fortress Near Verdun Comes From Germans

SURPRISE ENGLISH

Last Advices From French Said Joffre's Forces Held Line Two Miles Beyond

GREATEST BATTLE OF WAR

Kaiser Forces Accomplish Unexpected in Presence of Emperor—Crown Prince's Army Makes First Decisive Gains of War

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

LONDON SURPRISED—AWAITS FRENCH NEWS

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.] LONDON, Feb. 26.—The only word concerning the German claim to taking Fort Douaumont comes through German sources. Further information is awaited anxiously, owing to the recognized strategic importance of the fort, which is the base of the solid field works on the line of hills 1000 feet high, northeast of Verdun. The last detailed information showed the French holding lines two and a half miles beyond Douaumont.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The capture of the Fort of Douaumont, the outlying stronghold of Verdun, which is the strongest fortress in Europe, in a German assault which has precipitated the most terrific battle of the war, was announced by Berlin today. The Germans with great concentration of artillery and massed infantry attacks have made considerable advances east of the Meuse river, north of Verdun, in the presence of Emperor William.

The Crown Prince has been in command of the German forces facing Verdun since the outbreak of the war and the Kaiser recently joined him there, just previous to the terrific assault. Hitherto the Crown Prince's army has been able to accomplish but little in the Vosges. Capture of the hills southwest of the village Louvemont and the fortified positions to the east thereof is also reported.

The resistance of the French broke down on Woevre plain along the entire front to Marphoville, south of the high road from Paris to Metz.

"We are pursuing the retreating enemy," says the German statement. Berlin also announced that the capture of Champneville, in the Verdun sector, reported yesterday was based on erroneous information.

Paris has little to say except that the German attacks in the region of Douaumont failed.

French Say Little

The French forces in Champagne attacked the German positions south of St. Marie-a-Py, and penetrated the trenches on a 250-yard front.

In the Balkans, the Italians have evacuated the strongly fortified city of Durazzo, Albania. In Asiatic Turkey, the Russians captured Kermanshah, a city of strategic importance.

WHEAT DROPS FIVE TO ELEVEN CENTS

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—Rumors that Verdun had fallen and depression in Wall street caused wheat values to break about five cents.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

PORTLAND, Feb. 26.—Wheat prices here broke from 5 to 11 cents on rumors that Verdun had fallen.

Additional officers for regular army also was increased from 786 to 1,000. The section for reorganizing the National Guard was framed to provide for a maximum of 424,000 men, of which 50 percent must be recruited within two years.

Make Marshfield a City Beautiful

THE TIMES desires to endorse and emphasize the plea of The Booster for a city beautiful. Never before in the history of the community was the demand so urgent or the need so great. Immediate action of some kind should be taken to get our house in order for the coming influx of outsiders and investors with the inauguration of train service on the new railway.

The appearance of the homes and stores of a city are indicative of the habits and moral and intellectual tone of the community. Every building represents the faith of the builder in his home town. If that building, either used as a home or for business purposes, is permitted to fall into decay, it is permanent and prominent evidence of a lack of faith and so impresses the visitor, who cannot be expected to invest his capital where there is a lack of faith plainly emphasized by the citizens. We deduce, therefore, by logical reasoning, that the citizen who allows his property to fall into decay and become an eyesore is a detriment to the community; by the same token the man who takes pride in making his home place or business place attractive is the best citizen. Here on Coos Bay we have too many examples of the first class. A walk into almost any section of the city, but particularly along the waterfront reveals monuments of the dead past; dilapidated shacks that have outlived their usefulness.

Yes, of course, there are beautiful buildings, and handsome homes, with green lawns and blooming flowers, but the very presence of these places only exaggerates the dirty and unkempt appearance of nearby neighbors that constitute the majority.

It is not a pleasant condition to admit in public, but it is not a condition that will permit of side glances. It must be looked square in the eye and everyone must be made to understand that those who cherish a pride in their home city will insist that its appearance be improved. We must be big enough and brave enough to acknowledge to ourselves that the situation is grave and then adopt the most effective means to remedy the condition.

When we turn our attention to the ruling factors or the most vital elements in human nature, we find that the tendency to be affected

by our surroundings is, under every circumstance, almost a leading tendency; first impressions are always powerful; they usually go very deep and have to be reckoned with in the future; hence we must surround our homes and business places with the settings which will create in the mind of the observer a desire to participate in the pleasures and prosperity suggested by well-kept and attractive business and residence sections.

It is said that one who enters into the spirit of his work may accomplish more in a year than one who does not could accomplish in a century. Believing this, The Times suggests that every householder on Coos Bay enter into the SPIRIT of the work and AT ONCE prepare to clean up the alley, back yard and front yard, start planting and set out shrubs, paint the house and tear down the old broken fence; let us have the work of beautifying the city all finished before the first train arrives. Then let us have a "City Beautiful Holiday" some time in early May and celebrate the achievement with a thousand bonfires made of the old trash and old fences. Let the Mayor issue a proclamation for a fiesta night, when all will be permitted to illuminate the old city we love with the fires of the unsightly rubbish and the light and enthusiasm will be seen and felt for miles and the SPIRIT of the thing will permeate all classes and make Marshfield a city beautiful. Don't wait for the other fellow to start; start yourself; make your neighbor sit up and take notice, be it ever so humble; make it attractive; and let's have all the work completed by May first.

There is everything in having a definite object to attain and making a well-directed effort to attain it. The Times will be glad to receive plans and suggestions from any citizen as to HOW we can best attain the object "The City Beautiful."

For the best practical suggestion The Times will award a prize of a silver medal, suitably inscribed, and for second and third best suggestions, six months subscription to The Times. Send your suggestions in at once and they will be given careful consideration. Even if you do not win a prize you have increased the value of your property, made the home-pleasanter for all and above all have preserved your self respect.

A LEAP YEAR BRIDE



MISS COOS BAY WEDS MR. EUGENE, WITH J. M. SCOTT, GENERAL PASSENGER AGENT OF THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC OFFICIATING ON FEBRUARY 22, 1916 AND ADDISON BENNETT BEST MAN

WILL AID SEATTLE IOWA PARTY FIGHT REPLY OF AUSTRIA

WAR DEPARTMENT APPROVES LAKE WASHINGTON SHIP CANAL

Provide \$657,000 for Deepening the Channel to Thirty Feet and Fixing Embankments

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 26.—The Federal improvement of the Lake Washington ship canal to provide a channel 30 feet deep below the locks now nearing completion and a revetment of the canal banks at a cost of \$657,000 was approved today by the War department.

MRS. W. J. MURPHY and two children left on the Kilburn this afternoon on their way to Minneapolis where they will visit for three or four months with the parents of Mrs. Murphy.

Before going to the beach tomorrow, stop in at Goodrum's Garage.

DEMOCRATS WILL HAVE TWO PARTIES IN FIELD THERE

Progressive Wing Announces That It Will Have Its Own Candidates in Primaries

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 26.—Two full Democratic state tickets may be placed before Iowa voters at the primaries, as a result of a decision reached early today by the leaders of the so called Progressive Democrats to enter state of their own.

O. D. BURDETTE, of the North Pacific Steamship office, left on the Kilburn for Portland. He will return on the next boat.

HARRY LASHWAY, who has been a saw-filer at the Smith mill for six or seven years, intends to leave in about a week for Portland.

SAYS ATTACK ON PETROLITE WAS DUE TO CAPTAIN'S ERROR

Thought: American Flag Was Disguise and That Ship Was Trying to Ram Him—Gave Supplies

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 26.—Austria, supplementing her request for more information concerning the American protest against submarine attack on the American tanker Petrolite, informed the United States that the submarine commander thought the Petrolite was an enemy ship disguised under the American flag, and that he fired upon her as the ship changed her course, as he believed she was about to ram him and that the Petrolite's captain voluntarily furnished provisions for the submarine.

MRS. ROBERT FOX and child left on the Kilburn on their way to Washington to join Mr. Fox.

ITALY GIVES UP ALBANIA

Forced to Withdraw From Durazzo, Strongly Fortified City on Adriatic

AFTER HARD BATTLE

Austro-German Forces Defeat Italians and Albanians in Series of Engagements

QUICK RESULT IS SURPRISE

Berlin Reports That Important Battles Were Fought Prior to Retirement of Italian Forces—Rome Confirms Withdrawal Today

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

ROME, Feb. 26.—Report that Durazzo, the Alban port on the Adriatic Sea, had been evacuated by Italian troops, stationed there, is confirmed.

The official statement says: "The Italian brigade at Durazzo has been withdrawn and has embarked, the Albanian government having left. The withdrawal of the Serbian, Montenegrin and Albanian troops from Albania has been completed."

LAST IG BATTLE

Berlin Says Austro-German Forces Routed Italians

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

BERLIN, Feb. 26.—Austrian reports had predicted the early fall of Durazzo, which it is presumed they have now occupied following the evacuation by Italians, as a result of the defeat Wednesday of the Italian and Albanian forces under Essau Pasha, the provincial President. The Austrians and Germans attacked at dusk, the defenders were soon ejected from the positions at Basear Cjak. Shortly afterward, the Italians on the southern bank of the lower Arzen were forced to abandon their positions. The Austrians crossed the river and proceeded outward. At noon a decisive action east of Bazar Sjak drove the Italians from strong positions. The same fate was suffered by the defenders of Sasao Bianco, six miles east of Durazzo. By evening the entire outer girdle of defenses were taken. The attackers, advancing to their inner line positions, established the fact that the Italians were embarking their troops hurriedly.

PORTUGAL IN FRAY

Premier Announces to Deputies Country is Prepared

Says Treaty With Germany Will Be Allowed to Lapse—Attempts to Damage Interred Ships

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

LISBON, Feb. 26.—The Portuguese Premier stated in the Chamber of Deputies today that attempts had been made to damage the seven Teutonic ships requisitioned by the government. He declared that he considered it in the best interests of Portugal that the existing treaty with Germany be allowed to lapse and said that the Portuguese government was prepared for all eventualities.

Use Not Decided

The Premier in answer to a question regarding the employment to which the requisitioned German and Austrian vessels would be put, said the government's action was prompted by the necessities of the nation's economic situation.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Justin, formerly with the St. Lawrence Hotel wish to inform their old friends and the public that their Broadway Hotel apartments are nearly completed. Will announce date of opening later. Location in Postoffice building, Marshfield, Oregon.

To get GOOD cleaning and repairing, call JAY DOYLE, Ph. 250.

Before going to the beach tomorrow, stop in at Goodrum's Garage.

Dr. Leslie, Osteopath, Marshfield

GERMANS TAKE VERDUN FORT

Capture Douaumont, North-east of Strongest Fortifications in France

AFTER HARD BATTLE

Most Terrific Onslaught of Men and Guns Made During Entire War up to Date

LARGE FORCE IS INVOLVED

Kaiser and Crown Prince Aid in Directing Advance—Most Important Achievement in Months Along Western Front

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

BERLIN, Feb. 26.—An official statement says "The armored fort of Douaumont, the Northeastern corner of the pillar of the permanent main fortifications of the stronghold of Verdun, was stormed yesterday afternoon by the Twenty-fourth Regiment of Brandenburg Infantry and is now firmly in German hands."

For Douaumont lies four miles northeast of Verdun. It is one of nearly a score of forts circling Verdun and is situated just north of the railroad running east from the city of Metz. Douaumont is one of the cluster of seven forts protecting Verdun from the east. Forts Douaumont, Detavannes and St. Michel lie directly between the position conquered by the Germans and the city of Verdun. The conquest of this fort was made by the right wing of the huge attacking army, which has scored the greatest advances in the assault on French positions.

Terrific Assault Made

Douaumont is somewhat to the east of what hitherto has been the principal line of progress, being situated four miles east of the Meuse river. The main force of the German attack, as indicated by the previous communications, was being exerted southward along the Meuse. The capture of Douaumont is a most important achievement since the inauguration of the German drive at Verdun—an onslaught which for fury and weight of men and guns has no precedents. Verdun is the strongest fortress of France and is of particular importance from the fact that it offers the direct communication with Paris, 150 miles west.

SINK ENGLISH SHIPS

TWO LARGE FREIGHTERS, REPORTED SENT TO BOTTOM

Seven Members of Crew Reported Missing by Lloyds—One Large Vessel and One Small

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Lloyds announced the sinking of the British steamer Denaby, 2987 tons, and the steamer Tummel, 531 tons. Seven members of the crew are missing. Of the five survivors picked up, two died.

TURKS LOSE AGAIN

RUSSIANS DEFEAT SULTAN'S ARMY NEAR BITLIS

Russian Grand Duke Reports Further Success in Caucasian Campaign Today

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 26.—Heavy fighting occurred ten miles from Bitlis between the Russian and Turkish troops, the former coming from the direction of Mush. The Turks fought bravely but were obliged to retire before the superior forces.

The Russian Caucasian campaign is being directed by the Russian Grand Duke who was deposed during the Austro-German victories over the Russians in Poland, and sent to the Caucasians, which was then thought to be an unimportant side of the struggle. However, he has won the great victories there that the Russians have gained.