

WEATHER.

Fair and warmer; gentle variable winds becoming easterly.

The Oregon Statesman

DAILY EDITION

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 19

SALEM, OREGON, THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

BRITISH AGAIN IN METELEN

Reports From West Front Are More Encouraging; Part of Wytchaele Retaken; English Retire at Several Points

MESINES RIDGE BATTLE IS NOW IN NINTH DAY

Arras Again Scene of Fighting—Turks Announce Capture of Batum After Hard Struggle With Russian Defenders

(OFFICIAL SUMMARY)

Out of the chaos of the tremendous battle along the Lys river, south and southwest of Ypres, the thunder of which may be heard forty or fifty miles away, there have come during the past day reports which are encouraging to the allied powers. The British not only have held all the ground which they were defending on Tuesday, but have struck back so powerfully that Mesines and part of Wytchaele were retaken and held for a time. Only after heavy attacks did the British retire again from the villages.

The most disturbing news has been a report from Berlin that Poppel and Langemarch, north of Ypres, have been taken by the Germans and the admission from London that the British have retired from certain parts of the lines in the Ypres salient. The retirement here was expected, for the advance of the Germans at Neuve-Eglise and Bailleul left the positions in front of Ypres open to a flank attack. It is officially stated that the retirement was orderly and it is probable that it will have more of a sentimental than a strategic effect.

The battle now in its ninth day has deepened in intensity at many points along the curved front from Mesines ridge to Meteren.

On all the rest of the front from Mesines ridge southward, the Germans have flung themselves against the granite wall of the British defense. Official and semi-official dispatches have told of the frightful losses inflicted on the attacking masses of troops by the British rifle and machine gun fire.

On the southern side of the salient there have been engagements of some magnitude, especially east of Robecq, five miles northwest of Bethune where the Germans were caught by the British artillery fire and scattered.

The line in front of Arras has again been the scene of fighting, but here the British took the offensive and drove the Germans out of British trenches which had been carried by the enemy.

In the Ploeghe sector there have been artillery engagements between the Somme and Oise rivers, but only patrol encounters are reported officially. Further south only raiding operations have been going on at the moment.

The "Cure" announced that they have taken the city of Batum, on the eastern shore of the Black sea. They

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HINDU DIPLOMAT PLEADS IN COURT

Dr. Chakravarty Admits Connection With Germany But Protests Regard for Sayings of Great Americans

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17.—Protesting his regard for the sayings of Washington and Lincoln on the treatment of subject peoples, Dr. Chandra K. Chakravarty, Hindu student and diplomat, today personally pleaded with a jury in United States District Judge Van Fleet's court to liberate him from a charge of conspiring in this country to stir up revolt among the peoples of India against British rule.

Standing little more than 5 feet in height, and weighing less than 100 pounds, Dr. Chakravarty made a picturesque figure as he addressed the court.

"I freely admit my connection with Germany in the effort to liberate my people," he said. "But I did nothing against the government of this nation. This country is the asylum of the political refugee and the oppressed. I realized at all times that the good will of this great nation was necessary in order that India might get her just deserts. She cannot live here long without becoming inspired by the sayings of

ANOTHER CALL MADE FOR HELP

Governor Would Have All Able-Bodied Men in Useful Occupations

Governor Withycombe yesterday issued another call upon all able-bodied men in the state to engage in some occupation that will be of benefit to the country in carrying out the war program. The repeated call is made because of the shortage of labor in numerous pursuits and the pressing need of maximum production.

"This is no time for idlers," said the governor, "and no man who is able physically to employ his particular talents has a good excuse to offer if he is now found idle. Certainly every man in the state can find something to do that will add to productivity or help in some incidental relation to win the war."

PRESIDENT TO LOOK INTO COAL CAR SHORTAGE

Purchasing Director for Railroad Administration Lays Arguments Before Wilson

OUTCOME NOT KNOWN

Baruch and Garfield Take Part in Conference—Garfield Places Blame

WASHINGTON, April 17.—John Skelton Williams, purchasing director for the railroad administration, today laid before President Wilson at the session of the war cabinet his side of the disagreement between Fuel Administrator Garfield and the railroad administration over the question of car shortage at coal mines and railroad methods in purchasing their coal supply. There was no announcement after the meeting but it is understood that the difficulty will be adjusted one way or the other soon by direction of the president.

Dr. Garfield, who attributes the serious loss in coal production recently to shortage of cars at the mines has been conferring with Mr. Williams for more than two weeks without result. He blames the shortage largely upon the practice of the railroads guaranteeing a 100 per cent car supply at the mines furnishing their coal in return for reduced prices. Bernard Baruch, chairman of the war industries board, has participated in the discussion and is said to have taken the same position.

On the other hand, the railroad administration's attitude is that the government can not afford to saddle extra expense of coal purchases on the railroads under federal operation and consequently the pre-war policy of coal buying must be continued.

Paroled Prisoner Prefers Coming Back to Prison

M. D. O'Brien, a paroled prisoner from the state penitentiary, who is employed at Washington, Wash., has written State Parole Officer Keller requesting that he be allowed to return to the prison. Keller has replied that a paroled man cannot be returned as long as he is making good. O'Brien is about 70 years old. He was convicted in Washington county on a charge of attempting to defraud an insurance company.

SEARCH FAILS TO DISCLOSE FATE OF SHIP

Naval Record of Commander of Cyclops Examined by Government Officials—Worley Found to Have Been Born in Germany

NORFOLK, April 17.—Mrs. Selma W. Worley, wife of Lieutenant Commander George Wichtmann Worley, commander of the missing naval collier Cyclops, came to a local newspaper office tonight and declared that the mystery surrounding the disappearance of the ship and its 293 passengers and crew would be cleared up with the next 24 hours. In one statement Mrs. Worley is quoted as saying the Cyclops was safe in an South American port and official announcement regarding the vessel would be made shortly.

Mrs. Worley is known to have visited families here who have relatives on the ship and told them not to worry as the mystery soon would be cleared.

Mrs. Worley visited the newspaper office to request the suppression of an interview she had given about her husband's change of name and his birth in Germany.

"I will be able to give a bigger story tomorrow," she said, when pressed for additional information, she added: "You know there are other ships at sea."

"Have you any reason to believe the Cyclops is safe?" she was asked. "Yes," was her reply.

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ACCIDENT CONSIDERED ALMOST IMPOSSIBILITY

Sister of Lieutenant Confident Mystery Will Be Cleared Shortly

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No Confirmation Indicated. WASHINGTON, April 17.—At the navy department it was said tonight that nothing had been received to confirm Mrs. Worley's statement about the Cyclops being safe in a South American port. The department reiterated the statement that nothing has been heard from or of the Cyclops since it left the Barbados.

Navy officers attach no importance to Mrs. Worley's change of name or the new that she was born in Germany and scout any suggestion that his Teutonic origin might be significant in connection with the disappearance of his ship. They point to the officer's clear record of a quarter of a century and declare that if his loyalty should be impugned for such a reason, a considerable portion of the high officers of the navy must be under suspicion.

No Traces Are Found. WASHINGTON, April 17.—Diligent search by naval and merchant ships has failed to disclose the slightest trace of the missing naval collier Cyclops and with the passing of the 44th day since the vessel sailed from Barbados for the Atlantic port, belief is growing at the navy department that in some way she has been destroyed or captured by the enemy.

How this could have happened no one professes to know, but officials regard it as almost impossible that any accident could have caused the sea to swallow up the big vessel and 293 persons on board with her leaving a trace. Some think sooner or later an enemy announcement will clear up the mystery.

Publication of a despatch from San Francisco quoting Mrs. A. M. Angermann, a sister of Lieutenant Commander G. W. Worley, commanding officer of the Cyclops as saying their family name was Wichtmann and that her brother was born in Germany and came to America as a child, led to an examination today of Commander Worley's record at the navy department. It shows Worley entered the service of the navy twenty-eight years ago and at that time gave San Francisco as his birth place. He attained the rank of master in the naval auxiliary and for years commanded colliers and supply ships. When the auxiliary was merged naval volunteers after the United States went to war, Worley was in command of the Cyclops and he retained that assignment with the rank of lieutenant commander.

Explains Change in Name. Mrs. Worley, who lives in Norfolk, Va., explained today that her husband's name was changed legally at Port Orchard, Wash., when he was a young man and before he entered the naval service. She confirmed the statement that he was born in Germany but declared he always was an American citizen. His foster father, she said, was named Worley and he went into court to legally adopt the name of George Wichtmann Worley.

Lafayette Flyer Has Thrilling Escape in Front Line Combat

PARIS, April 17.—Frank L. Baylies of New Bedford, Mass., a Lafayette flyer and now a member of the "stock" escadrille to which the famous Captain Guyenmer belonged made a thrilling escape from Germans who were pursuing him across No Man's Land, where he was obliged to come down after an aerial combat.

Baylies' machine landed about 500 yards from the enemy's trenches. The Germans, who had been watching his descent, began peppering his machine with bullets. Baylies leaped from his plane and made all speed for the French lines. The Germans left their trenches in pursuit, keeping up a hot fire with rifle and machine guns.

Chasseurs from the French lines, witnessing the race, opened fire on the Germans, killing one and driving the others back to their trenches. Baylies, who has some record as an athlete, sprinted on and later he declared never before had he covered the ground so fast as in the last sixty yards.

PREMIER WILL SHOW LETTERS TO COMMITTEE

Contain Information as to Emperors Letters and Declarations of Count Czernin

ENDS EXPLANATION Alexander Ribot Will Speak Before 148 Deputies on Austrian Situation

PARIS, April 17.—Premier Clemenceau and M. Pichon, the foreign minister, will place before the committee of foreign affairs, the army and the navy, full information on the Austrian emperor's letter and declarations of Count Czernin, the former Austro-Hungarian foreign minister.

The committee comprise one hundred and forty-eight deputies, or more than a quarter of the chamber. Alexander Ribot, who was premier when the incidents occurred, asked M. Clemenceau to notify the committee that he was ready to complete M. Clemenceau's explanations, if the committee so desired.

All documents, reports and conversations connected with Austria's overtures having a bearing on the attitude of Emperor Charles and Count Czernin, will be communicated to the committee. Prince Sixtus of Bourbon communicated the original text of the emperor's first letter to President Poincare, but had an exact copy made, which he gave to M. Ribot for the foreign affairs archives.

M. Ribot communicated the letter to the British prime minister, David Lloyd George, at Folkestone, a few days later. When the French, Italian and British cabinets met at St. Jean de Maurienne, in Savoy, he eventually of Austro-Hungary undertaking negotiations for peace was discussed. The allies agreed upon what line of conduct they should adopt.

The first letter caused the allies to demand explanations, and, as a consequence Prince Sixtus communicated the second letter of Emperor Charles to President Poincare and M. Ribot. The allies decided that the second letter did not permit them to continue these conversations.

The Temps points out that the two classes of facts which the government's explanations deal are not of equal importance. The first, connected with the emperor's two letters, it says, are of serious import; the second, connected with the Armand-Reveretta conversations, are considered only as attempts of the Austrian war ministry to obtain information.

Tornado Strikes Army Camp, Killing Soldier. HATTIESBURG, Miss., April 17.—Private Vaughn Deekman of Marietta was killed and a score or more soldiers and civilian workers were injured, some seriously, late today, when a tornado struck Camp Shelby, near here. The men injured were struck by flying debris.

Government Takes Over Big New York Station

EL PASO, Texas, April 17.—Secretary W. G. McAdoo, director general of railroads, announced tonight that he had authorized the use by the Baltimore and Ohio railroad of the Pennsylvania railroad terminal in New York city. Mr. McAdoo said that arrangements would be made without delay to carry this order into immediate effect.

LIBERTY LOAN LAGS TOWARD END OF DRIVE

Sales Since Rush After First Day Not Up to Expectations, Says Treasury Department Review

LESS THAN ONE-THIRD MINIMUM SUBSCRIBED

Time for Campaign Two-Fifths Over—Mrs. McAdoo Will Aid

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The third liberty loan campaign is two-fifths over and less than one-third of the \$3,000,000,000 minimum has been officially recorded as subscribed.

The total reported tonight to the treasury, covering receipts by banks up to the close of business last night, was \$952,923,250; or \$48,000,000 short of the \$1,000,000,000 total expected by tonight. This is \$123,317,150 more than was reported last night.

"Sales since the first day of the campaign, when they started with a rush, frankly are not up to expectations," said the treasury's daily review tonight. "There is a feeling of disappointment, particularly in the large cities. The country districts are doing better than they did in previous campaigns, but the gains that they are making are not of sufficient size to offset the lack of sales in the large communities."

"The need for constant, steady driving by sales committees every day throughout the remainder of the campaign is plain. Only persistent daily and hourly effort will restore the campaign to the rate which was reached a week ago possibly under the impetus of the start of the honor flag race."

The St. Louis federal reserve district has subscribed 60 per cent of the quota and continues at the head of the list in this respect. The New York district, although the biggest contributor, has dropped to fifth place as to percentage, according to tonight's figures.

Today's figures included the first report from the Minneapolis district, which started its campaign Monday, and managers there predicted that the district's quota of \$105,000,000 would be raised by the end of the week, and that the St. Louis district would be replaced at the top of the list.

Women appear to be doing particularly good work in every part of the country. They were especially helpful, it is said, in helping the states of Oregon and Iowa subscribe their quotas.

Mrs. W. G. McAdoo, chairman of the National Women's Liberty Loan committee, conferred today with the committee chairmen in Chicago district and then started for Arizona where she will meet Secretary McAdoo and accompany him on the rest of his tour, holding daily meetings with women liberty loan committees.

DISTRICT TAKES \$70,844,350. SAN FRANCISCO, April 17.—The twelfth federal reserve bank district's subscription to the liberty loan to date totals \$70,844,350. It was announced here officially tonight. The district's quota is \$210,000,000.

Tacoma is the first city in the district of the class, as shown by the census of 1910, to be listed between 50,000 and 100,000 population, to reach its quota, it was announced.

NEW YORK HAS ONE-THIRD. NEW YORK, April 17.—The New York federal reserve district has raised nearly one-third of its quota of \$900,000,000 for the third liberty loan, according to an announcement tonight that \$297,449,300 had been

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NEW RECORD IN SHIPBUILDING

Skinner and Eddy Company Delivers Freighter Ossineka in 109 Days

WASHINGTON, April 17.—A new record for merchant shipbuilding was announced today in the contest between yards for pre-eminence in turning out such vessels. The Skinner and Eddy Shipbuilding company of Seattle has delivered to the shipping board the 8500-ton freighter Ossineka in 109 days from the time the keel was laid. 81 days ahead of the date set in the contract.

In pre-war times, twelve to eighteen months were required for the delivery of such a craft. The best previous record for completion of a large vessel was 113 days, made by the Columbia River Shipbuilding company of Washington state, in building the 8500-ton Canoga.

WARRANT ISSUE BREAKS RECORD

Highway Department Pays Out Over Quarter Million in March

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The highway department for the month of March totaled \$265,618.94, representing all business transacted by the department for the month, and exceeding by \$25,000 any previous amount spent from state funds in an entire year. The expenditures covered wages and salaries, contracts, force account work and payment to the government under the Bean-Barrett law.

Payment under the Bean-Barrett law was \$202,211 and was the commission's first payment on government work, covering surveys by the government for forest road projects. Out of the \$6,000,000 paving fund was paid \$155,776.98, from the quarter mill fund, \$79,819.85; from the automobile fund, \$24,988.90; interest on bonds, \$201,119, and in salaries to employes, \$35,000.

FALL OPPOSES GIVING CABINET FURTHER POWER

Senator Harding Says Conflict of Jurisdiction Delayed Housing Program

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

Supporters Would Put President Instead of Department of Labor in Charge

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Conflict of jurisdiction between the shipping board and department of labor, which would administer the \$60,000,000 provided in the pending bill, Senator Harding of Ohio, declared has delayed the shipping board's housing program under the \$50,000,000 it was authorized to spend last March, particularly at Newport News, Va., and Sparrows Point, Md. An amendment by Senator Harding providing that the government should not rent dwellings built for less than six per cent of the invested capital was adopted.

Suggesting that the president instead of the department of labor should be given power to carry out the housing program, Senator Fall said:

"I have no confidence in the president's cabinet members nor in their ability. In my judgment they have proven themselves absolutely incompetent."

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SITUATION OF ALLIES IMPROVES

Troops More Than Holding Their Own—Retreat in North Proves Gain to British in Eliminating Salient at Passchendaele Ridge

MEN FIGHT GALLANTLY AT HEIGHT OF BATTLE

Failure of German Effort Would Place Defenders in Strong Strategic Position, Is Belief

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, April 17.—Things looked distinctly better today from the allied standpoint as a result of the British withdrawal in the north, which eliminated the great salient that bulged out over the Passchendaele ridge system. The defending troops this morning were sitting snugly in prepared positions along a line running a little east of Ypres, after a secret and orderly night retirement with which the enemy interfered in no way.

In the meantime the British were more than holding their own in the fierce struggle in the Wytchaele-Bailleul sector, where the progress of the German troops had threatened the defenses of the wide-flung salient to the north. Wytchaele today was reported to be again in British hands, but such was the nature of the struggle here that it would be unwise to make a definite claim at this time.

Certainly the men in khaki were fighting gallantly and they were giving little ground here according to the latest advices from the very front lines.

Enemy Casualties Heavy. West of Bailleul, farther down the line, the enemy was driven today from Meteren, which has been a hotbed of conflict for days. In all this northern fighting grievous casualties have been inflicted on the Germans.

Between Merville and Givenchy also there have been heavy engagements. In this section the invaders were hurled back. Further British

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OVER 2000 GATHER TO HEAR ADDRESS OF FIGHTING MAN

Lieutenant MacQuarrie Stirrs Audience With Recital of Incidents of War—Liberty Loans Urged—Crowd Votes Unanimously in Endorsement of Chamberlain Measure

More than 2000 people listened to Lieutenant Hector MacQuarrie of the British army in his address at the armory last night, given under the auspices of the state liberty loan committee. The speech was highly humorous and it was delivered with a frankness that, judging from the resultant applause, appealed to the audience. Lieutenant MacQuarrie kept clear of the subject of Hun atrocities, for the reason that his outlook on the war is from an optimistic point of view, although he makes no rash predictions that the end is near at hand.

Macquarrie was preceded by Lieutenant F. V. Boyd, a Portland man, who belongs at Camp Lewis, but who was ordered out for the liberty bond campaign.

The Salem band played patriotic airs prior to the address. His remarks dwelt mainly with the double loyalty that is being shown by soldiers in the big cantonment who have subscribed \$42 per capita to the liberty loan.

An incident of the meeting last night was the introduction by State Treasurer Kay of a resolution endorsing a bill introduced in the United States senate yesterday by George E. Chamberlain providing for a speedy trial of all persons who are suspected of disloyalty or who show disloyalty in their utterances. The resolution was adopted unani-

mously, the great audience rising to show its approval when Chairman Charles V. Galloway called for the vote.

Scotsman Is Humorous. Lieutenant Macquarrie is Scotch. He is a Highlander and a witty one. He kept the audience almost in continuous laughter with his humorous comments, anecdotes and good-natured fun. But between the laughs and notwithstanding his carefree attitude the soldier carried to his hearers the serious side of the big problem the allied nations are facing. He warned against German propaganda which he declared had been clandestinely at work in the United States for forty years to prejudice the United States against England.

"Don't be too optimistic, or pessimistic," he warned, "but smile when things go against us—for such times will come. They have come for England and they will come for you."

World Cement Brotherhood. Lieutenant Macquarrie emphasizes the need of a stronger feeling of brotherhood between the United States and England. The purpose of the war, he declared, is not to kill Germans, but to kill kaiserism and autocracy.

"Both countries are in this to a finish," he declared, "your country and mine. The Germans in this

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