

# The Secret Battle

Two American Officers Join the German "Council of Five" in Spain, Enter Germany by Submarine from San Sebastian to Kiel and Secure the Plans of the Last Drive on Paris, after the British and French Had Declared it Impossible to Obtain Them.

Von Hindenburg and the German High Command Cleverly Deceived by the Pretended Deserter—A Thrilling Adventure that Leads to the Defeat of the Boche and the Signing of the Armistice—The Story of the Two Mysterious Prisoners Sent from France to the Military Intelligence Staff in Washington in July Last.

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## PART III

### SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS

After the ablest military service men in the French and British armies fall to secure information in reference to the German plans for the great drive on Paris in the Spring of 1918, this task is assigned to General Pershing's intelligence staff and an American major is detailed to gain entrance to the German lines.

Under the guise of an American deserter who has embezzled battalion funds he is arrested at Henday in France and "escapes." Reaching San Sebastian in Spain, where the bad reputation he has established precedes him, he is admitted to the "Group of Five" which controls the German secret service and is sworn into the German army.

His first tasks are to rescue a German prince who has been arrested as a spy in France by the American forces and condemned to death, and then to secure the plans of the Liberty Motor. The prince is "rescued" by the major and officers of the American military secret service and is taken to San Sebastian. Saving the Prince from execution gives the major a high place in the confidence of the Germans.

The major returns to France in the guise of an American enlisted man. A captain in the aviation corps, an expert on motors, is detailed to act with him as "a deserter who has stolen the plans of the Liberty motor." The major and the captain go to San Sebastian where the German prince suggests that they be sent to Germany with him on a submarine used by the German secret service as one of their lines of communication with Germany, to explain the motor to the High Command.

This plan is followed and they leave Spain on a submarine which has eluded a British destroyer. On the voyage this sight the submarine and discharges a depth bomb which nearly sinks the sub-sea boat. The concussion from the explosion is so powerful that every man on board is stunned and for an appreciable time the vessel is without control. It is not injured and reaches Kiel without further adventure.

The major and captain are kept in Kiel but a short time under the care of a Captain Schmidt, who never loses an opportunity to covertly insult them.

## CHAPTER XI

### THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND

(Continued from Last Sunday)

Returning to their room, the Americans quickly finished packing their bags and when the German captain came for them they were ready to start on what they hoped would be the last stage of their dangerous journey.

When they arrived at the railroad station, they were immediately shown into a private carriage. Captain Schmidt gave orders that under

no circumstances were they to leave the compartment without him and that no one was to be admitted unless he himself came with them.

Shortly after leaving Kiel for Coblenz the train entered the zone of the army. Although classified as first class, it was shunted on to a side track and held to allow troop and supply trains to rush on toward the front.

For the first time the two officers were able to study and ascertain the real conditions behind the German lines. It was clear to them that even thus early in 1918 the morale of the fighting machine which the kaiser and his high command had labored so hard to build up to conquer the world, was cracking under the strain. There were no songs heard now as the troops moved forward to the front lines—just a sullen scowl or a muttered curse as an officer passed them. The usual propaganda was already at work and its poison was slowly sapping the vitality of the German army. No longer did these men act like victors; instead they seemed to realize they were fighting for a lost cause.

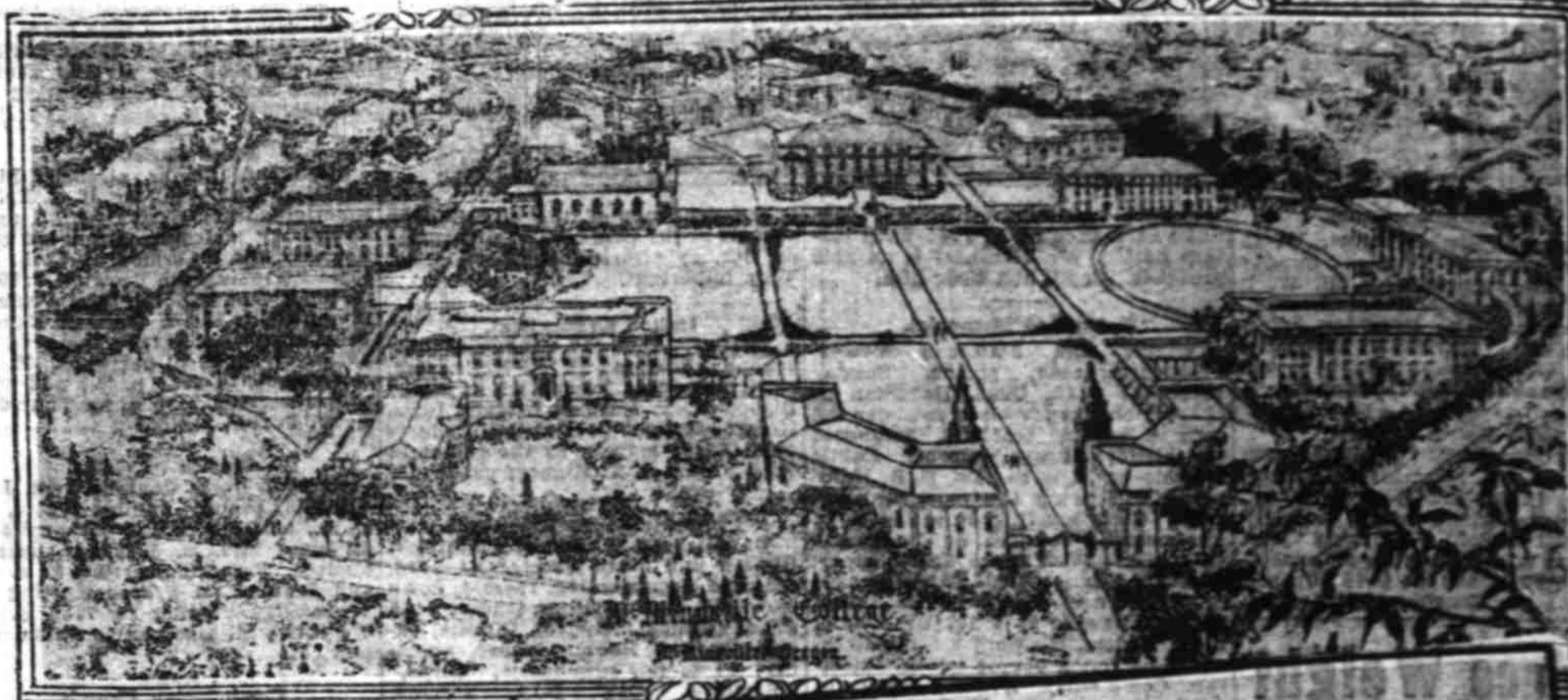
While waiting for one troop train to pass, another came along and stopped on the track opposite to the officers' train. Some of the German soldiers, recognizing them as Americans and thinking they were prisoners, began to hoot and jeer at them. One soldier who spoke English asked them if it was true that the Americans could only muster 10,000 men to fight in France, and also if it were true that the United States was then at war with Mexico and Japan. When he was asked why, he replied:

"That's what they tell us. I spent five years in the United States and I cannot believe that our officers are telling us the truth."

Fearing that if they told this man the truth they might get in serious difficulty, the two officers only laughed. It proved to them, however, that even the high command was afraid to tell their soldiers the real facts.

The train made its way slowly along, passing through the so-called rest areas, where the German troops were sent from the front to recuperate. It was readily seen that their morale was not what might be expected of a victorious army. The famed goosestep was not to be seen, and, instead, the men slouched along with heads down, and stragglers were almost as numerous as marching men. No semblance of order was observed on the march. The troops

## CAMPUS PLAN RECENTLY ADOPTED FOR GREATER MCMINNVILLE COLLEGE CALLS FOR EXPENDITURE OF NEARLY HALF A MILLION DOLLARS WITHIN NEXT TWO OR THREE YEARS



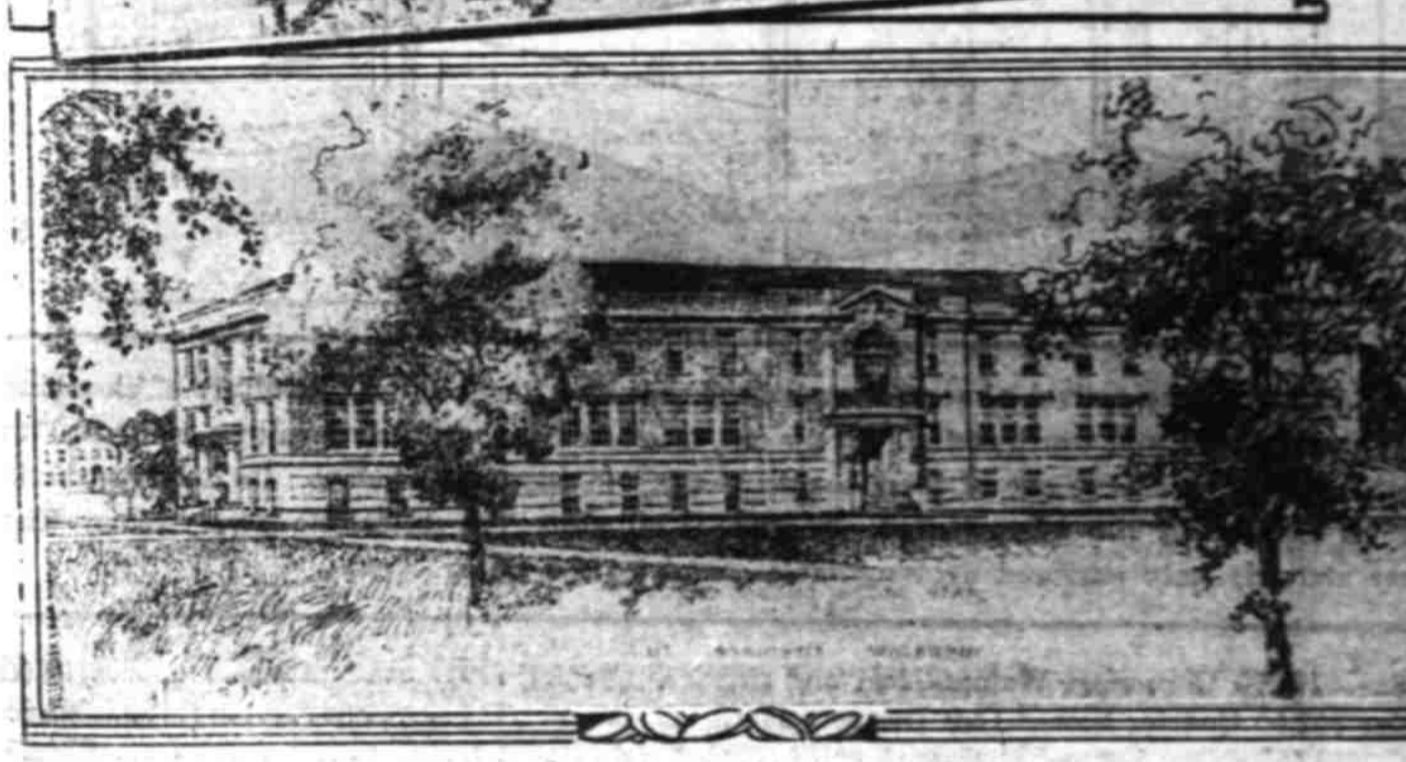
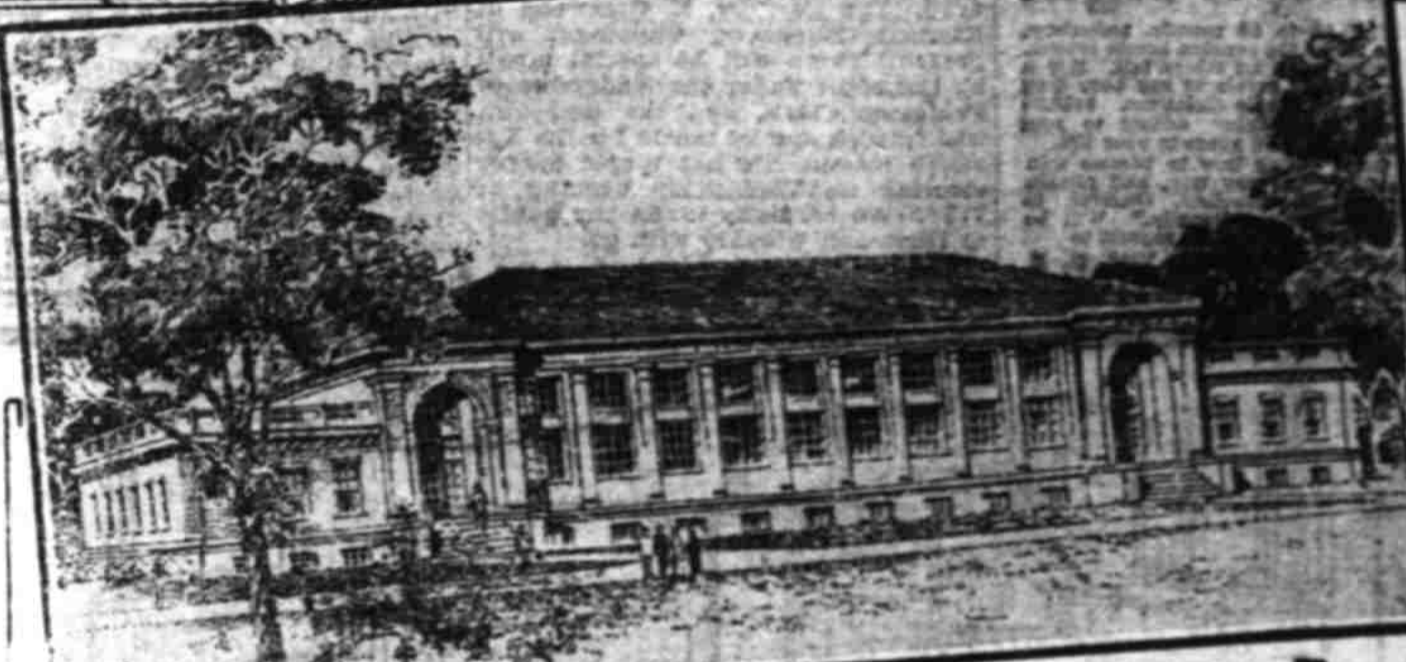
### COLLEGE WILL BE IMPROVED BY BAPTISTS

Big Financial Allotment Is Granted McMinnville for Reconstruction  
CAMPUS PLANS ARE MADE  
Administration Building First to Go Up, Says President Riley

MCMINNVILLE, Ore., April 17.—McMinnville college will be rebuilt. Of \$700,000 allotted to the institution by the Northern Baptist convention, \$400,000 will be spent on campus improvements. Work will soon begin, according to announcement Saturday. Building plans adopted are those prepared by A. E. Doyle, Portland architect.

Structures proposed include a social center, fine arts and music building, education, biology and geology, three girls' dormitories, a commons and dining hall, three men's halls, gymnasium, men's assembly hall, chemistry and physics, library, chapel and administration building. "The first building to be constructed will be the administration building," announced Dr. Leonard W. Riley, president of McMinnville college. "It will be three stories high. The first floor will be used almost entirely by the science departments. The second floor will have lecture and recitation rooms, and also the lower part of the chapel. The third floor will have offices for the administrative officers of the college, together with the galleries of the chapel and temporary rooms for the library."

"Another building will be the gymnasium, 175x266 feet, which will be one of the finest structures of its kind on the coast. Every detail of the plans has been carefully worked out. The floors, exercise rooms, swimming pool, lockers, shower baths and other facilities will give opportunity for teachers and students to develop and maintain strong and healthy bodies.



Above—Map showing general campus development scheme along which college authorities hope to work to expanding facilities of the institution. The proposed administration building is shown in the center of the group, the chapel immediately to the left and the science buildings, library and dormitories grouped around this central point. The present buildings of the college are shown at the extreme rear. Middle—Proposed expansion, which will be among the first of the new buildings constructed and which is shown in the map above among the buildings at the rear. Below—Administration building, shown in the center of the general campus plan above, which will be the first of the new buildings erected. It is the hope of the college authorities to have this structure under way this year.

planned, with a view to the comfort and social development of the young women of the college. It will fill a long felt want on the campus. It will bear the name of Professor Isabel M. Grover, who was connected with the college for almost a quarter of a cen-

tury and who at the time of her death last fall occupied the position of dean of women. "Each of the new buildings will be characterized by harmony, dignity and simplicity. Not ornamentation but permanency has been the chief aim in working out the plans."

The building program at McMinnville college is the realization of one of three ideals announced by Dr. Riley when he became president of McMinnville. The other two referred to strength of faculty and endowment, both of which have been largely secured.

looked more like a rabble than fighters. Later on the train moved very slowly and the stops on side tracks were more frequent, while hospital trains, loaded with wounded, passed on ahead. Here, again, the German commanders showed that they, too, were falling; for it is a well established rule in military tactics that wounded men should never encounter fresh troops moving forward. German railroads, however, were so overloaded with traffic that they were forced to transport the wounded back over the same line which the troops used in passing to the front.

All day long the major and the captain sat in their compartment and watched the ebb and flow of the German army. While they did not dare to speak of what their minds, nevertheless the eye carried the message, and neither one doubted that the German military machine was in a very demoralized condition. The only question was: "When will it crack wide open?"

The long journey was nearing its end when the German captain entered the compartment and told them that they would soon be in Coblenz, their destination. Here they expected to find the German high command, and here they planned to secure all the information they could as quickly as possible and escape into either Holland or Switzerland.

The train finally came to a stop in the station. With a very curt, "Follow me," the German captain led the way through the crowds to a waiting motor car. It was dark when the train arrived in Coblenz, and, as the allied aviators were at this time bombing the Rhine towns, no lights were allowed on the streets. This made it impossible for the American officers to observe the conditions in the town. The motor slowly made its way to a hotel, where the German captain announced: "Here you will remain until the commanding general desires your presence. Tomorrow, I will bring you passes, so that you may walk through the town without danger of molestation. The only order you will have to observe is to report at this hotel once during the forenoon and once during the afternoon and to remain off the streets after dark. I shall be busy at the office of the command-

ant, so if you get into trouble you can reach me there. When the general is ready for you I will be notified and will come for you. That is all."

### Rent Robbers to Have Hard Time in Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., April 16.—The city of Portland has ample authority to proceed against profiteering landlords.

This is the substance of the findings of Attorney Lionel C. Mackay of the city's legal department, filed with the mayor's office today.

Mayor Baker recently placed Mackay at the head of a campaign against exorbitant rents, and requested as his first move that he determine the powers of the city to prosecute offenders.

Members of the apartment house owners' association have taken no action in connection with the rent investigation of the city council. Herbert Gordon, president of the organization, said today: "So far as I know we have not been asked to do so," he said, "and as far as taking independent action is concerned we have never made any concerted move on rents and rents have never even come under discussion at our recent meetings except a statement was made by a member recently returned from California that rents in Portland are 20 per cent below those in other coast cities."



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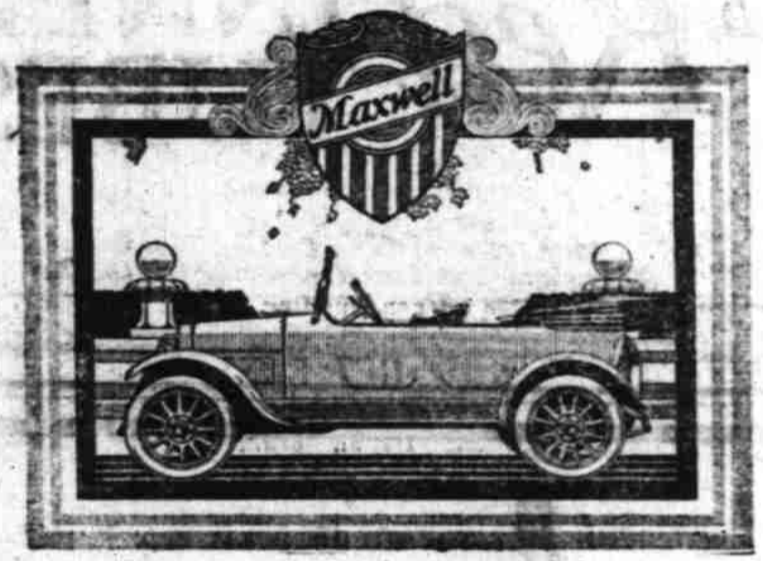
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