

AUSTRIANS PUSH BACK DEFENDERS ALONG FRONTIER

Border Has Been Crossed in Three Places by Invading Forces Who Descend Upon Italy.

SEVERE FIGHTING REPORTED

Rome is Confident of the Result; Believes Army Can Hold Offensive of the Austrians Which is Believed to Be Offset to Italian Drive at Isonzo.

GENEVA, May 23.—Despite desperate resistance the Austrians today were steadily pressing forward against Vienna on the first anniversary of the war declaration. Austrian artillery is bombarding the snow capped Monte Paucic which bars the northern entrance to the valley. South of Rovereto the Italians are making a heroic stand near Scrovalle. Guns mounted on Monte Baldo Shell the attackers. Southeast of Rovereto the Austrians have crossed the Italian border in three places.

Rome reports bloody fighting of a see-saw character, first one and then the other side reaching the border. Rome expresses confidence in the result of the conflict. It was believed that the Austrian drive was intended to divert the Italian offensive at Isonzo. Rome thinks the Austrian losses have been heavy enough to force an abandonment of the attack.

VIENNA, May 23.—Emperor Franz Josef, interviewed today, declared he was certain that the central powers ultimately would triumph. He praised his troops for their successful Italian offensive and said it was a mistake to underestimate the enemy, who proved exceedingly brave.

\$6,000 LOSS IS ESTIMATE FROM FIRE AT ATHEMA

COMMERCIAL STABLES, HOTEL BARN AND SEVERAL OUT-BUILDINGS GO.

ATHENA, Ore., May 23.—(Special)—Fire that did damage amounting to more than \$6000 last evening destroyed the Commercial Livery Stables the Athena Hotel, a barn and several outbuildings before it was gotten under control.

The fire broke out in the livery stable at 1:45 from an unknown cause. There was no one in it at the time, the owner and lessee having left just 20 minutes before. Within a short time it was a mass of flames and the fire was communicated to the frame building in which is the hotel and to other smaller wooden buildings near by. The Athena fire department succeeded in keeping the fire from damaging the brick buildings nearby and saved the residence of Mrs. M. P. Harden. The Weston fire department came over with a line of hose but was not needed.

The absence of wind, wet roofs and the fact that there was a good head of water prevented a big conflagration. The damage is as follows: Mrs. M. J. Harden, loss of barn \$1000, fully covered; N. A. Miller, plate glass front shattered \$600, covered; G. W. Davis of Milton, owner of stables, \$2500, insurance \$1000; Frank Sharp, owner of hotel, \$2500, insurance \$1000. The roof of the Athena Press caught fire twice but was not badly damaged.

Roy Barr in Trouble. Roy Barr of this city is under arrest on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. He is alleged to have given a no fund check for some pigs which he had purchased.

Mother-in-Law Dies. Zeke Matthews this morning received news of the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Dale of Seattle and will leave this evening for that city. Mrs. Dale was one of the earliest settlers of Portland.

New Map of County. County Surveyor Willard Bradley has completed a new map of Umatilla county and has secured his first copies. He is contemplating getting out smaller reproductions for general sale.

Civil Case Next. The civil case of Burns vs. Crow is set for trial in the circuit court tomorrow.

Trial of Self-Confessed Poisoner Starts



DR. & MRS. A. W. WAITE.

The trial of Arthur Waite, charged with poisoning his wife's parents, has begun in New York. Sensational developments are expected to be revealed as the case progresses. A jury was selected in less than three hours on yesterday.

WEATHER MAN IS MAKING A TOUR OF EASTERN OREGON

E. A. BEALS IS OUT IN THE PILOT ROCK COUNTRY ON TRIP TODAY.

E. A. Beals, head of the weather service in the northwest, with headquarters in Portland, was in Pendleton yesterday and today is in the Pilot Rock section in company with Superintendent Snyder of the Umatilla forest and J. N. Burgess.

Mr. Beals has been making a general tour of eastern Oregon and before coming to Umatilla county visited the counties west of here. The Portland Journal last evening carried the following story of damage to wheat by wire worms in Gilliam county.

That wire worms have done considerable damage to the wheat crop in the Condon section, is the advice that comes from Edward A. Beals, local weather official, who is traveling through the northwest on a tour of inspection of the weather offices. According to Mr. Beals, the damage is attributed entirely to the wire worm and the crop prospects are less favorable than had been previously reported. From Heppner Junction to Heppner the crop is reported in favorable condition.

Club Women Gather in New York for Convention



NEW YORK, May 23.—Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, called the 12th biennial convention of the Federation to order this morning. It is estimated that 20,000 delegates are in attendance and that they represent 3,900,000 club women in the United States.

President Ready to Open Channel for Peace Talks

WILSON WILLING TO SHOW THE WORLD HE IS ANXIOUS TO ACT.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The president today was working on his address which he will deliver Saturday morning at a meeting of the league to enforce peace. He is confronted by a difficult task. Strong pressure is being brought by Americans to have the president outline a definite peace plan. On the other hand, Brand's declaration that there would be no peace until the allies were decisively victorious, indicates that the entente powers do not desire to talk peace now. Consequently the president probably will content himself by notifying the world that he is ready to open the channels of peace talk whenever the belligerent nations are ready. He will also discuss a method of preserving peace hereafter.

Wilson is going to New York tomorrow to attend the wedding of his physician, Dr. Cary Grayson.

(By Carl Ackerman.) BERLIN, May 23.—Philip Schiedemann, socialist leader, informed the United Press today that Wilson and Taft were acceptable to German socialists as peacemakers. He added that the appointment of a food dictator would destroy the hopes for an allied victory through a food blockade and compel England to make peace. He declared the socialists desired peace and was confident that the imperial chancellor wants peace. He said there was enough food for all Germany, the only need being absolute control of the states which must feed Berlin. The food dictator will be an imperial officer. If the states put their food together there will be enough to last until the crops are harvested. A shortage of a few weeks will not make the Germans sue for peace, anyway, he said.

WAITE ALLEGED TO HAVE BEGUN DEATH PLOT EARLY

ACCUSED DENTIST SAID TO HAVE BOUGHT POISON AFTER MARRIAGE.

NEW YORK, May 23.—The state planned to introduce evidence today to show that Doctor Waite started plotting the death of his wife and her parents immediately after his marriage. He made the first purchase of poison two weeks after the wedding, it was alleged. The mysterious K. Adams who sent a telegram calling attention to Waite, has been located and has been called as a witness. His identity is still a mystery.

LAST WORDS OF YOUNG PHILLIPS FIGURE IN CASE

Dying Declaration is Introduced Through Witnesses for the State at Trial Today.

STORY OF SCUFFLE RETOLD

Woman Tells of Quarrel; Stories of Marren and Matlock Differ From That Said to Have Been Told by Phillips Before He Died; Chief Gurdane Called.

MARRIN FOUND GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER

William O. "Whitey" Marren was this afternoon found guilty of manslaughter for causing the death of Wendell C. Phillips. The jury went out at 11:30 o'clock this morning and at 2 this afternoon had arrived at a verdict. Under the instructions of the court the jury was permitted to find the defendant guilty of second degree murder, voluntary manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter or not guilty. The penalty for manslaughter is imprisonment from one to 15 years and a fine not to exceed \$5000. The taking of testimony was concluded yesterday afternoon and this morning was devoted to argument and instructions to the jury. Only a small crowd was in attendance during the trial.

The dying declaration of young Phillips was an important part of the state's case and the jury was called upon to choose between the story he told to Robert Phillips, his brother, J. J. Jones, his friend, the doctor and nurse and the story told by the defendant and Dee Matlock, the only living witnesses of the shooting.

Young Phillips, witnesses testified, had shown reluctance to tell of the trouble until he had been warned by the doctor that death was only a few hours away. Then he told of having resented Marren's treatment of Glenn Rudd, of having quarreled with Marren after Rudd had left the room and then having tried to restore a friendliness of feeling. He told also, witnesses testified, of Marren securing the gun from a dresser drawer and having pointed it at his neck. On his death bed he declared that he grasped the barrel of the gun and thrust it downward and was scuffling with Marren over it when it was discharged.

The story of Marren and Matlock was substantially different. They both testified that, during a friendly scuffle, Phillips had thrown Marren across the bed and was lying on top of him when Matlock, who is rather deaf, and did not know the two were friends, began to upbraid Phillips. They testified that Phillips tried to make Matlock understand that the scuffle was friendly but that Matlock still continued to be drunkenly angry.

Their testimony was to the effect that Phillips secured the gun from the drawer and struck Matlock over the head with it, whereupon Marren grappled with him. The gun went off during the struggle and the bullet grazed Marren and penetrated Phillips' thigh. Marren then testified that he helped Phillips from the room and that they shook hands just before he fainted.

The defense also introduced the testimony of Chief Gurdane and Officer Nash to the effect that Matlock had a red mark on his head when arrested. The dying story of Phillips was corroborated to a large extent by Mrs. Irene Bushman, who occupied a room adjoining and who told of hearing through the wall sounds of a quarrel for some time before the shooting. One man kept threatening to shoot another, she said, and cursed him. The other, she said, kept pleading with him to put the gun up. There was a short struggle then, she said, and a gun was discharged.

Counsel Peterson for the defense made strong use of the testimony that Phillips had refused to talk of the shooting until after he had seen his friend Jones and his brother. On the other hand, District Attorney Stelwer contended that Phillips had, like all men of his kind, tried to shield Marren until, in the shadow of death he told the truth. He attacked the stories of Marren and Matlock, declaring it was but natural that they should make their stories agree.

Postals of Queen Muriel. An enterprising Portland photographic firm has already put out postal photos of Miss Muriel Salting of this city, the new queen of the Portland Rose Festival. A picture of her had evidently been secured from one of the Portland newspapers.

French Expel Germans From Important Positions After Night of Tremendous Battle

Paris is Celebrating One of the Greatest Victories of the Campaign at Verdun; Only Point Teutons Now Hold is Northeastern Corner of Fort Douaumont.

PARIS, May 23.—After all night pounded to dust. The infantry is of great fury, the French have expelled the Germans from all except the northeastern corner of Fort Douaumont, it was officially announced. This is one of the greatest victories of the Verdun campaign. Paris is celebrating the triumph. It was announced that the French reentered Douaumont after storming the German positions along a front a mile and a quarter long.

Further gains also were reported on the west bank of the Meuse. The French are convinced that Deadman's Hill is impregnable. News of British reverses partly offset the French victories. The Bavarians have thrust back the British lines, removing the threat against the German holdings.

When today's communique was issued the conflict at Verdun was growing more terrific every minute, following one of the bloodiest nights in the history of Europe. Amid the ruins of Douaumont the Germans were still offering a heroic resistance. French engineers were busily engaged in strengthening the hard won gains, expecting violent attacks. Heavy German charges were repulsed except north of Thiaumont where the Teutons captured a trench which the French had recently seized.

Bloody close in fighting has continued along every foot of the Verdun front since Saturday. The slaughter north of Thiaumont is growing deadlier every hour. Trenches have been captured a blockhouse south of the Camard Forest, it was officially announced. The most violent fighting raged there throughout the night. A furious battle is continuing in the ruins of Douaumont. It was claimed that the Germans had retained the stronghold in the last accounts.

German aviators observed British plans for a counter-attack south of Givency and the advances at Roolincourt were repulsed. East of the Meuse the French were admitted to have entered the German position. It was declared that flank movements were hurled back. Victories were claimed at Combre Heights and also southeast of Verdun.

Six High School Teachers, Including Principal, Resign

With six members of the high school faculty, including Principal Gambee, having resigned and rumors of more resignations to follow the Pendleton high school is facing the prospect of an almost entirely new faculty for next year. The resignation of Principal Gambee was made to the board the latter part of last week but no open announcement was made by the board. The resignation of Mrs. Clara E. Smith was given to the board today. Other high school teachers having resigned are Miss Mildred Wilson, William Livingston, Mrs. George Webb, and Miss Ruth Talkington. It is reported that another member of the faculty will shortly file her resignation. The resignation of Principal Gambee came as a complete surprise to most people. In the year he has been at the head of the high school he made a record for efficient work and is regarded as one of the strongest members of the local school force. He was reelected principal at an increased salary but decided not to accept. He will go east this fall to take further collegiate work and is not certain but that he will prepare himself for some other profession. It is known that the resignation of Mr. Gambee came as an entire surprise to the board and the resignation is regretted generally. Several of the others who are quitting are regarded as strong teachers and it is feared their loss may be felt by the school. With one exception the resignations were all genuine affairs and not made by request.

30,000 Mexicans Reported on Way Toward Boundary

MOVEMENT IS INEXPLAINABLE AS SUCH NUMBER IS NOT NEEDED.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Thirty thousand Mexican troops, 20,000 more than Oregon promised, are marching northward from Saltillo, Durango and elsewhere, the state department was informed. Officials indicated that the number of troops in the main body is vastly more than is needed in pursuing the bandits. It was not stated how far north the Mexicans came. General Trevino, Commanding is reported to have artillery. It was regarded that the force is correct, the Mexican troops outnumber the Americans.

ASQUITH ASKS FOR A NEW WAR CREDIT

LONDON, May 23.—Premier Asquith this afternoon asked house of commons for a war credit of a billion and a half dollars, making a total of eleven billion, nine hundred million. He declared that without English loans the allies would be unable to continue joint operations. He said England cannot hope to diminish loans to the allies and it would not be wise to count on British expenditures falling below twenty-three million dollars daily. The expenditures are now twenty-four millions daily.

Wheat Still Low Liverpool Included

PORTLAND, Ore., May 23.—(Special)—Merchants' Exchange prices today: Club 90, bid, 94 asked; blue-stem, 99 bid, \$1.02 asked. LIVERPOOL, May 23.—Wheat—Spot No. 1 Manitoba, 12s 6d (\$1.51 4-5 per bu.); No. 1 northern spring, 12s 2d; No. 2 red western winter, 11s 6d (\$1.67 2-5 per bu.).