

40 BLOCKS AT ATLANTA DESTROYED

Fire Starting in Negro Quarters of Southern City Sweeps Through Fashionable Residence Section in Spite of Use of Dynamite.

CALL FOR HELP SENT TO TOWNS IN VICINITY

One Thousand Men From Officers' Training Camp Join in Fight Against Flames But Make Little Headway at 4 O'clock This Afternoon.

Atlanta, Ga., May 21.—Several square miles of residential section in northeastern Atlanta were swept by fire late this afternoon. Many fine residences were destroyed, the flames going beyond the control of the fire department and raging over a great section without hindrance. By 4 o'clock about 40 blocks had been burned and the fire was still progressing unchecked before a high wind.

The firemen, aided by 1000 men from the officers' training camp at Fort McPherson, made a stand on Boulevard Place, two blocks from exclusive Ponce de Leon avenue and shortly after 4 o'clock began dynamiting hoping to clear a space wide enough to check the flames.

Aid was asked from Macon, Chattanooga, Augusta, Newman and Griffin.

Up to 5:15 p. m. only one death, that of Miss Bessie Hodges, who died from shock, had been reported. It became increasingly difficult to get accurate reports from the burned area. Wires were cut and streets were choked with debris, streets that did not get out of the area in time, and vehicles of all sorts.

TO AID SOLDIER BOYS POOR WOMAN WORKS SHE GIVES HER MITE

The committee in charge of the campaign to raise Lane county's share of the \$3,000,000 Y. M. C. A. army camp fund has an envelope treasured among those which have been placed on the collection plates in the various Eugene churches, not because of the amount of money it contained, but because of the sentiment it reveals.

Chairman R. A. Booth, of the Lane county committee, has announced that the prospects are that Lane county will more than contribute her share of the fund. Reports last week indicated subscriptions for Eugene totalling \$1180. Collections were taken in some churches yesterday which had not previously responded to the call.

On the collection plate in one church an envelope, containing a coin, was placed. This message was written on the back: "Boys I took in washing that I might give this mite to help provide for your comfort."

No name appeared on the envelope.

TWO RED CROSS NURSES KILLED BY ACCIDENT

Shells Fired From an American Steamer Just Out of New York Burst When Striking Water and Fly Back.

VICTIMS BELONGED TO CHICAGO BASE HOSPITAL

Bodies of Young Women Are Brought Back by Vessel Before New Start Is Made for Unnamed Port in Europe.

(By The Associated Press) New York, May 21.—Two American nurses, members of an ambulance unit on its way for service in France, were killed yesterday on board an American steamer when pieces of a shell fired by a naval crew in practice ricocheted from the water's surface and scattered among a group of nurses and surgeons. A third nurse was seriously wounded.

The steamer sailed on Saturday evening for Europe, with her flag at half mast, she came into an American port this morning bringing the bodies of the dead nurses. These were brought ashore. The steamer will depart at an unnamed time.

RAILROADS HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR COAL SHORTAGE

Country Faces Serious State of Affairs in Obtaining Commodity Says Federal Trade Commission.

HIGH PRICES LAID AT DOOR OF BIG PRODUCERS

Government May Be Forced to Take Steps Already in Force in the Belligerent European Countries.

(By The Associated Press) Washington, May 21.—The bituminous coal shortage is blamed on the railroads, in a report today by the federal trade commission. Producers, by taking advantage of the lack of cars, are charged with responsibility, however, for the prevailing high prices.

"There is no scarcity of coal in the ground," the report says. "There is sufficient coal in the bituminous coal mines now being operated, not only to supply the present demand but also to supply a greatly increased demand. The unprecedented demand for this fuel in the past six months, together with the difficulties of rail and water transportation, not only have absorbed the coal as fast as it could be shipped from the mines, but have led also to almost complete exhaustion of the coal stored at tidewater points and at the docks on the Great Lakes."

Situation is Serious. "The country faces a serious state of affairs in obtaining a commodity which is basic to practically every form of its military and industrial activity."

"Under war time conditions," says the report, "it may become the duty of the government to take steps similar to those found necessary by belligerent European countries and not only to regulate the distribution of coal from the mouth of the mine to the ultimate consumer by allotting the quantity of the product which the different classes of consumers shall be allowed to purchase, but also to establish the prices to be paid by different classes of consumers."

Prices Too High. "Figures submitted to the commission show that most of the present prices now charged are far in excess of the cost as shown by the operators' books. Many of the operators frankly take the position that they are trying to get for their coal the highest prices possible under the present demand and are refraining, even at prices greatly increased over last year, from contracting their output to the extent of their usual custom. They defend this action by claiming that under the operations of the law of supply and demand they have for many years past been getting little more for their coal than the bare cost of production; that the mining of bituminous coal during that period has been a most unprofitable industry and that now is their chance to recoup themselves for the losses of several years. Accordingly, they are demanding prices at the mine today which run from 50 per cent to several hundred per cent over the cost of their output."

"As a result of this policy much of the bituminous coal output has been auctioned off to the highest bidder. This has resulted in great profits to certain operators and special hardship to municipal public utilities, hospitals and other public and private charitable institutions and to domestic consumers especially in the west and south where relatively little anthracite is used."

ADVANCE IS CONTINUED. (By The Associated Press) London, May 21.—British troops during the night of the 20th captured several lines of German trenches on the slopes north of Carnillet, at the Cesse and at the Teton. Furthermore all the important observation points in this region are now in our hands. German counter attacks were taken under our fire and thrown back with heavy losses. We took about 800 prisoners in these actions. The enemy shelters were found to have been blown to pieces and to be piled high with the dead.

ALLIES WREST NEW TRENCHES FROM GERMANS

Both French and British Make Advances in Spite of Fierce Resistance of Enemy With Fresh Forces.

EVACUATION OF POSITIONS ADMITTED BY BERLIN

Italians Report Successes on Julian Front While Bulgarians Claim to Have Repulsed Ententes.

Generals Haig and Petain are again pushing ahead with their offensive in northern France and today both report new gains.

After driving into the Hindenburg line along a mile front yesterday morning in the sector northwest of Bullecourt the British resumed their attack last evening and captured a support trench behind the position just taken.

The firmness of the British hold on this section of the Hindenburg line seriously threatening the Quent-Drocourt switch protecting Douai is attested by the failure of the German reactions. General Haig is well maintaining his initiative and bit by bit forcing the Germans to give ground.

Not only did the British prove themselves able to hold their gains from morning against heavy counter attacks but to resume their offensive the same day and push further ahead, maintaining their second advance against renewed counter attacks.

The French for their part in the great battle have resumed their advance in the Champagne. Having rolled the crown prince's desperate and costly effort to regain control of the Chemin-des-Dames plateau on the Aisne front, General Petain turned to the Champagne sector and struck northward on the Morcovilliers heights.

Several lines of German trenches were captured in these operations and some 900 prisoners taken. All the important observation posts in this section of the front are now in French hands, facilitating their further advance in the drive calculated to flank the Germans out of the salient to the northwest projecting towards Rheims.

(By The Associated Press) Paris, May 21.—Several lines of German trenches in the Champagne near Morcovilliers, were captured last night by the French, the war office announces. The statement follows: "On the Chemin-des-Dames the artillery fighting continued during the night in the region northwest of Braye-en-Laonnois and on the front between Cerny and Hurtebise. A German attack near Froimont farm was checked before the enemy was able to reach our lines. The enemy undertook no further attack after the complete check of his general assault undertaken yesterday."

ADVANCE GUARD OF GRAND LODGE I. O. O. F. IN CITY

Delegates From All Sections of State Arrive to Attend Three Days' Session of Various Branches of Order.

PATRIARCHS MILITANT HOLD OPENING SESSION

Eugene Committee Opens Headquarters and Makes Arrangements for Entertainment of Visitors. Hotels Overcrowded

The advance guard of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, assembling in Eugene for the annual grand lodge session, arrived in Eugene this morning. Only about 40 or 50 of the more than 1300 delegates who are expected to attend the meetings of the four branches of the order had registered at the headquarters, 613 Willamette street at 2 o'clock this afternoon, but it was estimated that several hundred delegates had already arrived in the city. The largest delegation is scheduled to arrive at 5:30 tonight, traveling by special train from Portland. Henry S. Westbrook, grand master of the grand lodge, and Earl A. Williams, grand patriarch of the grand encampment, will probably be passengers on the special train with the delegations from the Portland lodges, it was stated.

H. M. Beckwith, brigadier-general and president of the council of patriarchs militant, arrived in Eugene this morning and established his headquarters at the Griggs hotel. Mrs. Nellie Wattenburg, president of the Rebekah assembly, who also arrived this morning, will make her headquarters at the Osburn.

Patriarchs Militant Meet. The Council of Patriarchs Militant held its first session in the I. O. O. F. temple this afternoon. This branch of the Odd Fellows lodge was first organized at the department meeting held in Portland in 1908. It now has about 500 members in the state. Between 30 and 40 members marched in uniform to the hall where the meeting was held today. A much larger attendance is expected when the decoration of chairs will be conferred on knights and ladies, Wednesday.

Former Mayor W. A. Bell is in charge of the general arrangements of the grand lodge sessions. He is working with the various delegates as they arrive in the city and arranging for hotel and other accommodations. All hotels are crowded to overflowing by reservations.

(Continued on page two)

No Hope for Recovery of Senator Harry Lane



San Francisco, May 21.—Physicians attending United States Senator Harry Lane, of Portland, Or., said today he could not recover. The announcement was made by Dr. H. A. L. Byfogel.

Senator Lane suffered a nervous breakdown in Washington and has been here since Monday. Mrs. Lane is here and Mrs. Harriet Lane Hicks, of Norfolk, Va., on the way.

A blood clot on the brain is said by physicians to have caused nervous deterioration.

PORTLAND FIRM GETS CONTRACT TO BUILD 14 WOODEN VESSELS

Award Made by Emergency Fleet Corporation in Shipping Board's Shipbuilding Program for America.

Washington, May 21.—Contracts for the building in Portland, Or., of fourteen wooden ships were awarded today by the Emergency Fleet corporation in the shipping board's shipbuilding program. The G. M. Standifer Construction corporation is to build ten of these ships and the Peninsular Shipbuilding company four.

Contracts for 18 vessels, 20 wooden and twelve steel, have been let. Twelve of the wooden ships and four of the steel vessels will be built by the Merrill-Stevens company at Jacksonville.

Announcement was made last week that the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock company would build eight steel cargo ships. These are included in the total.

Germany Apologizes for Sinking Swiss Steamers

(By The Associated Press) Copenhagen, via London, May 21.—The German minister at Stockholm is reported in news despatches to have visited the Swedish foreign minister and expressed deepest regret at the sinking of the Swedish steamers Vesterland, Viken and Aspen.

The Aspen, Vesterland and Viken were sunk in the gulf of Bothnia, several members of the crews losing their lives. The vessels were laden with grain and released from British ports by the British government under a reciprocal agreement. The news of their destruction caused intense indignation in Sweden.

Germany Apologizes for Sinking Swiss Steamers

(By The Associated Press) Stockholm, May 20, via London, May 21.—Telegrams from the Jewish societies in Palestine received by the secretarial department of the socialist conference here say a fresh massacre of Palestine Jews, resembling the Armenian massacres, is threatened and appeals are made to the socialists of all countries.

The message says the Turkish government has given orders for the evacuation of Palestine by the Jewish population and that the execution of these measures are being carried out with increasing severity.

The orders, it is said, are aimed at the Jews in Judea and Jerusalem and later in Galilee.

Stephens Appeals Case Against City of Eugene

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Nurses Are Identified

(By The Associated Press) Washington, May 21.—The two Red Cross nurses killed on the American steamer, referred to in the foregoing despatch, were Edith Ayres and Helen Burnett Woods, both of Chicago, and attached to base hospital number 12.

Injured Nurse From Nebraska

(By The Associated Press) Chicago, May 21.—Emma Matzen, the nurse reported injured, joined the Red Cross unit at Chicago. Her home was Columbus, Neb.

Reconstruction of Devastated Districts in France Found To Be Almost Impossible

(Correspondence of the Associated Press) Paris, May 19.—Such preliminary measures as have been taken for the reconstruction of devastated regions in France have developed many difficulties the greatest of which, particularly in the region of the Somme and the Oise recently evacuated by the Germans, is to establish the boundary lines of property which not only the buildings have disappeared, but from which every land track has been torn.

BASEBALL TODAY

National League

American League

LODGE TO BANQUET

First Aid to Meet.

World's Stock of Sugar Being Rapidly Depleted

(By The Associated Press) Washington, May 21.—With the world's stock of sugar being rapidly depleted the department of agriculture today appealed to manufacturers and farmers to increase the production of sugar. Prospects are, according to the department's experts, that in many portions of the area devoted to sugar beets in this country the average this year will exceed that of any previous year.

Presbyterians Would Unite Both Branches

Dallas, Texas, May 21.—The Presbyterian general assembly in the United States of America in session here today voted unanimously in favor of reunion of the two branches of the church—the North and South. A copy of the resolution was ordered sent to the southern assembly now in session at Birmingham.

Mrs. Nellie Wattenburg, President of State Assembly, Arrives in City and Establishes Headquarters. Elated Over Growth of Organization in Oregon During Last Year. Two Hundred and Twenty Members Added. President Travels 6000 Miles by Rail and 1500 Miles by Motor Car in Visiting 140 Lodges.

Mrs. Nellie Wattenburg, president of the Rebekah assembly, with a membership of 17,000, arrived in Eugene this morning from Klamath Falls and established headquarters at the Osburn hotel. She expressed enthusiasm over the growth of the lodge, the oldest and largest woman's fraternal organization in the state, by the addition of 222 members during the year.

Eugene Rebekah Lodge, Host To State Assembly, Largest Branch of Order in Oregon

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First Aid to Meet.

First aid class in Red Cross work will meet for instruction at the association headquarters tonight at 7 o'clock. The surgical dressing class will assemble at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Marshfield; Baker, No. 8, of Baker City.

The Columbia lodge of Rebekahs, formed May 20, 1873, was the first lodge organized in Oregon and was until recently the largest lodge in the state, giving place to the Eugene lodge which has 397 members.