

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VIII, No. 47.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1917

WHOLE NUMBER 2222

NEW ATTACK BY GERMANS IS REPULSED

RE-INFORCED HOSTS HURLED AGAINST HAIG'S LINES EAST OF BULLECOURT

WAVES OF MEN MOWED DOWN

Constant Artillery Bombardment Is Maintained Along Entire Western Front With Guns From East

General Haig's troops have met and repulsed the first massed attacks in several days, inflicting heavy losses upon the Germans.

The attack, launched between Bullecourt and Queant, was similar to that adopted by Crown Prince Rupprecht's troops when they pierced General Byng's front southwest of Cambrai nearly two weeks ago and caused a retirement of the British on the salient General Byng previously had driven toward Cambrai. A like purpose doubtless was involved in the latest offensive and for its execution huge waves of Bavarians were thrown upon the sector in an endeavor to overpower the defenders. The British, however, held tenaciously to their ground, except at one point where the enemy penetrated a front line position.

As in their previous attempt to wreck the Cambrai salient, the Germans lost heavily in the enterprise, the British mowing them down with machine gun and rifle fire in the fighting, which lasted from dawn until 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Notwithstanding their failure, the Germans are keeping up an intensive bombardment of British and French positions all along the western front and daily are receiving additional reinforcements in men and guns from the eastern theater.

In his description of the battle, the Associated Press correspondent says:

"What apparently was intended as a determined German attack upon the sector of our line east of Bullecourt, was delivered shortly after dawn, and, owing to the staunchness of our troops, was reduced to the limits of a very small local success at the most. The spot the enemy chose was the elbow in the bend of our line between Bullecourt and Queant.

Paris, Dec. 13.—Active artillery fighting is progressing along the entire front.

ITALIANS TORPEDO AUSTRIAN SHIPS

New York, Dec. 13.—The torpedoing of two Austria battleships in Trieste harbor by Italian torpedo craft, Dec. 9, is reported in a message from the Italian embassy at Washington to the Italian naval commander here.

COLORADO GROWERS MAKE GOOD IN BEETS

Fort Collins, Colo., Dec. 13.—With the sugar beet harvest virtually over, the 1917 crop for the Fort Collins district will approximate 177,000 tons, according to estimates of Field Superintendent Griffin of a sugar mill company. The high sugar content and increased prices netted to the grower an average of \$88.12 an acre, according to sugar company figures. The value of the crop is estimated at one and a third million dollars.

ITALIANS STILL HOLDING STEADY

Despite Fierce Efforts to Break Through, Latins Hold Lines, German Losses Heavy

Italian Headquarters, Dec. 13.—General von Buelow's German troops joined the Austrians and Bohemians in a series of heavy assaults during the last two days. The Italian line has held firm except for one slight indentation at Monte Spinecia which is still being contested bitterly.

Snow is falling heavily in the mountains along the northern Italian front and optimism prevails among the Italians that this will aid them definitely in holding the Austro-Germans back from the Italian plain. Amid the first flurries of the storm on Wednesday, the enemy renewed his attack among the hills and was rewarded by the capture of several positions. Later, however, the Italians in a counter-attack, regained their lost terrain against which the artillery duels were resumed.

INVESTIGATE FIRE IN SHELL FACTORY

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 13.—Officials of the Bethlehem Steel company, whose shell-loading building at Newcastle was destroyed in a fire yesterday, are far from satisfied that the fire was not of incendiary origin. They are conducting a rigid investigation.

The shells continued to explode for more than an hour and the noise was heard for miles, causing the belief here that the forts of the artillery district of the Delaware were firing upon hostile craft.

Firemen were unable to go near the burning building until the shells ceased exploding.

The loading house where the fire started was completely destroyed. It was a brick and tile building, with a concrete foundation. It will be rebuilt at once.

MASONIC LODGE IS FORMED IN NEW ARMY

Helena, Mont., Dec. 13.—What is declared to be the first army lodge of Masons established during the present war by the state grand lodge, has just been constituted by the grand lodge of Montana and designated as Montana Army Lodge No. 1. During the Spanish-American war records show that there were three such lodges established by the grand lodges of Montana, North Dakota and Kentucky. During the civil war several state grand lodges constituted such bodies.

SUFFRAGISTS CLAIM MEMBERS WON OVER

Washington, Dec. 13.—Woman suffragists assembled here for the annual convention of their association, are jubilant. The delegations which waited on members of congress yesterday report decided gains for their cause throughout the membership of both houses.

The Missouri delegation reported that Speaker Clark had definitely announced support to the amendment, and had told the women that if necessary he would vote for the amendment.

The women from Arkansas reported a solid delegation from their state in favor of the amendment, while New York is hopeful of a solid vote. Nebraska has gained two votes, the women of that state reported, and gains also were reported by Kentucky, Iowa, Massachusetts and other states.

GREAT BATTLE FOUGHT IN RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Two Conflicting Accounts Come From Petrograd But Later and Probably Authentic Report States Bolsheviks Were Decisively Defeated By Korniloff's Troops

London, Dec. 13.—(Later Dispatch)—Another dispatch from Petrograd gives an entirely different version of the battle near Bielgori, saying that Korniloff completely routed the Bolsheviks and will soon join Kaledines at Novo Tcherkask.

This dispatch gives the details of the battle. It denies that the Bolsheviks triumphed at all. It states that General Korniloff divided his troops into two sections and while the Bolsheviks were pursuing one section which he had ordered to retire, his main force attacked, aided with a heavy artillery fire and virtually wiped out his enemy.

London, Dec. 13.—The report reaches here that General Korniloff has been defeated and wounded in a battle between Biel Gorod and Suma.

According to these dispatches

from Petrograd, his capture is expected. It is stated that the extremists will capture Rostov on the River Don.

All the signs are that the Cossack uprising will fail and that they will join the Bolsheviks, according to this report. Beyond question, the Bolsheviks are gaining ground in Russia because they use the strong hand, which is the only thing which the Russians in general appreciate.

In the last three weeks, the dispatch says, seven thousand naked corpses have been taken from rivers and canals in Petrograd. Deaths were not caused by drowning but the persons had been killed and their bodies thrown into the streams to hide them. The hair had been cut from the women corpses because of its market value.

A suit of clothes is said to be worth more than a handful of money.

NO STATEMENT UPON COMPLAINT AT CAMP

Camp Mills, Mineola, N. Y., Dec. 13.—No official statement was obtainable here tonight regarding complaints by Oregon soldiers to their governor.

It was said, however, that some time ago several of the men from Oregon wrote to their parents complaining of the sameness of the food supplied them.

GERMAN BREWERIES HAVE FALLEN UPON EVIL TIMES

Amsterdam, Dec. 13.—The business of brewing beer which ranks second in importance among German industries, is in a bad way, and according to the Berlin Tageblatt, so drastic have become the restrictive measures of the authorities in the matter of labor and material that the future is looked forward to with the gravest apprehension.

FEDERAL MEDIATORS TACKLE HARD TASK

Washington, Dec. 13.—After laying the strike situation in Minneapolis and St. Paul, before the president, Secretary Baker telegraphed the mediation commission now in the west to stop in Minnesota and attempt a settlement. Secretary Lawson of the Minnesota Federation of Labor telegraphed asking the strikers to return to their work pending the arrival of the commission.

St. Paul, Dec. 13.—The labor situation in St. Paul and Minneapolis reached an acute stage again last night, with the possibility that a large proportion of union men in both cities and some throughout the northwest would quit work.

Labor leaders estimated on the face of incomplete reports that 80 per cent of the unionists of the Twin Cities would walk out and that railroad shop men from St. Paul to the Pacific coast might follow.

RED CROSS PROFITS FROM SECOND HAND SCRAPS

Los Angeles, Dec. 13.—Tinfoil, old clothes, and bottles, metal scraps and discarded automobile tires, salvaged and sold by a committee of Red Cross workers here produced more than \$1,000 for the Red Cross war fund last month.

FAVOR COUNTY FUNDS TO ENFORCE DRY LAW

Salem, Dec. 13.—About three-fourths of the counties of Oregon have replied favorably to the letters of Governor Withycombe asking them to make provisions in their budgets for enforcement of the prohibition law, the governor has announced.

"Every county that has replied to my letter," said the governor, "has replied favorably. This office is now co-operating with two or three counties where special agents are employed and is determined to enforce the law as far as it is possible to do so."

EWEL-MILK CHEESE IS NEW MONTANA PRODUCT

Missoula, Mont., Dec. 13.—A new industry for this section—the making of cheese from ewe's milk—has been started in this state, according to reports to the district headquarters of the forest service here.

GARFIELD AND COX CLASH OVER FUEL

Washington, Dec. 13.—Fuel administrator Garfield has informed Governor Cox that he will not be permitted to interfere with the distribution of coal in Ohio, now alleged to be going on under the direction of the state fuel administration.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 13.—Governor James M. Cox tonight branded the agitation for coal for the northwest while Ohio "literally was being starved to death," as an "unspeakable outrage," declaring he had discovered it was a move to enable coal operators to get prices higher than those fixed by President Wilson under the fuel control law.

Ohio railroads joined in with Governor Cox and consented to move the coal as directed by him, through J. B. Dugan, chief inspector of the state public utilities commission.

OFFICIAL STATE VISITOR FOR MONTANA TROOPS

Phillipsburg, Mont., Dec. 13.—Revising a civil war custom Frank D. Brown of this city, a veteran of the confederate army, has been appointed by Governor Sam V. Stewart as his official representative to visit the Montana soldiers in the field, and has been designated as official visitant to Camp Lewis.

PRESIDENT URGES JOIN RED CROSS

Membership Drive Just Prior to Christmas Seeks Quarter Million New Members in Oregon

The Christmas Red Cross membership campaign will be launched at noon, December 17 and will last until the night of December 24. This campaign is to add 240,000 members in Oregon to the American Red Cross.

A membership costs as little as \$1. In fact, in this campaign the greatest emphasis is placed on the \$1 membership, because it is believed this will be responsible for enlisting the greatest number of people under the Red Cross banner. The drive is not for money, but for members.

A complete state organization has already been perfected under Henry E. Reed, state campaign manager. The Josephine county campaign manager is N. F. Macduff.

In brief, the effort of every county in the state is to enlist 20 per cent of its population under the Red Cross.

Washington, Dec. 13.—President Wilson has issued a proclamation in which he urges every one not already a member of the Red Cross to join during the membership campaign, which starts Sunday and continues until Christmas. The president characterizes membership as the "Christmas spirit in terms of service."

HEAVIER LOSSES FROM SUBMARINES

London, Dec. 13.—A slight increase in the losses of British merchant ships by mine or submarine in the past week is noted in the admiralty statement tonight. Fourteen vessels of more than 1,600 tons were sunk, as well as seven ships under that tonnage.

WOLF CREEK FARMER JAILED FOR SEDITION

The following item from the Portland Oregonian, refers to a Wolf Creek farmer who has been under surveillance by federal authorities at Portland for some time:

A. W. Zollner, a prosperous Josephine county farmer, was arrested at Grants Pass yesterday and released on \$2,000 bonds for an alleged violation of the espionage act. He is charged with having made unpatriotic utterances concerning the president, the activities of the Red Cross and the reasons for which the United States entered the war.

When Zollner's case was first reported Deputy United States Attorney Goldstein wrote him a letter and inquired if he had been reported correctly. In replying to the letter of inquiry, Zollner reiterated statements with which he had been charged. His arrest followed.

GERMAN SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN INTENSE

London, Dec. 31.—It is recognized in official circles here that the Germans are conducting a sudden extra spurt in submarine activity of real magnitude complementary to their land offensive in the hope of inclining England toward peace. The effort has signally failed.

High naval authorities intimate that this move of the enemy may be met with counter measures by the allies naval forces which will surprise the Teutons.

ONWARD WITH COURAGE THE WORD OF HOUR

SECRETARY DANIELS WARNS AGAINST DANGER OF PESSIMISM—COURAGE NEEDED

ASQUITH ENDORSES WILSON

Secretary Redfield Says Ideal of Socialists Can Never Obtain With German Doctrine Prevailing

New York, Dec. 13.—The danger to the American cause of pessimism resulting from the spreading of false reports of disasters by German agents, was emphasized by Secretary Daniels here last night in an address at the annual banquet of the Southern society.

"There may arise," Secretary Daniels said, "a danger greater than that of submarines or cannon, more to be feared than armies, a danger which will become no longer a danger when it is realized.

"I speak of the danger of pessimism, the danger of losing heart, the danger of allowing oneself for one moment to doubt that right in this war will triumph. We are pouring out liberally our national wealth to the cause; but more than men, more than ships, more than money, must our war-weary associates across the water rely on this strong young country for that boundless courage which sees and understands the worst, yet fears not."

London, Dec. 13.—The ungrudging sacrifices made by the British people, Former Premier Asquith declared in an address at Birmingham yesterday, proved that the ancient ingrained spirit of the British people had not been sapped by luxury or staled and withered by dotage.

"The allies are still unflinching in their purpose to use all legitimate methods, economic and military, to secure a lasting and fruitful peace, which the world needs. The allied position is stated with perfect lucidity by President Wilson in his recent address, and I especially subscribe to and endorse the language he used."

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 13.—Pacifists and socialists were called upon here by Secretary Redfield to take their stand by other peace loving peoples in the fight against German autocracy.

"The deep causes of the contest call as imperatively upon the pacifist and the socialist as upon the rest of our people," he said. "The flower of human happiness which pacifist and socialist alike claim to seek does not grow out of, cannot be matured by the brutal doctrine of blood and iron."

OCULISTS NEEDED IN HALIFAX WORK

Halifax, Dec. 13.—An official inquiry has begun into the cause of the explosion which caused the disaster in this city. Relief work is progressing satisfactorily. The greatest need is for expert oculists who might save hundreds from permanent blindness.

BAKER RESPONSIBLE FOR GUN SHORTAGE

Washington, Dec. 13.—General Crozier, chief of ordnance, testified before senate committee today that the responsibility for the delay in getting machine guns, lay personally with Secretary Baker who took charge of tests between different types. Foreign guns had to be furnished American troops because of the shortage.