

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VIII, No. 49.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1917.

WHOLE NUMBER 2254.

EX-CZAR SAID TO HAVE MADE HIS ESCAPE

SPECIAL TRAIN STARTS IN PURSUIT ARMED BY BOLSHIEVIKI BAILORS

BERLIN SAYS TREATY SIGNED

Kerensky Hears of Lynching Threat. His Followers Soon on Trial. Prisons Filling Fast

Petrograd, Dec. 15.—Former Emperor Nicholas has escaped from his confinement at Tobolsk, according to Bolshieviki headquarters. A special train manned by sailors has been sent from Petrograd in pursuit.

Petrograd, Dec. 15.—The Germans are already getting fats and other supplies from Russia.

Petrograd, Dec. 15.—Civil offenders in the Petrograd prisons have been removed to jails in the provinces, to make room for counter-revolutionary suspects, who are being arrested continually.

The lodgings of Mme. Kerensky, wife of the former premier, were searched today by soldiers. She was told that she had better notify Kerensky to come to the Smolny institute voluntarily or he would be in great danger of lynching if found.

Members of the constitutional democratic party now in prison will be tried by revolutionary tribunals. Bolshieviki leaders express the opinion that the probable penalty will be exile abroad for one year or more.

London, Dec. 15.—The real aim of the Bolshieviki is a monarchy at least and possibly a despotism, in the opinion of the Petrograd correspondent of the Post. He writes that for more than a month the Bolshieviki have been openly preparing public opinion for acceptance of what, he says, after all, is the only fit form of government for Russia.

Amsterdam, Dec. 15.—Official and German and Austria statements say that the Russian delegates arrived at Brest-Litovsk Wednesday and in the armistice negotiations were resumed yesterday.

Amsterdam, Dec. 15.—A treaty between Germany and Russia has been formulated, according to an official German statement.

SWISS WILL FIGHT TO PROTECT SELVES

Washington, Dec. 15.—In thanking the United States for its declaration of intention to strictly observe the neutrality of Switzerland, the Swiss Federation declares it will maintain its neutrality by its own forces and repel any violation of its borders.

HOLLAND'S NAVAL PROGRAM MODEST

The Hague, Netherlands, Dec. 15.—The navy estimates of the Netherlands for 1918 provided for the building of three submarines and a mine-layer for the mother country, and three submarines for the Netherlands East Indies. A number of submarines already are under construction. The refusal of the United States to sanction the building of three such boats at San Francisco on Holland's account, makes the carrying out of the modest program very problematical at present.

BANK GUARD SAID TO BE BOND THIEF

Special Officer at Portland Bank, Former Football Star, Arrested for Latency Liberty Bonds

Portland, Dec. 15.—Eighteen thousand dollars worth of Liberty loan bonds in an express package, mysteriously stolen from the Northwestern National bank here, have been located when an unnamed man presented the interest coupons for conversion into cash. The bonds have not yet been recovered, but it is expected they will be soon.

Later in the day a warrant was issued for the arrest of Clyde A. Rupert, special officer and watchman at the bank, charging him with having stolen the bonds. When questioned by the bank officials, Rupert, who was armed, escaped from the bank.

Announcement was also made late in the afternoon, that the man who brought the coupons to the bank for cashing, was named Alfred Rix who says he bought the bonds from Rupert. Rupert was formerly football captain of the Multnomah club.

BOLSHIEVIKI ARREST AMERICAN IN SIBERIA

Petrograd, Dec. 15.—Chas. S. Smith, of St. Louis, a member of the staff of John F. Stevens, head of the American railway commission to Russia, is reported to be under arrest at Tchita, Siberia, in company with M. Oustrougoff, former assistant minister of railways.

Oustrougoff was arrested as a member of the provisional government. Ambassador Francis has notified the American consul to intervene. The Bolshieviki headquarters has stated that if any American has been arrested, it was by mistake and that he will be released.

TWO ENGINEERS ARE WOUNDED IN FRANCE

With the American Army in France, Dec. 15.—A bursting shell wounded two American railway engineers working behind the British front, according to a report received at headquarters today. The projectile struck in a pile of rocks, shovels and other tools.

CHICAGO I. W. W. ENTER PLEAS OF NOT GUILTY

Chicago, Dec. 15.—One hundred members of the I. W. W. arraigned here today on a charge of conspiracy pled not guilty.

SPECIAL DETAIL FOR BURIAL OF SOLDIERS

With the American Army in France, Dec. 15.—A branch of the army, known as the "Grave Registration Service" has been organized with the sole duty of arranging for the proper burial of our soldiers who die in France and the care of their graves. It is a division of the office of the chief quartermaster and is under the command of a major.

BRITISH STEAMER FLOUNDERS AT SEA

An Atlantic Port, Dec. 15.—The floundering at sea of the British steamer Knight of the Thistle was announced in a radio message received tonight from a steamer which reported she would land 84 survivors here tomorrow.

London, Dec. 15.—The British made further advances in Palestine, to the northeastward of Jerusalem.

GUNS ROARING BOTH FRONTS SLIGHT GAINS

ON SMALL SECTOR, GERMAN TAKE FRONT LINE POSITIONS, PART IS REGAINED

ITALY IS STILL HOLDING FIRM

French Place Great Reliance Upon Weight of American Arms When Ready for Action

London, Dec. 15.—The British have regained a part of the ground won yesterday by the Germans on the Ypres front.

London, Dec. 15.—To the east of Ypres the Germans in a local attack yesterday captured British first line trenches on a front of 300 yards, while the Germans, according to the Berlin official communication, have repulsed a British attack in the Cambrai sector east of Bullecourt, launched in an endeavor to recapture lost positions.

The big guns are doing most of the work on the Italian front, where the Italians still are barring the way of the Teutonic allies toward the plains of Italy.

In Thursday's fighting the Teutons in attacks between the Brenta and the Piave rivers, again made an insignificant gain, but as on previous occasions, only under huge losses.

With the American Army in France, Thursday, Dec. 13.—A number of war correspondents of important French newspapers have visited the American troops and followed the lines of communication from the sea to the advanced camps. After interviewing General Pershing, who expressed to them his unalterable confidence in an allied victory, the journalists summarized their impressions in the following statement:

"We have come to a striking realization of American power. We have the fullest confidence in the aid which America's army will render us and we are more than ever convinced of victory. We have been struck particularly by the brotherhood in arms of Americans and Frenchmen and nothing rejoices us more than the vigor, high spirits and enthusiasm of our allies from overseas."

Berlin, Dec. 15.—Over 3,000 prisoners have been taken by the Austrians.

FROZEN ON RIDE TO ENLIST WITH ARMY

Great Falls, Mont., Dec. 15.—As a result of a 30 mile horseback ride in the storm of Monday last, to enlist in the army Albert De Maras, a 29-year old cow puncher of Havre is in the Deaconess hospital here where he was taken suffering from frozen face and hands.

GOODFELLOWS BUY NEW FLAG FOR CITY

A group of Grants Pass good fellows, who have given themselves the euphonious title of "The Rough-necks," becoming disgusted with the condition of the American flag which the city is keeping, or supposed to be keeping on the staff at the railway right-of-way, have chipped in for the purchase of a new flag. The sum of \$81.75 has already been collected and the new flag, 15 by 30 feet and of the very best material, has been ordered.

EAST HALF OF COUNTRY HELD, WINTER'S GRIP

TEMPERATURES REACHING 30 BELOW BRINGS GREAT SUFFERING AMONG POOR

MANY RAILROADS SNOWBOUND

New York City Facing a Coal Famine Due to Icebound Ferries. Streets Remain Uncleared

Chicago, Dec. 15.—All the country east of the Rocky mountains is now feeling the effect of the general onslaught by winter. The west and northwest are storm-bound and enveloped in one of the most severe cold spells in years.

Some sections report temperatures as low as 25 and 30 degrees below zero, chiefly in the Dakotas, Nebraska, Montana and Minnesota.

In most of New England there is snow three to five feet in depth and still deeper in the Berkshire hills. Trains in that territory have been putting up a losing fight against the snow drifts all of today and last night and are being cancelled as soon as they arrive at a town where the passengers and crews can be fed and housed.

Heavy snow is falling at Albany and west from there as far as Rochester. Eight passenger trains are stalled in snow drifts near Syracuse.

In Chicago trains were all late. Elevated, surface and steam traffic was badly impeded and deliveries from stores were slow and uncertain. The heavy fall of snow, five and one-half inches on the level, still covered all but the streets in the loop district, as they cannot find laborers. It cost \$8,100 to have the snow removed from a few of the

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FARMERS CAUSE ROW ON TILLER CUT-OFF

Roseburg, Dec. 15.—Four residents of Elk creek are suing the county court of Douglas county for the purpose of closing a part of the road constructed on the proposed Crater Lake cut-off through Tiller. The complainants are R. W. Thomason, W. P. Thomason, Lewis Thomason and Mary Furlong. The landowners want the right to fence the right-of-way, and to gain their purpose allege that the orders of the county court are illegal because the road was never viewed by regular and sworn viewers, but that plans were adopted and drawn, and the route selected by a government engineer named J. T. Schnyler, who had no legal right to pick the route.

CONTRACT FOR FOUR THOUSAND VESSELS

New York, Dec. 15.—Raymond B. Stevens, vice chairman of the federal shipping board, in an address here last night, stated that contracts have been let by the federal shipping board for 4,000 ships with net dead weight carrying capacity of eight million tons.

He thought that at least six million tons would be available next year. Because the navy program had tied up 65 per cent of all the available shipyards, leaving but 35 per cent that the board could utilize, he said it had been necessary to build shipyards but much had been accomplished.

FIRST WAR-DRAFT BLANK IS MAILED

Questionnaires for Registrants Are Being Mailed in Lots of Five Per Cent Each Day

The local registration board on Saturday commenced the mailing to Josephine county's list of registrants the questionnaires which will be the basis for the arranging of registered men in classifications based on their qualifications for military service.

In compliance with the war department's orders, five per cent of the county's list is to have the questionnaires mailed to them each day, commencing Saturday. Five per cent will be mailed each day until the full list of 695 have been mailed out. Those mailed today were to men numbered from 1 to 29.

The office of the Josephine county registration board is in the Masonic Temple building, room 3, with the Josephine County Abstract company.

WILHELM MAY MAKE A PEACE PROPOSAL

London, Dec. 15.—Emperor William, in a Christmas message, proposes to make a final peace offer to the enemies of Germany, "on whom, in case of rejection, will fall the responsibility for bloodshed in 1918," according to an unofficial Berlin dispatch.

TINKHAM HAS NARROW ESCAPE IN ACCIDENT

Italian Headquarters, Dec. 15.—The army automobile in which Congressman Geo. H. Tinkham of Boston was riding on a visit to the Monte Grappa line on the northern Italian front, skidded over a mountain side and dropped 20 feet. The auto was crushed to pieces and the chauffeur was seriously injured, but Mr. Tinkham escaped with only minor bruises. He recently fired the first shot from an American battery in the Italian campaign.

WOMEN SHOULD HEAR TALK AT LUNCHEON

In a letter received Saturday by the Chamber of Commerce, W. K. Newell, assistant food administrator for Oregon, in speaking of his talk before the Chamber of Commerce luncheon Monday noon, asks especially that as many women as possible attend.

Mr. Newell's talk will be highly interesting. Aside from the deep importance of his subject and the fact that he speaks with authority, Mr. Newell is one of Oregon's leading men and would be a most interesting talker at any time. The luncheon will start promptly at 12 o'clock.

NAVAL COUNCIL OF ALLIES IS FORMED

Washington, Dec. 15.—Creation of an allied naval council to co-ordinate the naval operations of all the nations at war with the central powers was announced tonight in a cablegram to the navy department from Admiral Benson at Paris. Members of the council, established in accordance with the plans of the inter-allied conference, will report to their respective governments with recommendations for action.

GOVERNOR IS URGING ALL TO JOIN RED CROSS

PROCLAMATION CALLS UPON EVERY CITIZEN TO ENROLL UNDER ITS BANNER

DRIVE COMMENCES ON MONDAY

Oregon Is Expected to List a Quarter of Million More Members Before Christmas Night

Washington, Dec. 15.—With the delivery today (December 16th) of thousands of sermons from as many American pulpits, urging membership in the American Red Cross, the Christmas campaign of that organization for ten million new members will be formally started. The drive will continue till Christmas night by which time it is expected that the total membership in the United States will reach fifteen million at least.

Besides the appeals to congregations today in behalf of the Red Cross membership campaign, superintendents and teachers in Sunday schools will urge them to do their mite for the work of relief during the war. Of the 136,000 ministers in the United States it is expected that the big majority will make today a Red Cross Sunday in their churches.

Salem, Dec. 15.—Expressing the determination to do everything in his power to aid the Christmas membership campaign for 200,000 members in Oregon of the American Red Cross, Governor James Withycombe today issued a proclamation calling upon every Oregon household to be represented in "the great union of the American Red Cross" and thus to make this a Red Cross Christmas by "giving a Christmas present to humanity."

The governor of Oregon is the first governor in the United States to issue a Red Cross proclamation. Others are expected to follow in rapid succession.

The governor's proclamation reads as follows:

Salem, December 15, 1917. "At this holiday season of the year when, following time-honored custom, the spirit of giving prevails in every home of the land, it is entirely fitting and proper that each true American should feel disposed to give such support as he can afford to that great humanitarian arm of the federal government known as the American Red Cross.

"This is our first Christmas in the

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COUNCIL VOTES NOT TO IMPEACH HILL

Seattle, Dec. 15.—That Mayor Hiram C. Gill, for a month past the storm center of the bitterest fight in the political history of Seattle, will continue in office until his term expires next March, seemed certain tonight, the city council late yesterday, by a vote of five to three having rejected a resolution containing impeachment charges.

NEWPORT BOY KILLED BY "NOT LOADED" GUN

Newport, Ore., Dec. 15.—Nugget Doyal, aged 12, died here early today from the effects of a wound inflicted last Tuesday by his younger brother, who was playing with a rifle at the home of the children on Alsea river, several miles above Waldport.