

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VII., No. 100.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1918.

WHOLE NUMBER 2285.

52 CHILDREN ARE BURNED IN MONTREAL

BUILDING OCCUPIED BY THOUSANDS AND PEOPLE TOTALLY DESTROYED

CHILDREN'S WARD FIRST AFLAME

Heroic Nuns and Nursing Sisters Strive Valiantly to Save Sick, Wounded and Helpless Children

Montreal, Feb. 15.—From ruins of the Grey Nunnery, 14 more children's bodies have been recovered, making 52 known victims of the fire.

Montreal, Feb. 15.—The charred bodies of 41 children had been recovered early this morning from the ruins of the Grey Nunnery, which was destroyed by fire. It is feared many more had perished and searchers believed the tool of death might reach 100.

All inmates of the great building, except the children, are believed to have escaped. They include nuns, nursing sisters, wounded or sick soldiers from overseas; aged, sick or crippled men and women to the number of almost a thousand.

When the flames were discovered in the west wing the alarm was quickly given and all those able to help themselves fled to places of safety.

The heroic nuns and nursing sisters strove valiantly to save the sick and wounded, as well as the infants under their charge.

The children were housed in the section of the building where the fire started and the flames spread so quickly it was impossible to save them all.

None of the soldiers suffered injury, however, although nearly 200 of them were quartered in the building.

The ages of the inmates of the nunnery ranged from two or three days to almost a hundred years. Many of the infants who died in the fire and smoke were only a few days or a few weeks old.

The elderly inmates were housed in another section of the nunnery.

VETERAN AIR MAN IS KILLED AT FT. WORTH

Fort Worth, Tex., Feb. 15.—Captain Vernon Castle, of the English Royal Flying corps, was killed this morning, while flying 15 miles west of Fort Worth. He made over 150 flights over the German lines and was the hero of many exploits on the Flanders front, where he served for nine months. He came here in October with Lord Welsely. Castle was killed when trying to avoid a cadet. He swerved, lost control and fell.

MANY LIVES LOST ON BURNING TRAIN

Zurich, Feb. 15.—A crowded passenger train from Stanislaw to Leuberg, Galicia, caught fire last Saturday midnight, while between Jesupol and Wodniki. The train stopped on a bridge over the Dniester and many panic-stricken passengers jumped into the river and were drowned. Many others were burned to death and a large number were injured.

A fire Monday destroyed two large warehouses at the eastern railroad station at Vienna. The buildings were filled with paper, clothing, dried vegetables and potatoes, which is a very severe loss at this time.

SISKIYOU GRADE WORK CONTINUES

Finishing Touches of Hard Surface Being Placed on California Side of Siskiyou Grade

Ashland, Feb. 15.—A large force of men and teams have worked through the winter weather placing crushed stone on the grades of the Siskiyou on the California side. The surface is yet rough, but within a few weeks will be covered with crushed stone screenings, which will form a surface very much like concrete pavement in appearance and in durability. This surface is made solid and smooth by the use of a large gasoline engine road roller.

Owing to the bad weather conditions and the isolated location, this has been a difficult piece of work, but Superintendent M. J. Tilly has demonstrated his qualifications not only as an engineer but also as a man who understands the handling of men.

GERMANS HAVE NEW GAS FOR AMERICAN THOOPS

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—The German newspapers, speaking of the great offensive which they say, Hindenburg is going to launch in the west, say that the army has a new poison gas of surpassing effectiveness "which is being reserved as a surprise for the Americans."

CENSORSHIP LID IS PUT ON AT CAMP LEWIS

Camp Lewis, Feb. 15.—The censorship lid has been clamped down tight here. Newspaper correspondents hereafter will get all news from the military censor, between 11 and 12 o'clock daily.

TWO CALLS FOR HELP FROM SHIPS AT SEA

An Atlantic Port, Feb. 15.—A call for help has been received from a steamer, which reports that she has been in a collision with another ship.

An Atlantic Port, Feb. 15.—An American passenger ship which left here yesterday for Cuba, has just returned with a large hole above her starboard water line. She was in a collision with another vessel at midnight in a fog. The other vessel was struck in the bow, but its fate is unknown.

The foregoing dispatches were received from different ports.

GOVERNMENT TAKES ENEMY ALIEN PLANT

Washington, Feb. 15.—Immediate taking over of the plant and business of the Schutte and Koerting company, of Philadelphia, a big automobile valve concern, was ordered tonight by the alien property custodian, with the announcement that a hearing had shown the company to be owned entirely by German interests in Germany. The plant, which had been engaged on government contracts for some time, turns out automatic ejectors and injector boiler valves installed upon nearly all ships.

Common stock of the company, it developed at a hearing here today, stood on the books until March 9, 1917, in the name of Ernest Koerting, of Hanover, Germany, said to be a relative of Emperor William. It was then claimed to have been transferred to his daughter, Helene Fischer, wife of Adalbert K. Fischer, who was interned February 8 as a dangerous enemy.

The plant is valued at \$1,700,000. The surplus earnings of the company for the fiscal year, ending March 18, 1918, are estimated at more than \$200,000.

GERMANY WILL AGAIN FIGHT AGAINST SLAVS

Hostilities Being Considered Against Russia By Military Power of the Huns and Petrograd Will Doubtless Be Objective of First Attack

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—Peace on German terms having been refused by the Bolshevik government, Germany will again take up military operations against northern Russia, is reported as having been decided upon by a conference at imperial headquarters, participated in by the emperor, military and political leaders. Petrograd will probably be the objective.

Germany holds that Trotsky's plan of no war, but no peace, ended the armistice and it is understood the central powers made peace with Ukraine to offset their diplomatic defeat at the hands of Trotsky and will support Ukraine against the Bolsheviks.

INTERNED PRISONERS TRY TO TUNNEL OUT

Salt Lake City, Feb. 15.—Incident to the removal today of civil prisoners from the southern section of the war prison camp at Fort Douglas to a new location within the compound, two more tunnels were discovered by the prison authorities. This makes a total of 16 tunnels that have been found within the last two and a half months. Two were found Wednesday about the time Miss Augusta Minnie Deckman fiancée of Ernest A. Leibold, an interned enemy alien, was arrested on a charge of rifling the mail pouches in the censor's office.

The tunnels discovered yesterday had not been extended very far, but their discovery indicates the determination with which the prisoners of the camp have been working to gain their freedom.

Both the Rev. B. Henry Leesmann, who was arrested Sunday night at the war prison camp, charged with trying to smuggle a note to one of the interned enemy aliens, and Miss Deckman, are still in jail in default of \$2,000 bail each.

CANADIANS AND FRENCH MAKE SUCCESSFUL RAIDS

London, Feb. 15.—The artillery was active on the American front during last night. The Canadians and French forces have both made successful raids.

Paris, Feb. 15.—French forces penetrated the German lines northeast of Courcy on the Aisne today and returned with prisoners.

13,264 ENEMY ALIENS REGISTER IN CHICAGO

Chicago, Feb. 15.—Completion of registration of German aliens in Chicago shows 13,264 names, it was announced today. The police now have their full records, including finger prints.

SELL YOUR CHEESE BEFORE JUNE 15TH

Washington, Feb. 15.—June 15 was fixed by the food administration tonight as the official beginning of the cheese production season of 1918 and the date before which all cheese now in storage must be marketed.

Notice was given that special permits for holding stored cheese after that date would be granted only in cases where further curing is necessary.

ENROLLMENT OF SHIPBUILDERS

Instructions Intended to Clear Up Slight Misunderstandings in Registering Skilled Workmen

Portland, Feb. 15.—Secretary of Labor Wilson has sent the following telegram to all state directors of the public service reserve for the purpose of clearing up some slight misunderstandings which have cropped out during the progress of the national "enrollment week" drive which now is on, for the registration of skilled workmen throughout the United States:

"The immediate labor needs of the shipyards are comparatively filled and the man who leaves his present position to seek employment in a shipyard is likely to find no work.

"The coming weeks and months, however, will necessitate an increase of the present number of shipyard workers by several hundred thousand men who have had experience in trades used in shipbuilding. The department of labor with the aid of the shipping board council of national defense and the state councils of defense, now is enrolling in its United States public service men of these trades who are willing to go to the shipyard when they are advised of a place. The shipyard volunteers in the public service reserve will be placed through the United States employment service of the department of labor which will have full details as to when and where the men are needed, the wages and housing and other conditions.

"Membership in the reserve brings official recognition of the performance of, or the readiness to perform, a most necessary and patriotic service. It also protects both employers and workers for it minimizes the drain on industry for the supplying of the shipyards and puts the wage earner where he can utilize to the fullest extent his ability and brain power. We appeal to all qualified men to enroll during the coming week in the reserve and to stick to their present jobs until they are called."

ENEMY ALIENS MUST REPORT POSSESSIONS

Washington, Feb. 15.—A nationwide dragnet is being spread by A. Mitchell Palmer, alien property custodian, to locate enemy aliens, who, through ignorance of the law or malicious intent, fail to make report of their property holdings to his office.

In a statement today, calling on loyal Americans to assist the government in apprehending violators of the law, Mr. Palmer gave warning that federal agents are searching the country from coast to coast for outstanding alien property and that holders of uncovered property are liable to a fine of \$10,000 or ten years imprisonment, or both.

Full notice has been given and the time for filing reports has been liberally extended, Mr. Palmer said, and the law will be impartially enforced against all its violators.

BERLIN REPORTS RUMANIA MAY TREAT FOR PEACE

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—Berlin newspapers intimate that peace negotiations with Rumania are about to begin.

SUBMARINES SINK 8 BRITISH CRAFT

London, Feb. 15.—Eight British craft, while hunting submarines, were sunk by a flotilla of enemy destroyers. After sinking these vessels, seven of which were "drifters" and one trawler, the destroyers returned rapidly northward, before they could be engaged. The raid was made in the Straits of Dover.

\$277,731,000 WILL BE USED FOR AIR BOMBS

PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE FOR AGGRESSIVE AIRBORNE OPERATION

DEFICIENCY BILL IS REPORTED

Storage and Shipping Facilities Will Also Be Provided on Comprehensive Scale

Washington, Feb. 15.—Principal items for the army in the billion dollar urgent deficiency appropriation bill favorably reported to the house include \$277,731,000 for bombs for airplanes, and \$100,000,000 for quartermaster storage plants on the seacoast and at interior points.

In asking for an appropriation of \$100,000,000 for storage and shipping facilities with an authorization of \$50,000,000 more, General Goethals, acting quartermaster-general, disclosed that it is proposed to spend from \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000 enlarging the Bush terminals at Brooklyn. New storage plants at Atlantic coast points will cost \$69,700,000 and interior points, the locations of which were not given, will cost \$50,000,000. The bill also reveals that the army medical corps contemplates an aggregate of 1,000,000 square feet for its storerooms at New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Louisville, Washington, Watertown, San Antonio and Atlanta.

The ordnance department contemplates storage at Newport News, Charleston, Baltimore, Chicago, Philadelphia, Paterson, Watertown, Springfield, Ill.; Cleveland, Springfield, Mass.; Rock Island, San Francisco and Boston, with storage for explosives on Haritan river, N. J.

The signal corps wants storage at Dayton, Cincinnati, Buffalo and Mineola.

The report of the appropriations committee discloses an agreement between the United States and French governments for France to take over after the war the railroad system which the United States army is constructing in France.

The war department has expended \$150,000,000 for materials for this system.

RUSSIAN OFFICERS DO MENIAL LABOR

Stockholm, Feb. 15.—More than a thousand Russian soldiers still remain on the Aland islands and constitute a wild band which obey no law but selfishness. Their few remaining officers are compelled to sweep the barracks, clean the horses and do other menial labor, while the soldiers live by plundering the defenseless inhabitants.

An appeal for help against their depredations was brought to Sweden by Aland islanders who reached the Swedish coast in a rowboat after a night's trip through the ice-filled sea.

News from Finland indicates that a big engagement may be expected shortly around Tammerfors, toward which the troops of General Mannerheim are steadily proceeding.

PRESIDENT OF BROTHERHOOD MAY REFUSE TO INTERFERE

Washington, Feb. 15.—In response to Chairman Hurley's appeal to William Hutchinson, president of the brotherhood, Mr. Hurley has been notified that unless he has a definite proposition to present immediately to striking shipyard workers, he will make no effort to influence them to return to work.