

# Rogue River Courier

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## VILLERS TAKEN BY BRITISH IN HEROIC DASH

OVER 600 PRISONERS CAPTURED WHEN VILLERS-BRITON-NEUX IS BOTTLED UP

### PRISONERS TAKEN ELSEWHERE

German Line Pushed Back With Heavy Losses to Point Near Where Last Drive Began

London, Apr. 26.—Australian and English troops have recaptured Villers-Bretonneux and taken more than 600 prisoners in that region, Field Marshal Haig reports from headquarters last night.

Farther to the north, on a line from Halloul to Wytchaele, there has been very heavy fighting, and the allied troops were obliged to withdraw from their positions.

South of the Somme several counter-attacks launched by Australian and English troops Thursday night against the positions gained by the enemy yesterday in and around Villers-Bretonneux carried our line forward to within a short distance of our former front and resulted in the capture of more than 600 prisoners. The village now is in our hands.

The story from Villers-Bretonneux was cheerful. To recapitulate, the Germans began their attack on Villers-Bretonneux about 6 o'clock on Wednesday morning after a heavy bombardment, including gas shells, which forced the British to pull out of part of the town and hold it lightly. Heavy mists were hanging over the whole region, and under cover of this, the German advanced, supported by five bulky and heavy armored tanks.

Simultaneous with their attack at Villers-Bretonneux, the Germans also began operations to the south against the French and north of the river Somme. At Sully-le-Sac and Valre several attacks were repulsed during the early hours. The first drive against Villers-Bretonneux was made with two divisions and this was thrown back. The Germans immediately put two fresh divisions into line and again surged forward.

(Continued on page 4.)

## SAFETY OF BLACK SEA FLEETS ASKED

Moscow, Apr. 26.—M. Tscherebin, Bolshevik foreign minister, has asked Germany, according to the official news agency, to give a guarantee that the Russian Black sea fleet, while moored at Sebastopol, will not be seized or damaged by forces of the central powers and the allies (central) now advancing into the Crimea, or by any other naval or military forces of that alliance.

The foreign minister has taken this action. It is added, officially, as he has heard that the Germans intend to blockade Sebastopol with submarines.

Paris, Apr. 26.—Long-range bombardment of Paris was resumed during the night. No one was hurt and the damage was not appreciable up to 6 o'clock this morning.

## HOLLAND PLACES BAN ON INDIES SHIPMENT

Washington, Apr. 26.—Holland has placed an embargo on exportation of tin ore, cinchona bark, quinine and kapok, all needed by the United States for war purposes.

## BRITISH AMMUNITION AND GUNS REPLACED

MANY STORES LOST IN RECENT GERMAN DRIVE

Enough Ammunition Now on Hand to Carry Big Battle Through Until Winter

London, Apr. 26.—Winston Spencer Churchill, introducing in the house of commons yesterday the estimates of the ministry of munitions, said that during the five weeks since the battle in France not only had the consumption and destruction of munitions of all kinds proceeded at the greatest rate, but that they also were very heavy losses by capture by the enemy.

"We lost," the minister said, "nearly a thousand guns by shell fire or capture; between 4,000 and 5,000 machine guns have been lost or destroyed, and the quantity of ammunition, apart from that which has been fired and that which has been lost in the dumps, amounted to something between one and three weeks' total of manufacture.

"But great as the demand has been, the expenditure in the last month did not exceed the maximum potential capacity of the British factories, without touching enormous reserves, which had accumulated against such a contingency.

"In fact, barring unforeseen circumstances, our supply of munitions would enable us to carry on a battle at the supreme pitch of intensity until winter without compromising our requirement for 1919. This despite the fact that a hundred thousand men were taken from the munition factories for service in the armies.

"We are making in a single week more airplanes than we made in the whole of 1914; in a single month more than we made in the whole of 1915; in three months more than we made in the whole of 1916. And we are going to make this year several times what we made last year."

## GREEK PEOPLE ARE ASSURED FAIR DEAL

Washington, Apr. 26.—The president has assured the Greek people that the United States will give the fullest measure of support to Greece and preserve that country's rights in any final peace negotiations.

Paris, Apr. 26.—Major Raoul Luthbery of Wallingford, Conn., destroyed his 15th enemy airplane Tuesday. Lieutenant Frank Beer, of Mobile, Ala., brought down his fifth machine the same day, thus becoming the latest American "ace."

## CANNING SUGAR TO BE HAD BY CARDS

Washington, Apr. 26.—Sugar for domestic canning and preserving this year will be distributed under a modified certificate system by which each consumer will sign an application for the amount needed.

The food administration explains that its purpose is to make sure that some canners may obtain sufficient sugar to preserve perishable fruits and also to place a check upon any who might try to obtain unreasonable quantities for household consumption. It is considered necessary to check consumption to guard against temporary shortages which result from withdrawal of more vessels from the Cuban trade and the administration prefers the method adopted to the card system used in other countries.

Retail dealers will be provided by their federal state administrators with certificates to be signed by the consumer. Each certificate must be returned within one week after it is signed, to the state federal food administrator.

## KEMMEL HILL TAKEN BY GERMANS THIS MORNING

Allies Retire After Wholesale Slaughter of Huns; Loss is Inconvenient But Does Not Mean That Ypres Salient Must Necessarily Go

London, Apr. 26.—The Germans have occupied Kemmel hill, according to British war office reports. The French counter-attacked this morning trying to reclaim the German positions. The German gains were made at a frightful cost in loss of lives.

"In the end it will be a question of who has the last reserves," said General Radcliffe, chief director of military operations of the war office, reviewing the battle situation. "General Poch so far has employed only a small portion of his reserves.

"There is nothing decisive in the loss of Kemmel hill, but it is one of the most important tactical features. It is entirely possible to hold onto the Ypres sector with the enemy on Kemmel hill, but his presence there is not convenient and we hope to get him off.

"In the Kemmel sector the Germans gained about 2,000 yards on a front of 1,200 yards. This involves some very important ground."

London, Apr. 26.—The allied line seems to hold fairly well southwest of Mount Kemmel, but to the northeast the Germans were apparently able to push forward far enough near Villersstraat to enable them to approach the height on the flank. The allied effort will be to concentrate against this enemy wedge and drive them back again. The definite possession of Kemmel hill by the Germans might mean that the British would have to abandon the Ypres salient.

## CHAMP CLARK NOT TO TAKE SENATORSHIP

Washington, Apr. 26.—Speaker Champ Clark, of Missouri, today formally declined Governor Gardner's proffer of the United States senatorship to succeed the late Senator Stone.

Clark evidently feels that he can do more good where he is than starting out as a new member of the senate. His acceptance would have meant the appointment of a congressman to succeed him and the election of a new speaker of the house, which would have interfered with war work.

Champ Clark was elected to congress from Missouri for the first time in 1893 and has been speaker of the house for the last four sessions of congress.

## FRENCH FLIERS SAIL LOW OVER GERMANS

Paris, Apr. 26.—An official note describing the work done by the French aviators during the German advance says that reconnoitering was carried out at very low altitudes. After Noyon was occupied, French airplanes flew over the town just above the roofs of the houses. Some times they descended along the roads until the wheels almost touched the heads of the soldiers in column, who scattered or threw themselves on the ground terrified. The French machines often returned with more than a hundred bullet holes in their wings.

## U-BOAT STOPS MISSION

Washington, Apr. 26.—The Uruguayan mission to France which recently was intercepted by a German submarine operating off the Canary Islands was, according to latest reports received here, finally permitted to proceed, but it is not known under what conditions.

## WINLOCK ESCORTS NON-PARTISANS OUT

Winlock, Wash., Apr. 26.—A crowd of 50 citizens escorted W. B. Edwards and A. Knutson, said to be non-partisan league organizers, from town early today. Knutson was given a coat of tar and feathers.

Scores of former athletic stars are enlisting for service with the Y. M. C. A. to instruct and help the American soldier overseas to keep himself physically fit to fight.

## MANY FINE FISH CAUGHT IN RIVER

Fishing in the river continues good. The night seiners who drift down to Jump-off-Joe are making fair catches, largely through good luck in the number of fish which are able to get past the fisheries at the mouth of the river. It is understood that there is a strike on at the Macleay canneries where the fishermen refuse to work for the price of seven cents a pound offered by the cannery, the price set by the food administration. The season opened here at 20 cents and the price is now about 14 cents per pound.

Many fine catches are being made with hook and line near this city. Wednesday Elvin Wallace caught six fine chinooks on a No. 6 spinner and yesterday Frank Mashburn brought out a fish that dressed 20 pounds. The fish are fine just now and the sport is good.

## AMENDMENT TO BILL ADOPTED IN SENATE

Washington, Apr. 26.—The senate today adopted the amendment to the Overman bill reorganizing the aircraft program and authorizing the president to give entire control to one man, who will probably be John D. Ryan.

## LIBERTY LOAN TO PASS TWO BILLIONS

Washington, Apr. 26.—Liberty day opened with \$1,956,776,000 subscriptions to the third Liberty loan. The two billion mark will be passed before night.

## GUARANTEE ASKED FOR HOLLAND'S SHIPS

The Hague, Apr. 26.—Replying to questions by members of the first chamber of parliament, Jonkheer J. Loudon, minister of foreign affairs, said today that no ship would sail from Holland before a written guarantee had been obtained that there would be no further seizures of vessels. He said that he had gathered from an interview with John W. Garrett, American minister, yesterday, that the latter supposed that written assurance had already been given.

## MEN OF 21 SOON TO BE CALLED BY DRAFT

HOUSE ADOPTS SENATE RESOLUTION YESTERDAY

All Men Having Reached the Age of 21 Since Last June to Be Called

Washington, Apr. 26.—The senate resolution providing for the registration for military service of young men who have reached the age of 21 since June 5 last, was adopted late Thursday by the house, which incorporated an amendment by Representative Hull, placing such men at the bottom of the lists in the classes to which they may be assigned.

The bill now goes to conference. The house sustained the military committee in striking out a provision of the bill as it passed the senate, which would exempt from registration those eligible who have entered medical or divinity schools since June 5 last.

Representative Kahn, ranking republican on the military committee, told the house the proposed new registration would place from 500,000 to 700,000 new registrants available for military service. He recalled that Germany recently called into service its class of 1919, consisting of approximately 550,000 men.

## SIXTEEN INDICTMENTS FOUND AT EDWARDSVILLE

Edwardsville, Ill., Apr. 26.—Indictments were returned late yesterday against 16 persons by the grand jury which investigated the lynching on April 5 of Robert Paul Prager at Collinsville. Twelve indictments were against civilians, and charged murder and four indictments were against policemen, charging malfeasance in office.

## RECRUITS WANTED FOR ORE. MILITARY POLICE

If any man in Grants Pass between the ages of 18 and 45 years wants to become a member of the Oregon military police, the new state constabulary now being formed in three companies at Salem, Portland and an eastern Oregon town, now is the time to join.

The object of the organization, which was created at a meeting of the state emergency board last month, is to prevent and detect crime and apprehend criminals. Men between the ages of 18 and 45 are eligible, but men over 31 years are preferred. The term of enlistment is for two years, or unless discharged sooner by proper authority.

The pay is \$90 per month and up and uniforms and equipment are furnished free. Men who have had some military experience are preferred, although this is not necessary.

The third company O. M. P., which is being recruited from Willamette valley and western Oregon towns, is commanded by Captain O. J. Hull, of Salem, formerly a member of Co. K, 2nd Oregon volunteers, who was in service in the Philippines. Application blanks may be obtained from Captain Hull, Morgan building, Portland, or from the Courier office.

## BELLINGHAM ALSO PROTESTS

Bellingham, Wash., Apr. 26.—The Central Labor council today voted in favor of a 24 hour strike on May 1 as a protest against the execution of Thomas Mooney.

## PRESIDENT BUYS MORE LIBERTY LOAN BONDS

Wilson today bought \$2,000 worth more of third Liberty loan bonds. He recently bought \$1,000 worth.

## THREE DAYS IN LIVING GRAVES EXPERIENCED

THREE AMERICAN SOLDIERS TAKEN FROM DUGOUTS AFTER SIECHPREY BATTLE

### AMERICANS FIGHT WITH ALLIES

Wounded Yanks Being Received at Base Hospitals Give Evidence of Part They Are Taking

With the American Army in France, Apr. 16.—Two American soldiers wounded in the Siechprey engagement were found alive yesterday in a dugout in No Man's Land. The dugout was badly smashed by shell fire. Physicians say it is miraculous how they kept alive. Another soldier, buried for three days, crawled to the surface and was found in No Man's Land by stretcher bearers.

Further details received at headquarters of the engagement around Siechprey show that the American troops were outnumbered, in some instances, eight to one.

More of the American wounded were found today, one of whom was buried alive for three days and had been trampled over by the enemy when he had crawled to the surface, in the belief that he was dead.

The American casualties are considerably less than the first estimates.

Paris, Apr. 26.—American soldiers wounded in the great battle which now is being waged already are arriving at the rear. American wounded and sick to the number of 125 have reached hospital 25. They are from units engaged in fighting side by side with French and British in stemming the German advance.

Hospital 25 is one of the new institutions established behind the line as it stood after the allies stopped the recent German drive in Picardy.

Few of the Americans remained at the hospital very long, being taken farther to the rear.

## REV. BOOZER RETURNS FROM SAN FRANCISCO

Rev. L. Myron Boozer of the Presbyterian church returned home this morning after spending several days around San Francisco bay. Last Sunday he preached at Oakland. During the week he went out to Camp Fremont, near Palo Alto, where he was given an opportunity to inspect the workings of the great army cantonment. He met Major J. P. Truax, formerly mayor of this city, and General Secretary Long, of the army Y. M. C. A., and was taken from one end of the big camp to the other. Rev. Boozer will describe his trip at the First Presbyterian church Sunday evening, which will be of great interest to people having relatives in the army, as well as to others.

## GRAZING LANDS GO TO STANFIELD

Washington, Apr. 26.—The reclamation service has awarded contracts for the leasing of 60,000 acres of grazing lands in Umatilla, Morrow and Gilliam counties, Oregon. Robert I. Stanfield, of Stanfield, was awarded 32,630 acres for \$25,900. John Kenny, of Heppner, got 12,000 acres. Residents of Cecil got other contracts.

Kenny, of Heppner, paid \$19,095 for 12,150 acres.