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VOLUME XXVII ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1915. NUMBER 41.

ALLIES BATTERING GERMAN TRENCHES

300 Miles of Front Attacked by Defending Armies.

TEUTON POSITIONS FILLED WITH DEAD

French and British Capture 20,000 Prisoners and Many Cannon— Allies in Perfect Unison.

Paris—By a combined, simultaneous onslaught with overwhelming forces on every sector of the battle front, stretching 800 miles from the North Sea to the Vosges mountains, the French and British armies have captured more than 20 miles of German trenches and fortifications for a depth in many instances of two and one-half miles, have seized various villages and vantage points and have taken more than 20,000 prisoners and many guns.

The battle, which began Saturday and which raged with undiminished fury all Saturday night, still continues with the forces in death grip in hand-to-hand fighting, in which bayonets are being used.

In the number of troops engaged, in the terrific havoc wrought by countless batteries of the heaviest artillery and in the magnitude of the new offensive drive begun by General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French, and Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British, to expel the Germans, the vast conflict now under way exceeds even the battle of the Marne, which halted the invasion of France in its momentous bearing on the fate of the warring nations.

The terrific assault, begun Saturday and now being pressed with unabated vigor and determination, came after ten months of patient preparation by the French and British commanders.

The battle was preceded by preparatory thunder of the hundreds of huge cannon built for the supreme conflict and which, for 50 hours, literally rained fire on the German fortifications, both explosive and incendiary shells being hurled into the positions held by the Teutonic soldiers.

The German war office pays tribute to the ruin caused by this bombardment in its reference to the fact that the French "penetrated our battered-down trenches."

Bulgaria Denies Any Intention of Entering Great World War

London—Dispatches from Sofia September 23 to Reuters' Telegram company quote the following semi-official statement issued on that day:

"The entry of Bulgaria into a state of armed neutrality is, according to the view in government circles, explained by changes which occurred recently in the political and military situation.

"Bulgaria has not the slightest aggressive intention, but is resolved to be armed to defend her rights. Following the example of Holland and Switzerland, Bulgaria is obliged, in view of the movement of troops effected by her neighbors and danger threatening her from the fact of the Austro-German offensive against Serbia, to proclaim armed neutrality, while continuing conversations with the representatives of the two belligerent groups."

A telegram from Athens says that mobilization of the Greek forces is proceeding rapidly and that the people, while bewildered by the kaleidoscope of events, appear to welcome the prospect of war as a relief from uncertainty.

It is assumed that Greece will resist any aggressive action that Bulgaria may take.

Hill Liner Kills Whale

San Francisco—To not many travelers on the deep is it given to see a whale killed by a modern steamship, but that was the treat given the 325 passengers on the turbine Great Northern, which arrived from Flavel Sunday. Just north of Point Arena the Great Northern struck a huge whale fair amidships and cut the leviathan in two. The shock jarred the whole vessel. Rushing on deck the passengers beheld only bloody spume in the track of the vessel and two huge pieces of whale.

Canal Closed for Week

Panama—It will be another week before the canal is reopened. Fifty-five ships have been delayed so far, and some of them have turned back. The recent slide is the worst in the history of the canal. Eighteen months will be required to remove all the earth that slipped into the canal. Surveyors have begun on Taboga Island, in Panama bay, in anticipation of appropriations for increasing the defenses of the canal.

Storm Rages in Italy

Rome, via Paris—A great storm is raging throughout Italy, causing floods and landslides. Trees have been uprooted by the violence of the wind, and the wide overflow of rivers has drowned cattle. Thus far, however, no loss of human life has been reported. The telephone and telegraph services are greatly deranged.

FLEEING CONVICT SHOTS TO DEATH SUPERINTENDENT OF PENITENTIARY

Salem, Or.—Harry Minto, superintendent of the Oregon penitentiary, was shot and killed at 11:30 Tuesday night a few miles north of Albany, by Otto Hooker, an escaped convict.

A few hours earlier, Hooker had shot and perhaps fatally wounded J. J. Benson, city marshal of Jefferson.

After Hooker had shot Marshal Benson, Superintendent Minto started directly for Albany to head off the fugitive convict. Returning north from Albany in company with Guard Johnson, he came upon Hooker.

Minto and the convict opened fire at about the same time, Minto using a shotgun and the convict a revolver.

A bullet hit Minto in the head, killing him instantly. Hooker escaped amid a hail of shots fired by Guard Johnson. Hooker evidently was not hit. He was seen an hour later near Millersville station, some distance south of Jefferson.

The gun with which Hooker killed Minto had been taken from Marshal Benson at Jefferson, the convict having shot the officer while they were scuffling.

Hooker escaped from a gang of 25 convicts grubbing brush a mile south of the penitentiary.

When Hooker slipped into the brush from the field where the gang of prisoners was at work, he was not missed immediately. Later when the alarm was sounded, Superintendent Minto rushed to the scene in an automobile.

Gasoline Causes Death of 35 and Sets Fire to Entire Town

Ardmore, Okla.—A spark from a workman's hammer ignited a tank of gasoline here late Tuesday, and from the ruins of two city blocks raised by the resulting explosion and the fires which followed, 31 bodies had been recovered.

Fifty persons were believed to have been crushed to death under falling walls or burned to death while pinned in the debris. Search among the ruins is proceeding, the workers centering their efforts on the tangled mass of lumber and bricks which had been the department store of Maddin & Co., where it was feared the bodies of many girl and woman shoppers and employes would be found.

The property damage was estimated at \$500,000. A score of fires caused by the flaming gasoline, which was thrown for blocks when the car exploded with a terrific detonation, were got under control after two hours' desperate work by the small local fire department, aided by every able-bodied man in the city not assisting the injured. The city immediately was placed under martial law.

The explosion wrecked an entire block of buildings in the heart of town and precipitated a scene of panic. Along Main street from the station to the Whittington Hotel, every building was demolished, and on the opposite side of the street the plant of Swift & Co., a two-story rooming house and cafe and other business buildings were razed.

Allies Still Push Against Germany's Strongholds on Western Front

London—The great offensive of the second British forces against both sides of the elbow joint on the German positions on the western front had not slackened Tuesday, but General Joffre's bulletin reported no new outstanding success.

The British official statement told briefly of heavy losses inflicted on the Germans northwest of Holland, where heavy German counter attacks were carried out during the course of the day.

Berlin maintains that by means of counter attacks the allies' drives have been checked, with heavy losses, but as the Germans make no claim of having recovered the ground taken from them, the indications are the allied gains of Saturday and Sunday generally have been maintained and at some points improved, and that the fighting has reached the state of vicious attacks and counter attacks, which may persist for weeks.

Berlin reports insist that any stories that the German lines has been pierced are untrue, and it is pointed out that those who have seen service in the west know it to be impossible for the allies to break through.

Man, 91, Seeks Office

Elizabeth, N. J.—Milton C. London, aged 91, of Linden, decided Tuesday morning to seek his first political office at the fall election. He has been nominated for justice of the peace by Linden Democrats, and his candidacy was returned by the Republican organization of the borough.

Although he has never before been a candidate for any political office, Mr. London declares that if his services as justice of the peace prove pleasing he will seek higher honors at the polls.

Air Bombs Hit Gas Works

Amsterdam, via London—Airmen of the entente allies have again bombarded Bruges, Belgium. The sudden cessation of the flow of gas at Sluis, on the Belgian frontier, which is supplied from Bruges, led to the suspicion here that bombs from the air craft struck the gas works, and a message received later from Bruges confirmed this belief.

The whole city has been thrown into darkness, the dispatch said.



LAND PRODUCTS EXHIBIT PREMIUM LIST IS LARGE

Portland—All prizes to be awarded in the land products section of the Second Annual Manufacturers' & Land Products Show have been announced by the chairman of this section of the fair exposition at the Armory. Premium lists will be printed at once and mailed broadcast over the Northwest. The show opens October 25 and closes November 12.

One of the features of the awards this year will be \$200 in cash and a gold medal to the best county exhibit. The exhibit awarded second prize will receive a silver medal and \$100 in cash. The best exhibit from each county will receive from \$50 to \$100 in cash. These are the features of class shows.

Three farm publications, the Northwest Pacific Farmer, Fruit and Produce Market and the Oregon Farmer, will give one year's subscription to the winners of prizes in the land division at the exposition.

Commencing with class two other features of the 1915 premium list are as follows:

CLASS II. Best individual farm exhibit—Gold medal and special prize offered by the Coast Cattle & Horse company of \$50 cash or an "Armo" 1000 gallon water tank.

CLASS III. Second best individual farm exhibit—Silver medal and special prize offered by the Coast Cattle & Horse company of \$25 cash or an "Armo" 500 gallon water tank.

CLASS IV. Artistic apple display—First, gold medal and \$100; second, silver medal and \$50.

CLASS V. Apples—First, Second.

10 boxes Jonathan	\$20.00	\$30.00
10 boxes Rome Beauty	20.00	30.00
10 boxes Spitzenberg	20.00	30.00
10 boxes Winesap	20.00	30.00
10 boxes Yellow Newtown	20.00	30.00

To each first prize winner in Class 4, the Charles H. Little company offers a 50 pound drum of soluble sulphur spray.

CLASS VI. Peaches—First, Second.

2 half-boxes Clatsop	\$ 5.00	\$10.00
2 half-boxes Alphon	5.00	10.00
2 half-boxes Beas	5.00	10.00
2 half-boxes Comice	5.00	10.00
2 half-boxes Huerf	5.00	10.00
2 half-boxes Winter Nellie	5.00	10.00

CLASS VII. Onions—First, Second.

Collection of names varieties	\$10.00	\$ 5.00
10 pounds each	10.00	5.00

CLASS VIII. Potatoes—First, Second.

20 lbs. Burbank	\$ 5.00	\$ 2.00
20 lbs. American Wonder	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. Early Home	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. Early Ohio	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. Ure's Gem	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. Garnet Chili	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. Tender Gold	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. Netted Gem	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. Yellow Perfection	5.00	2.00
20 lbs. (to be named later)	5.00	2.00

100 lbs. Early Home—special prize by Coast Cattle & Horse company, \$25 cash or an "Armo" 500 gallon water tank.

100 lbs. Prize of Multnomah—Special prize by the Portland Seed company.

CLASS IX. Thrashed grain—Special prize by the Golden Rod Milling company of a case of assorted Golden Rod Cereals for the best 10 lbs. of milling oats.

CLASS X. Largest squash—First, \$25.00; second, \$20.00.

CLASS XI. Evaporated apples, not less than 250 pounds..... \$20.00 \$10.00

Evaporated prunes, not less than 500 pounds..... 20.00 10.00

Evaporated collection of vegetables..... 20.00 10.00

CLASS XII. Northwestern Grower Nuts—First, Second.

Collection of walnuts	\$10.00	\$ 5.00
Collection of filberts	10.00	5.00



Artificial Gas for Twin Falls

Twin Falls, Ida.—Application has been made by James McMillan for a franchise to install a gas heating, lighting and power system in Twin Falls. The terms of the application state that the installation of the system will begin on or before June 1, 1916, and will be in operation within three years of that date.

The franchise asked for is not an exclusive one and does not prevent the city from constructing and operating a municipal gas system in competition.

Capitol Bonds Held Up

Olympia, Wash.—Before attempting to market the projected \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 capitol bond issue authorized by the recent legislature, bond brokers want Caldwell, Massich & Reed, of New York, to pass on the validity of the issue. The legislature, however, failed to make any provision for meeting this expense. The State Capitol commission met to consider what steps could be taken. The issuance of the bonds during the present biennium appears unlikely.

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