

SECOND
EDITION

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER

Rain tonight and Tuesday—
Max. 49; Min. 31; Pre. .15.Forty-fourth Year.
Daily—Ninth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1915

NO. 244

FRENCH CAPTURE
STEINBACH BY
HARD STRUGGLEGermans Admit That Small Alsation
Town Near Thann Is Taken by
Enemy After Overwhelming Bom-
bardment—Little Activity Along
Western Fighting Line.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The capture by the French of Steinbach, a small Alsation town near Thann, is admitted in today's statement from the Berlin war office. The advance of the French was preceded by an artillery bombardment which the German statements describe as "overwhelming," and which enabled the French to occupy trenches near Sennheim, as well as the town of Steinbach. These trenches later were recaptured, the German statement says.

Except for this fighting along the eastern end of the battle front there is little activity, the German counter attacks apparently having halted effectively the forward movement which the allies attempted last month. A few unimportant gains are chronicled in the French official statement, which also says that an attempt to capture a village in the Meuse country failed.

Russians Report Battle

The German statement makes no mention of the severe fighting in the east reported by the Russian military authorities. It says merely that the situation is unchanged and that German attacks continue.

Fighting is in progress along the eastern battle front, leading at points to desperate hand-to-hand encounters. An official Russian statement shows that, after capturing Bolimow, the Germans attempted to push on to the northeast in the direction of Warsaw, about thirty miles away. This movement marked the renewal of the German offensive toward the Polish capital after a period of comparative inactivity, but their advance in this direction is said to have been repulsed with large losses. A remarkable night battle on the bank of the Buzza river is described in the Russian communication which says that German forces were permitted to cross the river unmolested and then were attacked with bayonets, without the firing of a shot. It is asserted that several hundred Germans were killed and the remainder surrendered.

Conflicting Reports

In the other campaigns on Europe's battle fields no essential changes are reported. In the Trans-Caucasian region the Turks and Russians are engaged in fierce struggles, but reports from Petrograd and Constantinople concerning the outcome are at complete variance. In France and Belgium the attacks of the allies have failed to develop into another great battle and it is believed in London that the attempt to expel the Germans from their conquered territory may be deferred several months.

NEW RECORDS ON
PORTLAND 'CHANGE

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 4.—Portland's grain exchange, where new price records have been an almost daily occurrence for the last month, saw one of the most pronounced advances today since the beginning of the European war. New northwestern records were set, not only for wheat but for oats and barley. All varieties of wheat sold from 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 cents higher than the top bids of last Saturday.

Ten thousand bushels of February fifty fold and an equal amount of spot club sold at \$1.35 and \$1.32 per bushel respectively, each representing a gain of three cents over Saturday's bids. Twenty thousand bushels of February club changed hands at \$1.34, a gain of two cents. Spot red Russian made the largest gain of 3 1/2 cents, 5000 bushels going at \$1.26. In all 60,000 bushels of wheat changed hands.

One hundred tons of spot oats sold at \$31 per ton, a gain of 25 cents while 100 tons of feed barley brought \$29, a gain of 75 cents.

POSTAL RECEIPTS FOR
MEDFORD POST OFFICE
SHOW HEALTHY GAIN

Postal receipts for the Medford postoffice for the year ending December 31 were \$29,260.74, a three per cent gain over 1913. The total receipts for 1913 were \$28,465.03. This total includes returns from stamps, registered letters, money orders, and all other sources.

The receipts for the March, 1914, quarter were \$7445.57; in 1913, \$6927; June, 1914, quarter, \$7121.72; 1913, \$6525.04; September, 1914, \$6644.45; in 1913, \$6350.14, and in December quarter, 1914, \$8042.99, and in December, 1913, \$8616.36. In every quarter but the last the receipts were higher than 1913. After the beginning of the European war, and the small fruit crop, there was a slight decrease in receipts.

Taken as a barometer of business conditions the receipts show a normal business condition. In most of the postoffices of Oregon, a small decrease is noted.

RUSSIANS FIGHTING
TURKS IN FIERCELY
CONTESTED BATTLE

PETROGRAD, Jan. 4.—An official communication from the Russian general staff in the Caucasus gives details of the fighting in the vicinity of Sari Kamyah in Trans-Caucasia. The statement follows:

"In the region of Sari Kamyah January 1, the great battle continued obviously to our advantage. The enemy, however, continued to offer an obstinate resistance.

"We captured the 50th regiment of infantry almost complete, including the commander and 50 officers. The total of Turkish prisoners amounts to 5000 soldiers, 40 officers and several surgeons. We also captured six pieces of mountain artillery, 14 machine guns and ammunition.

"The next day the fighting here was still going on. Our troops recaptured some positions which the Turks had occupied and took three machine guns and more than 700 prisoners.

"At one point a company of a Caucasian regiment was dispersed by bayonet charges, while two Turkish companies were cut to pieces by artillery fire.

"Our troops are operating under conditions exceptionally painful on account of the cold and snow in a high altitude. The morale of our soldiers is good and they fight with ardor."

PRESIDENT PLANS
SPEECHES FOR TRIP

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—President Wilson began today planning the speeches he expects to make on his return trip from the San Francisco exposition this spring. He told callers he wanted to accept some of the invitations and soon would map out a definite itinerary.

Senator Thomas and Representatives Keating and Taylor of Colorado asked him to speak at Denver. Senator Fletcher and Senator Gore asked him to speak at a meeting of the Southern Commercial Congress at Muskogee, Okla., in April; Senator Sheppard invited him to speak in Dallas. Invitations already have been extended to him to stop in Chicago, Omaha, St. Louis, Kansas City, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, and Indianapolis.

INCREASE RATES ON
POULTRY SHIPMENTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Rating of poultry in carloads by western railroads as third instead of fourth-class freight, thus increasing the charges, was held today by the interstate commerce commission to be justified.

SHIP PURCHASE
BILL IS OPPOSED
BY REPUBLICANSAdministration Measure Temporarily
Laid Aside for Appropriation Bills
—Foreign Complications Urged
Against Measure, Which is Also
Opposed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The administration ship purchase bill was made the unfinished business of the senate today but was temporarily laid aside to make way for appropriation bills. Senator Lodge demanded a record vote, which showed 46 for and 29 against taking up the bill. Senator Vardaman was the only democrat to vote against the motion.

"This shipping bill is opening up great new propositions to the American people and the country ought to have time for reflection," he said, adding that democratic leaders had declared they had the votes to pass it.

"Yes, we have the votes," rejoined Senator Stone, "and we will put it through if the senators on the other side will not resort to unusually obstructive tactics."

Minority Report Filed

Opposition to the ship purchase bill, chiefly on the ground that it might precipitate foreign complications and as a tendency toward government ownership, was set forth in a minority report of the commerce commission filed by Senators Burton, Nelson, Perkins, Smith of Michigan, and Oliver. That every ship under the proposed plan "would add one more risk of our being drawn into the present war," was the declaration of the minority. The report says:

"Undoubtedly it was one of the inspiring motives for those who framed the bill, to release boats which have been interred as a result of the war. The president has gone to the almost unprecedented limits of using his utmost endeavor to discourage private loans to belligerents. It is consistent with so strict an application of the neutrality policy to make at least indirectly, available to one of the belligerents many millions of dollars which had been made unavailable by the incidents of war?"

Says It's Experiment

Concerning the government ownership feature of the bill, the report declares it to be an experiment that can not be justified by any of the arguments which apply to the taking over of a naturally monopolistic public enterprise, "because the shipping field is farm from naturally monopolistic."

The report also asserts that the plan would be futile in reducing ocean rates.

Senator Root, in debate, declared no measure of equal consequence had been brought before congress in many years. It was proposed, he said, to put the government into foreign trade at a time of extreme danger. The result must be, he insisted to place in question the good faith of the United States itself in carrying goods to belligerents.

Senator Root protested against any effort to limit debate.

Senator Fletcher replied it was not the purpose of the majority to limit discussion.

Senator Lodge served notice on the democrats that he would resort to any parliamentary procedure to delay action on the shipping bill if an attempt were made to "jam it through." He characterized the bill as "thoroughly vicious, economically and internationally" and the "grossest kind of a subsidy."

FRENCH CLAIMING
FURTHER PROGRESS

PARIS, Jan. 4.—The official statement given out in Paris this afternoon shows that the artillery fighting along the front is proceeding intermittently and at some points with particular violence. There seems to have been few infantry attacks recently. The French admit failure in an effort to occupy a German position in the Meuse country. They claim, however, further progress in Steinbach.

MRS. MAY DE SOUSA HAINES WINS
DIVORCE DECREE ON CRUELTY CHARGE

Mrs. May De Sousa Haines became Miss May De Sousa by a decree entered by Judge Sullivan in a Chicago court after the Chicago prima donna had testified that she had spent \$25,000 on her husband, Eaton Arthur Haines, and had suffered numerous beatings at his hands.

"During my London engagements my husband beat me continually, but he was careful not to strike me in the face," testified Miss De Sousa.

"He didn't want to bruise my face, because the injuries then could be seen, so he would sit on my chest and strike me about the body."

TURKISH TROOPS
RAVAGE PERSIA

PETROGRAD, Jan. 4. (via London, 7:25 p. m.)—Austrian aeroplanes are daily bombarding Keflice, in Russian Poland, 64 miles northeast of Cracow. Ten bombs were dropped on the Russian railroad stations and freight January 2. Little damage was done.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 4. (via London, 7:35 p. m.)—Turkish troops whose defeat by Russian forces was announced December 12, when they attempted to invade Russia from Persian territory, are now reported to be ravaging the region south of Lake Urmiah, in western Persia. Hastily assembled levies of Persian troops sent against the Turks were defeated.

A protest was made some time ago to Turkey by the Persian government. It is said no reply has been received.

WHEAT SELLS FOR
\$1.35 AT CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—Highest prices reached in years were scored today in the wheat pit here. The reason was the virtual certainty that at least for the present Argentine shipments to Europe would be much smaller than the generous size of the crop there had recently seemed to warrant.

Security of ocean tonnage at Argentine ports and the almost prohibitive vessel rates from there to Europe were largely responsible.

In the last hour of the session reports of immense cash sales for ocean shipment gave prices a further big lift. Just before the final gong brought business to a halt, wheat for May delivery, the chief speculative option, was snapped up in some cases as high as \$1.34 1/2.

BLAND'S NOMINATION
REJECTED BY SENATE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—An adverse report on the nomination of Judge Ewing Bland of Kansas City to be United States marshal of the western district of Missouri was voted late today by the judiciary committee of the senate.

ASK CONGRESS
TO STOP EXPORT
WAR MUNITIONSDelegations From German-American
Alliance and Ancient Order of Hibernians Declare It is Outrage to
Permit Allies to Secure Supplies
—Prevent Germans From Leaving.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—"Forbid exportation of all munitions of war that are contraband and you will remove the excuse for the British conduct which called forth the note of protest recently sent to London," said Theodore Sutro of New York, addressing the house foreign relations committee today in favor of pending congressional resolutions to stop exports of war materials to European belligerents.

Delegations from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Baltimore, among them representatives of the German-American alliance and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, appeared in favor of the resolutions.

C. J. Hexamer of Philadelphia, president of the German-American Alliance, presented memorials adopted by that organization in many states urging the adoption of one of the resolutions.

Insult to Germans

These memorials included a letter written by Mr. Hexamer to President Wilson, dated December 9, "in the interest of neutrality," saying that one of the nations engaged in the war "could get munitions from this country."

"Our failure in keeping strict neutrality becomes thereby," the letter continued, "an unfriendly if not inimical act against one particular nation."

"You cannot imagine, Mr. President," he wrote, "with what chagrin and bitterness it fills the Americans of German descent to see the resources of this great country which they have helped to build up placed at the disposal of enemies, who with their overwhelming forces have proclaimed their avowed purpose to crush our ancestral home."

Matter of Form Only

"Since the attitude of our government enables England to cut off, against our own interest, even the most necessary supplies from the civil population of certain countries, do you think, Mr. President, that thereby the assertions that the neutrality of the United States is only a matter of form and does not exist, are justified?"

NO ANTI-JAP LAWS
ARE IN PROSPECT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—In an unofficial but convincing way, the state department has learned that there is no intention on the part of the leaders in control of the California legislature to bring forward any new anti-Japanese legislation during the present session, which began today. It has been made plain that the leaders cannot prevent members from broaching measures of their own, but it is understood that such measures will not receive support of the dominant party.

A disposition not to do anything that might jeopardize the success of the Panama-Pacific exposition by curtailing Oriental exhibits, is understood here to have been a potent factor in bringing about the determination to avoid further agitation of the Japanese question.

BRITAIN PERMITS
COPPER SHIPMENTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Developments in the negotiations to stop British interruptions of copper shipments have reached a point, it was understood here today, where Great Britain will not interfere with shipments to well-known Italian firms if they are made in Italian ships.

1000 ACRES IN
FIRST WEEK OF
BEET CAMPAIGNFarmers Beginning to Realize Value
of Beet Sugar Plant to Valley and
Signing Up More Freely—List of
Those Agreeing to Raise Beets
Given—Farm to Farm Campaign.

A January thaw has set in upon the frigidity that shrouded the campaign for the establishment of a \$600,000 beet sugar factory in the Rogue River valley, and there was a revival of interest, and a general casting off of the insidious thrall of mossbackism Saturday. To date over 1000 acres have been signed up, and much more is in prospect. Citizens and landowners have planned a farm-to-farm campaign to secure the necessary acreage.

The following farmers and fruit-growers throughout the valley have signed for acreage:

Eagle Point—Narregan & Son, Frank Lewis, Fred Pelouze, Joe Hawkins, Wallace Bergman, C. A. Knight, Lem Charley, L. L. Bradshaw, C. E. Terrill, G. B. Brown, R. H. Toft, A. Z. Hazelton, W. N. Staub, J. N. Riley, L. B. Warner, Sr., W. W. Fristoe, B. L. Dodge, Ernest Adams and F. P. Madden.

Scattering acreage, not classified as to district, are: A. Conro Fiero, Stevens & Brown, F. S. Carpenter, C. H. Pierce, E. J. Brown, Latta & Hopkins, John H. Carkins, Crystal Springs Orchards, H. D. Schuler, E. J. Parton, J. A. Perry, F. L. Tou-Velle, George B. Carpenter, D. H. McCurdy, J. Walter.

Willow Springs—D. W. Stone, Geo. P. Mims, Eldon Bros., Mrs. D. N. McNasser, Roy E. Smith, J. W. Burkholz, Mrs. Frank McKee, John Sisty, A. C. Carlson, R. H. Davidson, Sam Anderson, Fred Straube, Elmer Higginbotham, G. N. Davis and F. M. Palmer.

Table Rock—S. C. Collins, Lee Vincent and E. W. Carleton.

Talent—Wellborn Beeson, Grant Davis, A. Widener, L. G. Edwards, H. R. Reacher, Merriek & Holmes, Geo. W. Ross, Lilly L. Jeffries, Walter Jeffrey, James Lennox, H. S. Glenn, E. C. Gardner and Willard V. B. Campbell, George C. Carter, Mr. Foxhall, R. E. Robinson, John Kent, Geo. Morse, I. C. Williams, L. H. Houston and C. H. Thomas.

Saturday afternoon members of the committee in charge of the campaign for securing acreage visited the Rogue River and Evans creek district and found a healthy sentiment there for planting beets, and in the neighborhood of 1000 additional acres are expected to be signed up from these sections.

RURAL CREDIT BILL
MAY BE TAKEN UP

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—President Wilson has received pressing requests from different parts of the country that rural credits legislation be taken up during the present congress, and he is considering the advisability of changing his plan to put the subject over to next December.

Chairman Glass of the house banking committee told the president today it would not be advisable to take up the subject until time had been allowed for the working out of the farm loan features of the federal bank law.

HALL'S APPOINTMENT
HELD UP IN SENATE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The nomination of Henry Clay Hall of Colorado Springs, Colo., to the interstate commerce commission was held up today by the senate interstate commerce committee at the request of republican senators. Senator Cummins said several members wanted to know more about why the commission recently reversed itself and granted freight rate increases to eastern railroads.