

Forty-fifth Year.  
Daily-Tenth Year.

MEDFORD OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1916

NO. 261

### FRENCH REPEL GERMAN DRIVE ON WEST LINE

Germans in Strength Attack French Lines Over Distance of 1500 Yards in Artois Region Following Violent Bombardment—Are Driven Back, But Occupy Craters on First Line.

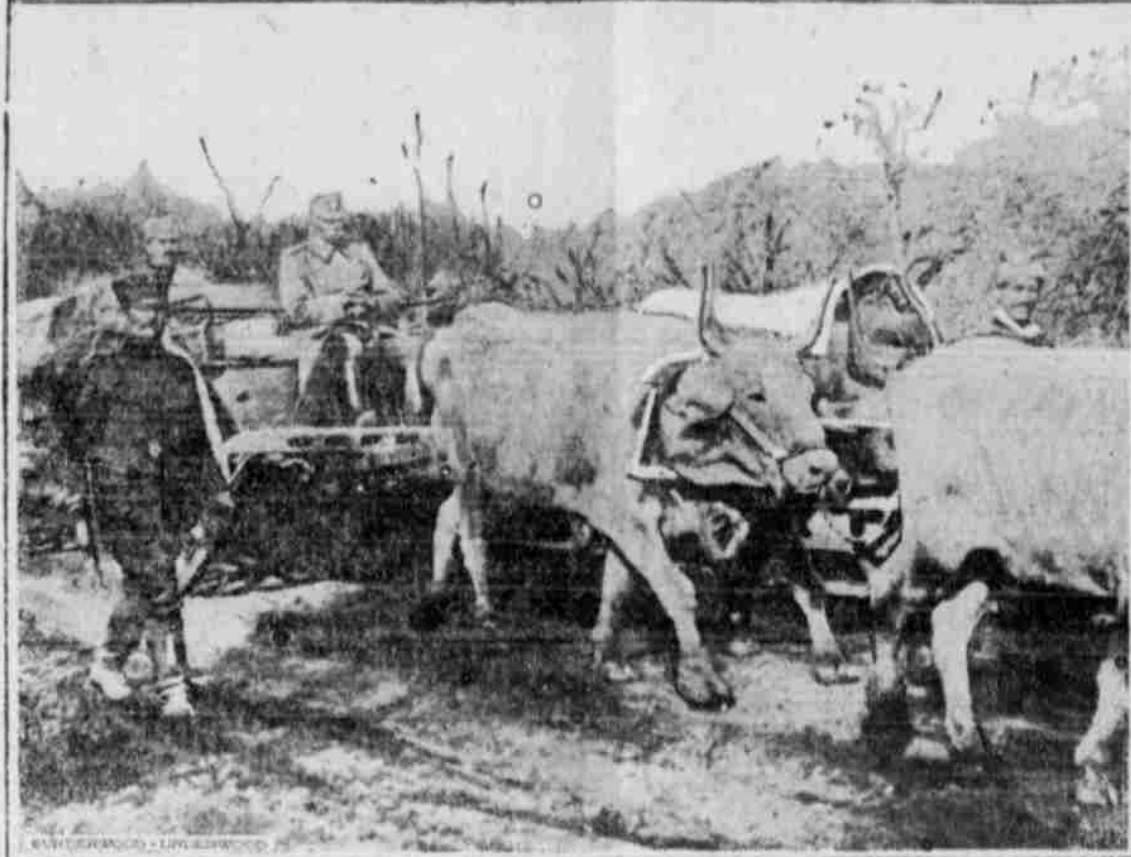
PARIS, Jan. 25.—The French war office statement on the progress of hostilities given out this afternoon says that last night there was continued artillery activity in the vicinity of Neuport, in Belgium. The results of this are described as favorable to the French.

### TURKS DEFEAT BRITISH FORCES MESOPOTAMIA

Troops Going to Relief of Kut-el-Amara Repulsed in Six-Hour Battle. Leaving 3000 Dead on Field—Truce Asked and Obtained to Bury Dead—Lose 3000 Previously.

BERLIN, Jan. 25 (by wireless to Sayville).—The British force going to the relief of the troops surrounded by Turks at Kut-el-Amara, attacked the Turkish position near Menlari on January 21, but were repulsed after an engagement lasting six hours, according to an official report issued by the Turkish headquarters staff. The British, the announcement says, left about 3000 dead on the field.

### KING PETER OF SERBIA FLEEING BEFORE GERMANS IN OX-CART



A remarkable photograph showing the tragedy of Serbia. The pathetic figure seated on the ox-cart is Peter, king of Serbia, snatched as he fled before the invading Germans into exile in Italy. The ox-cart, used as a royal coach, had been in use as an ammunition wagon in the Serbian army.

### OFFER INDEMNITY FOR AMERICANS UPON LUSITANIA

Count Von Bernstorff Confers With Lansing—Objectionable Clauses of Reply Withdrawn—Torpedoing Was Act of Reprisal for Blockade—Regret for Loss of Americans.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, conferred today with Secretary Lansing over the status of the Lusitania incident.

### HILLIS HINTS AT HUGHES TO LEAD TICKET OF G. O. P.

Republican Chairman Says Roosevelt is Not a Candidate, as He Refuses to Stand in Primaries—Talks of Drafting Hughes—Points Out Need of Uniform Primary Laws.

CHICAGO, Jan. 25.—Charles D. Hillis, chairman of the republican national committee, before leaving for New York today, after attending the session of the sub-committee on arrangements for the party national convention, discussed political questions including the possible candidacy of Colonel Roosevelt for the republican national nomination for president.

**Dunkirk Bombed**  
LONDON, Jan. 25.—A British official report from Dunkirk states that two aeroplanes dropped bombs on Dunkirk about 6 o'clock this morning. It is added that a German seaplane was forced to the water by a British machine northeast of Neuport about 8 o'clock this morning.

**Russians Capture Turks**  
LONDON, Jan. 25.—Four thousand Turks, including fifty officers, were captured by the Russians in the recent battle in the neighborhood of Erzerum, according to a dispatch from Petrograd to Reuter's Telegram company. The Russians are also said to have captured scores of machine guns and enormous quantities of munitions.

**Plan Division of Jurisdiction on Power Sites**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Division of jurisdiction in the leasing of public sites in the United States between the federal government and the states is proposed by the senate public lands committee in a substitute for the Ferris bill recently passed by the house. Interstate business in connection with waterpower grants, the substitute provides, would be under control of the interstate commerce commission and intra-state business under state control. Fifty-year lease terms, or shorter, under certain conditions, are proposed.

**German Statement**  
BERLIN, Jan. 25.—The text of the statement follows:  
"Western front: In Flanders our artillery subjected positions of the enemy to a lively fire. Patrols which at certain points penetrated the severely damaged trenches of the enemy, observed that he had suffered heavy losses. We took a few prisoners and captured four mine throwers. The tower of Compo and the cathedral of Neuport, which offered excellent observation posts for the enemy, were destroyed.  
"East of Neuville our troops attacked one of the foremost trenches of the French following some successful mine explosion and captured three machine guns and 100 prisoners. Several enemy counter-attacks against the captured positions went no farther than a miserable effort. Only a few stout-hearted men left their trenches and they were shot down."

**INDICT OFFICIAL FOR SEEKING BRIBE**  
NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—An indictment charging solicitation of a bribe was returned by the grand jury today against Robert Colgate Wood, former public service commissioner, who resigned recently after testimony in reference to the alleged bribe, had been adduced during the investigation into the public service commission.

**SOCIALISTS REQUEST NEUTRAL CONFERENCE**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—A committee of the national executive committee of the socialist party asked President Wilson today to support Representative London's resolution for the calling of a neutral conference to attempt to end the European war. The committee included Representative London, Morris Hillquit of New York and J. H. Maurer of Reading, Pa.

**Witness Says Negro Admitted Shooting Mohr**  
PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 25.—In the trial of Mrs. Elizabeth Mohr and two negroes, accused of the murder of the woman's husband, Dr. C. Franklin Mohr, Herbert Healis, brother of George W. Healis, Dr. Mohr's chauffeur, who turned state evidence, testified today that he went to the Bristol jail in September to see his brother and that Brown said to him: "Yes, I did it. We've done the trick. I plugged the doctor and Spellman shot Miss Burger." He referred to Cecil Brown and Henry Spellman, two of the defendants.

**Wilson Favors Bill Creating Tariff Board**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—President Wilson told Chairman Kitchin of the ways and means committee today that he favors creation of a tariff commission and will attempt to put a bill for one through during the present session of congress. The president is expected to discuss the question in a special message to congress.

**Butcher Weyler to Reorganize Army of Spain for King**  
PARIS, Jan. 24.—General Valeriano Weyler has been appointed president of a central general staff of the Spanish army which has just been created by a royal decree, according to a dispatch from Madrid to the Havas agency.

**Montenegrins Wage Guerilla Warfare**  
ROME, Jan. 25.—Active guerilla warfare is being waged by the Montenegrin troops on their retreat southward and particularly in the Taraboch mountains west of Scutari, according to reports received here today. In advance of the Austrian troops who are in pursuit, a number of Austrian aeroplanes have been harassing the Montenegrins, flying low and using machine guns against groups of the poorly equipped soldiers of General Martinovich.

**Floods Continue Damage in Illinois**  
PEORIA, Ill., Jan. 25.—Flood conditions along the Illinois river continued serious today. The weather bureau reported the river as still rising.

**Day in Congress**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Senate: Public lands committee reported water power bill recognizing jurisdiction of both state and federal governments over water power sites. Postoffice committee recommended deposits of postal saving funds in federal reserve banks. Military and naval committees continued hearings. House: Military and naval committees continued hearings. Rivers and harbors committee heard Representative Summers on "Trinity river project."

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### KING NICHOLAS OF MONTENEGRO ARRIVES IN FRANCE

LYONS, France, Jan. 24.—King Nicholas of Montenegro, accompanied by Crown Prince Danilo, by Prince Peter and by Princess Miliza, and by seven officers and thirty soldiers of his staff, arrived tonight from Italy in King Victor Emmanuel's private car. He was received at the railway station by the municipal authorities, who welcomed him in the name of President Poincaré. A military escort attended him to the hotel, where his wife and two daughters, Princesses Xenie and Vera, had arrived last week.

### TORPEDO STRIKES SULTAN'S YACHT

LONDON, Jan. 25.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Athens says that the sultan's yacht Orthogrod, according to reports from Constantinople, was torpedoed in the Bosporus by a French submarine in the latter part of December. The vessel was seriously damaged but is still afloat.

### GERMANS DESTROY GOTHIC CATHEDRAL

BERLIN, Jan. 25, via London.—The cathedral at Neuport, says the German official statement issued this afternoon has been destroyed by German artillery fire, as it was offering an excellent observation post. The cathedral was built in the fifteenth century and restored in 1903. The church had a massive baroque tower with a roof made of modern timber. It contained a Gothic pulpit, renaissance choir stalls and rood loft and a sculptured altar in the baroque style of 1630.

### LARGE INCREASES FOR SOUTHERN PACIFIC

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 25.—Large increases in both gross and net revenue were shown by the Southern Pacific company in its semi-annual statement for the six months ending December 31, 1915, made public here today.

### PERSIANS CAPTURE GUNS FROM RUSSIANS

BERLIN, Jan. 25 (by wireless to Sayville).—Advices received by the Overseas News agency from Persia say that Nakh Hussein Khan, a prominent Persian leader, and his son joined the native volunteers, numbering about 4000 men, and attacked the Russian troops near Sar. The Russians, according to the report, lost two machine guns and a quantity of ammunition, as well as a number of prisoners.