

SECOND
EDITION

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER
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Daily—Eighteen Years.

MEDFORD OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1916

NO. 8

U.S. TROOPS
WIN VICTORY
OVER VILLA

Mexican Bandit's Force Surprised by Colonel Dodd and Defeated in Five Hours' Fight, with Loss of Thirty Men—Four Americans Wounded—Villa Not with Forces, Suffering From Broken Leg and Lame Hip—Two Machine Guns and Many Horses Captured.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The American expeditionary force into Mexico to search for Francisco Villa has fought and won its first battle and the first blood lost by American troops has been spilled at San Gerónimo, in the Guerrero district, where the Americans, under Colonel Dodd, surprised 300 Villistas, attacked and dispersed them.

General Pershing, through General Funston, reported today to the war department that he had found General Villa with 500 troops near Guadalajara. Thirty Mexicans were killed and four American private injured, but none seriously. Two machine guns, many cavalry horses and much ammunition was captured by the Americans. The attack was a surprise on the Villa forces and culminated in a running fight in which they were driven for ten miles into the mountains northeast of the railway, where they separated into small bands.

Battle Near Guerrero

The fight occurred about 4 p.m., March 29, near Guadalajara, and the report came from the San Gerónimo road. Villa was not present during the encounter and is reported to be suffering from a broken leg and a lame hip, injuries received in a previous battle with Carranzists.

The war department had information that the disorganized Villa troops appeared to be assembling in the upper part of the San Maria valley and Colonel Dodd was evidently planning immediate pursuit to press the advantage of his initial victory.

General Funston's dispatch from Fort Sam Houston forwarded General Pershing's despatch as follows:

Villa's Leg Broken

"Sat. Gerónimo ranch, March 30.—Colonel Dodd struck Villa's command, consisting of 500 men, at 6 o'clock, March 29, at Guadalajara. Villa, who is suffering from a broken leg and a lame hip, was not present. Number of Villa's dead known to be thirty, probably others carried away dead. Dodd captured two machine guns, a large number of horses, saddles and arms. One casualty four enlisted men wounded, none seriously. The attack was a surprise, the Villa troops being driven in a ten-mile running fight and retreated into the mountains northeast of the rail road, where they separated into small bands."

A large number of Carranzista prisoners who were being held for execution by the Villa troops were liberated during the fight.

In order to reach Guadalajara, Colonel Dodd marched fifty-five miles in seventeen hours and carried on the fight for five hours.

Edison Fernandez, who commanded Villa's horsemen, was killed in the fight. With Villa permanently disabled, Lopez wounded and Fernandez dead, the line administered is a serious one to Villa's hand."

Forced Night March

It was indicated that the Mexican forces were somewhere northwest of the rail road at the last reports to General Pershing's headquarters, Be-

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CUMMINS OFFERS
30 AMENDMENTS

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Consideration of the arms increase bill was resumed in the senate today. Senator Cummins, regular offer of more than thirty amendments. Senator Connelley, Pomeroy and Wadsworth proposed almost identical plans for a section in the draft of five National Guard officers.

WILSON AWAITS
FULLER DETAILS
OF SUBMARINES

Cabinet Discusses Crisis With Germany, But Seek Complete Evidence—Nothing Heard From Berlin—Affidavits From Survivors Sent by Ambassador Page.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Following today's cabinet meeting officials said complete evidence had not been received in the cases of vessels carrying Americans attacked recently; that no action would be taken by the American government until such facts had been received and that no action leading to serious consequences would be taken at all unless conclusive evidence was established that an attack had been made by a German submarine contrary to international law.

Ordinary delay in communication with Berlin was one reason advanced for the failure to receive any response from Ambassador Gerard to the American government's last inquiry. As the inquiry to the American ambassador was sent last Tuesday, officials stated, with immediate action by him, a reply could hardly be received before today.

American Ambassador Page at London cabled the department today that he was forwarding by mail additional affidavits of Americans involved in the Sussex disaster.

Officials declared they were not worried because they had not heard from Ambassador Gerard, who was instructed to make inquiries of the German foreign office whether or not a submarine torpedoed the steamer.

Schiller had been told that as his daring exploit occurred outside the three-mile limit he would in all likelihood be taken to British possessions in the West Indies for trial for piracy. Federal authorities and representatives of the British government came here today to examine Schiller and to decide what to do with him.

SHIP'S CAPTOR
CONFESSES AS
GERMAN SPY

Ernst Schiller, Young German Who, Single-Handed, Captured British Steamer Matapo and Terrorized Crew of 56, Says He Was Under Orders of German Government.

LEWES, Del., March 31.—Ernst Schiller, the young German who captured the British steamer Matapo and terrorized her crew of fifty-six men Wednesday night shortly after the ship had sailed out of New York harbor for Vladivostok with railroad supplies for the Russian government, declared today that he was a spy for the German government.

Weary from excitement undergone in his efforts to escape from the steamer yesterday after he had held the crew in his power with pistols all of Wednesday night, he threw himself upon a cot in the Lewes jail early today and sought sleep.

Admits He Is Spy

"Yes, I am a spy for the German government," he said. "You can believe it or not—it makes no difference to me. I got my instructions from the German government to go aboard the ship and blow her up to prevent her cargo from reaching Russia. I could have blown her up, but the captain's wife and daughter was too much for me and I hadn't the heart to do it. I am ready to take the consequences, but I ask that they keep me ashore instead of sending me back to the ship for the captain to take me in charge."

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Believes Him Insane

An examination into Schiller's mental condition will be made. Those who have talked with him believe he is irresponsible and that his story of his career is not true.

Schiller was reluctant to tell his story. "I was born in Germany," he said. "Never mind the town or my parents' name. I have been in the country one year, in New York three weeks. I was sent by the German government to England soon after the war started and at Germany's request I enlisted in the British navy and was assigned to the training ship Conway at Liverpool."

"I want to say right now that there are several thousand Germans in the British navy. I know what this means to me. It's the Tower of London if they get me back to the Matapo. But I won't go, just bear that in mind."

Captain Richard Bergner of the Matapo said he is convinced that Schiller is a former naval officer.

RAILROAD PASSES
FOR NEWSPAPERMEN

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Senator Culverhouse, chairman of the judiciary committee, today introduced an amendment to the anti-piracy law to permit publishers, editors or proprietors of newspapers or magazines to take railroad mileage in payment for advertising space. Senator Culverhouse is the author of the original anti-piracy act and proposes to press his amendment.

REVOLT IN CHINA
SPREADS IN KANG TUNG

SHANGHAI, March 31.—The troops at Swatow and Chao Chow Fu, in the province of Kwang Tung, declared their independence of the central government on March 29. The first, which F. Nayer Denison, the superintendent, estimates to have occurred about 500 miles away, took place at 3:32, and appears to have been a well-organized revolt with a pronounced central movement. The record showed that the revolutionaries continued more than fifty minutes. The second, which was much less pronounced, took place at 8:30, apparently from the same point of origin.

SINGER CALLED "OTHER WOMAN" IN POISON CASE



Mrs. Margaret Horton, who is alleged to have occupied a studio furnished by Dr. Arthur Warren Waite and to have studied music with him. Waite was indicted for murder in the first degree today by the grand jury for poisoning his father-in-law, John E. Pack, millionaire manufacturer of Grand Rapids, Mich.

PLAN TO BLOW UP
WELLAND CANAL
LAID TO VON PAPEN

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The department of justice officials announced that two alleged conspirators with Captain Hans Tauscher in the plot to blow up the Welland canal were under arrest in New York, that a third was under surveillance in New England and that they expected to arrest a fourth in a few days.

Among the additional arrests announced today was that of a man who gave the name of Tucker. He was taken into custody in El Paso two weeks ago and later taken to New York. The alleged conspirators are said to have planned an invasion of Canada to be made at a point west of the Great Lakes.

Von Der Goltz was quoted as saying that Von Papen had endorsed the Welland canal proposal after it had been decided that it would be impossible to lead a large armed expedition into Canada from the United States.

Von Der Goltz had sought to enlist Germans in Baltimore, Boston and New York and department agents say he declared he was acting with the knowledge of Von Papen.

Von Goltz came to the United States in July, 1914, from Mexico, where he had been an general Villa's staff and reported to Von Papen. The plan to invade Canada, he told department agents, had been his, not Von Papen's.

After a time, Von Der Goltz said the plan was abandoned. The intended point of invasion, official said, was "west of the Great Lakes."

FRENCH SENATE
PASSES CREDIT BILLS

PARIS, March 31.—We are neglecting no means of overcoming the difficulties which lie in our way and we shall overcome them, because we have the inflexible will to do so," said Alexandre Rist, minister of finance, speaking before the senate yesterday in favor of the vote of credit for the second quarter of 1916 already approved by the chamber of deputies.

"At the conference of the allies which has just been held here," the minister continued, "the fastest credit was expressed to all the countries that were certain. We shall agree at a peace which will restore right and justice and will deliver the world from a nightmare which too long has burdened it."

VILLA CARRIED OFF
IN CARRIAGE AFTER
BATTLE IS OVER

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 31.—A message from Lieutenant Colonel D. C. Cabell, General Pershing's chief of staff, said Villa was carried away in a carriage after the battle, wounded and with his leg permanently disabled after the battle with Carranzists in which he was victorious.

Colonel Cabell in his message confirmed the report that American troops under Colonel George A. Dodd had decisively defeated 500 Villistas, killing thirty-one, including General E. Fernandez, Pablo Lopez, Villa's lieutenant, who was reported to have been killed in the Columbus raid, is stated to have been seriously wounded.

Colonel Dodd attacked the Villa camp with 400 members of the seventh and tenth regiments at dawn, completely surprising the Mexicans. A five hour running fight followed and last reports from Colonel Dodd were that the American troopers were close behind the Villistas who were fleeing farther into the mountains.

G. O. P. COMMITTEE
MEETS APRIL 7

4 HUAGO, March 31.—The subcommittee on assessments of the national republican committee will meet April 7, it was announced today, at which time it is expected they will select a temporary chairman of the national republican convention.

Warren G. Harding, United States senator from Ohio, has been agreed upon by the majority of the subcommittee for temporary chairman, it is reported.

CONGRESS APPLAUDS
DEFEAT OF VILLISTS

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Enthusiastic applause and shouts greeted the reading in the house late today of the official reports of the encounter between American troopers and Villa's bandits in Mexico. The applause and demands joined in the demonstration.

The report was brought to Speaker Clark, who opened debate on a motion to adjourn. The House adjourned.

FARMERS' CLUB
OF TALENT VOTES
FOR IRRIGATION

Creation of a District Unanimously Favored—Trustees to Be Elected and Corporation Formed—Two Propositions Made—Beaver Creek and Hyatt Prairie Proposed.

The Talent Farmers' club, at the largest, liveliest and busiest meeting it ever held, voted Thursday to organize the district into an irrigation unit at once, to elect trustees and to incorporate for the purpose of transacting business in legal form. Three candidates for trustees were proposed in the persons of J. W. Millner of Ashland and R. E. Robinson and A. L. Manning of Talent.

Prominent business men of Medford and Ashland were present and, on request, participated in the discussion of the evening. The session was opened with orchestral music. A lunch was served at 10:30, after which business was resumed.

TWO PROPOSITIONS OFFERED

The petition for the organization of that district has been filed with the county court and the exemptions made. That is the first important step toward organization. The election of trustees will be the next step, that feature of business being initiated Thursday night.

Two tentative propositions were offered for the consideration of the people of the district. The Beaver creek project, submitted by V. T. McCray of Medford, offering a supply of water that would command 20,000 acres on the most conservative estimate by competent engineers, appeared to attract special consideration.

Thomas W. Ogood offered the Hyatt Prairie proposition, estimated to cover 8000 acres. That and the Beaver creek project would enter the Bear creek arm of the Rogue River valley through the same pass and by practically the same general route.

WHAT THE CLUB HAS DONE

Vice-President C. M. Thomas, in the absence of the president, presided at the meeting. He made a semi-historical congratulatory talk on what the Talent Farmers' club has done to bring about the definite attention of the federal and state reclamation service to the matter of irrigation in this valley and finally to their assistance in the matter of preliminary surveys, location of water sources and costs of installation of a system of irrigation by the use of one or more of the sources surveyed. The report of Engineer Whistler, together with the accompanying recommendations, was discussed.

In summing up the sentiment expressed by the several speakers, it may be said that no attention was given to the question as to whether or not water is needed for irrigation, the main problem being that of obtaining it at the earliest possible date. Not a discouraging word was spoken in the entire discussion.

BEAVER CREEK WATERSHED

While Mr. Ogood made a plain and sensible talk on the merits of the Hyatt Prairie project, the assembled citizens interested recognized that it was too small to warrant their giving it serious consideration.

While installing a system for permanent irrigation, it was decided to make it sufficiently extensive to cover the limit of territory eager for it at the beginning. No patch work would be necessary at a later date, therefore.

The area of the Beaver creek watershed, it was explained, is not less than 36 square miles. In places attaining an elevation of 5500 feet and in a region of almost perpetual snow, a permit for the storage of this

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FRENCH LINE
BEATEN BACK
BY GERMANS

After All-Night Struggle, French Evacuate Village, Which Is in Ruins, But Still Hold Outskirts—Two Attacks at Douaumont With Liquid Fire Repulsed—Attack Southeast of Verdun Falls—Russians Bombard German Lines.

PARIS, March 31.—The Germans delivered a fierce night attack on three sides of the village of Malancourt, says the French official statement issued this morning and the French retired from the village proper, which was in ruins, but continue to hold its outskirts.

Fierce infantry fighting lasted for the entire night before the French withdrew from the untenable position in the village of Malancourt, the official statement adds.

The Germans again tried to carry by assault the position which the French had won back in the Avocourt wood, but they were repulsed. East of the Meuse the night was calm.

FRENCH STATEMENT

The text of the communication follows:

"In the Argonne we have repelled two attacks with hand grenades directed against our positions north of Avocourt.

"West of the Meuse the bombardment of Malancourt has gone on with redoubled violence. Last night the Germans delivered a series of attacks in massed formation. They advanced from three sides at a time upon the village which formed the advanced salient of our line and which sheltered one of our battalions. After furious fighting all night long which entailed considerable sacrifices on the part of the enemy, our troops evacuated the ruined village, but we still hold its outskirts.

"East of the Meuse the night passed quietly.

"In the Woëvre the Germans endeavored on three separate occasions to capture from us the work east of Handremont, but all their advances were repulsed.

"There has been no occurrence of importance on the remainder of the front."

GERMAN STATEMENT

BERLIN, March 31.—The text of today's official statement follows:

"Western theater: Artillery activity on both sides in many frontal war zones increased considerably during the clear portions of the day.

"West of the Meuse, the village of Malancourt and French defensive establishments on both sides of the village were taken by storm. Six officers and 222 un wounded men were made prisoner.

"On the east bank of the Meuse the position is unchanged. Brief encounters at close quarters developed along French trenches south of Port Douaumont.

"In an aerial fight in the region of Arras and Bapaume the British lost three biplanes. Two of their occupants were dead. Lieutenant Immler thus accounted for his thirteenth enemy aeroplane.

"Eastern theater: The Russians yesterday limited their activity to subjecting those parts of our fronts which they previously had attacked to heavy artillery bombardments."

LOAN SHARKS LOSE
\$10,000 IN LOANS

PORLAND, March 31.—By an agreement entered into between the State Security company and District Attorney Evans, 310 loan shark victims will have their obligations canceled and Manager E. E. Ware will pay off the \$500 assessed two years ago by Circuit Judge McGinn, following a raid upon the Security company by district attorney's office detectives. At the time of the raid \$10,000 worth of usurious notes were seized and Ware was convicted of operating in violation of the law. He appealed and the supreme court sustained Judge McGinn's sentence.