

Forty-sixth Year,
Daily—Eleventh Year.

MEDFORD OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1916

NO. 49

FRENCH TAKE GERMAN FORT UPON HILL 304

Teuton Trenches on Hill 287 Also Raided—Artillery Active on Verdun Front—Airship Bombardments—Berlin Declares Three Attacks on 304 Repulsed With Losses.

PARIS, May 19.—Several attacks were made by German troops on the Verdun front last night in an effort to capture a redoubt at Avocourt. The official statement of today says the Germans were repulsed each time and they lost heavily. French troops, after severe fighting, captured a German fort on the northeast slope of Hill 304. Three German trenches north of Hill 287 were raided by French forces which killed or captured the occupants of these positions. On the Verdun front east of the Meuse the artillery on both sides was active during the night. Two French aeroplanes dropped eight more shells on the railway station at Metz on the night of May 18.

French Statement. The text of the statement says: "Between the Oise and the Aisne a strong reconnoitering party of the enemy which was endeavoring to approach our lines in the neighborhood of Quenoverves, was subjected by us to a counter attack and dispersed, leaving some dead on the field, where the encounter took place. "On the left bank of the Meuse, after a spirited preparation by their artillery, the Germans endeavored several times last night to capture the redoubt in the wood of Avocourt. Repulsed each time by our fire the enemy suffered serious losses. As for us, we executed at a point to the north of Hill 287 at about 3 o'clock in the morning a surprise attack upon a German trench. The men occupying this position were either killed or made prisoner. "At this same time of day French troops took possession after a furious engagement of a small fort of the enemy on the northeast slope of Hill 304.

Airship Raids. "On the right of the Woivre there have been reciprocal bombardments. "During the night of May 16-17 French aviators conducted numerous bombardments along the front, north of Verdun. For instance, fifteen shells of large caliber were thrown down upon an important depot of munitions between Hazeourt and Marri-court, ten kilometers (six miles) south of Sedan; five more on the railroad station at Sedan, where a fire broke out, and fifteen on a depot of munitions not far from Azannes. During the same night two French aeroplanes threw down eight shells on the railroad station at Metz-Sablons. "Aviators of the enemy during the night threw down several bombs in the vicinity of Luneville and Helfort.

German Statement. BERLIN, May 18, via London.—The republic this morning of three attacks by the French against German positions on Hill 304 northwest of Verdun was announced by the war office today. The text of today's statement says: "Western front. Hand grenade engagements southwest of Loos continued."

REVENUE COLLECTOR ACCUSED OF GRAFTING

NEW YORK, May 18.—Christopher Pearson, former deputy tax collector, arrested by the federal authorities today on a warrant charging him with demanding and accepting bribes from tobacco dealers in return for making false reports to the government. Assistant United States District Attorney McDonald said other collectors would be arrested in an effort to break up a system of alleged grafting which, he said, has cost the government more than \$1,000,000 in the last ten years.

GERMANS TOLD OBEY LAWS OF UNITED STATES

Germany Instructs All German Consuls to Admonish German Citizens in Their Districts Scrupulously to Observe American Laws—Orders Designed to Prevent Plots.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Germany, through Count Bernstorff, has instructed all German consuls in the United States to admonish German citizens in their districts scrupulously to observe American laws. This was done in an effort to end various alleged violations of American neutrality. The ambassador acted on instructions from the Berlin foreign office. The action was announced today in this official statement from the German embassy: "In consequence of cases which have occurred of late the German ambassador has sent instructions to all German consuls in the United States to strongly impress upon German citizens living in their districts that it is their duty scrupulously to obey the laws of the state in which they reside."

It was said at the German embassy that the instructions were designed to prevent plots or lawlessness on the part of the German citizens. The German government, it was said, looks with great disfavor upon any such conduct. It was made clear that Berlin officials want the United States and its people to understand that they have not countenanced any illegal affairs with which German citizens or sympathizers in this country have been connected. Count Von Bernstorff's instructions were received last night and were forwarded to German consuls immediately. Not Requested by U. S. It was said the instructions to German consuls were not the result of any action by the United States. Administration officials thought the step might do much to relieve troublesome conditions which have manifested themselves almost since the beginning of the war. It is understood the German government believes that public opinion in this country was being affected by activities of German sympathizers, desired to put an end to activities objectionable to the United States.

FLETCHER RETIRED AS COMMANDER ATLANTIC FLEET

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Plans for reorganization of the Atlantic fleet, which will be announced shortly by Secretary Daniels, include the retirement of Admiral Fletcher as commander in chief. Vice Admiral Henry T. Mayo, now commandant of the first division fleet with his flag on the Arkansas, will succeed Admiral Fletcher as commander in chief. Admiral Fletcher automatically returns to his line rank of rear admiral and probably will be assigned to important strategic work. Rear Admiral Dewitt Coffman, one of the division commanders of the fleet, will become vice admiral. All of the changes become effective tomorrow. Admiral Fletcher has completed his term as commander in chief.

DAY IN CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Senate considered Keaton resolution for open session on nominations. Resolved debate on rivers and harbor appropriation bill. House: Resolved general debate on the shipping bill. George W. Brown, resolution, sworn in for the second West Virginia district, succeeding Representative Brown, democrat, deceased.

DYNAMITE USED IN REVOLT LAYS DUBLIN BUILDINGS IN RUINS



Photo shows wreckage in Dublin caused by seven days' war between the men that formed the "Irish republic" and the British troops. Many blocks were shelled or dynamited during the last days of the fierce internal struggle.

KIDNAPPED MEN REACH BOQUILLAS EN ROUTE HOME

MARATHON, Texas, May 18.—Josee Demier, the Boquillas storekeeper, and Maurice Payne, negro kidnaped by the Big Bend bandits and rescued by Major George T. Langhorne's cavalry detachment, have reached Boquillas, according to official reports received here today. According to the official report the rescue of the Americans took place in the dead of night. Major Langhorne, with a detachment of the eighth cavalry, drove in automobiles and trucks to a ranch house, where a part of the Glenn Springs raiders were quartered. The bandits were surprised, but, although surrounded, they put up a stiff fight. Two were wounded and two captured. The remainder escaped in the dark. The Americans had no losses. Scarcely of gasoline for his supply truck is said to have prevented Major Langhorne from immediately taking up the trail of the bandits. Major Langhorne is reported still pushing southward through Comala. Residents here are in receipt of information from Boquillas that 490 armed Yaqui Indians have left Cuernavaca, 400 miles southwest, riding in a direction that should place them near Major Langhorne's advance position shortly. Army officials say they can not confirm the report.

SUSPECT ARRESTED FOR DOUBLE CRIME

PORTLAND, Or., May 18.—Eugene Thompson, the ex-convict, who was arrested here last night and held for investigation in connection with the murder of Mrs. Helen C. Jennings and Fred Robinson, were taken to Hillsboro, the Washington county seat. The body of Robinson, the Portland chamberlain, was found in the neighborhood who committed the double murder to Mrs. Jennings' home, but has not yet been found. It is thought that his body was thrown into a nearby stream. The Portland police are inclined to believe that Thompson is innocent. As yet no charge has been filed against the other of the two men, who was taken to Hillsboro. The body of Robinson, the Portland chamberlain, was found in the neighborhood who committed the double murder to Mrs. Jennings' home, but has not yet been found. It is thought that his body was thrown into a nearby stream. The Portland police are inclined to believe that Thompson is innocent. As yet no charge has been filed against the other of the two men, who was taken to Hillsboro.

AUSTRIANS BEGIN GENERAL ATTACK AGAINST ITALIANS

GENEVA, May 18.—Reports from frontiers indicate that the heaviest fighting of the war between Italy and Austria during this year is in progress in the region of Rovereto and the Sengou valley, where there is every evidence that the Austrians have begun a general offensive against the Italians from the Apennine to the Adige. Many bodies of Austrian soldiers killed in the fighting are said to be floating down the river Adige. The Austrians have through several batteries of their heaviest guns from Germany and have installed them near Gorizia and Montebelluna, where the staff of Archduke Frederick has moved. The Austrians are also sending troops from Innsbruck into the region of Trient. Swiss troops on the frontier report that the Austrian positions on the Asiatic range have recently been greatly strengthened and that the artillery shells are increasing in intensity.

ALLIES' SUBMARINE SINKING GERMAN SHIPS IN BALTIC

STOCKHOLM, May 18.—The German steamer Herta was sunk today morning off Gdanskport in the Baltic. The sinking of the Herta marks the first success of the British submarines in the Baltic this season. The Herta left Stockholm Tuesday in 1915 on 2,000 tons of iron ore at Gdanskport. Her captain was ordered to board the submarine with the ship's papers, and to return to the Swedish coast with the crew to safety. All on board were saved. The reports of the submarine activity has stopped the movement of German merchant vessels with cargoes of iron ore to the coast of Sweden.

STEAMER ERETRIA SUNK BY MINE

GENEVA, May 18.—The Dutch cargo steamer Eretria, which had been sunk in the North sea with the crew of 30 men, was sunk by a mine. The loss followed an examination of the mine by divers to ascertain the cause of the disaster. The death of Eretria, an American steamer of 1,200 tons, is a serious loss to the Dutch shipping line. It is believed, however, that it was not a wreck of the Eretria, but a ship of the Eretria line.

CONGRESS CUTS NAVAL BUILDING PROGRAM DOWN

WASHINGTON, May 18.—In a decision upon the increase of the navy, the house naval committee today voted to abandon the five-year building program, recommended by Secretary Daniels, and to recommend that five battle cruisers, to cost \$20,000,000 each, four scout cruisers, ten torpedo boat destroyers, twenty submarines, one battleship, one oil supply ship and one ammunition supply ship be built during the 1917 fiscal year. The committee voted 12 to 8 on battle cruisers and submarines. The committee unanimously adopted a resolution by Representative Hendry of Missouri, authorizing the president upon consultation of the European war, to invite the world powers to a conference to frame a code of arbitration or other body for peaceful settlement of all disputes between nations and approximating \$200,000,000 for the purpose. Secretary Daniels had recommended that the first year's appropriation of the proposed five-year program, two dreadnaughts, two battle cruisers, three scout cruisers, fifteen destroyers, one submarine, one hospital ship, and one minesweeper, amounting to \$200,000,000, be reduced to \$150,000,000. The committee agreed with the latter. The committee also agreed to reduce the number of battle cruisers, scout cruisers, and submarines from 25 to 20.

REVOLT SHOWS ONLY FEW OF IRISH DISLOYAL

Out of 180,000 National Volunteers But 11,000 Joined Revolution—Advance Information of German Intention to Land Arms Shown—Government Afraid to Act.

LONDON, May 18.—From testimony developed today at the hearing opened by the royal commission under the presidency of Baron Haldinge, to inquire into the Irish rebellion, it appeared that the government had received advance information of preparations for an uprising with help from German sources. The testimony was given by Sir Matthew Nathan, who resigned as undersecretary for Ireland after the rebellion broke out. The government had received advice, said Sir Matthew, that an attempt would be made to land arms in Ireland from German submarines; also, the rifles had been purchased from Irish soldiers on home leave, while others had been taken into the country in passengers' baggage. Volunteers Loyal. The former undersecretary gave this testimony in the course of a long statement outlining the formation of the National Volunteers, of which he declared only 11,000 out of a total of 180,000 previously enrolled had shown themselves disloyal. The leaders of this section having issued a manifesto declaring Ireland should provide for its own defense and indicating an intention to establish a free national government of Ireland. The leaders of the movement, he said, directed their efforts to securing more rifles and ammunition and to storing as large an amount of material as possible. The executives in Ireland being in possession of sufficient evidence of the connection of the movement's leaders with a foreign enemy, continued Sir Matthew, had decided on their arrest and were discussing the matter on April 24 when the rebellion broke out. He defended the failure of the government to disarm the volunteers as it might have alienated the sympathy of many loyal volunteers and added: "There are 25,000 Irish Catholics enlisted in the army."

ADVOCATE USE OF MILITARY TO KEEP PEACE

MILITARY COMPULSION BY GROUP OF NATIONS TO ENFORCE OTHERS TO PRESERVE PEACE ADVOCATED AT MOHONK LAKE CONFERENCE OF LEAGUE TO ENFORCE PEACE—PEACE RESTS ON FORCE.

MOHONK LAKE, N. Y., May 18.—The use of military compulsion by a group of nations to prevent war, which is the most radical feature of the plan advocated by the League to Enforce Peace, was debated today before the Lake Mohonk conference on international arbitration. The proposition was favored by Herbert S. Houston and George Haven Putnam, New York publishers, and opposed by Dr. James L. Tryon of Boston, director of the New England department of the American Peace society, and Alpheus H. Snow, a Washington, D. C., lawyer. "Peace Rests on Force." "Peace between nations," said Mr. Houston, "just as does peace within nations, must rest on force. Peace must be put on a war footing and its advocates must quit the forum for the field, if need be, to fight, not to argue war, but to establish peace." "The international tribunal at The Hague," Dr. Putnam said, "had the weakness of presenting no provision for the enforcement of the directors of the tribunal. In every civilized state decisions are now arrived at in a court. The decision would have little value, however, in maintaining peace in the communities unless back of the authority of the court stood an organized force." Dr. Tryon's view was that the United States might wisely co-operate if need be, with other nations to use force for the preservation of public safety in a specific emergency like the Boxer rebellion, but he is in a position to withdraw when it considered the purpose sufficiently fulfilled, without taking the obligations of an alliance with all its possible entanglements. International Police. "An arrangement for international police," he declared, "or any kind of plan for an international force other than for temporary purposes, presents very grave difficulties." Mr. Snow's conclusion was that the plan of the league to enforce peace was impracticable and dangerous for many reasons, chiefly because it proposed to use force instead of united force and provides no executive to determine and direct the force.

JEREMIAH LYNCH IS CONVICTED BY COURT MARTIAL

LONDON, May 18.—Jeremiah Lynch of New York has been tried and convicted by a court martial in London on a charge of participating in the Irish rebellion. The sentence was to be pronounced today, but no word has been received by the American embassy here as to what sentence was imposed. The news that Lynch had been convicted by a court martial was received by the embassy from the American consul in Dublin. Previous to the trial the embassy had of Lynch was that under the defense of the Irish act he was prohibited from leaving the five-mile zone of Dublin. This provision as a rule only applies to hostile aliens, but was extended to friendly aliens. It was extended to Lynch, as he had been making trips to western Ireland. Lynch was a resident of Dublin for some time.

FRENCH STEAMER MIRA IS REPORTED SUNK

LONDON, May 18.—The French steamer Mira has been sunk, Lloyd's announced. The announcement gives details as to her sinking. The Mira was 3,050 tons gross, built at South Shields in 1895, and owned in Cardiff. She was last reported at Penarth, Wales, on April 21, from Algeria.

THREE MEN SHOT IN ANSONIA RIOT

ANSONIA, Conn., May 18.—Three men were shot, one probably fatally, today at a riot at the plant of the Ansonia Manufacturing company, where about 200 men are employed. A report that strikers were coming to the streets, struck a blow at the factory. Guards stationed inside also fired into the crowd.