

FORECAST
FROST TONIGHT—Tues-
day Fair, Warmer.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER
Maximum Yesterday 64;
Minimum Today 36.

MEDFORD OREGON, MONDAY, MAY 22, 1916

NO. 52

CARNAGE OPENS FOURTH MONTH VERDUN BATTLE

French Occupy Blockhouses in Avocourt Wood—Struggle on Dead Man's Hill Terrific—German Attacks East of Meuse Repulsed by French—Teutons Desperate.

PARIS, May 22.—The battle of Verdun, the longest and most bitterly fought individual struggle of the war, enters on its fourth month today. The Germans are hammering at Dead Man hill, where the most bloody fighting of the three months' conflict has taken place. Clinging desperately to the trenches that they have wrested from the French on the lower slopes of the hill, the Teutons have hurled 60,000 men, backed by sixty batteries of guns of all calibers, forward along a seven-mile front from Avocourt wood to the Meuse in a desperate effort to seize the coveted summit.

The Germans have succeeded in gaining a footing in the French first line at a cost of severe losses, but judging from the experience of the past, it will not be a difficult task for the French to dislodge them before they are able to follow up their advantage.

Key to Verdun.
That the Germans must continue their tremendous onslaught on Dead Man hill or abandon the idea of taking Verdun seems obvious. This blood-soaked summit and its sister eminence, Hill 304, form the key of the whole system of Verdun defenses. The fire from their batteries flanks the Donauwassertal plateau across the river. Without the undisputed possession of this plateau military critics agree that no attack on Verdun has any chance of success.

French grenadiers occupied several blockhouses in Avocourt wood on the Verdun front in the course of severe fighting last night. The struggle west of Dead Man hill was terrific. The war office statement of this afternoon says that the attacks of German infantry were repulsed. The blockhouses in Avocourt wood were abandoned by the Germans.

East of the Meuse, infantry fighting occurred at the Haumont quarries captured yesterday by the French. The Germans attacked these positions and, the statement asserts, were repulsed with heavy loss.

The following official statement was issued today:

"Western front: The French made several attacks without success on our lines in the region of the quarry south of Haumont and the Vaux ridge (Verdun front). In the third attack the French obtained a footing in the quarry.

"During the night the artillery was extraordinarily active on both sides in the whole sector."

German Statement.
BERLIN, May 22.—The capture of several lines of British positions over a front of two kilometers (1.4 miles) near Givenchy-en-Achelle was announced today by the war office.

IRISH ACCUSATION BRINGS LIBEL SUIT

LONDON, May 22.—A libel action is begun by Seymour Conger, Berlin correspondent of the Associated Press, against Edwin A. Emerson, an American newspaper correspondent, in Berlin, based on an article by Emerson in the Commercial Times, a newspaper published here in the English language. The article intimates that Mr. Conger and Ambassador Gerard were responsible for the "betrayal" of Sir Roger Casement to the British. The article intimates that Mr. Conger possessed knowledge of Casement's plans which he communicated to Ambassador Gerard, who, in turn, called it to Washington, from where it was transmitted by a wireless to London.

Mr. Conger enters a general denial of the imputations made in the article in the Commercial Times and states that his first knowledge that anything was impending in Ireland came to him two days subsequent to the outbreak.

ITALIAN DEFEAT STEADILY GROWS MORE SERIOUS

Austrians Drive Italians From Their Entire Position on Lavarone Plateau—Number of Italians Captured Total 23,883—Armentara Ridge Captured.

BERLIN, May 22.—The Italians have been driven from their entire position on Lavarone plateau, the Austrian war office announcement of today says. It is stated that the Italian defeat is steadily becoming more serious.

The Austrian lines have been pushed forward rapidly, several additional positions of strategic importance having been captured. The number of Italians taken prisoner has been increased to 23,882.

The statement follows:
"The Italian defeat on the southern Tyrol front is certainly becoming more serious. An attack of the Grosscorps in Lavarone plateau was attended with complete success. The enemy was driven from his entire position. Our troops captured Flna, Mandriolo and the height immediately west of the frontier from the summit as far as the Astash valley.

"The troops of Crown Prince Charles Franz Joseph reached the Monte Tormino-Monte Majo line.

Win Armentara Ridge.
Austro-Hungarian troops have carried the peak of Armentara ridge, the scene of some of the heaviest fighting in the recently inaugurated offensive along the southern Tyrol front. This announcement is made in the official Austrian report of May 21.

More than 2000 Italians were captured on Saturday by the Austrians, who also obtained possession of several villages. They took 25 cannon and 8 machine guns, the statement says.

Italian Statement.
ROME, May 22.—Austrian artillery of all sizes and all ranges, with the monster 292 millimeter gun predominating, has transformed the battle front between the Adige and Brenta rivers into an inferno.

Notwithstanding the snow-capped mountain barriers, the Austrian infantry is being launched in waves, which military observers say break against the formidable resistance of the Italians.

The Italian troops have now formed their lines of offense and are holding firmly all the passes and peaks, from which Italian officers say the forward movement of the Austrians has not only been successfully arrested, but the Austrians have been dislodged from several strategic positions taken in the first rush of the offensive.

There are several indications to confirm the statement that the design of the present strenuous campaign of the Austrians on the Trentino front is to prevent Italy from participating with her troops in the struggle on the French front and also to paralyze any action aiming at the joining of the Aisone and Sainthal forces for a simultaneous effort.

BRANDEIS FIGHT ON SENATE THIS WEEK

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Indications today were that Senate action on confirming the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis to the supreme court and George Hughes to the federal trade commission would be important features of the week's congressional program.

A postponement of the fight on Mr. Roblee was imminent in the senate today. The question was whether the senate should hold an open instead of a secret session tomorrow when it considers the vote by which Mr. Roblee was rejected last week.

WILL HE FIGHT?



ELIOT ENDORSES BRANDEIS; HOPES FOR CONFIRMATION

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Chairman Callahan of the senate judiciary committee today made public the letter he received last week from Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard, endorsing the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis to the supreme court.

Mr. Eliot's letter, written at Cambridge, says:
"I have known Louis D. Brandeis for forty years and believe that I understand his capacities and his character. He was a distinguished student in the Harvard law school in 1875-78. He possessed by nature a keen intelligence, quick and generous sympathies, a remarkable capacity for labor and a character in which gentleness and courage were blended.

"He has sometimes advocated measures of policy which did not commend themselves to me; but I have never questioned his honesty and sincerity or his desire for justice.

"Under present circumstances I believe that the reputation by the senate of his nomination to the supreme court would be a grave misfortune for the whole legal profession, the court, all American business and the country." The judiciary committee will vote on Wednesday on the nomination.

CHAUFFEUR RISTMAN BELIEVED LOCATED

PORTLAND, Ore., May 22.—A man, apparently in a dazed condition who answers the description of Fred Ristman, the missing chauffeur in the Jennings murder mystery, was lodged in the jail at Kenosha, Wis. today, say, Portland officers here who came there to fix his identity.

Last Monday night Ristman's automobile, stained with blood, was found near the home of Mrs. Helen P. Jennings. The letter was found dead in her bed with her skull crushed in. It was believed that Ristman had been possessed of the same unknown person who killed Mrs. Jennings.

THREE KILLED BY CYCLONE SWEEPING BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 22.—Three persons, two white and one negro, are dead, and ten or more are injured by the result of a cyclone which struck Birmingham and surrounding areas south of Birmingham today.

SIBLEY RETURNS WITH CAVALRY FROM MEXICO

MARCHATHON, Texas, May 22.—Colonel E. W. Sibley's detachment of the second expeditionary column reached Houston on the American side of the international boundary (yesterday) afternoon, according to information brought here today.

Precisely Colonel Sibley had been reported as having been in touch with Major Lanham's detachment, which had been rumored as in top close proximity to a band of Yaqui Indians.

EL PASO, Texas, May 22.—American and other foreign-owned properties at Ciudad Juarez were raided by bandits May 15, according to reliable information received here today.

The looting party had attacked Sierra Mojada and among them were a number of the bandits who raided Glenn Springs and Quitova, Texas. After pillaging the offices, houses and stores, they carried their booty to the country between Ciudad Juarez and San Pedro, where they went into hiding.

ARCTIC EXPLORER ARRIVES; PARTY FORCED TO REMAIN

LONDON, May 22.—The provisions of the Arctic expedition under the leadership of Professor Matthew C. Tamm, of Chicago, arrived today on the steamship Hans Egede from Greenland. He reported good scientific results had been obtained by the expedition.

The expedition, which is headed by Donald B. MacMillan, has been forced to stay at North Star bay, as the vessel ship Hans Egede was unable to get through the ice. The arrival of Professor Tamm's party is reported as a dispatch from the Danish capital to the London News.

Professor Tamm and other members of the expedition, led by the way south, arrived with the object of reaching the first Danish station sailing last night. The expedition will reach home, it is said, during the summer.

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HUGHES' PLURALITY IN OREGON EXCEEDS TWENTY THOUSAND

PORTLAND, Ore., May 22.—As additional returns are received throughout the state from last Friday's primaries, the lead of Justice Charles E. Hughes over Senator A. B. Cunningham increases. Hughes has carried Oregon in the republican presidential electoral primaries by about 29,000, and complete figures probably will show a larger number.

All of Oregon's ten delegates in the republican national convention are pledged solidly to Hughes.

For the republican congressional nomination from the Third district, Congressman C. S. McArthur defeated his nearest competitor, former Congressman A. W. Ladd, by 2181 votes. Ladd's total today announced he would run as an independent.

Oswald West, former democratic congressman, who was nominated in the gubernatorial convention to run for congress, has not yet announced whether he will accept the nomination. If he does, he will enter a four-cornered race in which he, McArthur, Jefferts and John S. Jeffrey, democratic nominee, will be the contestants.

H. H. Carey, republican candidate for public service commissioner from eastern Oregon, claimed today that he had defeated 104 votes, his nearest opponent, by 100 votes.

BRITISH DEFEATED BY ARAB TRIBESMEN

BEIRUT, May 22.—A substantial victory by the Syrians over the British troops in a battle with rebellious tribesmen in the province of Hama, in Anglo-Syrian Sudan, it is said the British lost 2000 men, and with British and Hindu troops to 1000 and the Red sea was then ordered to attack the tribesmen and that they were defeated in losses under the hands of the tribes.

VIOLENT CANNONADE HEARD IN BALTIC

LONDON, May 22.—Reports from Kallio in Sweden on the Baltic, as forwarded from Copenhagen to the Exchange Telegraph company, state that a violent cannonade was heard last night and that it is believed a hot battle is in progress between the German and Russian war-fleets.

BLAME FOR IRISH REVOLT FAILURE LAID TO GERMANS

Inability or Disinclination of Germany to Carry Out Important Features at Almost Last Moments Made Revolution a Fizzle—Inside History of Uprising.

LONDON, May 9 (correspondence of the Associated Press).—The Sinn Fein organization was used as a pawn in the game played by Berlin and certain Germans and revolutionists in America, according to the history of the Irish uprising as told by the authorities here. The failure of the revolt, it is pointed out, was made doubly sure by the inability or disinclination on the part of Germany to carry out important features at almost the last moment. The facts given here have been gathered from authentic British sources and are presented as completely as possible under the censorship.

Shortly after the beginning of the war certain Irishmen and German authorities conceived the idea of utilizing the Sinn Fein organization for a revolt—the Germans being actuated, of course, by the admittedly legitimate purpose of weakening Great Britain and the others having national aspirations, or in at least one case, a desire to obtain revenge for alleged political wrongs. The Sinn Feiners accepted the plan and eventually fell victims to a scheme which was not of their own making.

Backed by Germany.
Sir Roger Casement, now in London tower awaiting trial on charge of treason, went from America to Christchurch late in 1914 under an assumed name. At Christchurch he conferred with the German consul and then proceeded to Germany. Coinciding with his arrival in Berlin, certain officials placed their influence and guarantees of assistance back of an Irish rebellion. Elaborate plans for furnishing a revolution were put under way. According to this account, Germany agreed to furnish money, arms and men to assist the Sinn Feiners, and, most important of all, to send to the aid of the revolution soldiers being sent into Ireland by the British war department.

American was made the medium of communication between Berlin and Ireland. Certain Irishmen in the United States enlisted their services and Captains Boy-Ed and Von Pilsen, the two German naval and military attaches, respectively, at Washington, together with numerous officers, some of whom are now under arrest in America, are said to have done their part in furthering the plans. The carrying of funds and armaments of the Sinn Feiners was done largely by the Irish sympathizers in America, who were able to visit their home land without question.

Date Set for Revolt.
Some what important plotting went on until November, 1915. Then there was a lull in proceedings. The Irish objects to be that the revolutionary war which had broken out in Ireland had first been getting over. The Germans had never tired of Casement. Casement himself retired to Munich, where it was reported he was in poor health.

Three persons in the United States who were making a plot in the early part of the revolution became weary of waiting and sent a high level message to the Sinn Feiners.

PRESIDENT CONSIDERS LARGER ARMY BILL

WASHINGTON, May 22.—President Woodrow Wilson today considered the bill for the army reorganization bill passed by congress yesterday. He expects to sign it within a few days. He discussed features of it today with Chairman Bay and Chamberlain of the House and senate military committees.

Representative Bay held the president's army reorganization bill would be ready for the House later this week. It will carry approximately \$150,000,000, an increase of \$30,000,000 over last year's bill.

PEOPLE TO VOTE ON AUTHORIZING BONDS TUESDAY

Contract for Building Railroad Calls for Another Election Later, When Various Proposals Received Will Be Acted Upon—Tomorrow's Election to Make Bond Issue Possible.

At the city election Tuesday, voters are called upon to vote upon an amendment to the city charter authorizing the issuance of \$300,000 bonds for building a railroad.

In case the election carries, a second election will follow upon any proposals submitted to the council by Mr. Bullis, Mr. Strahorn, Mr. Hill or any person desiring to submit a proposal that may be approved by the city council and later ratified by a vote of the people.

Tomorrow's election does not authorize the construction of the Blue Ledge railroad or any railroad. It merely makes possible the construction of a railroad. It places the city in a position to do business with any railroad builder who may be interested.

The people will vote upon the following resolution and charter amendment:

"Be it resolved, by the city council of the city of Medford, Ore., the mayor approving, that there be and is hereby adopted, approved and proposed the following act of municipal legislation:

Be it further resolved, that said proposed act be submitted to the voters of said city for their approval or rejection at a special election to be held in said city pursuant to resolution of the council calling the same on the 23d day of May, 1916.

A proposed charter amendment of the charter of the city of Medford, Ore., to enable and empower the city council of said city, for and on behalf of and for the benefit and use of the inhabitants of said city, and for profit, to build, equip, acquire, lease, own and operate railroads, operated by steam, electric or other power, within and without the boundaries of the said city and running from a point within the city of Medford to other towns, cities and points without the boundaries of the said city, and to that end may acquire rights of way, easements, real property within and without its boundaries for any or such purposes, and to create a railway construction, maintenance and redemption fund, and to authorize a millage tax to provide the same; to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds not to exceed \$300,000 in addition to the warrants and bonds authorized in sections 72 and 73 of said charter; and to provide that the bonds authorized herein shall be redeemed by a special and limited tax levy in addition to the limitation of indebtedness provided by the city charter.

The people of the city of Medford do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That the charter of the city of Medford be and the same hereby is amended by adding thereto the following section:

Section 119. The city of Medford, under the powers vested in it by the General Laws of Oregon enacted by the last session of the session of 1915, chapter 281, as amended by chapter 103 of the General Laws of Oregon of the session for the year 1915, and the city council, under the powers vested in it by the city charter, and particularly section 25 of said charter, and in addition to its powers by virtue of section 65 of said charter, may levy a special railway building, equipping and operating tax on the taxable property within the corporate limits of the city.

(Continued on page two.)

NEW PROTEST TO BRITAIN ON MAILS

WASHINGTON, May 22.—The new note to Great Britain, making further protest against interference with American mails was laid before President Wilson today and probably will be sent to London tomorrow. The general terms of the note were framed at the state department, but the president is including some of his own language.