

FORECAST
PARTLY CLOUDY TO-
NIGHT AND FRIDAY

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER
Maximum Yesterday 57;
Minimum Today 37, Pre. .00

MEDFORD OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1916

NO. 55

TIDE OF WAR AGAIN WITH GERMANS

Teutons Report Further Closing In of Crown Prince's Troops East of Meuse and Failure of French to Regain by Desperate Counter-Attacks the Village of Camieres—Paris Concedes Recapture of Fort Douaumont by Germans.

BERLIN, May 25.—The repulse of three counter attacks by the French on the village of Camieres, west of the Meuse, was announced by the war office today. The capture of additional French trenches southwest and south of Fort Douaumont and the recapture of the Handramont quarry by the Germans, are also reported.

The text of today's army headquarters statement follows:

German Statement.
"West of the Meuse three enemy counter-attacks against the village of Camieres failed.

"East of the Meuse our regiments, taking advantage of the successes of the day before yesterday, advanced further and captured enemy trenches southwest and south of Fort Douaumont. We recaptured the quarry south of the Handramont farm.

"In the Gaillette wood the enemy attacked our positions during the whole day without attaining the least success. The enemy suffered heavy sanguinary losses. In addition, we captured more than 850 prisoners and fourteen machine guns.

French Statement.

PARIS, May 25.—German troops made an attack last night on French positions on the Verdun front west of the Meuse, near the Handramont quarry, and obtained a footing in one of the French trenches, the war office announced today.

East of Camieres to the west of the Meuse the French made some progress in hand-grenade fighting.

The text of the statement follows: "On the left bank of the Meuse there has been an artillery duel of considerable intensity in the sector of Hill 304, as well as on the front between Dead Man's hill and Camieres. Last night we made progress with hand grenades in the groves immediately east of Camieres. The enemy made no endeavor to attack us.

"On the right bank of the river a strong German attack was successful in giving the enemy a footing in one of our trenches north of the quarries at Handramont. The bombardment is continuing with great severity on each side. In the region of Douaumont there has been no infantry activity. The night passed in relative quiet on the remainder of the front."

LOVE MAD YOUTH CHOKES TO DEATH 15 YEAR OLD GIRL

AURORA, Ill., May 25.—Gwendolyn, the 15-year-old daughter of Mrs. Anna Collins, was found dead in her home here last night, and Jack Armstrong, 19 years old, the police say, has confessed that he choked her to death through jealousy. Beside the body was found a cup of poison which the boy said he intended to take himself, had not his nerve failed him.

Armstrong, whose real name is said to be Verhove, is said to have attempted to pursue his courtship after the girl had tried of him.

Mrs. Collins found the body of her daughter lying on a couch in an unused room of her boarding house. The room was locked and keys were in the locks on the outside. Upon information from Mrs. Collins, Armstrong was arrested a short time afterward.

Mrs. Collins said Armstrong had pursued her daughter for more than a year and that the daughter had repulsed him. The tender age of the girl is said to have been the main reason for Mrs. Collins' objections to the attentions of Armstrong.

INSANITY PLEA MADE TO SAVE LIFE OF WAITE

Brother Testifies That Murderer Was Cruel to Animals as Boy and a Liar and Thief—Father Asserts There Is Insanity in Family and Many Relatives Defective.

NEW YORK, May 25.—Dr. Arthur W. Waite was called to the witness stand in his own defense late today in his trial for the murder of his father-in-law, John E. Peck, a wealthy drug manufacturer of Grand Rapids, Mich.

The fight to save Waite from the electric chair began today before Justice Shearn in the criminal branch of the supreme court. The prosecution closed its case yesterday and this morning counsel for the defense marshaled alienists and relatives of the accused man to prove that he was insane when he killed his wealthy father-in-law by giving him repeated doses of poison.

It is understood that the defense will make no claim that Waite is insane at present. An effort will be made to show that he was in a highly nervous state for several months preceding the death of Mr. Peck and that he was subject to "obsessions."

Brother on Stand.
Frank A. Waite, the dentist's brother, was the first witness for the defense. He said that because Dr. Waite had a large head, the other members of the Waite family "poked fun at him."

Frank Waite said that his brother lagged on the way to school when a child and was always getting into trouble with other boys. Arthur was 18 years old when he entered the University of Michigan. He sent back \$7,000 from South Africa and brought \$15,000 more when he returned, the witness said.

The brother described visits to Waite's apartments when he lay in a stupor from narcotics and said the dentist then talked at random.

Dr. Waite, the witness said, never discussed his intention to marry Clara Peck until after their engagement was announced.

Cross-examined, Frank Waite said he remembered telling a physician at Bellevue hospital there was no epilepsy, mental deficiency nor criminality in the Waite family.

Cruel to Animals.
Waite, as a boy, was cruel to animals, developed a habit of lying and used to steal from boarders in his home and from classmates at school and college, according to Clyde Waite of Grand Rapids, another brother.

Warren Waite, the dentist's father, who next testified, said Miles Waite, the prisoner's grandfather, disappeared from his home in 1871 and was never seen again by his family. One of the witness's aunts died in an insane asylum, one of her sons is now in an asylum and another was for a time in a psychopathic hospital in Ann Arbor, the witness said, adding that a cousin was deaf and dumb.

Just before the birth of Arthur W. Waite, his mother was in a weakened condition, the father testified. Arthur gave him more trouble than the other children.

A Liar and Thief as Boy.
"He was a liar and a thief in his school days and once took \$200 from his schoolmate," said Mr. Waite.

Arthur was always disobedient and in later years morose at times, said the witness.

Depositions from Dr. Waite's fellow students in the University of Michigan were read. One said Waite was erratic, nervous and held himself aloof from his fellows at the university.

It was announced that Dr. Waite would take the stand at the afternoon session.

MONTHS FIGHTING GAINS 300 METERS

PARIS, May 25.—Inspection made by military authorities of maps of the Verdun region shows that within the last month the German gains on the west bank of the Meuse from Camieres to Avocourt average a depth of 300 meters. The line eastward from the river is substantially the same as it was a month ago.

YOUNG WILLIAM ORPET ON TRIAL FOR MURDER



Marian Lambert, Celeste Youkers
It was Miss Lambert, the prosecution charges, whom Orpet wished out of the way so he could wed Miss Youkers.

A photographic study of the face of William Orpet, the college boy who, is charged, poisoned girl, who was neighborhood, girlhood chum, then sweetheart. Orpet is girlish and slight—but calm.

VICTIM'S PARENTS TO BE WITNESSES IN ORPET TRIAL

WAUKEGAN, Ill., May 25.—Counsel for Will Orpet, who is on trial under a charge of murdering Marian Lambert, his sweetheart, announced today that the parents of the girl had been subpoenaed in the case. They are expected to testify regarding the girl's mental condition just before her death, when, it has been ascertained, she was dependent.

It was said the defense would attempt to show strong presumption of suicide.

Examination of prospective jurors seems certain to continue until the end of the week at least. When court closed yesterday, the ninth day of the trial, but one more man had been tentatively accepted. Four men have already been accepted and sworn. Three others tentatively accepted by the state were excused by the defense yesterday, although their selection seemed practically certain.

AUSTRIAN RUSH HALTED FOR PRESENT

ROME, May 25, via Paris.—"The situation on the front along the high plateau of Arsiera is still grave, but it is not alarming," says a semi-official announcement here today concerning the Austro-Hungarian attempt to widen the only line occupied on Italian territory.

The Italian military authorities, it is said, have taken all necessary measures to prevent a further Austrian advance and are organizing a counter offensive.

The civil population which evacuated the districts of Arsiera and Avajago, and the smaller neighboring villages, is being taken care of by the government.

BRITISH STEAMER SUNK IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

LONDON, May 25.—The British steamship Washington, of 5090 tons, was sunk by a submarine, according to an announcement made today at Lloyd's shipping agency.

The other last eastern trip across the Atlantic the Washington left Newport News April 12 and Norfolk two days later, bound for Genoa, where she arrived May 8.

INDICTMENT FOR TREASON RETURNED AGAINST CASEMENT

LONDON, May 25.—The grand jury today returned true bills against Sir Roger Casement, leader of the Sinn Fein revolt, and Daniel J. Bailey, the former British soldier who is held as his accomplice.

DUBLIN, May 25.—Astounding little interest is displayed here in the trial of Sir Roger Casement, both in political and general circles. Casement was almost entirely unknown here before the war. Since then vague reports of his activities in Germany have been all that have reached the Irish public in spite of the fact that he was in touch with the leaders of the recent rebellion.

As an element in Irish politics Casement had no existence. The importance attached to his connection with the Sinn Fein revolt, both in England and abroad, is not quite understood in this country.

DAVIDSON NAMED SUPERINTENDENT S.P.&S.

PORTLAND, Ore., May 25.—With the title of general superintendent, Alfred J. Davidson was appointed today by President L. S. Gilman to succeed Charles O. Jenks, who recently resigned as general manager of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway company. Mr. Jenks leaves tomorrow for St. Paul to become general manager of the Great Northern railway.

The appointment of Mr. Davidson will become effective next Saturday when he arrives from Spokane, where he has been superintendent of the Spokane & International Empire railway, a subsidiary line.

GAVIRA TO CONFER WITH FUNSTON

EL PASO, Texas, May 25.—General Rafael Gavira, newly constituted commander of the Mexican military zone of the border, announced today in Juarez he intended to ask General J. J. Pershing, commander of the American expeditionary force, for a conference at which would be settled details of co-operation for chasing down the bandits of Chihuahua.

NO MOVE FOR PEACE LIKELY SAYS PRESIDENT

Wilson Tells Callers That Intervention of a Neutral Could Rest Only on Mutual Understanding by Belligerents That Terms to Be Arranged to Conserve World's Interests.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—President Wilson told callers today that the intervention of a neutral in behalf of peace in Europe could rest only on a mutual understanding by the belligerents that terms to be arranged are to conserve the interests of all and of the world at large, rather than those of a particular nation or group of nations among the warring powers.

Mr. Wilson did not disclose any definite plan of action he may have formulated in regard to peace, nor authorize a formal statement of his attitude. His callers gained an impression, however, that the president would entertain suggestions that he extend his good offices to the belligerents to bring about peace only when the conditions he outlined were likely of fulfillment.

No Move Likely Now.
Mr. Wilson pointed out to his callers that there are many elements in the situation in Europe, all of which must be taken into account in considering peace proposals. While he is eager to see the conflict ended as soon as possible, the White House visitors were able to gather no impression that a move by the United States to bring it about is in immediate prospect at least.

Representative Hensley of Missouri, discussed with Mr. Wilson his amendment to the naval bill, adopted by the naval committee, authorizing the president to invite other nations to participate in a conference at the close of the war with the object of settling up a court of other tribunal to settle international disputes. Mr. Hensley told the president that he believed this amendment made the naval bill an assurance to foreign nations that the United States was aiming for defense only, not for any offensive purpose, and was ready to enter into an agreement to settle international disputes amicably.

Is Not Committed.
The president did not commit himself definitely to the amendment, but Mr. Hensley gained the impression that he was favorable to the general principles involved.

While Mr. Hensley would not reveal details of his conversation with the president, he left the White House satisfied that the president would do everything possible to bring about peace in Europe and to maintain it after the end of the war.

SENATE TO HOLD HEARINGS UPON SHIPPING BILL

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The senate commerce committee today appointed a subcommittee consisting of Senators Simmons, Fletcher, Bankhead, Jones and Lippitt, to hold hearings on the administration ship purchase bill.

Hearings will begin at once.

LANDGRANT BILL PASSES HOUSE ON 50-50 BASIS

Despite Opposition of Oregon Delegation, O. & C. Grant Measure Passes House as Drawn by Committee—50 Per Cent Proceeds for State and County, 50 for Government.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The Oregon & California land grant bill, designed to restore to the federal government about 3,200,000 acres of land valued at about \$36,000,000, passed the house without substantial amendment today by a vote of 186 to 6. It now goes to the senate.

An amendment adopted in committee of the whole to increase the share of various counties in the proceeds from the sale of the land was defeated, 167 to 128, on a roll call.

The bill was introduced to straighten out a long legal fight between the government and the Oregon & California Railroad company over a land grant made more than a half century ago.

The government averred the company had failed to carry out the terms of this agreement, regarding the disposition of the land to settlers.

Having recovered the land the government would be obligated by the bill to dispose of it and return \$2.50 an acre to the railroad and divide the remainder of the proceeds between counties, the two states, the general reclamation fund and the national treasury.

A fight on the measure was made by Oregon representatives who desired that their state share more generously in the proceeds.

The bill gives 50 per cent of the revenue derived from the sale of the land grant to the state and counties, 10 per cent to the national reclamation fund, and 10 per cent to the federal government for administration expenses.

SEAT BULL MOOSE IN G.O.P. CONVENTION

PORTLAND, Ore., May 25.—Ralph E. Williams, republican national committeeman for Oregon, who will leave for Chicago tomorrow, announced today that Oregon's five progressive national convention delegates would be seated as alternates in the republican national convention, if his efforts are able to bring this about.

Under Oregon's primary election law, there is no provision made for the election of alternates. Mr. Williams stated he was hopeful for the consolidation of republican and progressive forces at Chicago.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The army appropriation bill, carrying \$14,000,000 and including provision for carrying out the Hay Chamberlain reorganization bill, was agreed to today by the house military committee.

The bill includes provision for a council of executive information for coordination of industries and resources in war time.

BIG RAID UPON REMAINING OIL LANDS OF NATION

Next to Shields Bill, Biggest Grab Yet Attempted of Public Property in Phelan Bill to Give Away Oil Fields Reserved for and Needed by Navy to Private Interests.

BY GILSON GARDNER

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Next to the Shields bill, the biggest raid recently attempted on the public's property is that embraced in the Phelan bill. In this case it is the government oil fields of California that private interests are reaching for.

The raid is so big, and the consequences, if it succeeds, would be so serious in completing the oil monopoly and increasing the price of oil products that the secretary of the navy has appealed to President Wilson to intervene. The new naval program will have to be abandoned and a different one substituted if congress yields to the grabbers.

Seek 40,000 Acres of Land
The desires of the oil interests are embodied in a senate amendment to House Bill 406, introduced by Senator James D. Phelan of California. This measure seeks in effect to turn over to private interests more than forty thousand acres of oil lands withdrawn from entry by President Taft—the lands which are today the areas comprising the government reserves of oil relied upon to insure a supply of fuel oil for the new navy.

The naval affairs committee of the house has just voted to authorize the construction next year of four battle cruisers equipped with oil-burning engines, to give them a speed of 35 knots an hour and to be armed with 14-inch guns. These are intended to be the most important feature of the navy's contribution to preparedness.

"These ships cannot be built," says Secretary Daniels, "at least it would not be wise to build them as oil-burning ships if these reserves of oil are to go into private ownership. The government must not be dependent on private owners for the fuel for its ships."

Imposition on Public
Aside from the navy's interest in the lands, the general public, suffering already under the impositions of the oil trust, and groaning over the price of gasoline, will feel that it is a poor time to let the remaining oil resources go into trust ownership.

The present effort to get title by legislation is the sequel to a long series of damaging trespasses which private interests have already committed on the public's oil fields.

These were discovered by the department of justice, and in February, 1915, the attorney general caused suits to be brought to discontinue them and force compensation in damages for the oil taken. The trespassers defended with the plea that they did not believe the withdrawals of September, 1909, and July, 1910, were legal, so they had gone on grabbing.

The Phelan bill is intended to quash the government's suits and cure the "titles" which these grabbers have acquired by trespassing. The bill has been favorably reported by the senate committee on public lands and the ways are greased for its passage.

**CITY ELECTIONS
AGAIN IN MEXICO**

EL PASO, Tex., May 25.—As the first step in the restoration of a constitutional government, the Carranza government has proposed a decree calling for municipal elections and the establishment of free municipalities, according to a message from Mexico City, received today by Andres Garcia, the Mexican consul here.

Following the municipal elections orders will be issued successively for state and congressional elections, and lastly for the choosing of a president of the republic. The first election is ordered for July.

Information was also received from Chihuahua City saying that Governor Enriquez had published a decree forbidding bull fights, cock fights and other sports deemed immoral and corrupting.