

**FORECAST**  
Fair—Continued warmer  
Thursday and Friday.

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

**WEATHER**  
Maximum yesterday, 98;  
Minimum today, 45.

MEDFORD OREGON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1916

NO. 131

## DELAY CAUSES RAILROADERS TO GROW RESTIVE

Leaders of Brotherhood Alarmed Lest They Cannot Control Men— Executives Continue Deliberations Upon Counter Proposal to President's Plan.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—The railroad employes' committee showed such marked signs of unrest today at the delay in negotiations between President Wilson and the railway executives that the leaders of the men were alarmed and openly expressed fears of their ability to hold them much longer.

An employes' meeting this morning was thrown into an uproar by speeches of a minority, which demanded immediate action unless the goods accept the president's plan, but the leaders succeeded in adjourning it before any vote could be taken or any of the various proposals. They said afterward that while the pressure for immediate action came from a minority it was strong, but they believed the majority would be willing to give the president a little more time.

Some of the men urged that most of them go home leaving the brotherhood heads with authority to call a strike if the railroads do not accept the president's plan.

The meeting adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

**Proposed Legislation.**  
While the railroad executives continued deliberations on what form of counter proposal they shall make to President Wilson's plan, the president continued conferences with Senator Newlands and Representative Adamson, chairman of the inter-state commerce committee in congress, about the bill to increase the membership of the inter-state commerce commission and to include strike legislation.

The program of the railroad executives as understood today, was to deal first with the principle of arbitration and afterward with the eight-hour day.

In administration circles today it was declared that both the president and the railroad executives seemed to be on the way to an agreement.

There were many indications that the railroad presidents were considering the eight-hour day on condition that some definite assurance be given them that future disputes be arbitrated.

**Holden's Statement.**  
President Holden of the Burlington, in charge of the committee of eight, made the following statement: "A meeting of the presidents and managers was held at 11 o'clock this morning and a recess was taken until six o'clock. In the meantime the special committee of the presidents in session, giving further consideration to the various problems, presented by the situation."

Elisha Lee, chairman of the manager's committee made this statement: "There seems to be some question of the accuracy of the estimates made by the railways of what it would cost to grant the demands of the train employes and I make this statement to clarify the public mind on this phase of the matter."

**Cost Hundred Millions.**  
"There has been no change in our original estimate that to grant the demands made add a hundred million dollars a year to the operating expenses. On the contrary, subsequent investigations have confirmed the substantial accuracy of that estimate."

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## BORDER CONFERENCE IN NEW ENGLAND

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—Eusebio Arredondo, Mexican ambassador-designate, announced after a conference with Secretary Lansing late today that the international joint commission would meet "on the New England coast during the first week of September."

Further discussion with the commissioners will precede selection of a definite time and place.

## RUMANIA STILL UNDECIDED ON ENTERING WAR

German Report Has It That Sudden Bulgarian Advance and Slackening of Russian Offense Is Influencing Rumania to Remain Neutral— Statesmen Still Undecided.

BERLIN, Aug. 22.—Rumania has not decided whether she will enter the war, in the opinion of a person characterized by the Overseas News agency as "a distinguished diplomatist who is especially conversant with Rumanian affairs."

On being asked by the news agency as to the present situation, he said: "Rumania's attitude is due to her geographical situation. The country is virtually surrounded by belligerents. Rumanian statesmen therefore are guided by the desire to spare their country the injury which would be unavoidable if it were to become a theater of war."

"Since the beginning of the present conflagration the entente powers, particularly Russia, have been extremely active in Rumania. The country is flooded with Russian agents and spies of all descriptions. The entente uses money lavishly to bribe politicians and influence the press. Now the sudden and successful Bulgarian advance has brought a quick change in the situation and the Russian offensive apparently is slackening."

"At present Rumania is undecided. She probably will not give up her adopted policy of neutrality unless she believes that the really decisive turn in the war has been reached. Meanwhile, trade relations between Rumania and the central powers continue to be normal and active."

## VIOLENT QUAKE SHAKES EUREKA

EUREKA, Cal., Aug. 23.—The most violent earthquake felt here since April, 1908, when San Francisco was partially destroyed, rocked the city and northern Humboldt county at 6:55 o'clock this morning, arousing late sleepers, who fled from their homes into the streets in panic-stricken. There was no material damage.

There were two shocks, each lasting several seconds.

Similar reports come from Arcata and other points north of here, but apparently the shocks were slight in the southern part of the county which is traversed by the 1906 fault line, which dips into the ocean near the mouth of the Bear river. A slight disturbance was felt at Ferndale, 15 miles south, but in Petrolita, 50 miles to the south, only one woman reported feeling the shock.

United States weather bureau instruments here registered the shocks. It was said to be the first disturbance, seemingly confined to the northern part of the county, felt here. The 1906 earthquake was severe and general.

## CHICAGO FINANCIERS STUNG BY BEES

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—Ten thousand bees, liberated in La Salle street, Chicago's financial district, today stung a score of people and sent brokers, clerks and messengers hurrying to cover. The bees were being carried in a case when a youth bumped into a man holding them, causing him to stumble and smash the case.

## CARRANZA FORMS NEW WAR ZONE

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 23.—General Carranza has organized a new military zone comprising the isthmus of Tehuantepec and placed General Luis Guterrez in command with instructions to insure the safety of trains on the isthmus.

## BULGARS BEND WINGS OF ALLIES IN THE BALKANS

Entente Forces Advance in Center, But Are Driven In on Sides—Russian Advance Checked—British Advancing Slowly on Somme Front—Italians Passive in Gorizia Area.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—Political developments in the Balkans overshadow in interest for the moment, even the important military operations in progress there, in connection with the attitude of Rumania the course of the Russian campaign in Bukovina, close to the Rumanian frontier is being closely watched. The latest advices from Teutonic sources, however, declare that the Russians are being held up by the Teutonic resistance, not only in the Carpathian fighting, but along the entire front to the north in Galicia and Volhynia.

Petrograd claims the capture of new positions in the Hungarian frontier. With Russian and Italian troops added to the French, British and Serbian forces already in the field, the allies have a formidable array of fighting men on the Macedonian front. However, the Bulgarians have pushed back the wings and it is only in the center in the Vardar valley that entente advances have scored.

**On the Western Front.**  
On the western front along the Somme, the British continue closing in on Thiepval, on their left flank and apparently have Guilleumont on their right, almost within their grip. South of the Somme the French are now being forced to fight hard for retention of the trenches captured early this week in the vicinity of Estrees.

They admit today that the Germans, through a strong counter attack, were able to gain a footing in their former trenches. The Italians are continuing passive in the Gorizia area, so far as their infantry is concerned, but their artillery is showing marked activity. They have launched a new aggressive movement in the Dolomites, the Alpine region on the far northern front, however, and report the capture of important Austrian positions on the Tofana heights.

**Turks Forced Back.**  
The Turks, who recently have been pressing the Russians hard in Southern Turkish Armenia, have also attempted an offensive along the Black Sea coast, but Petrograd reports today that they were foiled in this movement and driven back with the aid of the Russian Black Sea fleet.

## NEW RECORD PRICE FOR STEEL STOCKS

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Active speculation at higher prices attended today's operations on the stock exchange, the feature being United States Steel, which sold up to the new record price of 99 1/2 in the early afternoon on enormous dealings. Trading was active in all other favorites.

Steele were in better demand at 1 to 3 points gains, Wall street in this way expressing its belief in a satisfactory outcome of the railway labor negotiations.

The war group, equipments and metals were appreciably higher in the afternoon.

## GERMANS SECURE FOOTING AT ESTREES

PARIS, Aug. 23.—German troops attacking the French lines south of Estrees on the Somme front, gained a footing at some points in trenches that had been captured by the French on August 21, the war office announced today.

The attack in the Estrees region south of the Somme was launched after a period of intense artillery preparation.

North of the Somme the Germans violently bombarded the French first line.

## THE ENEMY IS COMING!



"The enemy is coming" is the message that has just been flashed to the soldiers in this war trench in France. The picture shows the Russian soldiers in the trench preparing for a gas attack.

## RUSSIANS REPORT PROGRESS ALONG HUNGARIAN LINE

PETROGRAD, Aug. 23.—The Germans resumed the offensive yesterday south of Brody, where the Russians are attempting to approach Lemberg from the northeast. The war office statement of today says the Germans were repulsed. The Russians captured two heights on the Hungarian front. The announcement follows:

"In the region south of Krevin the enemy on Tuesday night launched a gas attack which was repelled with heavy losses."

"In the region south of Brody the enemy resumed the offensive at some points. His attacks were repulsed everywhere by our fire."

"Near the source of the river Pruth, southwest of Ardjux, we captured two heights north and south of Kovyerka mountain, on the Hungarian frontier."

An offensive undertaken by the Turks along the Armenian Black Sea coast has been stopped and the Turkish forces driven back with the aid of the Russian fleet.

## GOOD CROPS FOR GERMANY IN SIGHT

BERLIN, Aug. 23.—The Tagblatt says that the favorable crop forecasts are being borne out fully and that excellent yields of all cereals are being obtained throughout Germany. Fodder also is plentiful. The potato crop, however, probably is inferior to that of last year, owing to the excessive rains. Sugar production has increased.

## GERMAN STEAMER CAPTURED IN BALTIC

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 23.—The capture of the German steamer Desloro of 2543 tons gross with a cargo of iron ore, off Hernessand, Sweden, on the Gulf of Bothnia, is officially announced. She was taken into Runo, Finland.

## SAFETY OF NATION DEPENDS ON FLEET RESISTING INVADERS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Safety of the nation rested theoretically today on the success of the fleet commanded by Rear Admiral Helm, which was steaming out into the Atlantic in search of the "enemy" fleet under Admiral Mayo, bound for American shores with an imaginary army of invasion in thirty transports. It was the second day of a great naval hide-and-go-seek game.

Not the least important aid to the defending fleet was the navy department with its means of gathering information of the "invaders" whereabouts from merchant vessels at sea.

But over their desks in the bureau of communications, navy officers who have made special study of codes worked ceaselessly to solve the riddle of the enemy's code system. They had as material a number of wireless messages transmitted by Admiral Mayo's "fleet" fleet, picked up by ships of Admiral Helm's "blue" defensive fleet and relayed to the Arlington wireless station.

## TENEMENT COLLAPSES KILLING WORKMEN

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Six men were missing, one is dead and several are dying in hospitals and a dozen others were injured today as the result of the sudden collapse of a five-story brick tenement in the course of construction in the Bronx.

Several arrests have been made, including a member of the contracting firm which was constructing the building.

## FLOUR ADVANCES TO \$6.20 A BARREL AT PORTLAND

PORTLAND, Or., Aug. 23.—Flour recorded another advance here today, patents being quoted at \$6.20 a barrel, an increase of 20 cents. During the last three weeks the price has been advanced 80 cents. High wheat prices are said to be directly responsible.

## EXPLORER BACK FROM CHASING PEARY'S MIRAGE

Navy Attache of Crockerland Expedition Returns—No Trace Found of Peary's Alleged Discovery—Relief Sent From Denmark to Members of Expedition—Dire Hardships.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Ensign Fitzhugh Green, the American naval officer assigned to the McMillan Crockerland Arctic expedition, has reported his safe arrival at Copenhagen on August 19, to the navy department, but has made no report on whether the expedition found Crockerland or of the whereabouts of McMillan and the other scientists in the party.

Green announced his arrival from three years of Arctic exploration.

**Taken Off the Map.**  
The National Geographic society, its officers say, has no connection with the expedition and knows nothing of the results. Rear Admiral Peary, who reported his discovery of Crockerland in July, 1906, is at his summer place in Maine. When in the fall of 1914 the McMillan expedition reported it had not yet been able to find the continent, the admiral reported having seen it from Cape Thomas Hubbard. Admiral Peary remained unconvinced and expressed belief that it would be located.

Representative Hedgeson of Minnesota, who has been active in support of Dr. Frederick Cook in the polar controversy, raised such an objection some time ago to Crockerland being shown in the navy hydrographic charts that it was removed, awaiting confirmation of the discovery.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Officials of the American museum of natural history said today they had as yet received no word from Ensign Fitzhugh Green.

**Crockerland a Mirage.**  
Jerome Lee Allen of Iowa, the wireless operator of the MacMillan expedition, declined to discuss here reports that the expedition had decided Crockerland was only a mirage, but brought word that relief had been sent from Denmark to other members of the MacMillan party and the Hovey expedition which first went to the relief of MacMillan in the auxiliary schooner George B. Cluett.

The party from the Cluett, including Dr. E. O. Hovey and Thompson Comer, an experienced Arctic explorer, located the MacMillan party near Etah, Greenland, late last fall, Allen said, after an unusually hard trip in which the schooner had to be abandoned at North Star Bay. The MacMillan party was found in dire want. Members of both expeditions then returned to the Cluett. In January, Allen, Ensign Green and Dr. Hovey started on a 1300-mile dog sled journey across Greenland to get assistance, but Hovey caught a severe cold after traveling about sixty miles and had to return.

After two months' hard traveling the sledge party reached Egedesboe, a Danish settlement, and took a steamship for Denmark. Subsequently the steamship Denmark was dispatched to relieve those remaining near the Cluett, all of whom were well, Allen said, when he left.

## EARLY MEETING TO END BORDER TROUBLE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The way was clear today for an early meeting of the joint American-Mexican commission to settle international difficulties.

Secretary Lansing last night announced the selection of the American commissioners. They are Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior; George Gray of Wilmington, Del., a retired federal circuit judge and former United States senator, and Dr. John R. Mott of New York City, general secretary of the international committee of the Young Men's Christian association.

The Mexican commissioners have already been chosen.

A New Jersey coast resort may be selected as the meeting place of the joint commission.

## MILLION A YEAR PROFIT REAPED BY UNCLE SAM

Government's Venture in War Insurance Proves Most Profitable—No One Else Would Take Risk, So Wilson Did It—Capital Never Touched—Bureau Perpetuated.

By GILSON GARDNER  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The first piece of business pulled off in the last two years was transacted by Uncle Sam in the line of insurance. Your uncle never was in the insurance business before, but when the war broke out he plunged. Nobody else wanted to take the risk. Ships were tied up to the docks at all American ports because they could not get anybody to write insurance against being destroyed by ships of war. Private capital was timid, so congress passed an act saying, "Let Uncle Sam do it."

Five million dollars were handed Uncle Sam as capital, and he was given a little 1259 room in the basement of the treasury building as his insurance office. With this beginning the war risk insurance bureau—so for it was called—has done a business which shows on the profit ledger a figure that would make a private business man sit up and take some considerable notice. First look at the cost. The bureau has been in operation two years, and the total cost for salaries, rent, soliciting (there is none), printing, bookkeeping, rubber stamps, office boy, etc., is \$39,594. The total amount of insurance written was \$127,408,901. The total premiums received were \$2,727,991. The losses to date—all paid—have been \$744,363. There has been salvage to the amount of \$49,782. The net losses therefore were \$694,581. The amount on hand is \$2,032,509. That is profit! Over a million a year; and he never touched his capital.

**Advantages Apparent.**  
The risks which were out August 3, 1916, amounted to \$11,802,645. From these there are possible losses, but it things go as they have been doing during the past two years, the chances are that the losses will be small compared to the amount of premiums already accumulated.

There are several obvious advantages in a government-run business. There are no great expenses. The government does not go out and solicit insurance, it does not compete with any other insurance company, it does not pay fancy salaries to non-working presidents, vice-presidents, stockholders or directors; it does not pay for show window offices or fancy furniture, and it pays no profits to anybody except the people.

Uncle Sam's marine insurance business will be two years old September 2, 1916. When it was created there was considerable reluctance on the part of the conservative members of congress to have the government go into any kind of business ordinarily conducted by private interests. It was pointed out, however, that private capital was unwilling to carry on this business in view of the hazards of war, and their failure to do so had brought commerce to a standstill. President Wilson and Secretary McAdoo urged upon congress the immediate enactment of this measure, and this, together with the bill permitting foreign built ships to take American registry, undoubtedly saved the country from a serious crisis.

**Bureau Perpetuated.**  
The law was drawn so as to limit the operation of the bureau to two years, and the president was given power at any time to terminate it.

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## ITALIANS THRUST AT ALPINE POSITIONS

ROME, Aug. 23.—The Italians are making a strong and successful thrust at the Austrian lines in the Alpine region on the extreme northern front, according to today's war office announcement. Italian troops have carried strong Austrian positions in the Tofana area in the Dolomites and in the Travencaze valley.