

FORECAST
FAIR TONIGHT
AND SUNDAY

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER
Maximum Yesterday 94;
Minimum Today 51.

MEDFORD OREGON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1916

NO. 152

THREE VILLAGES WON IN DRIVE OF BRITISH ARMY

Germans Concede Loss of Courcellette, Martinpuich and Fiers, But Retain Combles—Counter-Attacks Repulsed by French—Kinchy Surrounded, But Still in Teuton Possession.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—The heavy offensive launched yesterday by the British north of the Somme, the most powerful in weeks, was successful in gaining ground along the entire line, except immediately opposite Ginchy, where the Germans clung on desperately, today's dispatches indicate.

The most important points gained were the villages of Courcellette, east of Thiepval; Martinpuich, south of the Pozieres Bapaume road and Fiers, two miles north of Ginchy. These three villages are now completely in possession of the British, London announces today.

The Germans already have begun counter-attacking the French at points where they recently advanced, both north and south of the Somme. Paris today reports the repulse of German attacks east of Clercy, immediately north of the stream, and near Berny, below the river, southeast of Estrees.

Loss Is Admitted.
BERLIN, Sept. 16.—After severe fighting on the Somme front yesterday, says today's German official statement, the German troops were forced back through the villages of Courcellette, Martinpuich and Fiers. The town of Combles, the statement adds, was held by the Germans in the face of strong British attacks.

The German official statement reporting operations in France says: "The battle on the Somme was especially fierce yesterday. A strong assault by about twenty Anglo-French divisions (400,000 officers and men) was directed against our front near the Ancre and the Somme after the artillery had reached its highest intensity.

"Following upon hot fighting, we were forced back through the villages of Courcellette, Martinpuich and Fiers. Combles was held against strong British attacks.

"Farther south on the Somme all attacks were repulsed with sanguinary losses, in some instances after hand-to-hand fighting.

"South of the Somme from Barleux to Denicourt, French attacks also were repulsed. Fighting still continues for possession of some outposts.

Counter-Attacks Lost.
PARIS, Sept. 16.—German counter-attacks were made on the French lines both north and south of the Somme last night. They were unsuccessful, the war office announced today. The assaults were delivered to the east of Clercy, on the north bank of the river and east of Berny, to the south of the stream, below Peronne.

During yesterday's fighting, today's bulletin states, the French took 400 prisoners. In a single trench the bodies of eighty-six dead Germans were picked up.

AMERICAN GOODS NOT AFFECTED
WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—While the state department is investigating the late British order retraining commerce to Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland, officials are in some doubt as to whether it affects American goods already covered by letters of assurance through the operation of the Netherlands overseas trust.

British embassy officials say it does not. They say that no change so fundamental as that reported in London dispatches could possibly have been made without notification to them here.

FRIDAY'S DRIVE BEST DAY FOR BRITISH IN WAR

Attack Most Extensive Since Opening Day of Offensive and More Ground Won—Push Was Down Hill—Germans Fiercely Fought Every Foot of the Way.

BRITISH FRONT IN FRANCE, Sept. 16.—Army officers universally are speaking of Friday as the best day for the British arms since the offensive began on the Somme front. With the exception of July 1, the attack began yesterday was the most extensive of any in the ten weeks battle. For the first time new armored motor cars of ingenious pattern, suitable for crossing trenches and shell holes, competed with the infantry as the British swept down from the ridges to the lower ground toward Bapaume. At this writing the British are beyond the village of Fiers, which they took early in the morning and are established in Martinpuich and Courcellette.

The slow plodding work of recent weeks, which included the taking of Ginchy and Guillemont had for its object control of all the high ground from the region of Thiepval to the junction with the French on the right. The Germans fought hard for every foot of it. Deville, or Devil's wood, High wood and the rib of earth with the windmill crowning it beyond Pozieres, have been steeped with blood of men fallen there in their long stand under the heaviest ory of shell fire in the history of war, as experts agree.

Push Down Hill.
The British push was largely down hill. They put behind them the high ground whose slopes give them shelter for their guns and whose crest gives them observation for their artillery fire. Evidently the Germans did not expect the attack, considering that the offensive was over and that the British would settle down for the winter in their new and advantageous positions.

Never before, probably, have more guns been playing over the same length of front than along the six miles where the British made their advance on July 1 and where they have continued their offensive with phlegmatic and dogged persistence. The Germans kept on bringing up guns, until now they have 1,000 in this short sector. The Associated Press correspondent moving over the region of the devastated villages and shell torn earth intersected by new roads, saw on Thursday how enormously the British had increased their own artillery.

Artillery Enormous.
The infantry went after those new motor cars, across trenches and shell holes. So ludicrous was their appearance that the British soldiers laughed at them in the midst of the charge. They cheered them as they played their streams of machine gun bullets. Like some prehistoric monsters they must have seemed to the Germans, who had to seek dugouts or flight, or else they surrendered.

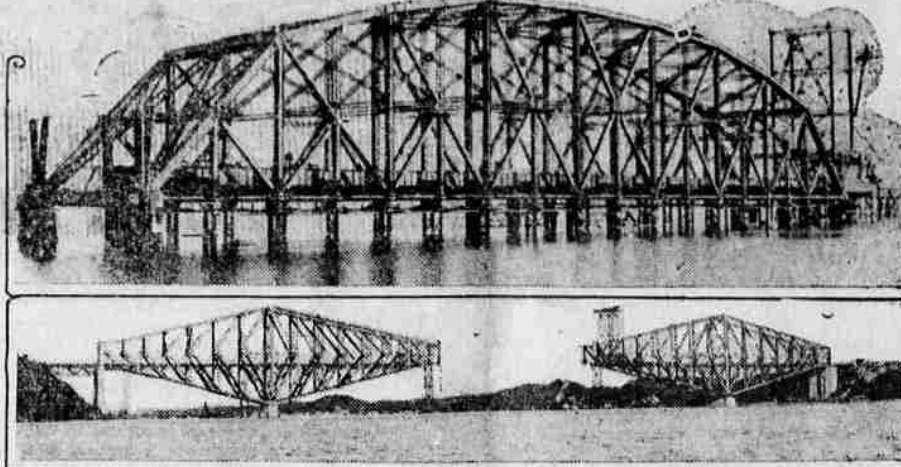
British everywhere gained possession of the new German trenches, except opposite Ginchy. There the Germans, clinging with desperate courage and dogged tenacity to remain on that bit of high ground in that piece-by-piece defense of his. There he still keeps up the struggle at last accounts.

Again in High wood he had kept a redoubt with a nest of machine guns which the armored motor cars engaged, machine gun to machine gun, while the British infantry passed around it as around a rock in a flood.

DRAG WILLAMETTE FOR HENDRICK'S BODY

SALEM, Ore., Sept. 16.—The Willamette river was being dragged here today in an effort to recover the body of Leland Hendricks, managing editor of the Oregon Statesman, who has not been seen since he went bathing in the river late yesterday, leaving his clothes in a boathouse. There seemed little doubt today that he had been drowned.

5000-TON BRIDGE SPAN WHICH COLLAPSED, KILLING WORKMEN



Views of the Quebec Bridge over the St. Lawrence river which collapsed in the course of construction, killing about a dozen men and injuring many. The upper view shows the central span, weighting 5000 tons, which fell while being lifted into place between the two centilevers shown below. The span is 1500 feet long; the anchor arms on each side an additional 500 feet each.

INJUNCTION MAY HALT PLANS FOR GENERAL STRIKE

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—While labor leaders were perfecting plans for a sympathetic walkout by 75,000 workers to aid the striking railway men, officials of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company against which the fight is principally directed discussed today the possibility of instituting action charging conspiracy against the union leaders.

Business men and merchants who have suffered heavily because of the traction tie-up are said to be co-operating in the movement to restrain the labor leaders. James L. Quackenbush, general counsel for the Interborough in this connection said that his assistants were collecting evidence of the transactions of the union leaders and that when "sufficient cumulative evidence had been secured and conditions so demand, action will be taken."

Mr. Quackenbush said he was certain his company could obtain an injunction restraining the strikers and their leaders from interfering with the loyal employes of the Interborough in the event such a course is deemed advisable.

GERMANY FORBIDS LOAN TO BELGIUM AS NULL AND VOID

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Ambassador von Bernstorff today informed the state department that the German government would consider "null and void" any loan to Belgium negotiated in the United States during German occupancy of that country.

State department officials declared they had no knowledge previous to the announcement of Germany's attitude that the Belgian government was seeking a loan in this country. The German position was signified in this statement:

"The imperial German government through its ambassador at Washington, has informed the state department that in view of the statements that the Belgian government is trying to contract a loan in the United States and has for this purpose disposed of the Belgian state railroad, any such arrangement made during the German occupation and without previous consent of the German government will be considered null and void by Germany."

KING OF ENGLAND CONGRATULATES TROOPS

LONDON, Sept. 16.—King George sent the following message today to General Sir Douglas Haig, the British commander in France: "I congratulate you and my brave troops on the brilliant success just achieved. I have never doubted that complete victory will ultimately crown our efforts, and the splendid work of the fighting yesterday confirmed this view."

ARMORED CARS FURNISH SURPRISE OF BATTLEFIELD

BRITISH FRONT IN FRANCE, Sept. 16.—The work of the new armored cars in co-operation with the British infantry, in their charges in yesterday's successful attack, was the theme of the talk throughout the army today.

"The idea was so good when it was offered," said a staff officer, "that we had some built, and the way they have gone over the ground and enfiladed the Germans with machine-gun fire is some return for the surprise the Germans gave us with their gas attacks in the first battle of Ypres."

Evidently the British were able to keep the building of these cars entirely secret and the first that the Germans knew of their existence was when in the misty dawn yesterday morning they came trundling across shell craters and over tree stumps, cutting down many small trees on their way toward the German trenches, on to the second line and even to the third line. The return to earth of the ichthyosaurus or dinosaurs snorting bullets from their nostrils, could not have been more amazing.

"Tanks" is the slang word the army staff has applied to these strange creations of machinery, but they look less like tanks than anything else in the world. It is hard to say what they look like. They have been compared both to armadillos and measuring worms, and to many other weird creeping or crawling objects of natural history. A man-of-war's turret crossing fields, in and out of gulleys and through fences would present a spectacle resembling their progress.

It is small wonder that anybody who saw in action one of these armored motor cars—if car be an allowable name—should hold up his hands. They have brought a new element into the grim, monotonous business of war, trenches, shells and bombs. It was the "tank's" day, and the "tank" made good.

SIX MISSING FROM AETNA EXPLOSION

PITTSBURG, Pa., Sept. 16.—The fact that six men have been missing since an explosion last night at the plant of the Aetna Chemical company in Oakdale, a suburb, today prompted a hurried investigation by the coroner's office. Officers of the company declared they did not know the number of casualties, but expressed the belief that all at work in the building had been killed.

A large party of workmen is searching the ruins for bodies. The plant where the explosion occurred was said to be engaged in the manufacture of a high explosive.

Fair and Warm Coming Week

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Sunday, September 17, issued by the weather bureau today, are: "Rocky mountain and plateau regions: Generally fair with temperatures averaging somewhat below the normal. "Pacific states: Generally fair with temperatures above the seasonal average."

RAILROAD STOCKS GOING SKYWARD IN WALL STREET

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—Impressive buying of railway shares, which had its inception in yesterday's late dealings was resumed with greater activity during today's short session of the stock exchange. The movement appeared to be predicted on the highly favorable conditions under which the leading transportation roads are known to be operating and probably received addition stimulus from the recent report of the Interstate commerce commission, which showed that in the past fiscal year the principal railroad systems of the country had for the first time in their history made net earnings in excess of a billion dollars.

Today's advance was led by Union Pacific, Great Northern, St. Paul, Atchafon, New York Central, the principal coalers, Reading excepted, cotton carrying lines and numerous minor issues. Gains of the first hour, in which dealings assumed enormous proportions, ranged from one to almost three points.

Another striking feature of the session was the new record scored by United States steel at 108. In the main, however, industrials and recent favorite specialties were relegated to comparative obscurity. Sales for the first hour aggregated almost half a million shares, of which rolls, it was estimated, supplied fully two-thirds.

Total sales aggregated almost 800,000,000 shares, or at the rate of 2,000,000 for the full day.

RUMANIA DRY THROUGH RUSSIA

BERLIN, Sept. 16.—According to the Vossische Zeitung, Russia has induced Rumania to prohibit absolutely the sale of liquors and to consent to the appointment of Russians as members of the Rumanian secret police and department of finance, and as commanders of the forts in north-eastern Rumania and administrators of the railroads. The newspaper says a person who was in Bucharest when Rumania declared war against Austria asserts that a member of the Petrograd police force led a mob which attacked Jews, killing three and wounding a large number.

LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR BENNETT THOMPSON

HILLSBORO, Ore., Sept. 16.—Bennett Thompson, who was last week convicted of the murder of Mrs. Helen Jennings May 15 last, was today sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge George R. Bagley. When asked if he had anything to say Thompson replied: "All I can say is that I am not guilty and I hope that it will some day be proved that I am not guilty." Attorneys for the defense asked for a stay of execution for 60 days to file a motion for a new trial.

BULGARS WIN IN NORTH BUT LOSE IN SOUTH

Berlin Reports Decisive Victory Over Rumanians in Dobrudja—Serbians Route Bulgarians on Macedonian Front, Advancing Six Miles North-east of Florina.

BERLIN, Sept. 16.—The Teutonic allies in Dobrudja have gained a decisive victory over the Russian and Rumanian forces, says an official telegram from Emperor William to the empress. The telegram was forwarded yesterday and as officially given out reads: "Field Marshal Von Mackensen just informs me that the Bulgarian-Turkish-German troops in Dobrudja have gained a decisive victory over the Russo-Rumanian forces."

BERLIN, Sept. 16.—Field Marshal Von Mackensen, in command of the troops of the central powers in the Balkans, has decisively defeated the Rumanians and Russians in the province of Dobrudja and is now pursuing them, says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters.

Bulgarian forces on the Macedonian front have occupied a new position after losing Malka Nidze, in a battle with troops of the entente allies.

Serbs Win Victory.
PARIS, Sept. 16.—Serbian troops have put the Bulgarians to rout in the fighting on the western end of the Macedonian front, the war office announced today. The Serbians have advanced six miles northeast of Florina and have captured thirty-two cannon. The French and Russian forces also have defeated the Bulgarians.

SALONIKI, via London, Sept. 16.—The Bulgarians are falling back in disorder toward Monastir, pursued by the victorious Serbians, according to an official statement issued at Serbian headquarters. The text of the statement follows:

"After two days' artillery preparations and the occupation of the enemy's advanced posts our troops carried out a decisive attack on the principal Bulgarian positions in the direction of Florina, which was crowned with complete success. The Bulgarian positions at Malkandize and Malareka are now in our hands and General Boyadjeff's army is retiring in disorder toward Monastir, pursued by our victorious troops.

"We made a large number of prisoners and captured twenty-nine guns, including several of heavy caliber. The Bulgarian losses are enormous. One Bulgarian regiment lost 1500 men. Our troops have already descended into the plain of Florina."

British Inactive.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—British troops are engaged in active operations along the Struma front on the right flank of the allied position at Saloniki, but apparently are not making any forward thrust in force in this region, according to today's war office announcement on the fighting in Macedonia which follows:

"On the Struma front our raiding detachments crossed the river and attacked Ozani Mah and Komani, capturing some prisoners. Our mounted troops raided villages of the upper and lower Gadeli (in the Lake Tahnos region).

"On the Doiran front our artillery is maintaining a steady bombardment of enemy positions."

BELGIANS CROSSING BORDER TO HOLLAND

LONDON, Sept. 16.—A dispatch to the Evening News from Amsterdam reports that the German guards along the Dutch frontier towards both Belgium and Germany, have been withdrawn.

From Belgium, adds the dispatch, numbers of Belgian families, who for months had appealed for permission to enter Holland, are now streaming across the line at various points with their belongings piled on every kind of conveyance.

PRESIDENT TO AGAIN APPOINT GEORGE RUBLEE

Wilson to Continue Battle Against "Senatorial Courtesy" in Behalf of New Hampshire Progressive, Well Qualified for Trade Commission, Who Is Persona Non Grata.

BY FREDERICK M. KERBY
WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—President Wilson is preparing for another battle with "senatorial courtesy." The session over, George Rublee, member of the federal trade commission, will receive a new recess appointment, and at the short session in December the battle between the reactionary group in the senate, led by old Doc Gallinger, and the president will be renewed.

Rublee has been serving on the federal trade commission without pay since his first appointment was made before the sixty-third congress adjourned. The senate refused to act on his appointment at that time, and later a recess appointment was made.

Reactionaries Objected.
The reactionary republicans in the senate did not want Rublee on the federal trade commission. Rublee is a progressive. He has been closely associated with Louis D. Brandeis in many cases which the "people's lawyer" has handled. Rublee was Brandeis' associate as counsel in the famous Hallinger investigation. He helped frame the provisions of the federal trade commission act when the legislation was before the senate, and is well fitted to serve on the commission.

But Rublee hails from New Hampshire, which is also the native birth of Senator Jacob H. Gallinger, leader of the republican minority in the senate. Rublee had the temerity to oppose Gallinger's re-election. Because he had done so, Gallinger sought vainly to find some grounds on which he could urge the rejection of the Rublee appointment.

Blocked by Gallinger.
The question of Rublee's confirmation was referred to a sub-committee of the senate committee on interstate commerce. Gallinger appeared before this committee in 1915 to explain his opposition. He quoted from a newspaper clipping a statement by Winston Churchill in a public address to the effect that "Rublee was the man who helped put the rollers under Gallinger."

Churchill, called before the committee, testified that what he really said was: "Rublee was the man who helped put the rollers under Gallinger." The typesetter simply got the names mixed.

Gallinger was left high and dry and without an excuse for opposition. So he fell back on "senatorial courtesy." "Senatorial courtesy" is a polite name for political blackmail. When one senator objects to a confirmation on the ground that an appointee is "personally obnoxious" to him—as Gallinger did in this case—it has been the practice of the senate to stand by the single objector and refuse confirmation.

Political Blackmail.
So long as each senator has this "right" to object to a confirmation and have his objection sustained thru this kind of "courtesy," it means that each senator must be consulted about appointments from his state; thus:

(Continued on page six)

BORDER MILITIA ON 83 MILE PRACTICE HIKE

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Sept. 16.—Fourteen thousand and sixty three officers and men of the regular army and National Guard started out of San Antonio today on the biggest practice march in the history of the American army, an eighty mile "hike" to Austin.

Eight days will be consumed in the march to Austin. There will be three days of camping at Camp Mabry. Eight days will be spent in the return to San Antonio. The division is made up of Wisconsin, Illinois, Kansas, Texas and Missouri guardsmen and is commanded by Brigadier General Henry A. Greene.