

FORECAST
Tonight and tomorrow,
Fair.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER
Maximum yesterday, 34;
Minimum today, 27.

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1916

NO. 224

LLOYD-GEORGE ILL, UNABLE TO RECEIVE SEALS

New Cabinet Organized—Small War Council With Curzon, Henderson, Bonar Law and Bonar-Law Serving With Premier—Some Unknown Names in Ministry.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Premier Lloyd George is ill. He was unable to go to Buckingham palace today with members of his cabinet to receive the seals of the office from King George. Official announcement was made that the premier was suffering from a severe chill and that on the advice of his physician he was remaining indoors today. He sent the following to all members of the house of commons, it was announced officially today:

Message to Commons.

"The king has entrusted me with the task of forming a government. I have carried out the command, I had hoped to make a statement to the house on Tuesday. I now find it to be impossible. On Tuesday, Mr. Bonar Law, as leader in the house, will move adjournment till Thursday.

"The one predominant task before the government is the vigorous prosecution of the war to a triumphant conclusion. I feel confident the government can rely on your support as long as they devote their energies effectively to that end."

New Ministry.

The new war cabinet: Premier, David Lloyd-George. Lord President of the council, Earl Curzon, who also will be government leader in the house of lords. Arthur Henderson, minister without portfolio. Lord Miller, minister without portfolio. Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer.

Other members of the ministry are: Lord high chancellor, Sir Robert Bannatyne Finlay; secretary of state for the home department, Sir George Cave; secretary of state for foreign affairs, Arthur J. Balfour; secretary of state for the colonies, Walter Hume Long; secretary of state for war, The Earl of Derby; secretary of state for India, Austen Chamberlain; president of the local government board, Baron Rhonda; president of the board of trade, Sir Albert Stanley; minister of labor, John Hodge; first lord of the admiralty, Sir Edward Carson.

Sir Edward Carson: minister of munitions, Dr. Christopher Addison; minister of blockade, Lord Robert Cecil; food controller, Baron Davenport; president of the board of education, Herbert A. L. Fisher; postmaster general, Albert Blingworth; attorney general, Sir Frederick E. Smith; solicitor general Gordon Stewart, K. C.; secretary for Scotland, Mr. Munro; lord advocate, James A. Clyde, K. C.; lord lieutenant of Ireland, Baron Wimborne; chief secretary for Ireland, Henry E. Duke; lord

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JAPANESE TREATY UNDER DISCUSSION BY U. S. SENATE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—An attack by Senator Works of California on the senate committee amendment to the immigration bill which would exclude from the measure any reference to the so-called gentleman's passport agreement between the United States and Japan, caused the senate today to consider the subject behind closed doors, because treaty rights are involved in the issue.

The executive session was ordered after Senator Works had reserved the right to demand a separate vote on the amendment which was incorporated at the request of the state department after an inquiry about the original had been made by the Japanese embassy.

Before the doors were closed, Senator Works declared the amendment was designed purely in the interest of Japan and regardless of the interests of the United States.

JUFFRE OUSTED PETAIN TO LEAD FRENCH ARMIES

Defender of Verdun to be in Supreme Command on Western Battlefield—Reorganization for Efficiency in Management of War—Small Council to Control as in England.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Private advice from Paris received here today telling of the secret proceedings in the French chamber of deputies during the last week confirm previous reports that General Petain, the defender of Verdun is to succeed General Joffre in supreme command of all the allied forces on the western battlefield, as the first result of radical changes in organization, which are to follow concentration of management of the war in a small council, as has been done in England.

General Petain, little known outside the French army, was colonel at the outbreak of the war.

Government Change Tuesday.

PARIS, Dec. 11.—Premier Briand was busy all day Sunday seeing not only politicians, but prominent business men and manufacturers in view of the new cabinet, to facilitate which, all ministers and under-secretaries will hand in their resignations. In the meantime, according to the Magnin, the re-organization of the higher command in the army, being an essentially administrative question, will not be settled until after the new government makes its bow in the chamber of deputies on Tuesday and is endorsed by a vote of confidence.

"In addition to forming a war council of five ministers on the model of that in England," continues the Magnin, "Premier Briand has decided, in the interest of the economic organization of the country, to throw the old administrative machine into the melting pot and oblige all ministerial departments, hitherto clogged in superannuated methods, to get in line with the rest of the country, which is freely spending its blood and gold."

Free Hand to Minister.

"In the conversations he had with prominent men, Premier Briand announced that he intended to give a free hand to the ministers, under-secretaries and directors, forming part of the new ministry. The most absolute powers will be granted to them and if it is found that the methods meet resistance or that certain habits are persisted in, these powers will be still further increased and drastic measures taken. The composition of the new combination will clearly show the result. It will be the most complete possible reconstruction, as will be seen when their names are published."

BRITISH SUCCESSFUL IN EAST AFRICA

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Successful British operations in East Africa, by which the British line of investment was advanced fifty miles along a front of 200 miles, are described in a Reuter's dispatch from Nizgoro. The advance was made from New Iringa and Kissaki to the coast.

VILLA SECURED MILLION PESOS AT CHIHUAHUA

Bandit During Brief Occupation of Capital Made Everybody Contribute Ransom—Property Confiscated by Wholesale—Many Chinamen and Mexicans Slain.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11.—Francisco Villa demanded and obtained a million pesos in silver from the inhabitants of Chihuahua City during his recent occupation of the town and stated everything possessed by Americans in Mexico would be taken from them, according to a letter from Mrs. Barnett Dannis, now in Chihuahua City, written to her son, Samuel B. Dannis, an attorney here, and received by him today.

The elder Mr. Dannis, an American citizen, proprietor of a general merchandise store there, telegraphed his son recently that all his property had been confiscated by the bandits. Mrs. Dannis' letter gave some details.

Stripped of All Property.

"We certainly are grateful to the Almighty that we escaped with our lives, but everything that we had was taken from us," the letter said. "Everything from the store was cleared out, and from the house also. Three times did I go to Villa's headquarters and ask him personally that he would not disturb at least our household goods and he treated me with utter contempt. He would not listen to anything I asked him, but said that everything the Americans possessed now living in Mexico would be taken away by the Mexicans and that orders had been given to his men that what could not be taken away should be destroyed. The fixtures in the store, the showcases, shelving and the contents were absolutely destroyed."

"We stayed in hiding for six days. During that time we had to have something to eat and I dressed like a native woman and in that disguise managed to get about the streets unmolested. In that way I managed to reach Villa's headquarters and also to interview Villa, but did not succeed in my undertaking, as upon my leaving his headquarters it would seem that a special order was given directing the destruction of all that we had."

Many Were Slain.

"After looting the city and making away with \$400,000 worth of merchandise, destroying and burning every building that belonged to foreigners, Villa demanded 1,000,000 pesos in silver of the various residents in the city under threat of burning the town. The money he got. He stated that he had to have as much loot as possible, as the expedition to Chihuahua had cost him a great deal of money."

"Chinamen and Mexicans were killed by the scores. Dead are strewn all over the city. When I say that we lost everything you can imagine what I mean when I tell you that this morning I had to buy a shirt for daddy and a pair of stockings for myself, as the only things we managed to save were the clothes on our backs. In the store we had accumulated a little bit of gold and silver, and that also was taken. Were it not for the Alvarez family I don't know what we would have done, as they have been exceedingly kind in many and various ways, relieving our distress and our needs and wants."

FIGURE IN BRITISH MINISTRY



Top—Left to right: Sir Edward Carson, new minister of munitions, Herbert A. Asquith, former premier, and leader of liberal opposition, Andrew Bonar-Law, new chancellor of the exchequer. Lower, left to right: David Lloyd-George, new premier, Arthur J. Balfour, new secretary of state for colonies.

SMITH QUALIFIED AS WITNESS IN BOPP CONSPIRACY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The papers signed by President Wilson to qualify Louis J. Smith as a government witness in the neutrality trial in San Francisco, restore Smith's citizenship by executive order.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—Trial of Franz Bopp, German consul general, consular co-defendants, and others on charges of conspiracy to aid Germany by sinking entente navigation ships and damaging railroads in Canada, was under way again in the United States district court today hardly three minutes when the defense opened a legal skirmish against introduction as a witness of Mrs. Louis J. Smith, wife of a defendant and a government informer. The government and Mrs. Smith was put on the stand. Judge William H. Hunt ruled, however, in substantiation of the defense of the position that she must not testify against her husband.

FRENCH DESTROYER SUNK IN COLLISION

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—The Overseas News agency says: "German newspapers state that the French destroyer Yatagan, sunk in collision with a British transport, is the fifth French destroyer lost in this way during the war."

OIL PROSPECTORS OFFER COMPROMISE FOR NAVAL FUEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—California oil prospectors, whose claims would be legalized by the Phelan amendment to the oil land leasing bill, now before congress, which is opposed by the navy department on the ground that it threatens the naval fuel reserve, are considering a compromise proposal designed to remove all governmental opposition to the pending bill.

It is proposed that the claimants induce the Standard Oil and associated companies to relinquish to the government holdings in the center of what is known as Section One of the California oil tract and that the entire tract of 38,000 acres be held exclusively by the government for the naval reserve. If that can be accomplished, the claimants have been told the navy department would withdraw all opposition to relief for claimants in Section Two.

The proposal was informally considered today at a meeting of the senate lands committee, which will meet again Wednesday.

Senator Phelan said the compromise had been submitted to the claimants, who had agreed to undertake making it effective contingent upon the navy department agreeing to the terms.

M'ADDO DOES NOT INTEND TO RESIGN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Secretary McAdoo today disposed of reports that he intended to resign with the following formal statement: "I have no intention of resigning from the cabinet."

PROSECUTIONS ARE ORDERED BY PRESIDENT

Investigations of High Living Cost to be Followed Vigorously—Grand Jury Probes Underway in New York and Chicago—Retailers to Discipline Speculators.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—United States Attorney Anderson of Boston, in general charge of the government's investigation into the high cost of living, went over plans for grand jury investigations with President Wilson late this afternoon. The president directed that the investigation be followed vigorously and prompt prosecutions brought if any violations of law discovered.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The federal government's inquiry into the high cost of living began here today with preparations for a grand jury investigation of the coal business. Similar investigations will be made in Chicago, Detroit, Toledo, and Cincinnati. These inquiries will be interlocking and will exchange information.

According to Frank Swacker, special prosecutor, representing the department of justice, the government already has discovered that there is no real shortage in the supply of anthracite coal at this port and no warrant for the high prices charged by some dealers. Mr. Swacker said that the grand jury would also consider evidence relating to speculators in fixing the prices of food commodities.

Three Chicago Probes.

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—Three separate investigations into the cost of food stuffs are under way here today. The national executive committee of the Retail Grocers' association met here today and one of the chief purposes of the meeting, according to Frank B. Connolly of San Francisco, vice-president of the association, is to find means for disciplining food speculators.

The federal grand jury reconvened and continued its inquiry into the causes of the high price of food and the state public utilities commission started a hearing on the conduct of cold storage warehouses.

According to one member of the commission, it is planned, to place a time limit on the storage of each kind of food.

ALLIES DEMAND GREEK ARMIES BE DEMOBILIZED

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The foreign office today stated that the British government was consulting with Great Britain's allies in an effort to reach a very radical solution of the Greek problem.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The latest reports from Athens say that the Greece of the entente governments to Greece is ready and undoubtedly will be presented tomorrow. The note will be short, in the nature of a preliminary to a second note, which will contain more detailed demands.

It is understood that the demands on Greece may require complete demobilization of the army, restoration of control by the entente over the posts, telegraphs and railways and the release of the imprisoned Venizelists.

Advices from the British minister indicate that conditions are more calm. Large numbers of allied nationals continue to leave Athens.

Telegrams received here today from Athens say that a revolution has broken out in the Cyclades group of Greek islands in the Aegean sea.

The Greek battleship Hydra, which is under the control of the entente allies, has intercepted the Greek advices, say, wireless messages from King Constantine addressed to Berlin.

All the Greek communities in Egypt, it is added, have renounced their allegiance to King Constantine.

RUMANIANS PLAN NEW DEFENSIVE ON BUZEU RIVER

Withdrawal of Defeated Forces into Moldavia Continues—Russians Hammer Away With Success in Carpathians—Little Fighting of Importance Along Other Fronts.

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—Strong forces of the Russians yesterday again attacked the Teuton troops to the north of Tartar pass in the Carpathians, in the Bystritsa sector northeast of the Gyergyo mountains and on both sides of the Trotus valley, in western Rumania, but without success, says today's German official statement.

The pursuit of Field Marshal Von Mackensen's troops of the retreating Rumanian armies continued in spite of a pouring rain and the destruction of bridges. At places some resistance was met, the statement adds, and this has now been broken. Several thousand more Rumanians were taken prisoner.

New Defensive Line.

Indications today point more strongly than ever to the probability that the new defensive line of the Rumanians, following their retreat from Bucharest, will be drawn along the Buzeu river, forming the southern boundary of their northern province of Moldavia.

Additional reports from Petrograd indicate a considerable measure of success by the Rumanian northern army in holding up the Teuton advance northeast along the railroad from Ploesti, north of Bucharest, to the town of Buzeu, located at about the center of the Buzeu river line, which stretches eastward to the lower reaches of the Danube.

To Check Advance.

It is necessary to the apparent purpose of the Rumanians for them to prevent an Austro-German advance here until the Rumanian forces further south in eastern Wallachia, retreating from the region between Bucharest and Tchernavoda have reached the Buzeu river line, unless, indeed, the Rumanian military authorities have decided to retain a hold on more of eastern Wallachia than it now seems their purpose to defend. These Rumanian forces are threatened not only by Field Marshal Von Mackensen's Danube army, but by new contingents of Bulgarians, which have crossed the Danube between Silistria and Tchernavoda. Meanwhile the Russians are hammering away at the Austro-German lines on the western frontier of Moldavia and report making headway in the valleys running toward the west.

To Cut Flank.

Their object apparently is not only to hold the Moldavian frontier safe, but possibly to achieve an eventual success in breaking well through into Hungary and cutting in behind the Austro-German supply lines leading into Rumania from the north.

There has been little fighting of an important nature on the other fronts. In Macedonia, the Serbians report having driven the Bulgarians back in one sector northeast of Monastir. On the Franco-Belgian front little has developed beyond intermittent artillery activity in the Somme area and aviation operations on a considerable scale.

CONGRESS OF SMALL OPPRESSED NATIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Many leaders of foreign born population in the United States attended here today the congress of oppressed or dependent nationalities called by Miss Jane Addams and other women peace advocates. Representatives of each nationality expressed the hopes of their people for independence. A member expressed the hope that the United States would participate in the peace conference after the war and make representations on behalf of the submerged nationalities.

DOUGLAS, Ariz., Dec. 11.—General Plutarco Elias Calles, military commander of Sonora, retired Saturday to become a candidate for governor of Sonora, according to a report among his friends here today.

FIRST PICTURE OF BRITISH "TAN K" ON SOMME FRONT IN ACTION

