

**FORECAST**  
Fair today, rain or snow  
Saturday.

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

**WEATHER**  
Maximum yesterday, 27;  
Minimum today, 14.

Forty-sixth Year.  
Daily—Seventeenth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916

NO. 239

## FRENCH REPEL GERMAN THRUST VERDUN REGION

Effort to Strike Back Opposite Scene of Recent French Success Ends in Failure for Crown Prince's Army — Mackensen Keeps Up Drive Against Rumania.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—German troops last night delivered an attack in strong force on a three-kilometer front between Hill 304 and Dead Man hill, northwest of Verdun, the war office announced today. The French infantry and machine gun fire broke the attack, but one of the French trenches south of Dead Man hill was penetrated by a few hostile troops.

Striking back at the French in the Verdun region, but on the bank of the Meuse, opposite the scene of the recent French successes, the Germans made a strong effort last night to penetrate the French lines between Hill 304 and Dead Man hill, the two dominating eminences north of the fortress.

**Weather Checks Fighting.**  
The activities around Verdun have been virtually the only breaks in the monotony of trench warfare along the Franco-Belgian front. The battle of the Somme admittedly is in a state of suspense, because of the bad state of the ground and unfavorable atmospheric conditions, according to British authority.

The opening of what may prove to be an important offensive by the Teutonic forces along the Moldavian western frontier is revealed in the current Berlin statement. Apparently it is the Austro-German purpose to break through the mountain region here and force the Russo-Rumanian lines back along the lower Carpathian barriers to Moldavia.

**Heights Captured.**  
Several heights were captured in the effort, which evidently is made in conjunction with the northward thrust of the Teutonic armies from Wallachia, to the east of this line, the southern flank of which is thus threatened.

From Wallachia northward Field Marshal Von Mackensen's advance has been pressed on the west nearly thirteen miles north of Rimnik Sarat and new progress also has been made near the Danube where Braila, a grain and oil center, is the next important point in the line of the Teutonic progress.

**Stubborn Resistance.**  
The Petrograd statement reveals that Rumanian troops are again in the field in northeastern Wallachia and the indications are that resistance of a most stubborn sort is being offered to Von Mackensen's thrust towards the Sereth line, which runs northwest through Central Moldavia from a point on the Danube just north of Braila. The Germans, however, have taken 1499 more prisoners from the Russians, together with three cannon.

In Dobruja, opposite Braila and Galatz, the Bulgarian, Turkish and German forces have closed in further upon the Matchin bridgehead, taking the town of Ratchela, on the Danube, ten miles across the northwestern neck of Dobruja, from Matchin and opposite the Bessarabian shore.

## RAIL EMPLOYEES DECIDE NEXT STEP

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The 400,000 railroad employees affiliated with the four trainmen's brotherhoods will decide the next step which will be taken by their authorized committee, which has been handling their side of the controversy over the operation of the Adamson act, it was announced here today by the brotherhood chiefs. The brotherhood leaders, after an unannounced conference here this afternoon, gave out a statement indicating their fear that the pending litigation, together with possible future steps on the part of the railroads, would delay indefinitely the investigation by President Wilson's special committee headed by George W. Goethals.

## ALLIES OBJECTS IN CONTINUING WAR OUTLINED

London Spectator Gives Peace Terms —Germany to Lose Alsace-Lorraine, Colonies, Poland and Its Navy—Turkey to Yield Constantinople and Armenia.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The Spectator devotes the greater part of tomorrow's issue to answering President Wilson's question as to what are the peace terms of the entente allies. Briefly summarized, the principal demands as outlined by the Spectator follow:

"The peace terms are to start from the status quo before the war, thus including the evacuation of the whole of northern France, Belgium and Luxembourg, and of all lands taken from Serbia, Rumania, Russia and Montenegro.

"Alsace-Lorraine is to be restored to France. The Danish portion of Schleswig-Holstein is to go to Denmark and Posen, Polish Prussia and Austrian Poland are to be added to the new sub-kingdom of Poland which the czar has pledged to create.

**New Slav Kingdom.**  
"The Slavs of Bosnia, Herzegovina, Dalmatia, Croatia, etc., are to be created into a new kingdom.

"Bohemia is to be an independent state.

"The Rumanian section of Transylvania is to be added to Rumania.

"The whole Austrian Tyrol, plus Trieste, Istria and the other portions of Austria which are Italian in blood or feeling, to be added to Italy.

"Turkey to yield Constantinople and the straits to Russia.

"The Armenians to be put under Russian tutelage.

"The Arabs to be freed, while Syria, Asia Minor and Mesopotamia are to be under external protection guaranteeing tranquillity.

"The German colonies to remain in the hands of the entente. Moreover, a money indemnity for the ruin Germany has done in Belgium, France, Serbia, Montenegro, etc.

**Full Reparation.**  
"As regarding shipping, Germany to make reparation in kind for all ships of commerce destroyed, ton for ton, neutral shipping to be replaced only after all the demands of the allies have been satisfied.

"The German navy to be handed over and distributed among entente nations.

"As a guarantee against future war, the allies are to insist upon the democratization of the German government.

"The Kiel canal to be neutralized under an international non-German commission, including the entente countries, the United States and other neutrals."

## MUST GO TO JAIL FOR LABELING WASHINGTON

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 29.—The state supreme court today upheld the conviction of Paul Haffer of Tacoma, who was convicted in the Pierce county superior court for criminal libel because he published an article defamatory of George Washington, accusing him of drunkenness and other irregularities. The supreme court ruled that publication of articles tending to hold the memory of deceased persons up to ridicule, contempt and obloquy constitutes libel and that it is not necessary to show that relatives and friends of the deceased person were injured in the attacks. Haffer was sentenced to four months in the Pierce county jail, and must serve his term.

## HOWARD PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN SOCIOLOGISTS

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 29.—Prof. George E. Howard of the University of Nebraska was elected president of the American Sociological Society here today, succeeding George E. Vinson of the University of Minnesota. Professor Scott W. Bedford of the University of Chicago was re-elected secretary.

## Uncle Sam Spends 49 Million Trying to Catch Pancho Villa

### MEXICAN BANDIT STILL AT LARGE DEFYING CARRANZA AND UNITED STATES

Estimated at Washington That Pursuit of Villa Has Already Cost \$49,000,000, and End Is Not Yet—Total Cost Likely to Be Astounding

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 29.—It is estimated today that Uncle Sam has spent more than \$49,000,000 trying to catch "Pancho" Villa, and the Mexican bandit is still at large. He has just captured the Mexican city of Torreon.

The war department has not yet issued an official report on the cost of trying to catch the \$49,000,000 bandit.

Last year the cost of feeding the regular army was 27 cents a man per day. Food price increases have placed the cost at 30 cents. Uncle Sam has spent about \$8,120,996 feeding the 140,250 men for 193 days spent on the border.

The pay bill for officers and men is put at \$23,489,089.

The cavalry and field artillery of the state militia were practically horseless when they went to the border. The 6315 cavalrymen had 1824 horses, the 9524 field artillerymen 912 horses. It cost \$1,043,890 to buy horses and mules.

From the time Pershing went into Mexico to June 30, 1916, there were bought for the exclusive use of the expedition 588 motor trucks, 57 motor tank trucks, 10 motor machine shop trucks, 6 motor wrecking trucks, 8 automobiles, 61 motorcycles and 8 tractors for repairing roads. This cost is placed at \$2,175,670.

The \$49,000,000 estimate does not cover wearing out of tentage and supplies of all kinds, nor cost of maintenance of roads and supply trains.

With Villa at large and the cost to Uncle Sam going on, the total figure, when the Villa matter is finally ended, will be all the more astounding.

## RUSSIANS REPORT TEUTONS REPULSED AMARA, BULGARIA

PETROGRAD, Dec. 29.—Violent fighting took place between Russian troops and forces of the central powers yesterday in central Rumania. In the region of Amara, according to the Russian official statement issued today, a Teuton force of 35,000 men strong launched an attack on the Russian lines. The battle continued until evening when the engagements slackened. In the sector of Rimnik Sarat and Boldu all the attacks of the invaders were repulsed by the Russians. The text of the statement reads:

"All attacks on the sector from the railway near Rimnik Sarat to Boldu southwest of Rimnik Sarat, were repulsed. The enemy was overthrown by our energetic counter attacks.

"In the course of the day the enemy about two divisions strong conducted attacks in the direction of Amara station, ten versts to the south of Boldu. Towards evening the battle slackened.

"Near Filipechti station an enemy attack was repulsed by us. Elsewhere there were artillery attacks.

"Dobruja: Along the whole front the enemy conducted attacks against our patrol guards."

## TURKEY'S REPLY TO WILSON'S PEACE MESSAGE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Turkey's reply to President Wilson's peace note was received today at the state department. It substantially is the same as Germany's and Austria's.



## ENTENTE REPLY TO PEACE OFFER NOW COMPLETED

LONDON, Dec. 29.—As a result of the conferences which have been in progress for several days, the entente reply to the German note is now completed. It could go forward today or tomorrow except for the necessary formality of transmitting it to all the allies before final delivery. This means that the delivery will be made early in, or in the middle of next week, perhaps on Wednesday.

The delivery will be made at Paris, after which the communication will be forwarded to Germany through American channels. The reply is a very long document, much more lengthy than the German note. This point has been one of the matters of discussion during the conferences, the objection having been raised that it is too long and should be short and sharp. But there were so many points for elucidation and such a complete difference of conception of the objects and purposes for which the two sides went to war that it was found desirable to extend the note to considerable length. The presence here of Alexandre Ribot, the French finance manager, permitted the French ministry to be represented during the conferences.

Unusual optimism is shown here as to the final result of the form which the reply has taken, which is believed to be such that it will meet with satisfaction at Washington.

The reply to the American note will follow within a few days after the delivery of the reply to Germany.

## OMAHA NEWSPAPERS SUSPEND NEW YEAR'S DAY

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 29.—An announcement was made today by the Omaha daily papers that no papers will be printed Monday, January 1. Publication was omitted by all morning and afternoon papers Christmas day. Conservation of the paper supply is given as the object.

## VILLA EVACUATES TORREON, HEADS FOR CHIHUAHUA

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 29.—Government agents here received an unconfirmed report today that Francisco Villa and his forces were moving north from Torreon in the direction of Chihuahua City with a column of approximately 5000 men.

Torreon was evacuated by the Villa forces, according to the same source, and was reoccupied by de facto forces. No date was given for the re-occupation of Torreon.

Forces operating under the banner of Villa have occupied Saltillo, the capital of the state of Coahuila, it was announced here today by Villa partisans.

The report was denied by Carranza officials here.

Mrs. Arnulfo Gonzales, wife of Governor Gonzales of Chihuahua, arrived here yesterday from Saltillo with the report that the de facto troops had left there to take the field against Villa forces near Torreon.

Government agents here also received the report today that Saltillo had been occupied by a force claiming to be Villa followers. This report stated that this force had come there from the south and had no connection with Villa's main command in the vicinity of Torreon.

## PRESIDENT SIGNS FERRIS HOMESTEAD BILL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—President Wilson late today signed the Ferris bill, opening up 640-acre homesteads for stock raising and grazing purposes. It is accounted of great importance to the western states.

## PAPER MAKERS REFUSE TO TALK TO COMMISSION

Manufacturers Decline to Discuss Figures or to Testify Before Federal Trade Investigators at Hearing Held at Washington—Prosecution of Trust Seems Only Relief.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—News print paper manufacturers at a hearing called today by the federal trade commission, declined to discuss figures presented by the commission's investigators bearing on costs and profits of paper manufacture, but consented to continue consideration of a distribution plan they proposed to the commission two weeks ago. The manufacturers declared they had not time to study the cost figures.

A hearing held two weeks ago at which the same statistics were presented was suspended when the manufacturers put forward the plan for distribution. Today's was the final hearing before the commission makes its report to congress on the news print situation.

**Causes Astonishment.**  
Members of the trade commission appeared astonished when the manufacturers declined to testify and declared the original hearing was called at the request of the manufacturers themselves. The postponement, they said, not only was for time to study one distribution plan, but to give the manufacturers an opportunity to go over the commission's figures.

Representatives of the manufacturers replied that the commission itself had stated it would make an early report to congress and that the manufacturers did not wish to block the report by asking for time to study the statistics.

Commissioner Davies hinted early in the day that if the trade commission failed to find relief for the publishers, some other governmental agency probably could offer the aid asked. Publishers believed he referred to the department of justice.

**Sharply Criticized.**  
The unwillingness of the manufacturers to testify drew sharp criticism from the publishers, Frank P. Glass, chairman of the paper committee of the American Newspaper Publishers' association, told the commission the manufacturers all along had declined to help solve the situation and that their distribution plan was far from a concession, that it would not inconvenience paper makers, but the country's largest publishers, who would have to relinquish paper to fill the needs of the small publishers.

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## CARRANZA'S NOTE TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY NEXT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—What answer will be returned to General Carranza's latest appeal for modifications in the protocol, signed at Atlantic City, will be determined here Tuesday. On that day the American members of the Mexican-American joint commission will meet and consider the Mexican communication delivered yesterday to Secretary Lane by Luis Cabrera of the Mexican commission.

The Mexicans probably will be here on that day, and in the event the Americans decided Carranza's reply can be given serious consideration, an immediate session of the joint commission may be held.

General Carranza's latest communication asking modification of the protocol covering withdrawal of American troops from Mexico, was examined closely today by Secretary Lane, chairman of the American members of the joint commission, who has summoned his colleagues to confer with him here as soon as possible. They will decide what answer to give the Mexican representatives when another session of the commission is held early next week.

## SPAIN PROTESTS RUTHLESSNESS OF SUBMARINES

Vigorous Demand Made Upon Germany to Cease Piracy of the Seas —Denies Right of U-Boats to Destroy Ships of Neutrals Carrying Contraband—Threatens Action.

MADRID, via Paris, Dec. 28.—The note addressed to Germany on the submarine question by the Spanish government reviews at length the policy of Madrid from the time the first Spanish ship, the Isidoro, was torpedoed, in August, 1915. It declares that the Spanish government has always maintained that it was illegal to destroy prizes, as is the constant practice of submarines, and that the cabinet also demanded the observation of the declaration of London, notably article 50, which it is maintained submarines violate by abandoning the crews of sunken ships to the mercy of the waves from land.

**Protest Destruction.**  
The note further recalls the vigor of the representations of the Spanish government, which it says sometimes caused the Berlin government to be surprised at the radical attitude of Spain, whose protests, it is said, have been more energetic than those of any neutral state, even the United States.

With regard to the contraband question, the note says: "What the Spanish government does not admit is the central empires' interpretation of international law, whereby they destroy ships of nations which have always complained and protested against such an interpretation."

The note concludes with an announcement that further steps are being taken to avoid or diminish in future the risks to shipping of Spain.

**History of Protests.**  
In September of this year the Spanish government sent a note to Berlin protesting vigorously against the torpedoing of Spanish steamers by German submarines. Prior to that time dispatches from Spain stated that indignation over the operations of the submarines was growing throughout the country and that mercantile and shipping bodies were bringing strong pressure on the government for action. In October a Berlin dispatch said that the German government had offered to let Spanish fruit ships sail unmolested under certain guarantees, and provided that the allies permitted similar cargoes to pass for the German market.

The agitation in Spain continued to grow and on December 12 Alejandro Lerroux, leader of the Spanish radicals, introduced a bill in the chamber of deputies prohibiting Spanish subjects and vessels from provisioning German submarines. This was followed on December 22 by the introduction of a resolution by the republican party declaring that there was urgent need of putting a stop to the torpedoing of Spanish ships, which was "continuing to weaken a merchant marine already insufficient and threatening to ruin the agricultural interests of Spain."

**Energetic Measures.**  
PARIS, Dec. 28.—A Havas dispatch from Madrid says the Spanish cabinet, after consideration of the torpedoing of Spanish vessels, has decided to take energetic measures to avoid the constant diminution of the country's merchant marine. Another meeting will be held to give precise form to these measures, the nature of which has not been disclosed.

## FIFTY PERISH WHEN STEAMER STRIKES MINE

BERLIN, Dec. 29.—The Finnish steamer Ohlona, of 1070 tons, with a regiment of Russian coast artillery from the Aland islands on board, struck a mine and sank in a few minutes, according to a dispatch to the Frankfurter Zeitung from Copenhagen. All on board, with the exception of fifty persons, are said to have been drowned.