

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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FORECAST
Tonight and Tomorrow
OCCASIONAL RAIN.

Forty-sixth Year.
Daily—Eleventh Year.

AMERICANS IN AUSTRIA WARNED TO LEAVE

NEGOTIATIONS WITH PENFIELD ARE BROKEN OFF

Americans Reported Warned to Leave—Negotiations by Ambassador Broken Off—Washington Still Hopes a Break With Austria May Be Avoided.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—Americans in Austria have been warned from Washington to leave that country.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—State department officials discussing the report from Paris that Americans had been warned from Washington to leave Austria, said no instructions to this effect had been sent to Ambassador Penfield. They considered it probable that Ambassador Penfield might have taken such action on his own initiative.

Officials say they still hope that a break with Austria may be avoided, but admit that all recent indications are to the contrary.

Penfield Breaks Off.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The negotiations between Frederick C. Penfield, the American ambassador at Vienna and the Austro-Hungarian government have been broken off, according to the Berliner Tageblatt as quoted in an Exchange Telegraph company dispatch from Copenhagen today.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The state department had nothing today to explain the report that negotiations had been broken off between Ambassador Penfield and the Austro-Hungarian government.

The only negotiations in progress, so far as known, were the ambassador's efforts to inform the government of the attitude of the United States on unrestricted submarine warfare. The status of threatened breaking off of diplomatic relations was said to be unchanged.

Seamen Are Released.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Unofficial advice that Germany has released the 72 American seamen held prisoner when brought in by the prize ship Yarrowdale reached officials today just as a preliminary demand was about to be made on the Berlin government for the freeing of the Americans.

It is said also that the German government has modified its orders which would have compelled retirement from Belgium of American relief workers.

Many serious problems yet remain, however, and were to be discussed at today's cabinet meeting.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—An inquiry as to the truth of unofficial report of the release of the 72 Yarrowdale prisoners was sent to the Spanish minister at Berlin late today by the state department. Pending a reply, a demand that the men be freed will be withheld.

BANK BANDIT GRABS \$2500 AT LINCOLN

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—A stranger strolled leisurely into the First National Bank at University Place, a Lincoln suburb, today at noon. There was no one in the bank but the president. The robber, a young man about 23 years old, flashed a gun in the officer's face and ordered him to retreat to the vault. After locking him in the vault, the robber picked up \$2500 in currency, securing a large amount of silver and gold, and made his escape.

DOCTOR WOOD APPOINTED STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 16.—Governor Withycombe today appointed Dr. Frank Wood of Portland a member of the state board of medical examiners. He succeeds Dr. Luther H. Hamilton, also of Portland.

NEW EMPRESS OF ABYSSINIA WINS BATTLE

Emperor Is Deposed Because of Turkish Control—Christians Rally About Menelik's Daughter and a Stormy Time Follows—25,000 Slain in Great Battle.

LONDON, Feb. 2 (correspondence of the Associated Press).—Abyssinia is having a stormy time since the death of Emperor Menelik. In the past few months the new emperor has been deposed, civil war has broken out and several battles have been fought between the factions, in one of which nearly twenty-five thousand men were killed.

The new ruler is Empress Zauditu, a daughter of Menelik.

An account of happenings in Abyssinia has just reached London. One letter says:

"Lady Jessu, the young emperor who succeeded his grandfather, Menelik, has gradually come under Turkish influence and has in many ways offended the Christian population. The legations of the entente powers in September sent in a joint protest and this was followed a few days later by a meeting of the ministry, which deposed the emperor and enthroned in his place the Princess Zauditu, with Ras Tafari as regent and heir to the throne.

Two Battle Fought.

"Things were quiet for a few weeks while the deposed emperor's partisans were gathering, then suddenly Mikael, ruler of Wollo, and the most powerful chief in the country, declared himself in favor of the deposed emperor and marched against Adis Abeba. The first battle was fought some distance outside the capital, where the government army of 7000 men under Ras Sel-Segel was virtually annihilated and Sel-Segel killed.

"There was a good deal of excitement in the capital and the legations prepared for attack, but the enemy was slow in appearing and the new empress had time to mobilize a strong force which, under the personal command of the war minister, met the enemy on October 27. The battle lasted all day and resulted in the enemy's complete rout. The empress' side had 10,000 killed out of 60,000 engaged, while the enemy is said to have lost 15,000 fighting.

Primitive Fighting.

"The manner of fighting was primitive. At first they fired with rifles, but becoming tired of this, they threw these weapons aside and dashed at one another with scimitars and spears.

"There was great rejoicing in Adis Abeba over the outcome of the battle and on the return of the victorious army a grand review was held by the empress in person.

"Each chief rode at the head of his men and as he approached the empress he dismounted, drew his sword and danced about her, shouting the deeds he had done. This was kept up until the chief became exhausted, when he prostrated himself and withdrew.

"The commander of the enemy's army, Mikael, was led up, chained to the chief who had captured him. He was a fine looking man of 65, dignified, but extremely sorrowful. Other chiefs who had been captured followed him, all in chains, and each carrying a large stone on his shoulder as a sign of submission."

TWO BILLIONS MORE ASKED BY FRANCE

PARIS, Feb. 16.—Alexandre Ribot, minister of finance, today asked the French chamber of deputies to appropriate 9,574,000,000 francs to cover the government's expenditures for the second quarter of the present year. This was an increase of 989,000,000 francs over the amount of the appropriations for the first quarter.

PAPER MAKERS BADLY SCARED; TO CUT PRICES

Threatened Indictments by Federal Grand Jury Causes Combine to Offer to Relieve Situation at Once—No Real Shortage of Paper Exists—Mills Can Easily Meet Demands.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The federal trade commission announced today that the principal news print paper manufacturers of the United States and Canada had proposed that the commission determine a fair and reasonable maximum price for paper from March 1, 1917, to September 1, 1917. The proposal, it was said, would be taken under advisement and an announcement made within a few days.

The action of the manufacturers follows two days of conferences with the commission and the proposal was submitted to Francis J. Heney, special counsel for the commission in its print paper investigation. The manufacturers hurried here soon after it was announced that the federal grand jury in New York had been asked to return indictments charging criminal violations of the anti-trust laws.

Report Is Ready.

The commission's report of its investigation of the news print paper industry is ready to be presented to congress. No intimations of its contents have been given, but it is understood to show that there is no real shortage of news print paper as the manufacturers have contended and that the paper mills of the country are in position to meet all ordinary demands.

Soon after the commission reached its conclusions and the department of justice began paving the way for criminal prosecutions in the federal courts, a movement began among the manufacturers which culminated in the signed statement which now is before the trade commission.

When the official announcement is made, it is said that publishers will find that a way has been found to relieve the disastrous situation which has confronted them for many months.

Up to Commission.

There has been a strong intimation that the manufacturers might be willing to put the whole problem in the hands of the commission for solution. Some manufacturers favor the suggestion that the commission determine an equitable price for their product. That would mean a complete concession by the manufacturers, many of whom heretofore have discouraged the trade commission's efforts to bring manufacturers and publishers together.

The effect of a proposal of this nature on the grand jury investigation in New York is not fully known, but publishers generally are more keenly interested in a reduction of prohibitive prices than in prosecutions.

The manufacturers are here, it is said, as individuals and cannot act for the entire news print industry, but they represent a large share of the paper mill stock held in this country and Canada and it is believed other manufacturers would be forced to follow their example if they take the action contemplated.

ONLY GERMAN LAW BREAKERS JAILED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—No German seamen on ships in American harbors are being held except those who are believed to have violated some law. This was indicated today by reports taken to the cabinet meeting by Attorney General Gregory and Secretary Wilson, in charge of the immigration service.

In cases where machinery on German ships has been damaged, the attorney general said no prosecutions will be brought. Where vessels have actually been sunk in harbors, however, violations of law are involved which probably will lead to action.

BREAKS WITH AUSTRIA



FREDERIC C. PENFIELD
Ambassador Penfield, who is representing the United States at Vienna.

GERMAN DRIVE CAPTURES GROUND IN CHAMPAGNE

BERLIN, Feb. 16.—The Germans began an attack in the Champagne yesterday. The war office announces that they captured ground half a mile deep over a front of one and one-half miles, and took 856 prisoners. Heavy fighting occurred on Hill 185.

The official French staff map gives Hill 185 in the Champagne two-thirds of a mile east of Tahure, which probably is the point referred to in the German statement. It is on the point referred to in the German statement. It is on the highroad between Soume-Py and Cerny, about 35 miles west of Verdun, and thirty miles east of Rheims.

The extent of ground gained and the number of prisoners taken mark this as the most important battle of the year, indicating that the Germans may have begun an offensive campaign. The German attack was made at the same season as that selected for inaugurating the offensive in 1916, which was begun on the Verdun front on February 21.

RAILROADS TO AID NATIONAL DEFENSE

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The railroads of the United States, through a special committee on national defense, organized here today at a meeting of the National Railroad Men's society, will help with support of President Wilson's council of national defense. The country has been divided into four railroad zones—east, central, south and west—corresponding with the army departments. For each section a special sub-committee of railroad officials was named.

Fairfax Harrison, chairman of the Southern railroad, is chairman of the new special committee on national defense.

STEAMER TUSCANIA SAILS FOR WAR ZONE

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The Anchor line steamer Tuscania, carrying fourteen cabin passengers, of whom four are Americans, sailed today for Glasgow.

The Tuscania is in the same service as was the steamer California, torpedoed last week off the coast of Ireland with the loss of forty-one lives.

MEASLES EPIDEMIC RAGES IN PORTO RICO

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Feb. 16.—A severe epidemic of measles has broken out in San Juan, 1700 cases having been reported. Several deaths have occurred.

TROOPS SENT TO CHECK RAIDS ALONG BORDER

Patrols Strengthened by General Funsten—Bodies of Three Cowboys Found—Widows Prostrated and in Serious Condition—Troops Arrive to Head Off Salazar.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Feb. 16.—As a result of the raid on the Corner ranch and the activity of Salazar's forces south of the border, American patrols on the border territory west of Columbus are to be strengthened, General Funsten announced today.

Detachments will be placed at ranches in that section to guard them against raids. It is probable, General Funsten said, that the regiment of New Mexico National Guard now at Columbus will be redistributed for that purpose. Details of redistribution are in the hands of Colonel H. G. Sichel, commander of the Columbus district.

Bodies Are Found.

Reports reaching headquarters today from Colonel Sichel told of the finding of the bodies of the three American cowboys who were carried off by the Corner ranch raiders.

Although bandits are showing greater activity in the border section than for several months, there is no indication that the return movement of state troops will be halted.

Widows Prostrated.

HACHITA, N. M., Feb. 16.—Mrs. Andrew D. Peterson, who was widowed when the Mexican ranch raiders killed her husband late Monday, was in a critical condition early today following the receipt of news of the Peterson ranch home of the murder of her husband. Mrs. Peterson is about to become a mother and she was attended throughout the night by physicians and nurses, who feared she could not live twenty-four hours. Peterson left seven children.

Mrs. Barton Jensen, whose husband also was killed by the raiders, fainted when told of the triple murder and is under a physician's care. Jensen left two small children. Hugh Aeor's aged mother was prostrated from the shock of her son's death. Aeor was unmarried, 32 and Aeor 22.

Guard Increased.

Armed morning men and women have been leaving here all morning for the Campbell ranch, thirty miles southeast of here, to attend the triple funeral of the victims of Monday's raid on the Corner ranch. The funeral services will be held late this evening.

Jose Ynez Salazar, with 500 men, was still at the Ojitos ranch, forty-five miles south of the border, early today, according to information received by military officers here.

Four troops of the twelfth United States cavalry will reach the border today to prevent another raid. Two troops will be stationed at Alamo Hondo ranch, in the Corner ranch district, and the remaining two troops will be stationed at Culberson's ranch near the border. They will await orders from Colonel H. G. Sichel, commanding the New Mexico patrol district, although it was understood here that no troops would cross the Mexican border.

NEWS PRINT MAKERS BEFORE GRAND JURY

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Officers of the News Print Manufacturers' association, an organization of sixty-eight individuals and companies, appeared as witnesses today before the special federal grand jury chosen to investigate whether increases in price of news print paper involve a criminal violation of the anti-trust law. After a number of newspaper publishers will be called and it is expected that the investigation will last at least a month.

GILL NETTERS GIVEN MONOPOLY OF ROGUE RIVER

Provisions of Original Thomas Bill Carried Out by Passage of Smith Bill, Giving Josephine County Open Season for Commercial Fishing From April 15 to August 1.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 16.—Governor James Withycombe today signed the bill passed by the Oregon legislature prohibiting seines on the Rogue river.

SALEM, Feb. 16.—Victory of the gill-netters in Rogue river fishing was made complete yesterday by the passage of the Smith bill (S. B. 296), which had already passed the senate, giving a 105-day commercial fishing season, from April 15 to August 1, in Josephine county. The vote on the measure was 33 for, to 24 against. The present law provided a 60-day season, from June 1 to August 1.

As Rogue river fish legislation now stands, gill-netters are given a complete monopoly with a long season in the upper river, the provisions provided in the original Thomas bill (H. B. 129) being carried out by H. B. 248, barring seines and set-nets at the mouth, and the Smith bill increasing the Josephine season.

The original Thomas bill (H. B. 129) eliminated seines and set-nets and provided an open season for commercial fishing for Josephine county from April 15 to August 15. On account of objections from Jackson county anglers, the house committee on fisheries substituted H. B. 248, which left the Josephine county season as under the old law, 60 days, and eliminated seines and set-nets from the mouth. A strong lobby was maintained by the Rogue River Fish Protective association, and through many combats effected, the bill passed both chambers, after having been killed in the house. Representative Thomas devoting most of his energies to its passage.

History of Struggle.

When the bill passed the house, Dr. J. C. Smith introduced a separate bill, providing for lengthening the season for Josephine county from April 15 to August 1, and the senate passed the measure on the same day that the bill barring seines was passed.

An agreement was made between Representatives Sweeney and Thomas and the Medford anglers Jobby, whereby it was agreed to amend the Smith bill to add 15 days instead of 15 days to the Josephine open season. The majority of the house committee on fisheries made a favorable report on this amendment.

Accusations Plentiful.

When the majority of the fisheries committee substituted H. B. 248 for the Thomas bill, the minority members made a strong protest, alleging that they had not been consulted, and securing the majority of bad faith and discourtesy. So when the majority report on the Smith bill appeared the minority followed the tactics previously practiced by Representative Thomas and the majority, and submitted a minority report favoring

(Continued on Page Four)

ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL IN HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The \$247,000,000 army appropriation bill was taken up today in the house with prospect of a vote early next week. Chairman Dent of the military committee, at the instance of the war department, moved to increase from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 the amount which may be used for aviation schools out of the unexpended balance of appropriations provided by the current army bill.

The pending bill provides, in addition to that, \$8,900,000 for aviation. Secretary Baker has asked Chairman Dent for numerous increases to the committee bill, but the committee's attitude is to deny them.

FIRST CAR OF BLUE LEDGE ORE \$103.50 A TON

Gross of \$3519 Received for Thirty-four Tons of Ore From Tacoma Smelter—Copper Runs 16 Per Cent and Gold and Silver \$7.50 Per Ton—Prospective Purchasers Visit.

Since the first car of ore from the Blue Ledge mine was shipped to Tacoma for smelting three weeks ago, speculations as to the return from the smelter have been running riot in Medford. Few were really confident, however, that the return would really be \$100 per ton. The returns have just been received and show that the ore runs over that amount.

Manager Carnahan of the Blue Ledge mine stated this noon that the figures furnished him by the Tacoma smelter show that the ore ran 16 per cent copper, which at the market price of 30c per pound would amount to \$96.00 per ton. Gold and silver ran \$7.50 to the ton on this \$103.50 gross return per ton. This makes the gross from the car of 34 tons shipped to Tacoma, \$3,519.

Net Profit High.

Mining, smelting and freight charges are very reasonable, according to Mr. Carnahan, so that the net profit runs very high even though the ore must be hauled to Jacksonville from the mines by team and auto truck. The ore was run of mine, not hand-picked.

Five team outfits are now engaged in hauling ore and several trucks augment this force on all sunny days when the roads can be negotiated successfully. With the opening of spring and the drying up of the roads a large number of trucks will be placed in service so that the cars of ore will roll to the smelter every few days. The second car of ore will roll from Jacksonville tomorrow.

The three mining men who spent the middle of the week at the mine, returned to Medford Thursday afternoon and left in the evening. They expressed themselves as pleased over the district and many of its individual mines. The prospect of a deal going through which will involve the sale of the Blue Ledge mine and other properties in the district is very favorable. If the sale is consummated it will mean the opening of producing properties on a large scale.

Plan Operation.

If the Blue Ledge mine is not sold, according to Mr. Carnahan, the mine will put on a large force of men, development work will be pushed and facilities for transporting the ore to the railroad will be constantly added to and improved. Twenty five men are now working at the Blue Ledge mine.

The men who visited the district this week are John F. Cowan, a well known mining promoter and operator who knows mining at the present time reach from Alaska to Arizona, Messrs. Bernard and Griffith, the others of the trio hail from Salt Lake City, Utah, where they are well known as mining engineers and operators.

News as to the opening of active development work in the Blue Ledge district on a large scale is being eagerly awaited by Medford business men in general, from the belief that the pushing of mining development will mean a revival of business activity in the city.

SWISS CARRY ON POLISH RELIEF WORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The Polish victims' relief commission report receipt of a cablegram from Lausanne, Switzerland, which states that the work of the general committee will suffer no interference from the diplomatic break between the United States and Germany. The general committee sends word that it has received assurances to this effect from all the belligerent powers occupying Poland.