

WEATHER—Maximum yesterday, 52; minimum today, 32; precipitation, trace. FORECAST—Tonight and tomorrow, partly cloudy. Heavy frost tonight.



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



Forty-seventh Year. Daily—Twelfth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1917.

NO. 7

HEAVY FIGHTING ON FRENCH LINE COMES TO END

British Capture Town of Ruyaulcourt, Eight Miles East of Baupenne—Germans Intrench and Lull Follows While Allied Artillery Is Brought Up.

LONDON, March 30.—The capture by the British of the town of Ruyaulcourt, about eight miles east of Baupenne is reported by Reuter's correspondent at the British headquarters in France.

PARIS, March 29.—The heavy fighting on the French front since the beginning of the German withdrawal has come to an end for the time being. "From the Somme to the Aisne the night was calm along our outposts," said today's official report. "There were no important events elsewhere on the front with the exception of patrol encounters and rather lively grenade fighting in the sector of Maisons de Champagne."

Rain on West Front.

BERLIN, March 30.—"On account of rain on the western front and thawing weather in the east there were no important events," says the official statement issued here tonight. "There were no new developments in Macedonia."

Canadian troops made four attacks last night on German positions east of Neuville St. Vaast, the war office announces. They were repulsed with heavy losses.

A further withdrawal of German troops on the Peronne-Fins road is announced.

BERLIN, March 30.—The progress of the British and French in the sector of the western front evacuated by the Germans has almost stopped, according to German officials here. The fighting is growing more stubborn, but they declare the French reports of the battles are overdrawn, the engagements being mere manifestations of mobile warfare and the real action not having taken place yet.

The success of their undertaking, the German officials declare, is proved by the fact that the rear guards have captured 330 prisoners, two machine guns and one revolver cannon, while the British, who are moving forward at a slower pace than the French have reported no prisoners and no guns taken, and the French who have made at one point a 25-mile advance, have taken but 120 prisoners and no guns.

Retreat Hastened.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY ON THE FRENCH FRONT, March 30.—The progress of the French advance in the vicinity of Coney-le-Chateau, now firmly in French hands, continued methodically today. Both cavalry and infantry are keeping in the closest touch with the Germans and forcing them to hasten their retreat. From the strength and thorough preparation of the German defensive works it was evident that a longer stand was intended. The castle of Coney-le-Chateau, a unique historical monument which ten days ago, although dismantled, was intact as constructed in the thirteenth century, was found by the Associated Press correspondent when he visited it today to be a mere heap of stones. The French officer who was the first to enter the fortress told the story of its capture.

Capture of Castle.
The French pursuing column, it appears, (Continued on Page Six.)

PHONE EMBARGO AIDS GOVERNMENT

NEW YORK, March 30.—Temporary embargo on telephone service extension throughout the country, in order to hold in reserve facilities that may be needed by the government may become necessary it was announced here today by U. N. Bethell, senior vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co.

GERMAN INFLUENCES BACK OF CONSPIRACY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

NEW ORLEANS, March 30.—General Julian Arias, Nicaraguan revolutionist, arrested here on a charge of being in the United States illegally is understood really to be held for investigation of his possible connection with an alleged conspiracy of some magnitude said to be backed by German influences in Latin America. Although federal authorities declined to discuss the charges against him it was learned today that they are investigating charges of violations of neutrality.

SPANISH WAR VETERANS ASKED TO SHOW LOYALTY

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Veterans of the Spanish war were called upon today to show their patriotism and loyalty in the present crisis with Germany in an appeal by their commander in chief, D. V. Chisholm, announcing that he expects to "raise troops in each state to be offered to the government for protection against any foreign foe," as soon as congress "defines some program."

"It is the intention of national headquarters," said the appeal, "to recruit, if necessary companies in every department composed of experienced men, to be officered from our organization whose services will be tendered to the government."

MRS. SMITH FREED ON MURDER CHARGE

DENVER, Colo., March 30.—Mrs. Stella Newton Moore Smith, wealthy society woman, was found not guilty of murdering her husband, John Lawrence Smith, by a jury here this afternoon.

The jury was out only nine minutes. One ballot was taken. Smith was slain the morning of January 13, last. His wife maintained she was forced to kill him following a night of torture that culminated in threats by Smith to kill Mildred, Mrs. Smith's 12-year-old daughter by a former marriage. Smith formerly was a chauffeur employed by Mrs. Smith's father, Alfred Britton Britton, whose home was in Chicago, made a fortune in Texas oil.

When the verdict was announced in court there was no demonstration, but when the word was passed to the crowds outside the room, great cheers rang out.

Mrs. Smith's friends quickly surrounded her, showering her with congratulations. "Oh! I'm so glad it's all over," she said smiling.

AUSTRIA ANXIOUS TO REMAIN FRIENDLY

BERNE, March 30.—A neutral diplomat who arrived here from Vienna today asserts that Austria is almost feverishly anxious to retain good relations with the United States, but it is even more determined and desirous to support Germany. The continuance of friendly relations between Washington and Vienna depends almost entirely, he believes, upon the outcome of the crisis between the United States and Germany.

GERMANS AWAIT AMERICAN WAR WITH CONFIDENCE

Possible Breach With United States Discussed in Reichstag—Sympathy Expressed for Russian Revolution, But German Kingship Declared Secure—Internal Reforms Demanded

BERLIN, March 30.—In the debate in the reichstag today Dr. Peter Spahn, leader of the Catholic centre party said that the monarchs of all the entente nations were tottering on their thrones. Those who had been forced to leave their countries would certainly have been dethroned had they remained. Even the Italian throne, he asserted, was unstable. If it came to blows with America, Germany would be found ready.

Gustav Noske, one of the socialist editors, said he hoped the war loan would be a complete success. He emphasized the fact that Germany had not intended to conquer China and hoped that after the war, good relations would be resumed. The government's instructions to Ambassador Von Bernstorff in regard to Mexico, he said, could hardly be called a diplomatic masterpiece.

Russian Sympathy.

In regard to Russia, Herr Noske said it seemed the present leaders had decided to pursue the war to a victorious end, but the pacifist masses would see that Germany did not intend to co-operate toward re-establishment of imperialism.

"We socialists are ready to oppose any such attempt in Germany," he continued. "Our government must take advantage of any Russian overtures to arrange early and honorable peace with our eastern neighbors."

Germany was in nowise a reactionary country, he added, and the people abroad might well envy Germany's social legislation. He said, however, that Prussia had a political system which was doomed, adding:

"We are advised abroad to revolt, although we know the good will that inspires this advice."

American Situation.

Among the speeches of party leaders in commenting on the chancellor's address, those of Dr. Gustav Stresemann, national liberal and were the most important. Herr Stresemann remarked:

"A declaration of war by America will be possible only because American public opinion has been misled." Supporting the demands for electoral reform, Herr Stresemann said: "New times demand new laws and a beginning should be made with a new system in Germany."

Count Von Westarp alluded only briefly to America, saying:

"We can await the decision of America with complete calm and the execution of our operations in the barred zone will not be changed thereby."

Kingship Secure.

Speaking of Russia he said: "Many believe that with Russia's entrance into the ranks of democratically ruled states, Germany will have to follow. All arguments, however, are against comparison of our country with enemy countries. Germany has shown superiority over all enemies which proves that the foundation of our state system is secure. War is for us a reason for adhering to a strong and vigorous monarchy, not with an ornamental monarch, but with a flesh and blood kingship leading and guiding the destinies of the people. Therein lies Germany's strength. We wish to obtain as soon as possible peace which will permit us to live in agreement with the new Russia. Our conception of what is necessary for the safety of the eastern frontier is unchanged by the Russian revolution."

RUSSIA CONFISCATES ROYAL PROPERTY

LONDON, March 30.—The Russian provisional government says a dispatch from Petrograd, has decided all appanages to be national property and that the revenues from them shall be turned into the national treasury.

The income from the grand ducal appanages alone is estimated at more

SKEPTICAL ABOUT U-BOAT WARFARE STARVING BRITAIN

COPENHAGEN, March 30.—Skepticism as to the possibility of bringing Great Britain to her knees by a submarine campaign and through the direct pressure of starvation is expressed by Captain Persius, the naval critic of the Berliner Tageblatt. Instead, the hope and belief of Captain Persius is that by an average monthly loss of half a million tons of shipping, in the next few months Great Britain may be brought to realize that a continuation of the war would be unprofitable, though this result, he declared, has not yet been attained.

GERMANS LOOSE FLOCK OF MINES IN NORTH SEA

BLANK DATE, March 30.—The fact that the Cunard liner Orduna was stopped off the Irish coast by a British torpedo boat destroyer and hurriedly ordered into the nearest port while the North sea was swept clear of a great flock of mines, suddenly discovered there, was revealed by the ships officers as the reason the vessel was three days overdue when she reached her American destination today.

Upon arrival in the Irish port of refuge, her officers said, they found 27 other ships had already escaped the mine peril by putting in there, including one American ship. Two other vessels had fallen victim of the mines, they learned and had gone down.

The mine sweepers worked two days clearing the sea of the menace, destroying more than 100 mines. Then all the ships were ordered out at once making their way through a lane of protecting torpedo boat destroyers and patrol boats until they reached safe waters.

On board the Orduna were five American airplane experts, who have been engaged in construction and instruction work for the French on the western front.

It was learned that they have been called back here to assist the development of this country's aerial service.

SWISS REFUSE TO MAKE MOVE IN FAVOR OF PEACE

BERNE, March 30.—The Swiss parliament decided today by a vote of 83 to 22 that Switzerland should make no movement in behalf of peace at present. This action was taken after hearing the majority and minority reports of a commission appointed to consider the possibility of a peace move by Switzerland.

The majority of the commission advised against any action at this time. The minority suggested: First, that the Bundesrat declare itself ready to take part in a general conference of states immediately after the war for the purpose of creating an international organization for the peaceful settlement of all political and economic international disputes; secondly, that the Bundesrat declare itself favorable either alone or in connection with other neutral states to offer its good service for peace negotiations whenever the circumstances seem timely or whenever its services are requested.

M. Hoffman, director of the political department, in supporting the majority report, said the petitions for a peace movement by Switzerland were well meant, but that the psy-

CHAMP CLARK RENOMINATED BY DEMOCRATS

Party Caucus Unites on Speaker, Who Is Confident of Re-Election When Congress Meets Monday—Present House Officers Renominated—Harmony Prevails.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Plans for prompt organization of the house when it assembles on Monday so that there may be no unnecessary delay in hearing President Wilson's address were made by the democratic caucus today when Champ Clark was nominated by acclamation for speaker and the ways and means committee was instructed to report democratic committee selections directly to the house. This latter provision will eliminate the usual delay of submitting the selections to another caucus and was made in the interest of saving time.

WASHINGTON, March 30.

Champ Clark of Missouri was nominated for re-election today as speaker of the house at a caucus of democrats. He was chosen by acclamation.

Mr. Clark is confident of re-election when the house meets Monday. There was no opposition to him today and it took fifteen minutes to make the nomination. Rep. Shackelford, a colleague, made the nominating speech and the formality of voting was dispensed with.

Mr. Clark has been in congress more than twenty years and has been speaker of the last three congresses.

After the nomination the caucus took up questions of house organization.

Present house officers were renominated and present democratic members of the ways and means committee re-nominated. This committee acts as the committee on committees and will make all committee selections for nomination to the new house.

There were 181 members-elect in the caucus, which was undisturbed by any serious fights. Thirty three democrats, some of them classed as insurgents, failed to show up.

PANAMA DEFENSES ORDERED STRENGTHENED

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Strengthening of the military forces in the Panama canal zone was ordered today by the war department and a board of officers, named to report upon unorganized civilian employes in the canal zone for military defense purpose.

The board will consist of Lieutenant Colonel Harding, governor of the zone, Commander Hutch I. Cone, marine superintendent of the canal, and Major Oliver Edwards, of the general staff.

STEEL U-BOAT NETS ORDERED BY NAVY

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Orders were placed by the navy department today with the American Steel and Wire company of Philadelphia for the immediate construction of one hundred steel rope submarine nets. The nets will cost \$1,881 each, will be 1050 feet long, thirty feet wide with a twelve foot mesh. Deliveries will begin within three weeks and continue at the rate of ten a week thereafter.

SOUTHEASTERN ROADS ASK RATE INCREASE

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Traffic officials of virtually all southeastern railroads at a meeting here today decided to join eastern, western and southwestern railroads in requesting the interstate commerce commission to permit a general advance in

GERMANS MASSING LARGE FORCES FOR RUSSIAN INVASION

LONDON, March 30.—The members of the Russian duma have been advised by M. Rodzianko, president of the duma, that the government's advice from the front left nothing to be desired. "There is no danger of any outbreak anywhere on the fronts," said M. Rodzianko in his communication to the duma, "and no important enemy operation is immediately possible, owing to the thaw, although evidently the enemy is concentrating large forces on our front."

GENERAL STRIKE IN SPAIN TURNS OUT A FAILURE

WASHINGTON, March 30.—A revolutionary movement which resulted in the calling of a general strike was directly responsible for the suspension yesterday by Spain of constitutional guarantees, according to an official dispatch received today by Ambassador Riano from Madrid.

The government, having arrested the signers of the strike manifesto, is said in the dispatch now to be relying upon the "common sense" of workmen and the effectiveness of the measures taken to preserve public order. The country was quiet at the time the dispatch was sent.

The text follows:

"A manifesto having been published by representatives of the workmen's union proclaiming a general strike without fixing a date and clearly with revolutionary purpose and with the idea of distributing public order, which was very much marked last night at a public meeting, the government has suspended constitutional guarantees, after having arrested by judicial order the signers of the manifesto. Absolute tranquility reigns over Spain and the government trusts to common sense of the workmen and in the effectiveness of the measures adopted to preserve public order."

CLOSING ARGUMENTS IN TRIAL OF GILL

SEATTLE, Wash., March 30.—Special Prosecutor Clarence L. Reames, for the government began the final argument in the whiskey conspiracy trial at 11:15 this morning. Mayor Hiram C. Gill, Chief of Police Beckingham and City Detectives Peyer, Poolman, Doorn and McLennan are on trial, charged with conspiracy to violate the federal laws by importation of liquor into the state of Washington. It is expected the case will go to the jury about four o'clock this afternoon.

STEAMER GLYNMEL SUNK BY U-BOAT

LONDON, March 29.—Sinking of the British freight steamship Glynemel reported by Berlin March 29, was confirmed by members of the crew who were passengers on the Orduna. The ship was on her way to London from a French port, the sailors said, and was torpedoed without warning on March 9. The chief mate of the steamer was killed and one of the assistant engineers injured. The Glynemel was a vessel of 1342 tons gross.

RUSSIAN MINISTER TO SWITZERLAND REMOVED

BERNE, March 30.—M. Ribikoff, the Russian minister to Switzerland, has been notified by the provisional government of his removal from office. Russian diplomatic affairs will

CABINET LOOKS FOR DECLARATION FROM CONGRESS

Consensus of Opinion Expressed That United States Is About to Actually Enter Into War With Germany—Hope Given Up That Actual Clash Can Be Averted.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—After today's cabinet meeting which lasted an hour and a half there were renewed indications that the administration expects congress next week to adopt a resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany. The president's partly finished message to congress was discussed.

Secretaries Daniels and Baker, heads of the navy and war departments, remained in conference with the president for half an hour after the other cabinet members had departed.

Actively Enter the War.

As the cabinet met today with President Wilson for the last time before the assembling of congress Monday the consensus of opinion was that the United States was about to actively enter into war with Germany. Cabinet members took to the meeting reports on preparations to put the country in a state of preparedness.

Taking for granted from the speech of the German chancellor that Germany will not abandon her submarine campaign of ruthlessness, officials generally have given up hope that an actual clash with Germany can be averted.

Departments Ready.

Secretary Baker said that the early graduation of the upper class at West Point was under consideration but had not been determined upon. Secretary Redfield said everything was in readiness for turning the ships and crews of the coast and geodetic survey, over to the navy department for war purposes. Preliminary plans have also been made for having the navy take over direction of wireless plants.

Secretary Wilson said that satisfactory progress was being made in plans for mobilization of labor resources. Members of the cabinet who are also members of the Council of National Defense reported that everything possible is being done to coordinate all of the resources of the nation for the government in war.

Can Raise 700,000.

Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the senate military affairs committee, following his conference with the president yesterday over his universal military training plan, agreed to press for prompt action in the senate on the regular army appropriation bill, which failed at the last session, as soon as it comes over from the house.

The senator assured the president that he already has authority without further congressional action, to raise immediately an army of more than 700,000 by increasing the regular army to war strength and calling out the entire National Guard at war strength.

Telegrams advising the president are being received in large numbers. Many of them, couched in identical language, favor the maintenance of peace.

RAILROAD INCREASES IN RATES SANCTIONED

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Increases of about five per cent in freight rates on all classes and commodities moving east and west by way of rail and ship lines over the Great Lakes went into effect today when the inter-state commerce commission declined to suspend tariffs proposing them.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—General revision of freight rates on fruits and vegetables from southern states to northern and middle western markets, in order to bring rates to a parity with those from other producing sections were approved today