

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD OREGON, MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1917.

NO. 15

## BRITISH START SPRING DRIVE IN BELGIUM

### TEUTON LINES SMASHED ON WIDE FRONT

British Deliver Strong Blow Against Germans From Cambrai to Lens—Sweep Over German Positions on Famous Vimy Ridge—One of Greatest Spectacles of War—Night Illuminated for Hours by Bombardment—Attack Is British Answer.

LONDON, April 9.—Some 3500 prisoners have been captured in the new drive against the German lines by one of the British armies alone, Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters in France telegraphs today. The prisoners have been coming in an endless procession, the correspondent reports. The fighting is increasing in intensity as the battle progresses. The British casualties thus far are reported comparatively slight.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, April 9.—The British today delivered a strong blow against the Germans from the region southwest of Cambrai to a point south of Lens. They swept over the German positions from the south of Arras, northward on the famous Vimy ridge, fighting for the possession of which cost the French 100,000 casualties earlier in the war. Once before, the British had gained the crest of the ridge, but under a tremendous concentration of German guns they were compelled to give it up.

All winter long Canadians have held a footing on the ridge with the German lines looking down on them. All the fighting today was against dominating positions on high ground, some of which had been held by the Germans for two years and were lavishly hemmed with wide belts of some of the toughest and longest barbed wire which has been seen in the war.

Answer to Germany. The preliminary bombardment of the ridges attacked, delivered before dawn, proved to be one of the greatest spectacles of the war. The firing at all times exceeded that which marked some of the sturdiest battles of the Somme. The night sky was illuminated for hours by the continuous flash of guns.

The attack was carried out in several phases. The first lines had scarcely been entered when numbers of German prisoners began to come back.

Curtain Fire Slow. The German defensive barrage or curtain fire, was slow in starting, notwithstanding frantic signals for help sent up with rockets all along the line. British guns had been hammering the Germans night and day for a week past and most of their trenches were fairly pulverized.

No estimate of the prisoners taken is yet available. Those captured were mostly Bavarians, Wurttembergers and Hamburgers.

After a beautiful warm Easter Sunday, the weather changed last night and today's attack was carried out in a pelting rain driven before a gale in which was the sting of January cold. The airplanes which have

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### SENSATIONAL ADVANCE IN COTTON MARKET

NEW YORK, April 9.—One of the most sensational advances in the cotton trade occurred at the market's opening today. May contracts sold up to \$5.55 and July \$7.80 a bale above Thursday's closing prices.

The upturn was attributed principally to the continued unfavorable weather east of the Mississippi with the strength of the spot situation as an added factor.

### BOND ISSUE OF FIVE BILLIONS FOR WAR PURPOSES

Three Billions to Be Loaned Allies and Two Billions for Conducting War in This Country—Balance to Be Raised by Taxation of Big Incomes—Allies Need Aid.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—A decision to introduce the \$5,000,000 bond issue measure on Thursday in the house was reached today by Secretary McAdoo and Representative Hatney, of Illinois, ranking democratic member of the ways and means committee.

The measure will carry a \$3,000,000,000 issue for a loan to the allies and a \$2,000,000,000 issue for conducting the war for this country. The \$2,000,000,000 issue is expected to meet approximately one half of this country's war expenses up to June 30, 1918. Consideration of plans for raising additional funds by taxation for conducting the war for this country will come later. The most essential thing to be accomplished now, it is agreed, is to prepare the allies' loan in order that they may obtain much needed food and munitions.

Tenure Not Fixed. Another effort to rush the bond measure through the house will be considered by the ways and means committee Wednesday.

The tenure of the bonds has not been definitely decided. Some members of the committee prefer fifty year bonds but think that it would be best to pay them off at different times.

The question of raising money by taxation, still is being considered from many angles and no concrete plan has been worked out. It is generally agreed that excess profits, incomes and certain luxuries will be heavily taxed. What will be done about increasing the inheritance tax, however, still is problematical. Opposition to increasing it because of interference with state inheritance tax laws has appeared, but it is not believed it will prove strong enough to prevent raising the government inheritance tax.

Half by Taxation. About \$1,750,000,000 or one half the \$3,500,000,000 asked for army and navy purposes within a year, will be raised by taxation and the balance by sale of bonds, house and senate leaders had virtually decided today. It is proposed that most revenue should come from increased taxes on incomes, inheritances and excess profits and that an issue of 3 1/2 per cent bonds be authorized for \$5,000,000,000, of which \$3,000,000,000 would be invested in war bonds of the entente nations and \$2,000,000,000 would cover the balance of the war expense not met by taxation. All of the two billion might not be needed within the year, according to advance estimates.

### BRAZIL TO BREAK WITH GERMANY

RIO JANEIRO, April 9.—Dr. Lauro Muller, foreign minister, has refused to receive the German minister. Dr. Muller then gave urgent orders that a steamer in Rio Janeiro be made ready at once for a mission abroad.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—In Latin-American diplomatic quarters it was said here today that Muller's refusal to receive the German minister to Brazil undoubtedly meant that the government definitely had decided to sever diplomatic relations with Germany.

Dr. Muller's orders that a steamer be prepared "at once for a mission abroad," was interpreted as meaning that the Brazilian government also had determined to arrange for the immediate departure of the German officials.

### ASK FOR JOINT COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT WAR

Senator Weeks and Representative Madden Introduce Resolution Calling for Appointment of Six Congressmen and Six Senators to Manage the Conflict.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—A joint resolution for a congressional "joint committee on the conduct of the war," was introduced simultaneously today by Senator Weeks of Massachusetts and Representative Madden, of Illinois, both republicans.

The committee would be composed of six members of the senate, including four democrats, and two republicans, six from the house, evenly divided between republicans and democrats.

Sit During Sessions. The resolution provides that the committee shall be known as the joint committee in conduct of the war and "shall sit during the sessions or recess of congress, shall make a special duty of the problems arising out of the war, shall confer and advise with the president of the United States and heads of various executive departments and shall report to congress from time to time in its own discretion or when requested to do so by either branch of congress."

The committee would be clothed with the widest powers of investigation, compelling testimony under oath.

In the senate, the resolution for a joint congress war committee was referred to the rules committee at the request of Senator Weeks, who explained that it was designed to have this congress follow the course followed in the Civil war.

A Connecting Link. "It would furnish a direct connecting link between the executive and legislative branch of the government," said he. "We should correlate all the forces of government in the conduct of this war. It is reported that we are to be asked to appropriate vast sums of money and we have no direct knowledge how or where the money is to be spent. It is the duty of congress to know the methods of expenditures made and the purposes of appropriations by congress. It is no reflection on anyone to have expenditures so considered. We are going to war and it seems to me we should keep before the people at all times the methods of making expenditures."

ASKS \$25,000,000 FOR DEPENDENT BELGIANS. WASHINGTON, April 9.—Senator Sterling of South Dakota, introduced a bill today to appropriate \$25,000,000 for the relief of Belgians made dependent by the war to be disbursed by the American relief commission.

### RECALLED AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES.



BARON E. ZWIADINEK

### AMERICAN SHIP ST. LOUIS SAVED BY PURE LUCK

NEW YORK, April 9.—Running safely through the dangers of the German submarine blockade without sighting a periscope either on the outward or homeward journey, the American mail and passenger liner St. Louis arrived at her home dock today.

The St. Louis was the first American passenger boat to be armed and travel through the danger zone around the British Isles since Germany's declaration of January 31, and she was well armed for the trip.

The homeward voyage was a stormy one. A hundred miles off the coast of Ireland a gale threatened the destruction of the lifeboats, which had been partly lowered and it became necessary to lie-to for two hours while they were made secure.

This was an anxious time, as the stop was made directly in the normal path of German submarines returning to their home base.

The St. Louis arrived off the bar off Marsey before dawn. There was no pilot boat at hand and the American liner was compelled to steam outside the bar where it was known a German submarine had been working the night before, until driven away by patrol boats. During this time a neutral steamer, which had been in the harbor had attempted to go to sea. She was caught dropping mines inside the bar, eighty of them being strewn about, it was reported. Patrol boats picked up or destroyed all but two of these.

About an hour later the British steamer Javin Head crossed the bar, struck one of the lost mines and sank. The St. Louis could not have missed this mine by more than twenty feet. How she escaped destruction was a mystery to the British officers and the amazed Americans were congratulated when they reached their dock.

### UNITED STATES SEIZES AUSTRIAN SHIPS IN AMERICA

BOSTON, April 9.—The Austrian steamer Enry, war bound here, was seized today by port officials after announcement from Washington that Austria-Hungary had broken off diplomatic relations with the United States. The Enry is the only Austrian refugee ship at this port.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The Austrian steamships Martha Washington and Himalaya, self-detained in port here, were today seized by the customs authorities.

NEWPORT NEWS, April 9.—The Austrian steamer Budapest tied up here since shortly after the outbreak of the European war was seized today by federal officials.

PHILADELPHIA, April 9.—The collector of the port of Philadelphia today took physical possession of the Austrian steamer Passonia.

NEW ORLEANS, April 9.—Three Austrian steamers, the Clara, Anna and Teresa, were taken in charge by federal authorities this afternoon.

### RESTRICT FEDERAL RIGHTS IN ELECTION

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Federal authority to prosecute frauds in general state elections and United States senatorial primaries was materially restricted by supreme court decision today.

Federal indictments for alleged corruption "conspiracies" in 1914 Rhode Island congressional elections and the 1916 senatorial primary in West Virginia were dismissed.

### SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS OREGON WELFARE LAWS

Minimum Wage for Women Declared Constitutional—Law Limiting Labor of Men in Mills and Factories to 10 Hours a Day Also Declared Valid Exercise State Police Power.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Oregon's law fixing minimum wages for women, the first compulsory minimum wage statute ever before the supreme court, was today upheld as constitutional by an equally divided court. Similar compulsory laws of Washington, Colorado, Wisconsin, California, Utah, Minnesota and Ohio were likewise sustained.

The supreme court upheld as constitutional the Oregon law limiting hours labor of men in mills, factories and manufacturing establishments to ten hours a day, but permitting thirteen hours labor if paid time and a half for overtime. It was the first general hours of labor or state law ever before the supreme court.

In opinion given by Justice McKenna the court affirmed Oregon court decrees upholding the ten-hour day law as a valid exercise of state "police powers." Franklin O. Bunting, a Lakeview, Ore., flour miller, had appealed from conviction of its violation. The case was twice argued before the supreme court.

Justice Brandies took no part in the case, having been attorney for the Oregon officials in the first hearing.

The sole question of validity, Justice McKenna said, was whether the law is a proper exercise of state "police powers"—whether it is a wage-fixing or hours of service law. It was sustained, five to three, Chief Justice White and Justices Vandevanter and McReynolds dissenting, without opinions. The majority rejected the argument that the law is a wage fixing statute.

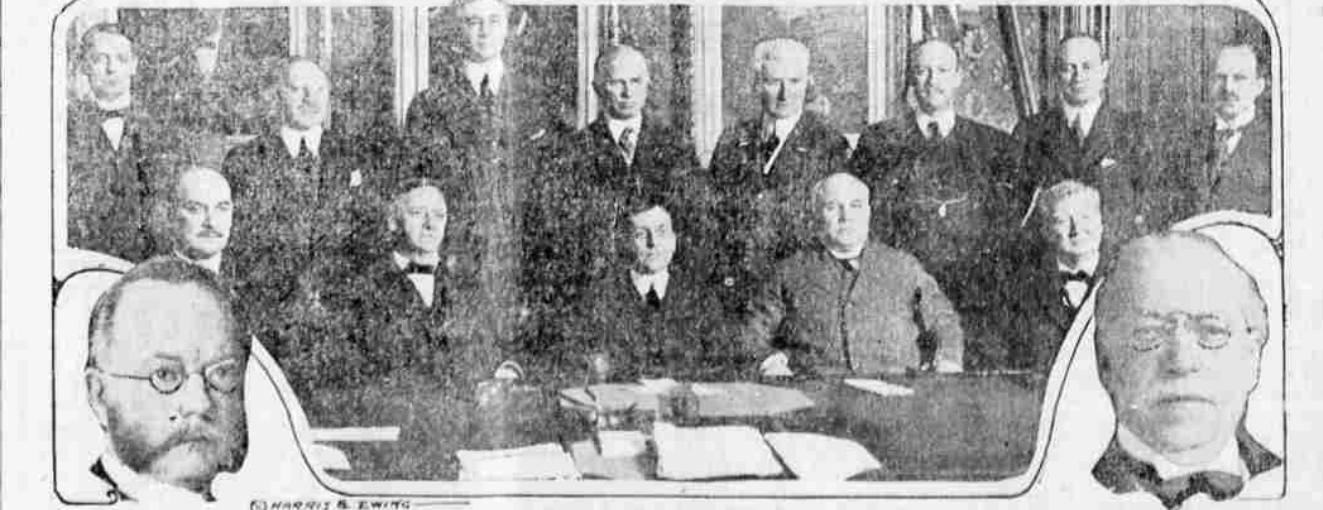
### BRIGADIER GENERAL ABOLISHED IN ARMY

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The rank of brigadier-general in the regular army of the United States is abolished by a provision of the army appropriation bill taken up today by the senate. All general officers, after its enactment, would have no less rank than that of major-general.

### SUBMARINE BASE FOR ATLANTIC END OF CANAL

WASHINGTON, April 9.—An estimate of \$1,573,950 for a submarine base on the Atlantic side of the Panama canal was submitted today to the senate.

### COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE WHICH CONTROLS THE NATION'S DESTINY IN TIME OF WAR.



These men control the destiny of the United States when we go to war. They are the council of national defense and its civilian advisors, who are working night and day to mobilize the country's military, naval and industrial resources for use in case of war. They are, seated, left to right: David F. Houston, secretary of agriculture; Josephus Daniels, secretary of the navy; Newton D. Baker, secretary of war; Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior; William B. Wilson, secretary of labor. Standing, left to right: Grovernor B. Calhoun, Julius Rosenwald, Bernard M. Baruch, Daniel Willard, D. F. H. Martin, Dr. Hollis Godfrey, Howard Coffin, W. S. Gifford. Below, right, Samuel Gompers; left, William C. Redfield, secretary of commerce.

### RECALL OF ENVOY ASKED BY AUSTRIA

Austro-Hungary Severs Diplomatic Relations With United States Following Declaration of War With Germany—Austrian Ships Are at Once Seized in American Ports—Not Expected That Break Will Extend to Hostilities.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Austria-Hungary, under the pressure of Germany, has severed diplomatic relations with the United States.

Baron Erien Zwiadinek, charge d'affaires of the Austro-Hungarian embassy here, called at the state department today and asked for passports for himself and embassy staff.

Almost at the same time, a dispatch was received from American Minister Stovall at Berne, saying the dual monarchy had broken off diplomatic relations with the United States at Vienna yesterday. It is presumed this was done by handing passports to American Charge Grew, American Ambassador Penfield, who had left Vienna on Saturday, probably did not know of the government's action.

Spain Takes Over Interests. By pre-arrangement, Spain will take over the diplomatic and consular interests of the United States in Austria-Hungary. All Austrian consular agents will depart from the United States with the diplomatic mission as was the case with Germany.

Up to the time Charge Zwiadinek asked for his passport, no similar action had been taken by Bulgaria and Turkey—Germany's two other allies and their representatives here disclaiming having any knowledge of the intention of their governments. It is expected here they will follow by breaking diplomatic relations.

Austria's break with the United States undoubtedly is the prelude to a declaration of a state of war. Sixty-two days elapsed between the break in relations between the United States and Germany and the formal declaration of a state of war.

War Not Expected. It is quite possible, however, that there may not be a "warlike operation between the forces of the two governments, unless Germany carrying further her domination of the Vienna government should force it.

Charge Grew at Vienna also will turn over to Spain, British and Japanese interests which this government has looked after since the beginning of the war. Italian, French and Rumanian interests in Austria-Hungary previously looked after by the United States were ordered turned over to the Swiss minister.

American ambassadors, ministers, and consular officials in France, Russia, Great Britain, Serbia, Japan, Greece, Morocco and Egypt will stand ready to turn over Austrian interests which the United States has replaced in those countries since the beginning of the war to whatever nation the Austrian foreign office shall indicate.

Released of Prisoners. The United States by the break in relations is released of the care of probably 2,000,000 war prisoners. In Russia alone, it is estimated that 1,250,000 Austrian prisoners were un-

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### SEVENTEEN AIRPLANES WINGED AT FRONT

BERLIN, April 9, via London.—Seventeen entente airplanes were brought down yesterday on the western front, the war office announces. The statement says that the battle of Arras, begun this morning after several hours of strong gun fire, continues.