



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1917

NO. 20

BRITISH BREAK THRU HINDENBURG LINE

GERMANS IN RETREAT ON WIDE FRONT

British Offensive Developing Fast Into Greatest Battle of War—Entire Teuton Line From Loos to St. Quentin Shaken and Broken Through in Many Places—Success of Operations Greater Than Expected—Many Towns Taken.

LONDON, April 14.—The British offensive has developed in a great push in the most literal sense of the word, telegraphs Reuter's correspondent at the British army headquarters in France. "The success of the operations which began on Monday has been greater than perhaps we realize and the Germans are being pushed back from Loos to the southward."

"It takes an army a long time to get away, however skilfully the retirement may have been planned and with a vigorous offensive clinging to its skirts in an effort to avoid defeat, it may be overwhelmed. "German garrisons sneaked out of some villages during the night, but this slipping away cannot be carried very far and when they are forced back on the line to which they may have hastily withdrawn and without those guns and stores which they were unable to carry away a decisive thing may happen."

A Bulldog Grip.
LONDON, April 14.—The British have taken a bulldog grip on the whole German line from Loos to north of St. Quentin and refuse to be shaken off.

Under what the newspapers call the "Haig plan" first one section of the Hindenburg line and then another, has been subjected to violent bombardment, followed by heavy attacks, which have badly shaken, if they have not seriously broken, the front on what the Germans have depended for the defense of the industrial district of France which has been in their hands for more than two years.

Lens Area Invested.
The Lens coal mining area around the town is being closely invested and the German hold on it is becoming most precarious. Several more villages and positions southwest of the town fell into British hands during the night together with four eight inch howitzers and the line here has been linked up with the positions taken on the Germans in the battle of Loos.

The German stay in St. Quentin is likewise additionally threatened by the capture by the British of the village of Fayel, a bare mile northwest of the town from which point the British guns command the German lines of communication northward. Again the British have advanced farther toward the Cambrai-St. Quentin road while southeast of Arras they are approaching Queant, which

(Continued on Page Five.)

BACK FROM SIBERIA AFTER FORTY-FOUR YEARS
BOSTON, April 14.—Greetings from Madame Catherine Breshkovskaya, "Grandmother of the Russian Revolution," who returned to Petrograd from Siberia, after being in exile forty-four years, were received here today by Miss Alice Stone Blackwell, editor of the Woman's Journal. In a cable message sent in reply to one from Miss Blackwell expressing happiness of American friends over her liberation, Madame Breshkovskaya said:
"Greetings from free Russia to the people of the United States of America. An enjoying happiness with all the city and Russia and Siberia."

FIELD TACTICS FAST REPLACING TRENCH FIGHTING

Trench Warfare Thing of the Past—Germans Difficult to Break of the Habit of Digging Themselves In—Hindenburg Line Turned in Many Places—Gaps Torn in Defenses.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, April 14.—It is not without difficulty that one comes to a realization that semi-open warfare has replaced the old deep trench fighting of the greater part of the British front. It is difficult even for the fighting men actually to grasp the situation, a situation for which they have waited so long. The Germans possibly feel the change more than anyone else, for above all things they love their underground comfort. The Germans were the first to transfer fighting to ditches and they are reluctantly giving up that style of warfare.

The deep concreted dugouts and tunnels along the old front were the only protection the Germans had against the ever increasing British gun fire and every time they get an opportunity to pause now they immediately begin to dig in. They take to cover as if by second nature.

Dugouts Soften Men.
The British have always contended that the German dugouts softened the men who congregated in them and could only be kept with difficulty in the open trenches. So it was easier to break the British of the trench habit than has been the case with the Germans.

Open field tactics have been a part of the training of the new British army ever since its organization began in 1914. There has been some criticism of that system from time to time on the ground that the war would always be fought from trench to trench, but for the last few months the British army in France has been drilled in open tactics almost daily. The result of these training methods have been apparent in the last few days and will undoubtedly prove still more valuable in the wider operations which are unquestionably coming.

Turning of the Line.
The turning of the top of the Hindenburg line, to which attention is now officially called in the communications, has been an achievement of which the full importance has naturally not yet been developed. The Germans, by the way, no longer call this line after Hindenburg, but know it as the Siegfried line. The switch to that line from Queant north, which prisoners say is not yet finished and is not expected to be used except as a last resort, is known as the Wotan line. In the extreme south the Hindenburg line is known as the Albrecht line. The complete smashing of the Vimy ridge seems to have somewhat upset the German plans but they are evidently determined to put up the strongest possible defensive fight before falling back again.

Gaps in Two Places.
The gaps in the German defenses were made in two places. Positions on a front for three miles between the Double Crauder and Givenchy and another mile on the north flank of the Hindenburg trench system were captured. Advance posts were pushed well toward Queant and Pronville, important points in the German defenses.

PEACE WITHIN THREE MONTHS SAY SOCIALISTS

Negotiations in Progress Between German and Russian Socialists to End War—Austrian Socialist Leaders on Way to Petrograd—British and French Welcomed.

COPENHAGEN, April 14.—Peace within two months and a half is predicted by the Copenhagen correspondent of the Danish socialist press, which confirms the reports of unofficial negotiations between Russian and German socialists as against the diplomatic denials in the socialist newspapers here and in Berlin.

The first negotiations, says the correspondent, who is a socialist member of the Danish parliament, were broken off, enabling two papers to launch a denial that they were in progress, but they were immediately resumed and are being prosecuted vigorously. The correspondent then enters into a discussion of peace terms in which he appears to take German socialist expectations and hopes for the government policy.

Germany's Terms.
"I am assured from an absolutely trustworthy source," he says, "that Germany is ready to restore Belgium and Serbia, evacuate France and with Turkey arrange an agreement with Russia of the free navigation of the Dardanelles. An agreement is also possible on the Polish question as the Russian government knows."

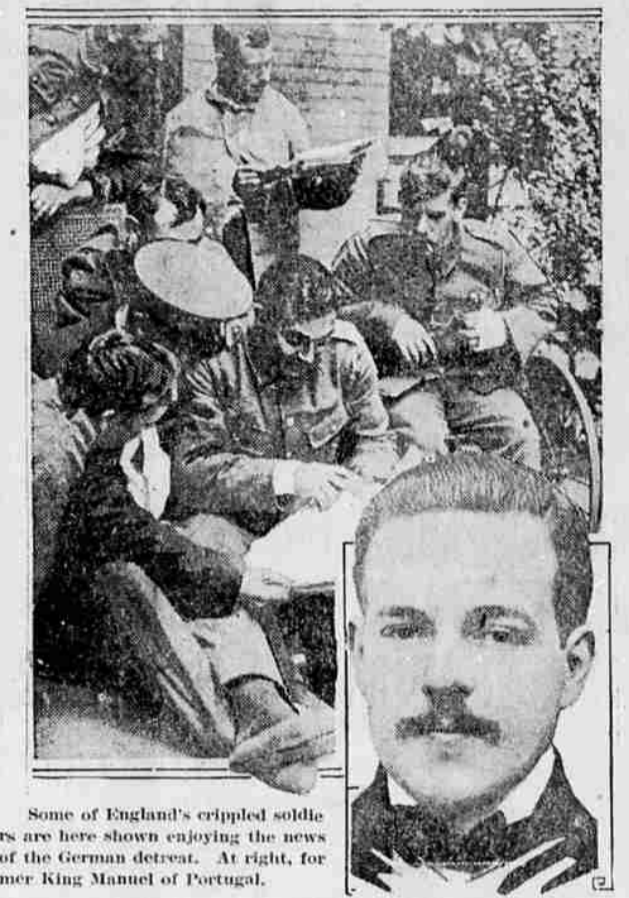
AMSTERDAM, April 14.—A Vienna dispatch says the Austrian parliament will be summoned to meet in the middle of May.

The German newspapers say that not only is Philip Scheidemann, leader of the majority socialists, on his way to Stockholm, but that he is accompanied by three prominent German socialists, Adler, Erzberger and Haase. The four men are traveling on special passports and it is believed in Berlin socialist circles they will meet envoys of the Russian government with whom they proceed to Petrograd.

Labor Deputations.
PETROGRAD, April 14.—British and French labor deputations sent to extend fraternal greetings to the new Russian government, arrived in Petrograd at midnight last night.

The delegations were welcomed by huge crowds carrying red banners inscribed "Unity," which were waved while the bands played the "Marseillaise."

EX-KING OF PORTUGAL HELPS CRIPPLED MEN LEARN TRADES



Some of England's crippled soldiers are here shown enjoying the news of the German retreat. At right, former King Manuel of Portugal.

DETHRONED KING SOLVES ENGLAND'S CRIPPLE PROBLEM

LONDON, April 13.—The greatest human problem of the centuries is staring England in the face and a throneless king is helping her solve it.

The problem is the crippled soldier. What shall be done with him? The king is Manuel of Portugal.

"Curative workshops" are being established about the country under the direction of the dethroned king, acting as representative of the Red Cross.

In these workshops you can see King Manuel bending over a crippled soldier, aiding him in "therapeutic" artificial hands, so he can pick up small tools, or sawing a board for a crippled lathe-hand, or fetching an awl for a legless workman.

Manuel of Portugal has aroused England to the necessity of training the crippled veterans so they can support themselves and add to the country's industrial output in time of peace.

Government action is now being demanded by the labor party, the kingdom's physicians, by Sir Alfred Keogh, director-general of the army medical services, and by the statutory committee on pensions.

BOLIVIA SEVERES RELATIONS WITH GERMAN EMPIRE

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Official notification that Bolivia had severed diplomatic relations with Germany reached the state department today in a note from Minister Calderon. The text of the communication may be made public later.

LA PAZ, Bolivia, April 14.—The note of the Bolivian government to the German minister announcing the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany denounces the attacks of German submarines on neutral vessels as violations of international law and of The Hague conventions. The note concludes:
"Your excellency will understand that although we regret the breach of diplomatic relations between Bolivia and the German empire, such relations have become insupportable under existing circumstances. In consequence your excellency will find herewith passports for yourself and the members of your legation."

BODY OF AMERICAN U-BOAT VICTIM FOUND

BREST, France, April 14.—Three bodies bearing life belts, one of which was that of a sailor from the American steamship Aztec, torpedoed by a German submarine on April 1 with the loss of 28 lives, have been picked up by fishermen, brought ashore and buried. The body of an unidentified American, not a sailor, has been found near Roscoff.

TURKS DEFEATED IN MESOPOTAMIA

LONDON, April 14.—The Turks have sustained another defeat at the hands of the British in Mesopotamia. The war office announces that the Turks are in retreat after a battle in which they suffered heavy losses.

EX-GOVERNOR FLETCHER OF SOUTH DAKOTA DEAD

PORTLAND, April 14.—James H. Fletcher, first lieutenant governor of South Dakota, died here last night, aged 82 years. Fletcher was in the gold rush to the Klondike and for several years published a newspaper at Salem, Or.

CAPITALISTS IN FAVOR OF TAXING LARGE INCOMES

Millionaires Show Patriotism by Favoring Conscripting of Large Incomes to Pay Cost of War—Benson Says America Gave Him Opportunity to Make Fortune.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 14.—The patriotic principle that large incomes should bear heavy contribution to the nation's war revenues is today freely supported by representative capitalists along the Pacific coast.

"I am in hearty accord with any measure that will conscript capital and keep the financial burden from falling on the masses who have the human burdens to bear."

Speckels' Conviction.
Thus did Rudolph Speckels, San Francisco millionaire banker, express the conviction that men of large means must match with heavy financial sacrifice the personal service of the men who will offer their lives in the fight with Germany.

That such contributions should not be comparatively trifling but must fully measure up to the country's need was the unmistakable attitude of many other men of wealth.

"I think the greater the income the greater should be the war tax by a considerable proportion," was the way Harry Whitney Treat, Seattle capitalist voiced it, "and let the general public bear its part paying greater duties on imported goods."

The plan suggested by E. W. Scripps, publisher, to President Wilson, whereby all incomes over \$100,000 should be conscripted to help finance the war, together with a graduated tax on smaller incomes and pay of \$3 per day for every fighting man, is receiving widespread approval from those it would affect.

Benson Favors It.
"I am heartily in favor of the conscript income plan," said Simon Benson, multi-millionaire landowner and capitalist of Portland, Ore. "America has given me the opportunity to amass a fortune. Now my fortune must bear its share of the war cost."

"Unpatriotic men of wealth should be compelled to pay. I do not think men of wealth will oppose this plan. I also favor paying soldiers \$3 a day."

Benson's net income for 1916 was \$180,000. Under the conscript plan that would mean he would contribute \$80,000 at least.

"The Scripps idea is exactly my own," is the view of Thaddeus S. Lane of Spokane, Wn. "I think it is all right. There is a growing sentiment that too much of the burden of this war shall not be placed on future generations."

7 BILLIONS OF BONDS VOTED BY CONGRESS

War Revenue Authorization Bill Passes House After Extended Debate, in Which Nearly Every One, Republican and Democrat, Speaks in Measure's Behalf—Large Loans to Allies, Especially France Favored—Loans to Be Limited.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The \$7,000,000,000 war revenue authorization bill was passed late today by the house.

The vote of the house was unanimous, Speaker Clark directing that his vote be recorded as aye. Representative London, New York, socialist, was the only member answering present.

A committee amendment limiting the loaning authority so as to cease on the termination of the war with Germany was adopted. Another amendment limiting loans to the allies against Germany and declaring specifically that the foreign loan is for national defense purposes was adopted.

May Need More Money.
Representative Mann warned congress the United States might be called on to spend vastly more money than proposed today, and that the United States might have to raise great sums to finance the war on its own account. He opposed an amendment by Representative Sloan of Nebraska to strike out a section of the bill that permits any series of bonds issued to be converted into bonds bearing higher interest if any should be issued at higher interest by December 31, 1918. The amendment was overwhelmingly rejected.

An amendment was added to limit specifically distribution of the proposed \$3,000,000,000 foreign loan, which the bill would authorize, to countries actually at war with Germany and only during hostilities.

Republicans Support Bill.
An amendment by Representative Sheekleford to levy an additional income tax with a view to preventing any net income of over \$50,000 annually to any person was ruled out of order on objection by Democratic Leader Kitchin.

A proposal by Representative Tower of Iowa to eliminate the proposed \$3,000,000,000 loan to allies was eliminated also.

Speeches by Republican Leader Mann and Representative Rainey of Illinois, Fitzgerald of New York and Gardner of Massachusetts, urging full adoption of the broad features of the administration's plan were applauded. Money being the only aid that this country can now give the allies, Representative Mann declared, it should not be denied them.

Mann for Measure.
"We are not prepared," he said, "to place men in the field. We are not prepared to do much with our navy, not because we have no navy, but because of lack of an opportunity."
(Continued on Page Five.)

SPAIN TO BREAK WITH GERMANY

MADRID, April 14.—Foreign Minister Gimeno announced the protest to Germany in regard to the sinking of the Spanish steamer "San Fulgencio" was sent to the Spanish ambassador in Berlin on Saturday. The grave of the situation is emphasized by all the newspapers. The semi-official Diaro Universal says:
"The moment is grave for Spain, which no longer can abstract herself from the reverberations of the events transpiring about her."