

BIG GUNS WIN IN CLASH WITH THUNDER STORM

Graphic Description of Night of Terror Along British Battle Front, Where Artillery Drowns Fury of Thunderstorm—Rain Silences Both Heavenly and Earthly Artillery.

(From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.)

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, May 9.—The laconic statement in this morning's British official communication that the enemy's artillery was active at intervals throughout the night at a number of places along the battle front, particularly in the sector between Fresnoy and Loos, and that "our artillery replied," dismissed in coldly official language one of the most marvelous spectacles of night firing the world has ever seen.

It was a night made of terror. Great, angry clouds scudded across the sky, successfully masking all attempts of the full May moon to break through the cumulus barrage. Eventually the heavens opened and poured forth a torrent of rain upon the hot cannon and the flames raging along the blood-red line of battle.

Ended by Downpour.

A thunderstorm in its greatest fury could have broken above this appalling artillery duel, however, and been completely swallowed up—its electric flashes lost in the blinding concausation of the guns; its thunder peals drowned in the reverberating waves of the crashing fulmination which came from bellowing cannon and bursting shells with almost equal violence. Nature withstood the terrific bombardment until nearly dawn, then the rain failing to bring it to an end, a heavy fog shut down and put a stop to the clamorous uproar as suddenly as if some word of supreme command had been shouted above the din of battle.

There were a few parting shots through the enveloping mist from either side and then absolute silence reigned.

Fascinating Spectacle.

It was a fascinating spectacle to watch through the night, holding one in a spell of speechless awe. From one of the high ridges recently occupied by the British, miles and miles of the great sweep of battle could be seen. For the most part it was a duel with what the soldiers call "big stuff"—a giant test of strength among the "heavies." But always above the roar of the big guns could be heard the crack of the bursting shrapnel and the petulant whine of leaden bullets sent in showers from the shells.

It was a beautiful yesterday, but menacing clouds had hidden the setting sun. In the twilight, scores of British airplanes were winging their homeward way from far over the German lines, coming to cover from the gathering storm and bringing with them wonderful stories that make up each day's history in the titanic struggle for mastery of the air.

Daniel Teare of Los Angeles is in the city this week visiting the Stovers at the Berkeley orchards.

MEDFORD'S NAVY LADIES ENJOYING BREMERTON LIFE

One of the most interesting letters yet received from the navy recruits has been received from one of the young ladies from Medford, who is stationed at the Bremerton navy yard and as it contains so much of interest to the many friends of the Medford contingent, the Mail Tribune is permitted to print the communication in full, which is as follows:

"The arrival of your letter a day or two ago just averted a dire calamity. I hadn't received a letter from you for three days and had just about decided that life wasn't worth living, but was undecided whether to desert or to jump in the bay. Being shot at sunrise didn't exactly appeal to me (it's such a messy way) and a watery grave at this cold season of the year didn't just seem attractive, so the arrival of your letter saved a most embarrassing situation. The sun immediately came out and I was able to smile and eat my regular allowance of beans.

"Speaking of beans, doesn't it seem like you had better write a nice little article for the Medford papers telling all inquiring friends that the Medford girls are all pleasantly situated in the navy yard work and that to date none of them 'have been thrown' in the 'guard house' for refusing to peel potatoes? We are hearing that such reports are being circulated in Medford. We are all doing clerical work very much the same as we were doing at home.

"Mrs. Edwards is in the department of justice; Mrs. Minkler is in the captain of the yard's office; Miss Towne in the paymaster department; Miss Cameron in the telegraph department; Miss Taylor and Miss Burke in the navy yard telephone exchange; Miss Curry in the planning department; Miss Bliton and Miss Loftus in the drafting department, and Misses Evans, M. Evans, F. Whetzel, J. Bailey, E. Berrell and I. Caughthran are all located in the various departments answering and placing telephone calls.

"We are all living at private homes or boarding houses as the navy department has no facilities as yet for caring for women in the service. But we are allowed a subsistence fee in addition to our regular pay. This makes my salary about \$105.00 per month. Everything is just as represented to us by the recruiting officers at Medford, with the exception of uniforms which are not furnished us. Personally, I am glad I don't have to wear a sailor suit for I have seen so many that they make me sick to look at them.

"You should see some of the Medford boys. I've nearly killed myself laughing at them, they look so funny. And the most of them have awful tales of woe. To date Perry Ashcraft, Earl Reynolds and Frank Farrell are the only ones who seem satisfied. The girls are all treated most courteously by the officers and men with whom we come in contact, and so far as I can discover, none of them have any kick whatever and all are having a good time and are glad to be soldier ladies.

"I don't feel that the U. S. navy is very much benefited by my presence here, but I am trying hard, keeping my eyes and ears wide open, and of course my mouth tightly closed, to learn the work and get to a place where I can be at least a small cog in this wonderful wheel.

"I'd love to write descriptions and 'first impressions' of everything I've seen and heard and thought since coming here, but will omit all such thrilling details till I come home as I don't feel like working the board of censors overtime blotting out valuable information that might leak out. But just think of the conversation I'll be stocked up with. People who have had operations won't have a thing on me—after the 'Battle of Bremerton'.

"Well, I must stop and read a little more navy rules and regulations. That is my favorite novel just at this time, with laws on navigation and the bluejackets' manual running a close second. Gee, but this sea-going conversation and terms gets my goat. A material report or a trial balance would just seem perfectly heavenly at this time. Well, here's hopin' the war will soon be over, and in the meantime write often."

TURKEY STRIVING FOR HER EXISTENCE

LONDON, May 9.—According to official information, Turkish agents are at work in Switzerland to assure the continued existence of Turkey. Provided the Turks are not driven out of Constantinople, it is understood, a willingness is expressed by the Turks to allow complete freedom of the Dardanelles.

CENTRAL FOOD BUREAU ASKED BY DIRECTOR HOOVER

WASHINGTON, May 9.—Herbert C. Hoover, in a conference with President Wilson today outlined his ideas of steps necessary to conserve the food supply of the United States and supplying the allies with food during the war.

After the conference Mr. Hoover was asked if he would accept a position as food dictator in case one was created.

"I do not want to be food dictator for the American people," he said. "The man who accepts such a position will die in the barbed wire of the first line entrenchments."

Prohibition of the use of grain, including barley, in the manufacture of beverage alcohol or beer during the war was urged before the senate agricultural committee by Mr. Hoover and Dr. Alonzo Taylor, a special assistant to Secretary Houston, of the department of agriculture.

Dr. Taylor said the brewers told the committee recently that barley was not good for human food very wrong and that it was used in Europe. He said 87,000,000 bushels would be saved by prohibitory legislation.

Mr. Hoover continued his testimony on the necessity of a central food department. He said he believed there should be authority to fix prices for every one, from the producer to the consumer which would eliminate the speculator.

U-BOAT SIGHTED WEST ATLANTIC

NEW YORK, May 9.—An officer on a British steamship arriving here today from Europe said a submarine was sighted "far west of the submarine zone." He refused to state which way the undersea boat was moving and his fellow officers and the passengers declined to discuss the subject except to assert that the passenger vessel was not molested.

It was learned, however, that the British passenger ship was five days out from England when the submarine was encountered. She was observed to emerge from the ocean about three miles distant. The British commander immediately ordered a zig zag course and trained his guns to shoot, but the submarine at once submerged.

PEARS NET \$1.65, APPLES NET \$1.12 TO LOCAL GROWERS

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Rogue River Fruit & Produce association was held at the public library Tuesday afternoon. The manager's report covered in detail the amount of fruit shipped during 1916, of all grades and varieties, and the average prices realized. Every variety, including Newtown apples, was fully reported on. The grand average on all varieties of pears, all grades and sizes was \$1.64 per box f. o. b. Medford, all selling charges out.

The grand average on apples including all varieties and sizes, was \$1.26 per box f. o. b. Medford, all selling charges out.

The grand average on the total shipments of both apples and pears consisting of approximately 180,000 boxes of fruit was \$1.38 per box f. o. b. Medford with all selling charges out.

The financial statement submitted contained figures ascertained by the examination of expert accountants from Portland. It showed a net profit for the year after deducting all expenses and overhead charges of every nature and making reasonable allowances for depreciation, of \$2,081.41.

The business transacted at the meeting other than that covered by the manager's report consisted of the election of two classes of directors, one whose terms expire in 1919 and another whose terms expire in 1920. In the 1919 class the following were elected: G. B. Carpenter, E. E. Guthrie, F. H. Hopkins, F. C. Kenly and H. Van Hovenberg. In the 1920 class the following were elected: H. W. Bingham, R. W. Clancy, A. C. Fiero, F. H. Madden and J. A. Westerlund.

Amendments to the constitution were unanimously passed as follows: The date of the annual meeting was changed from the second Tuesday in May, and the attendance required for a quorum was reduced from fifty-one per cent to twenty-five per cent. The newly elected board have not yet met for election of officers for the ensuing year.

FRENCH FORBID USE OF GRAIN EXCEPT FOR BREAD

PARIS, May 9.—A decree is promulgated in the official journal prohibiting the use of maize, rye, barley, or buckwheat flours for any purpose than bread making.

"DO OUR BIT" BIG PATRIOTIC PARADE FOR NEXT WEEK

Medford has had a call from the American Red Cross to assist in enlarging the membership in the association which so vitally needs immediate general support, and Medford has responded, as usual, in a big way with the promise of the biggest parade—the "Do Our Bit" parade—that the city has ever seen, on the morning of Wednesday, May 16th, at 10 o'clock.

The city has had little opportunity up to the present time to show its patriotic feeling, as a city unit, but the rush of organizations and individuals to the support of this parade indicates that the spirit is strong and that the great difficulty will be the matter of street room to accommodate the marching crowds.

Governor Withycombe has already promised to review the column and it is probable that among other distinguished visitors on the reviewing stand will be Governor Lister of Washington, Governor Stevens of California, and the Oregon state highway commission.

1000 School Children

In addition Company Seven, Coast Artillery Corps, Company I, Third Infantry, Grand Army of the Republic and the Home Guard, which have already signified their intentions of joining in to "Do Our Bit" in the parade, various men's and women's clubs and organizations will be in line in full strength. One of the stirring features of the parade will be the presence of at least a thousand Medford school children in line, as enthusiastically announced yesterday by Superintendent Hillis of the Medford schools. This patriotic little army will be fittingly led by the high school band.

The committee in charge of the parade, which will be the beginning of an effort to enroll at least eight hundred members in the local branch of the American Red Cross is composed of Alfred S. V. Carpenter, chairman, Harry L. Walther, Vernon H. Vawter, Elmer T. Foss and George B. Carpenter. Any organizations, clubs, or out of town delegations that may wish to participate in the big parade demonstration, may communicate with the committee for further details.

Judge Lionel Webster of Portland, formerly circuit judge of the first judicial district and resident of Jacksonville, is in Medford on professional business.

KLAMATH INDIANS NOT LONGING FOR SERVICE IN WAR

The Klamath Indians are not consumed with any overwhelming desire to get into war service, according to C. H. Asbury, acting superintendent of the Klamath reservation, who is here this week in attendance at the federal court trials of several Indians charged with having introduced liquor on the reservation.

"While I have only been in charge at the reservation for a short time, yet I have become fairly familiar with conditions there," said Mr. Asbury today, "and so far as I can see the Indians are not falling over each other to enlist in the army, nor are they as a class thinking of doing so.

"A few of the young Indians may enlist, however. Recruiting Sergeant Fore who was stationed for a time in Medford, and who has been making his headquarters at Klamath Falls recently, has been out to the reservation several times in search of possible recruits, but so far has not made much headway. He intended to come back to the reservation next Saturday.

"I don't know just exactly who started the report, but recent dispatches in a number of newspapers to the effect that the Klamath Indians were petitioning the government to permit them to form a regiment or company of their own are without any truth. The army officer in charge of recruiting in Oregon sent me several telegrams about this and also inquiring about recruiting possibilities among the Indians. Later Sergeant Fore appeared on the scene."

Most of the Indians are very busy now with their stock raising and agricultural pursuits. Recently, however, quite a number of them who were away fishing at Lost river were sent for by Acting Superintendent Asbury, through the reservation chief of police, and notified to return to their homes and get busy with their plowing and other necessary pursuits. It is said, though, that the chief reason for rounding the Indians back to their homes was that a report reached Mr. Asbury that they were spending their time more in gambling than in fishing.

It is not known just when the department of Indian affairs will appoint a superintendent for the Klamath reservation. When Superintendent Freer resigned last March with the request that he be relieved at once, Mr. Asbury, who is a special agent of the department and who

was doing some special duty in New Mexico, was ordered to take charge at the reservation until a superintendent was appointed. The Klamath tribe now numbers about 1,150 members.

Bank By Mail

75 per cent of the business of the world is now done by mail, and yet there are folks who will go miles to perform a single errand.

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Will Close Until Further Notice

Bob Crowder

GIM CHUNG

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Herb cure for earache, headache, catarrh, diphtheria, sore throat, lung trouble, kidney trouble, stomach trouble, heart trouble, chills and fever, cramps, coughs, poor circulation, carbuncles, tumors, caked breast, cures all kinds of gotters. NO OPERATION.

Medford, Oregon, Jan. 18, 1917
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
This is to certify that I, the undersigned, had very severe stomach trouble and had been bothered for several years and last August was not expected to live, and hearing of Gim Chung (whose Herb Store is at 241 South Front street in Medford) I decided to get herbs for my stomach trouble, and I started to feeling better as soon as I used them, and today am a well man and can heartily recommend anyone afflicted as I was to see Gim Chung and try his Herbs.

(Signed) W. R. JOHNSON,
Witnesses:
M. A. Anderson, Medford.
S. B. Holmes, Eagle Point.
Frank Lewis, Eagle Point.
Wm. Lewis, Eagle Point.
W. L. Childreth, Eagle Point.
C. E. Moore, Eagle Point.
J. V. McIntyre, Eagle Point.
Geo. B. Von der Hellen, Eagle Point.
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