

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD OREGON, TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1917

NO. 70



PRISONERS BREAK JAIL AND ESCAPE

John Ragsdale, Sentenced to 20 Years Imprisonment, Strikes Jailer Basy Down With Iron Pipe, Seizes Gun and Escapes With Forger Ohler, Who is Recaptured—Jailer Still Unconscious and May Die—Ragsdale Starts Toward Medford.

BULLETIN.
Ragsdale committed suicide at 3:45 p. m. this afternoon when surrounded in the brush north of Jacksonville by Sheriff Jennings and posse.

Wielding a heavy piece of iron pipe against the head of Jailer Charles H. Basy in the Jackson county jail at Jacksonville shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon, rendering him unconscious, and probably fatally injuring him, J. L. Ragsdale of Lake creek, made his escape from the jail. With Ragsdale also escaped Irving Ochler, alias Cravendore, who was recaptured less than a mile outside of Jacksonville and within less than 20 minutes after his flight began.

At 3 o'clock Basy was still unconscious and under the care of surgeons, and telephonic reports from the county seat indicate his condition is very serious.

Reported Surrounded.
Ragsdale had asked permission of Basy to go to the telephone, and while this permission was being granted, encircled the jailer, striking him from behind.

At 3:15 o'clock Convict Ragsdale is reported surrounded by Sheriff Jennings and a posse of ten men in the brush north of Jacksonville, between Medford and the county seat. He is armed, having taken Jailer Basy's revolver from the jailer when he made his get away.

The officers of I company have been requested to send a detachment of troops to the scene of the expected fight.

20-Year Sentence.
Ragsdale was soon to begin serving a twenty year sentence at the Salem state penitentiary after conviction on a charge of criminal assault upon his step-daughter, Bessie Downing, for which he was convicted ten days ago.

Ragsdale was desperate and it is doubtful if he is taken alive. At his trial it was proved that Ragsdale's attentions to the young woman had covered a period of years since she was 11 years old.

Two civil actions against Ragsdale are pending in court as a result of the seizure. His wife is suing for a divorce and for division of the Ragsdale estate, and Frederica Downing is suing to recover money.

Oehler a Forger.
Oehler, recently had been sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary for forgery, and had committed other alleged criminal peccadilloes in Medford, including the theft of an automobile from the Gates company. He was caught in the Siskiyous by Sheriff Jennings when his auto became stuck in the mud. His wife, a former Medford girl whose maiden name was Nan Smith, was arrested with Oehler, but was later released.

Basy, who is probably fatally injured, was constable at Jacksonville before being appointed jailer. He is a blacksmith by occupation, about 50 years of age.

Recorder Chauncey Florey, one of the posse under Sheriff Jennings with others gave chase to Ragsdale Florey in an automobile. While riding on the running board of Sheriff Jennings' car, he was thrown down a ravine and probably painfully injured. Florey was unconscious up to late this afternoon.

BERLIN, June 12.—During the month of May the Germans lost seventy-nine aeroplanes while the entente allies lost 262 machines, says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff. The statement says that 114 entente airplanes fell behind the German lines and 148 British and French machines were forced down within the entente positions.

CONSTANTINE ABDICATES IN FAVOR OF SON

King of Greece Quits Throne on Account of Differences With the Allies—Prince Alexander to Succeed to Throne Unless Venizelos Forces Republic With Allies Aid.

ATHENS, June 12, 9:26 p. m.—King Constantine has abdicated in favor of his son, Prince Alexander.

King Constantine's resignation comes as a climax to his difficulties with the entente allies because of his pro-German sympathies, and with the revolution of his subjects headed by former Premier Venizelos. The king's resignation probably opens the way for the allies to attack Bulgaria thru Greece.

Reign a Brief One.
The reign of Constantine I as king of the Hellenes was brief, dating only from March -18, 1913, when his father, George I, was assassinated in Saloniki.

Brief as the reign was, Constantine had enjoyed prior to the beginning of the great war in 1914, a period of remarkable popularity and had increased the territory of the Greek monarchy by over 50 per cent. His attitude of opposition toward the entente powers when their troops occupied part of Greek territory in the Macedonian campaign against the Teutonic allies, however, brot him into conflict with the statesmen of Greece and resulted in the establishment of a provisional government headed by Eleftherios Venizelos, whom the king had driven from the post of premier.

Thruout a long series of negotiations and conflict with the entente commanders, Constantine was often accused of being pro-German in sympathies, largely, it was charged, as a result of the influence of Queen Sophia, sister of the German emperor, whom he married in 1889. Constantine declared thruout that he desired only to maintain neutrality and that he was actuated not by pro-German sympathies but by considerations of the welfare of the Greeks.

German Influence.
Born on August 3, 1868, Constantine was educated largely by private tutors from Leipzig, which was said to have stamped upon him a permanent German influence. His military education was furthered by attendance at maneuvers in Germany.

With the entrance of Turkey into the European war the question of the intervention of Greece soon became to be seriously considered but King Constantine insisted upon strict neutrality. The cabinet, headed by Premier Venizelos, which was for on the side of the allies, finally tendered its resignation. The Greek attitude, at least so far as the war party was concerned, was largely to the effect that if Greece had no hand in the war, her interests might suffer when peace was arranged.

Much criticism was directed against Constantine because of the complaint he failed to fulfil the terms of the treaty between Greece and Serbia under which Greece was committed to ally herself with Serbia if that country were attacked by another power. When Austria invaded Serbia Constantine asserted that the treaty applied only to an attack by another Balkan nation.

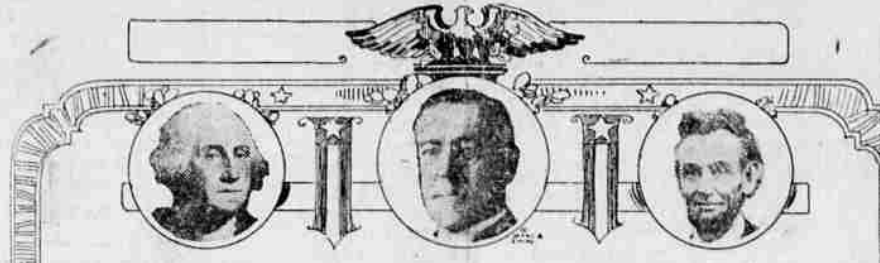
Second Ultimatum.
Another act which aroused a storm of criticism was the yielding by Greek troops to Bulgarian invaders of several Greek forts and the surrender of a large number of Greek soldiers to the Teutonic forces which were invading Macedonia.

In order to enforce their demands

PORTLAND SUBSCRIBES OVER SIX MILLIONS

PORTLAND, June 12.—Portland's subscriptions to the Liberty loan bond issue today passed the total of \$6,000,000, the amount allotted the city, according to committees directing the bond selling campaign. At noon the total approximated \$6,000,000. Bond salesmen freely predicted the total will be \$7,000,000 tonight and \$8,000,000 by Friday, when the campaign period ends.

FILL OUT THIS APPLICATION AND HELP END KAISERISM



"THE WORLD MUST BE MADE SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY"

Liberty Loan

APPLICATION FOR BONDS

This application should be transmitted through the subscribers bank, trust company or other agency acting on his behalf or it may be filed direct with the Federal Reserve Bank of his district or the Treasury Department at Washington

To the Secretary of the Treasury:
According to the terms of the Treasury Department Circular No. 78, dated May 14, 1917, the undersigned hereby applies for a sum of \$_____ of the 15-30 Year 3 1/2 Per Cent Gold Bonds of the United States and agrees to pay for and accept interest for any bonds allotted on this application. The sum of \$_____ is enclosed, being 2 per cent on the amount of bonds applied for (or payment in full for the one \$50 or the one \$100 bond applied for.)

Signature of Subscriber, in full, _____
Address-Number and Street, _____
City or Town, _____



We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

That the nation shall under God have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Fill in this application, enclose 2 per cent of the amount you want to subscribe, and mail it to any Medford bank. The bank offers its services in this case free.

Out side of patriotic reasons, every American should buy Liberty bonds. The loan is to defray the expenses of the United States in the war, to rid the world of kaiserism and autocracy. Any one can subscribe to the loan. To buy a \$50 bond, only \$1 deposit is required. Deposits thereafter, are \$9 on June 28; \$10 July 31; \$15 August 15, and \$15 August 31. Interest on the bonds is 3 1/2 per cent, payable each half year. The amount of the bond will be paid up in 15 years, or until 30 years after it is paid for.

70,000 CALLED FOR TO FILL ARMY TO WAR STRENGTH

WASHINGTON, June 12.—The war department today called for seventy thousand additional recruits in order to fill the regular army to war strength before June 30.

"The cavalry, engineers, coast artillery, signal corps and quartermaster corps of the regular army have already been brought to war strength," says an official statement. "Forty-five thousand recruits are needed at once to complete the new regiments of infantry and field artillery. Twenty-five thousand additional recruits are desired at the earliest practicable date to fill vacancies in order that the war strength of 300,000 men may be maintained.

"Facilities are in readiness for placing these seventy thousand men under proper training. Any delay in obtaining this number will necessarily cause the loss of invaluable time. "It is the earnest desire of the war department that 70,000 single men between the ages of 18 and 40 who have no dependents and who are not engaged in professions, businesses or trades vitally necessary to the prosecution of the war, be enlisted in the regular army before the 30th of June, 1917."

HAWAII SUBSCRIBES TO LIBERTY LOAN

SAN FRANCISCO, June 12.—A liner arriving at a California port today brought \$2,000,000 cash subscriptions to Liberty loan bonds from the people of the Hawaiian Islands. It was said that additional subscriptions would be wirelessly before the loan closes June 15.

NAVAL BASE TO BE PROVIDED IN WAR BUDGET

WASHINGTON, June 12.—The house today adopted the conference report on the \$2,281,000,000 war budget bill, with an amendment for taking over the old Jamestown exposition site for a naval base at a cost of not more than \$1,200,000. Concurrence by the senate is assured.

WASHINGTON, June 12.—A second conference report on the \$228,000,000 war budget bill with the disputed appropriation of \$2,000,000 for purchasing the old Jamestown exposition site on Hampton Roads as a naval base and training station, was up for consideration in the house today. Indications were that the house would modify its former action in rejecting the report because of opposition to the Jamestown purchase and agree to the expenditure of not more than \$1,400,000 for a naval base on Chesapeake bay, without specifying a site.

This modification was virtually agreed to by the house naval committee after an executive conference with Secretary Daniels yesterday. The senate insisted upon the Jamestown provision. Administration efforts to finish up the first food bill struck another snag in the house today. This time former Speaker Cannon insisted on being informed about the senate amendments before permitting the bill to go to conference. The senate has passed the measure, which now awaits reconciliation of differences with the house.

LONDON, June 12.—The elaborate plans that had been made for the entertainment today of the enlisted men of General Pershing's party were cancelled this morning because of a military order that all the men report at a local hospital, for inoculations which would occupy the entire day.

FURTHER CUT IN INCOME TAXES FOR WAR REVENUES

WASHINGTON, June 12.—Further reductions of surtaxes on incomes above \$40,000 to less than the original house rates were urged in the senate finance committee today by Senators Penrose and Lodge during consideration of the war revenue bill. The committee already had struck out the so-called Lenroot house amendments increasing surtaxes on incomes above \$40,000.

It also seemed possible that the committee today would vote to increase the house tax on excess profits from 16 to 20 per cent. Retroactive taxes on last year's incomes have been stricken out of the bill by the committee. Discussion of administrative questions on the income tax section delayed the committee today so it deferred action on the Penrose-Lodge amendment for further reduction of rates upon incomes in excess of \$40,000 and did not reach the publisher's box.

BOY SCOUTS AID LIBERTY BOND SALE

NEW YORK, June 12.—First returns received today at national headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America from the four-day Liberty loan campaign of the scouts thruout the country show that \$130,270 was subscribed in fifteen cities and towns today and yesterday. In small places like Alexander, N. D. and Cisco, Texas, amounts ranging from \$100 to \$700 were obtained. Harry Payne Whitney has sent in a subscription for \$7,000,000.

BRITISH TAKE MILE TRENCHES BELGIAN FRONT

Additional Positions Near Warneton Seized—Germans Attempt No Further Counter Attack—Rain Halts Italian Advance—Long Range Artillery Duels in Progress.

There is again a lull on the Franco-Belgian front. The British after capturing yesterday an additional mile of trenches west of Warneton in the Belgian sector where their recent important advance was scored, confined themselves last night to raiding operations.

The Germans for their part sent feeling-out expeditions against the British lines at several points in this area. These were repulsed by the British who took some German prisoners. According to Berlin's account of fighting around Messines the British cavalry was sent into action there. Only remnants of the force returned to the British lines the German report declares.

On the front occupied by the French there was inactivity except for the artillery. The Italian advance begun Sunday in the Trentino was not pushed further yesterday because of adverse weather conditions.

Germans Demoralized.
(From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.)

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, June 12.—Altho the Germans continue to splash shells about the positions won by the British last week east of Messines ridge, they have attempted no further counter-attack. On the other hand the British, having thoroughly consolidated the new line running due north and south, west of Osthaverne, are further securing their new ground by pushing patrols well forward. Thus far they have met with comparatively little resistance from the enemy, who appears to be undecided whether to make a further stand or to fall completely back to his Warneton line. The British are pressing toward this town.

Most of the artillery firing comes from long range guns. Seven field guns were captured late yesterday. Information reaching the British indicates temporary disorganization of the German forces or at least nervousness regarding their position between the converging Ypres-Comines canal and River Eys.

General Haig has issued a special order of the day congratulating General Plummer and the entire second army which he commands and saying that the complete success of their attack last Thursday is "an earnest of the eventual final victory of the allied cause."

Says Victory is Assured.
General Haig emphasizes the fact that the position assaulted was "one of very great natural strength, on defenses of which the enemy had labored incessantly for nearly three years," and says the British casualties were gratifyingly light. The full effects of the victory cannot be estimated yet but they will be very great is certain.

After detailing the advantage which fell Germans had in possession the ridge which gave them fore-knowledge of, and time to prepare for the British attack, General Haig declares that the capture of Messines shows "nothing can save the enemy from complete defeat and brave and tenacious as the German troops are, it is only a question how much longer they can endure repetition of such blows."

The total number of prisoners taken by the Canadians in their recent

ESPIONAGE BILL FINALLY APPROVED

WASHINGTON, June 12.—The administration espionage bill was finally approved by the senate today without a roll call and sent to the White House for the president's signature. Provisions for newspaper censorship have been struck out and material modification in other respects had been made.

MEDFORD SHY \$64,000 BONDS LIBERTY LOAN

Cit yand County Both 40 Percent Behind Allotted Subscriptions With Only Two More Days to Act In—Everyone Asked to Subscribe at Once—Small Payment Down.

\$64,000 Short.
Medford's Share of Subscriptions to Liberty Bond Issue is \$160,000.
At Noon Tuesday Only \$96,000 Had Been Subscribed.
\$64,000 Must be Subscribed by Thursday in Medford. At the same time Jackson County is shy \$120,000 of the \$300,000 allotted as its share.
DO IT NOW.
Only a small payment down is necessary. Subscribe at once at any bank.

With only two days remaining Medford and Jackson county as a whole are approximately forty per cent behind their allotment of subscriptions of Liberty bonds, according to reasonably accurate estimates made by William G. Tait, president of the First National bank, on Tuesday afternoon.

Based Upon Resources.
As is probably generally known, the treasury department based its proportions of the Liberty loan bonds on six percent of a county's or city's total banking resources, as disclosed by the last published bank statement. Under this method of calculation, Jackson county's share is six percent of \$5,000,000, or \$300,000. Medford's allotment by the same process, is \$160,000—slightly over half for the entire county—based on banking resources of its four banks, of \$2,717,000.

At three o'clock Tuesday afternoon only about \$96,000 had been subscribed in Medford, and slightly less than \$180,000 worth of the bonds had been bought in Jackson county, including Medford. This is a percentage of approximately sixty per cent of the Liberty bonds purchased, and of about forty per cent still unpurchased.

Wired in by Friday Noon.
"According to law," subscriptions must be received in time to be wired, and the money transferred by telegraph in time to reach the "mother" bank of the Twelfth federal reserve district at San Francisco by 12 o'clock noon on Friday, June 8.

The four Medford banks are reported to have subscribed liberally, as institutions, to the bonds. Ashland was asked to subscribe \$85,000 and Monday \$55,000 had been taken, leaving \$30,000 yet to be subscribed. B. B. Beckman, Carrie E. Beckman, and Julia E. Beckman, well known residents of Jacksonville, have subscribed for \$5000 each to Portland's allotments of the Liberty loan bonds, according to a list published in a Portland newspaper.

MEDICAL ARMY SCHOOL IN TEXAS

CHICAGO, June 12.—Details of assignment for the second series of reserve officers schools received by the central department, United States army, today show that Leon Springs, Texas, near San Antonio, is to be expanded from a medical officers camp to a full army school for Illinois, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma. Training of the second contingent of officers begins August 27.

NEBRASKA CELEBRATES SEMI-CENTENIAL

LINCOLN, Neb., June 12.—The three-day celebration of the semi-centennial of the statehood of Nebraska began here today with reunions for discussion of incidents of pioneer days. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt will deliver an address on "Americanism" Thursday afternoon, the closing day of the celebration.