

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1917.

NO. 82.

BRITISH CLOSING IN FOR CAPTURE OF LENS

MINING CITY GRADUALLY ENCIRCLED

Canadians Capture La Coulette—Germans Forced to Evacuate Trenches South of City—Patrols Advancing Across Plains From East—French Make Brilliant Attack During Night Taking First Line of German Trenches.

LONDON, June 26.—The village of La Coulette, one mile south of Lens, has been captured by the British, Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters reports.

CANADIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, June 26.—Canadian troops entered the village of La Coulette this morning. The Germans have withdrawn in this neighborhood from a line about one and three quarters miles long.

The German retirement ceased during the night. Patrols sent out opposite Mericourt and to the south found the enemy's front line strongly held. The Germans have made huge craters in all cross roads in Avion and leading towards Lens. These craters did not exist 48 hours ago.

British Closing In. (By Associated Press.) BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, June 26.—The British are closing in about Lens. After the capture on Sunday of Fosse 3 and enemy trenches west from the hill and from the lines immediately south of the Chevreux river several new positions have been occupied in this region nearer Lens. Patrols are advancing across the plains in an easterly direction. Thus the great mining center is being slowly encircled. For weeks Lens has not been exploited economically by the Germans and now is directly menaced by the military.

The increasing pressure on the enemy in the Souchez valley during the last few weeks has brought signal success to the British arms with relatively slight loss.

Several days ago the Germans were known to be destroying houses in the western part of Lens with the object of giving a wider area of fire for their guns. That may indicate the intention of changing to the east side of the city and prolonging the struggle by house to house fighting.

French Make Attack. PARIS, June 26.—The French made a surprise attack northwest of Hurbise last night, after brief artillery preparation. The war office announces the capture of the entire first line trenches which were held against desperate counter attacks. More than 300 prisoners were taken.

It is in this sector between Craonne and Neerly that the most feasible route lies to the German fortress of Laon, the vital support of the whole German line on the French front. Last night's effort by the French seems to indicate that their chief command has no idea of letting control of the situation here slip from its grip under the nagging tactics recently adopted by Von Hindenburg who has been trying his best by thrusts here and there to wrest control of dominating points from Petain's forces.

AUSTRIANS STRIVING TO RETAKE POSITIONS

ROME, June 26.—Austrian troops are making desperate efforts to recapture the positions recently taken by the Italians in the sector of Monte Riga, in the Trentino. The war office announces that the Austrians, notwithstanding heavy losses, have continued since last night their violent attacks, which were being met by Italian counter-attacks.

BONE DRY LAW FOR DURATION OF WAR LIKELY

Senate Committee Frames Substitute for House Measure, Prohibiting Making of Distilled Spirits and Leaving Question of Wine and Beer Up to President.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Absolute prohibition of the manufacture of distilled spirits during the war and placing in the president's hands the question of permitting the making of beer and wine was agreed upon by a senate agriculture sub-committee late today in framing a substitute for the prohibition feature of the house food control bill.

It also was decided to forbid the importations of distilled spirits and to authorize the president to seize liquor now held in bond if needed for re-distilling purposes.

Extend Control to Iron. Extension of government control to iron and steel, and their products, petroleum and its products, farm implements and sisal, jute and hemp products, such as binding twine, was decided upon today as an amendment to the administration food control bill by a senate agriculture sub-committee. Addition of other articles is under consideration.

Other amendments agreed to by the sub-committee, which will remove much opposition to the legislation, provide that the bill shall not apply to farmers, gardeners and stock raisers products raised upon their own land and shall not give the food administrator power to impose individual rations or regulate their meals. The committee deferred action upon the prohibition section.

Debate Resumed. Debate was resumed in the senate with a speech by Senator Thomas, democrat, in favor of the measure. "Our task is mightiest of all the allies," he said in reviewing the work before the United States, "and I believe here should be no hesitation in giving the administration any power essential to the accomplishments of this end."

"Men who speculate to force exorbitant prices," he said, "are more deadly enemies to the American republic than is Germany. There is an aristocracy of middlemen, speculators, commission men, jobbers and extortionists who exercise more power over the communities than the kaiser does over Berlin."

BEAN-BARRETT BILL SUSTAINED

SALEM, Ore., June 26.—The Oregon supreme court today upheld the so-called "Bean-Barrett" road bonding bill by authorizing the state board of control to issue bonds under the measure to equal available federal appropriations for road work. Following the decree, the court issued a writ of mandamus directing the board to issue bonds for \$491,967.11 to equal a like sum now available from the government. The decision was rendered in a friendly suit brought to test the validity of the action.

AMERICAN LOANS TO ALLIES EXCEED BILLION

WASHINGTON, June 26.—American loans to the allies passed the billion dollar mark today when the treasury placed \$15,000,000 to the credit of Great Britain and \$10,000,000 to France's account. Credits to all the allies to meet their expenditures in this country now total \$1,008,000, of which Great Britain has received \$550,000,000 and France \$210,000,000.

VENIZELOS TO FORM CABINET FOR ALEXANDER

Premier to Propose to Parliament That Greece Join the Entente Allies in War Against Autocracy—French Troops Landed at Athens to Maintain Order in City.

PARIS, June 26.—A Havas dispatch from Athens says that Premier Venizelos, who has been commended by King Alexander to form a new cabinet, arrived at Athens yesterday and will be received by the king.

LONDON, June 26.—A dispatch to the Times from Athens says that as soon as parliament is convoked M. Venizelos probably will propose to the deputies that Greece join the allies. He does not intend, however, to mobilize the nation against its will. He is expected first to undertake a great campaign explaining to the people that Greece's interests are bound up in the entente cause.

If his mission is successful he will be able in about three months to put the entire forces of Greece into the balance.

French Troops in Athens. LONDON, June 26.—A dispatch to the Times from Athens says French troops yesterday entered Athens and occupied several points in the city.

A Reuter dispatch from Athens says there was a demonstration in the city on Sunday night and that the allied troops entered the city to assist in maintenance of order. The demonstration was organized by a member of reservists and sailors under the followers of Demetrios Gournaris.

(M. Gournaris, former Greek premier, was one of the pro-German group around King Constantine. He was deported after the abdication of Constantine.)

This is the second time since the war that troops have been sent to Athens. The previous instance was December, 1916. Soon after landing they were fired upon by Greek troops. They were withdrawn after the Greek government had acceded to the allies' demands for reparation.

GARDNER, JENNINGS, MALMGREN ON BOARD

SALEM, Ore., June 26.—Governor Withycombe has named exemption boards of three members in every Oregon county except Marion and Multnomah, where Salem and Portland are located. Two boards were named in Marion and ten in Multnomah. In nearly every case the sheriff, county clerk and county physician were put on the board.

County Clerk S. M. Russell, Sheriff J. C. Parker and Dr. T. W. Harris were named to serve in Lane county, where Eugene is located, and County Clerk G. A. Gardner, Sheriff R. G. Jennings and T. J. Malmgren were appointed for Jackson county, where Medford is located.

LIPTON AND LAUDER GREET AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND NURSES



Sir Thomas Lipton, famous yachtsman, and Harry Lauder, famous funny Scotchman, helped entertain the American medical officers and nurses when they reached Ossidge, New Southgate. The girls strung a daisy chain around the neck of Sir Thomas Lipton (in upper photo) while the men laughed uproariously over Lauder's antics.

BUTTE MINERS STRIKE EXTENDING TO BIG PRODUCERS

BUTTE, Mont., June 26.—Blacksmiths machinists and boiler-makers at Black Rock mine, owned by the Butte and Superior company, struck here today, because, they charged, that a non-union electrician was at work. The electricians union recently declared a strike against the mining companies and the Montana Power company for higher wages. The Metal Mine Workers union also declared a strike against the mining companies for higher pay and changed working conditions. An increased number of miners was reported at work at all mines.

Black Rock mine is said to be the largest producer of zinc in the world. The mine, after the three trades walked out, continued operations. It was not known at the other mining companies if the machinists and boiler-makers employed by them would also strike.

Heads of the mining companies here including W. A. Clark, former United States senator, C. F. Kelly, vice president of the Anaconda Copper Mining company, met early and formulated their program for their meeting with W. H. Rodgers, federal mediator, which began this morning. The Montana Power company has arranged to meet the striking electricians late today for a conference. It was said that Mr. Rodgers would participate in the conference.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—President Wilson has directed the federal trade commission to make an investigation into production costs of steel and lumber, the two principal materials that will be required for the great merchant fleet to be built for the government. It is assumed that prices fixed by the commission as fair will govern in contracts for ships as well as for other government work requiring the use of these materials.

RED CROSS DRIVE NETS \$110,000,000 FOR RELIEF WORK

WASHINGTON, June 26.—The Red Cross "humanity dollars" campaign passed its mark today with a total of \$104,000,000 tabulated at noon and returns still coming in. The Red Cross war council predicted a total of \$110,000,000 by nightfall. Several hundred thousand workers participated in the intensive canvass which was unique in American history. Only three weeks before, had plans for a nation-wide drive been formulated by the new Red Cross war council. To organize the country on such short notice was a tremendous task but it was accomplished mainly by enlistment of trained campaign managers of the Y. M. C. A. and chambers of commerce to assist the 1500 Red Cross local chapters.

Northwest Strong. PORTLAND, Ore., June 26.—H. W. Stone, northwest Red Cross campaign manager, estimated today Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana subscribed \$3,500,000 toward the Red Cross war fund. The combined apportionment of the four states was \$2,500,000.

Returns at the Red Cross headquarters here today indicate Oregon subscribed \$1,000,000 against an apportionment of \$600,000.

EUGENE, June 26.—Lane county's contribution to the Red Cross today totalled \$41,000 as compared with an allotment of \$10,500. Several communities have not yet reported.

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COAL OPERATORS TOLD BY LANE TO CUT PRICES

Secretary of Interior Declares it no Time for a Patriot to Make Money—Dollars Must be Sacrificed as Well as Sons—Operators Admit Raising Price Because They Could.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Four hundred bituminous and anthracite coal operators gathered here to consider reduction of coal prices for the government and public, joined in a demonstration of approval today when Secretary Lane warned them that the sensible, patriotic and American thing to do was to put into the hands of some one or some small group the fixing of a low price on coal. Secretary Lane minced no words in telling the coal men they should be patriotic enough to forego profits for successful conduct of the war.

Lane's Plain Talk.

"The success of the country in this great war," he said, "rests on you and you are responsible just the same as the soldiers in the trenches, Pershing in France or the president in the white house. You control the fundamental industry. How much vision have you? Are you small or big? Are you petty politicians or statesmen? The country will not stand anything but a large policy from large men. There must be some new adjustment of the coal industry. When your boy and mine are going to the front there is no time for you to reap an advantage even when it comes under normal demands of trade.

"The life of the nation is at stake and there are greater things than making money. Is there a man who will say to me: 'You can send your boy to France while I stay here and coin his blood into dollars? To be an American citizen is not merely to make a million dollars but it is to uphold the arm of the man who is making the fight for his country.'

Could Reduce Quickly.

C. M. Modderwell, a Chicago coal dealer, predicted a serious coal shortage at the head of the Great Lakes unless action is taken. He believed fixing of an arbitrary price now was undesirable. Fear of prosecution under the Sherman law prevents the operators agreeing among themselves to bring down the price, he declared.

Chairman Newlands expressed the opinion that the attorney general would not construe the Sherman law in that way.

"I think if the attorney general would tell us that the law would not be used against us, we could bring down the price of coal very quickly," Mr. Modderwell replied. He added that the coal situation was caused in part by the fact that the mines operate only eight hours a day while a majority of industries are in operation 24 hours a day. Capacity of the mines is about forty percent more than present production but he doubted if they would be able to reach maximum production for lack of railroad transportation.

100 Per Cent Increase.

"What is the average increase in the price of coal to the consumer?" asked Senator Pomeroy.

"It has been very large," he replied. "I would say that it has been from 75 to 100 percent but that is only an estimate."

"How do you justify the increase?" "Coal operators are just as human as anybody else and they have taken advantage of the conditions and the people."

AMERICAN AVIATORS ARRIVE IN LONDON

LONDON, June 26.—A small contingent of the United States flying corps arrived in England yesterday wearing civilian clothes with blue silk armlets bearing white letters "United States flying corps."

JACKSON COUNTY RAISES \$30,000 FOR RED CROSS

Allotted Amount More Than Doubled—Subscriptions Still Pouring In and it Will be Several Days Before the Exact Amount is Known—Medford North County Give \$20,000.

Jackson county has raised approximately \$30,000 for the National Red Cross fund, double the allotted amount. This amount has been reported in sight and will probably be exceeded when reports are all in.

Jackson county north has subscribed approximately \$20,000 of which Medford furnished \$14,000 and the small towns and country \$6000. Jackson county south, comprising from Phoenix south has subscribed approximately \$10,500. It will be some time before the exact total can be ascertained.

Still Pouring In.

Contributions continue to pour into the office of Treasurer Dave Wood at the First National bank. All morning long team workers were reporting with small amounts collected from people solicited earlier in the week who want their "bit" added to the fund before the grand total is officially announced.

Captain Harry D. Mills of Butte Falls reported by telephone this morning that his team would have approximately \$110 and a few more subscriptions are still expected in that district. Captain Ralph Jennings, of the Watkins district, reported a little over \$100 as his estimate when he checked up the subscriptions in his territory. Captain Watt Beebe in the Mound district was still working this morning, having been unable to visit parts of his district before. Mr. Beebe was not appointed until Friday, hence the late date of finishing his territory. His territory will contribute close to \$300 as it is being very thoroughly worked.

That the fund will pass the \$200,000 mark is assured according to the men in charge of the campaign as conservative estimates now place the total safely over the coveted mark.

The following additional names of subscribers were reported for publication today:

Medford Below is a list of contributors not previously published:

- Dr. G. W. Stephenson, T. M. Davis, H. M. Loffland, Ethel Elfert, Edith Robinson, Wealta Bradford, Mrs. E. P. Shornley, H. N. Butler, F. L. Boyd, Jessie Houck, R. R. Sleight, B. W. Paul, C. H. Hays, H. S. Isabell, Joseph Bateman, Dr. E. C. Page, F. L. Vinson, Hubert G. Scheuck, Walter Diekey, Hal Galib, F. T. Butler, J. D. Brown, Wm. G. Pierce, L. H. Ossman, Grant Richardson, W. B. McDonald, E. H. Porter, Harry Richardson, W. T. Grieve, W. C. Gannaway, John Hall, H. P. Anderson, Leonard Carpenter, Winifred B. Carpenter, T. Slater Johnson, F. Corning Kenley, Frank G. Owen, Louis A. Salade, Blanche T. Salade, Geo. B. Carpenter, Rhea Morrill Carpenter, Alice B. Egan.

Miss J. Agnew, Mrs. Rose Elfert, Rev. John Powers, John Pappose, P. F. Clare, W. J. Drumhill, E. M. Wilson, E. A. Evanson, Mary Isaacs, Mrs. Margaret Taylor, I. M. Skidmore, Fred Cummings, R. V. Close, I. C. Hall, J.

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ITALY ASKED TO EXTRADITE COCCHI

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Italy was asked today by the state department, at the request of Governor Whitman of New York to delay action in her courts in the case of Alfredo Cocchi until the two governments can straighten out the question of Cocchi's extradition for trial in the United States on the charge of killing Ruth Cruger, a New York high school student last February.

FIRST PICTURE OF BRITISH SOLDIERS IN RUSSIA



This is the first picture to arrive in this country showing part of the British expeditionary force at the Russian front. The guard here shown is one of the artillery corps stationed high in the mountains of Galicia, where the Tommies have found fighting harder than on the French front.