



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Forty-seventh Year, Daily—Twelfth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, JULY 31, 1917

NO. 111

ALLIES WIN GREAT VICTORY IN BELGIUM

TEUTON LINES CAPTURED IN GREAT DRIVE

British and French Launch Great Offensive in Flanders on Twenty-Mile Front North of River Lys, Smashing Three Lines of German Trenches and Taking Many Prisoners—Still Going Ahead—Tremendous Artillery Battle.

BRITISH FRONT IN BELGIUM AND FRANCE, July 31. (By Associated Press).—Three lines of German trenches in Flanders have been captured by the British forces. Most of the points stormed were between Boesinghe and Warneton. The French, who attacked on the difficult territory between Dixmude and a point near Boesinghe, forced their way across the marsh and captured the first two German lines. With a few exceptions, the entente allies accomplished all they had planned for the first day of this battle in Flanders. The casualties of the French and British were surprisingly light.

Attacking early today on a 20-mile front in Belgium from the River Lys to within about ten miles of the coast, General Sir Douglas Haig's troops, in conjunction with French forces, swept rapidly over the first and second line German positions and at many points captured the Teutonic third line. They took numerous prisoners as the drive continued.

Never in history, according to all accounts, has there been a more tremendous volume of shells poured upon a position under attack than that which assailed the German line for days past. This marvelous concentration of gun fire manifested itself also in supplementary fashion after the drive started in what is reported to have been the weightiest barrage in the annals of warfare.

On Extended Front.

The field of the attack, beginning near Warneton, south of the Messines area, which the British won in their smashing attack last month, takes in that area and the westerly bend of the line north of Ypres and extends at least as far north as Dixmude. Advances from the front indicate a strong concentration of fresh German troops and heavy artillery facing the attacking forces, but the morale of the Germans is reported to be up to the old mark.

Early reports of the engagement do not indicate exactly its scope and its exact purpose. It seems significant, however, that French forces have combined with British for an assault on this front where an attempt to break thru or turn the German flank has been expected for some time. A keen desire on the part of the entente command to get at the German sub-

WAR PRISONERS ESCAPE FROM RUSSIA

PETROGRAD, July 31.—The notable growth in the number of enemy war prisoners escaping from Russia since the revolution is engaging the attention of the military authorities. According to published data from the beginning of the war until March a total of 5259 escapes have been registered, whereas during March 755 managed to get away. In April 2524, and in May more than 2000 escaped.

GERMANS STILL PRESS FORWARD AGAINST SLAVS

Although Russians Are Making Determined Stand, They Are Unable to Check Teutons—Two Million Russian Troops in Retreat—Germans Aim at Retaking Bukovina.

On the eastern front, while the Russians are evidently now making a determined stand against the advancing Austro-German forces at most points, the latter are still pressing forward. Russian anxiety to protect the holdings of terrain in Bukovina are particularly evident, but even here Berlin today reports a defeat for the Russians, who were forced after a battle to abandon their line along the Chernosh, in the western part of the crownland. The breaking of Russian resistance in the wooded Carpathians and Teutonic advances near the Galician east frontier also are reported. In all, more than two million Russian troops are said to be engaged in the great retreat. Conditions with the Seventh army, in which the traitorous developments which caused the Russian line to break, were most menacing, are reported to be notably improving as the result of summary executions of deserters, spies and agitators.

German Official Report.

BERLIN, July 31.—Russian forces which made a stand in western Bukovina, says the official statement issued today by the German general staff, were forced yesterday to evacuate their Chernosh line and to retire to the eastward.

The Russian frontier river of Szbrocz has been crossed by the Austro-German troops at many points along a thirty-mile front, in spite of bitter Russian resistance, the German report says. Turkish troops captured the Russian position near Niewra, on the river Szbrocz. In the area of the Hercecker mountains one of the German regiments was pressed back to the south of Casimil.

The German announcement says that in the direction of Czernowitz, the capital of Bukovina, the Austro-German forces have captured Werenzanka and Sniatyn.

In the wooded Carpathian area the Teutons forced the Russians to abandon their positions in the Messer-Caraste sector.

Russian Success.

PETROGRAD, July 31.—North of Husiatyn, on the Russo-Galician frontier, the Russians yesterday restored their position on the east bank of the River Szbrocz, the war office announced today. Austro-German efforts to force a passage across the Szbrocz in the region of Pukliany and Podlipie were frustrated.

The Teuton forces, the statement says, pressed back the Russians in the region of Dorochow, Zastawna, Uverezanka and Orzechy. South of the Kimpolung road, on the Rumanian front, the Austro-Germans also pressed back the Russian lines. Zales-kik has been evacuated by the Russians under heavy pressure. On the Rumanian front fortified positions on the right bank of the river Putna, northwest of Soria, were captured by the Rumanians.

(Continued on page four.)

SENATE DEBATES PROHIBITION ISSUE

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The senate entered upon the second day of debate on the Sheppard resolution for a national prohibition amendment to the constitution with many senators ready to speak. Under a unanimous consent agreement, the resolution will be finally disposed of tomorrow. Its passage is expected by a narrow margin.

18 DEAD FROM HEAT IN CHICAGO; EAST SWELTERS

Most Intensive Hot Wave of Season Grips Middle West and Eastern States—Two Deaths at Boston—Many Prostrations Thruout the Atlantic States.

CHICAGO, July 31.—Eighteen deaths attributed to the heat occurred in Chicago within the last twenty-four hours, Coroner Hoffman said today. The government thermometer registered 97 degrees at 1 p. m. and was still climbing.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The most intensive hot wave continued today in the central valleys, the middle Atlantic states, New England and the lower lake region. Weather bureau officials held out no promise of relief for the next two days.

From the Rocky Mountain region westward and from Montana eastward thru the upper lake region today moderate temperature prevailed.

BOSTON, July 31.—Another heat wave, in the early stages more intense than that of yesterday, which attained 88.5 degrees and caused two deaths and many prostrations, spread over this city today.

MONTREAL, July 31.—A terrific electrical storm last night after the hottest day here in five years, started a number of fires, destroyed trees and demoralized telegraph and telephone service.

BRITISH CASUALTIES DURING JULY TOTAL 71,832 IN ALL FIELDS

LONDON, July 31.—British casualties in all theaters of military operations, published in the newspapers during the month of July total 71,832 of officers and men. The officers killed, wounded or missing total 2503, while the men number 69,329.

FRENCH CAPTURE AISNE POSITIONS

PARIS, July 31.—French forces last night made a successful attack against the German positions along a 1500-yard front at La Royere and west of Epine De Chevreigny, on the Aisne front, says the French official statement issued this afternoon. A German counter-attack was crushed. The French took 167 prisoners, including two officers and fifteen non-commissioned officers belonging to three regiments. The artillery and infantry, the statement adds, were active in the Cony-Hartebise sector.

FLOODS CAUSE HEAVY DAMAGE IN CANADA

QUEBEC, July 31.—Damage estimated at hundreds of thousands of dollars, including destruction of three bridges over the Chaudiere river and the ruin of crops, have been caused by the worst floods this section has ever experienced. The river here still is rising from recent heavy rains.

FEAR AMERICAN GIRL IS CUBAN WHITE SLAVER'S VICTIM



POLICE UNABLE TO FIND CLUE TO RUTH ARMSTRONG

HAVANA, July 31.—Detectives and members of the secret police who have been investigating the disappearance of Ruth Armstrong, an American girl, today made voluminous reports to the judge having charge of the case. The reports failed to show the slightest clue as to the whereabouts of Miss Armstrong and the case remains as much a mystery as ever.

The police claimed that they had combed the city thoroughly but had found no one who had seen the girl after she left her boarding house on the night of July 16.

Notwithstanding their previous assertions that everything in the room occupied by the young woman had been intact when she disappeared, the report of the detectives today intimated that photographs and papers in the room had been destroyed and that her name also had been removed from the books. This report does not reconcile the fact, however, that the young woman did leave many photographs of herself behind and that when she disappeared she wore her oldest dress and shoes.

Miss Armstrong went to Havana July 9, to serve as governess for a wealthy family. Seven days later she disappeared. She was last seen leaping from an automobile as she trying to escape capture.

It is believed the international white slave syndicate, following the Ruth Cruger case, may have transferred headquarters to Havana to escape police operations and may have taken Miss Armstrong by force while the young woman was walking.

Miss Armstrong is unusually beautiful. Her father, Leroy Armstrong, was former China newspaper man. She taught school in Salt Lake City, Youngstown, Ohio, and Los Angeles, California, before going to Cuba.

MARTI SECRETARY OF WAR FOR CUBA

HAVANA, July 31.—General Jose Marti, who retired last Saturday as chief of staff of the Cuban army, was appointed secretary of war and navy today by President Menocal. General Marti is a son of the noted Cuban patriot, Jose Marti.

MASKED BANDITS ROB MEDICAL LAKE BANK OF \$13,000

SPOKANE, July 31.—Two masked men entered the First National bank of Medical lake, sixteen miles west of here, shortly after noon today, held up two men in the bank at the point of revolvers and later made their escape after scooping \$13,000 in coin and currency into sacks and driving away in an automobile.

The robbers drove up to the bank in a roadster, according to reports, arriving at a time when most of the employees were at lunch. One man approached Fred Krichoffer, assistant cashier, with the request that he cash a travelers' check.

The other robber entered the cage, revolver drawn, and compelled Arthur Neale, a clerk, the only other employee in the bank, to lie down on the floor. As soon as Neale obeyed, Krichoffer was compelled to do likewise.

The men then leisurely scooped the bank's coin into a sack. They locked the bank employees in the vault before leaving the bank, where they were found by other officials later. The Spokane county sheriff was notified and he in turn has telephoned to every town in eastern Washington to be on the lookout for the robbers.

It was thought that the men might be heading for Idaho, but it would be almost impossible to escape the cordon that has been placed around the territory, it is said, and reach that state.

THREATENED MONEY KINGS AND IS LOCKED IN PRISON

NEW YORK, July 31.—Accused of making threats against the lives of J. P. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller and his son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., a man who said he was Elie Koodinoff, a naturalized citizen born in Russia, was arrested today.

MILK IN NEW YORK ADVANCES A CENT

NEW YORK, July 31.—An advance of a cent a quart, making the price of milk 32½ cents, will cost the consumers \$7,300,000 a year, it was estimated today. The advance, effective tomorrow, is the fourth since last October.

INCOME TAXES RAISED TO MEET WAR EXPENSES

Bill Increased to Net Two Billions Revenue, Principally by Increases on Incomes of Corporations and Individuals Over \$15,000 and Further Increases Upon Liquor.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Increase of the pending \$1,670,000,000 war tax bill to a total of \$2,008,000,000 was decided upon today by the senate finance committee. Increases on corporation normal income taxes, on incomes of individuals of \$15,000 and over and a further increase of \$1 per gallon on distilled spirits and 50 cents a barrel more on beer with a few other minor tax increases will make up the additional levy.

Corporate Incomes.

The committee decided to increase the present two per cent normal rate on corporate incomes to six per cent as against four per cent in the bill as originally drawn. It is expected to yield \$162,000,000 additional revenues. The increase in war tax rates on individual incomes of \$15,000 and more was estimated to raise from \$25,000,000 to \$36,000,000 additional. New excess profits taxes will be agreed upon later.

In revising the liquor schedules, the committee estimated that by adding \$1 per gallon to the tax on distilled spirits, making it \$3.20 per gallon—\$2.10 over the present law—\$90,000,000 more revenue would be secured from that source. The increase of 50 cents a barrel on beer was estimated to yield \$25,000,000 more revenue, making the beer tax \$3.25 per barrel, as compared with \$1.50 under the existing law and \$2.75 as originally proposed in the bill.

Income Tax Increases.

The exact rate of the substitute tax increases on individual incomes of \$15,000 and more were not decided. The income tax increases would result in a total levy upon the war of at least \$1,649,700,000 as compared with a yield of \$330,000,000 a year under existing law.

The original bill provided for additional war levies upon all incomes of \$543,700,000 and the committee's decision today would add at least \$187,000,000 more. In view of the heavy increase for incomes it was said that the committee might decide against a further increase on excess profits.

The additional taxes on liquor would increase revenues from that source from \$135,500,000 to at least \$270,000,000 with the increase of \$90,000,000 from distilled spirits and \$25,000,000 from beer.

Senator Simmons also stated that wine taxes also will be increased but a decision as to the rate was not made. The committee plans, however, to raise \$8,000,000 more revenue from wines, more than double the new taxes proposed in the original bill, to yield \$5,000,000. Increase of consumption taxes on sugar and coffee were discussed again today, but decision was postponed.

JAIL SENTENCES FOR KLAMATH I. W. W.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., July 31.—Twenty-one alleged members of the Industrial Workers of the World, arrested following the burning of Martin Brothers flour mill recently, pleaded guilty to vagrancy charges here today and were given sentences ranging from 30 days to six months imprisonment.

Two other prisoners were sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 or serve ten days in jail for contempt of court and two others pleaded not guilty and asked for jury trials.

Recently Governor Withycombe recommended the men be given long sentences to insure the safety of the grain crops, which will be harvested while they are confined. The officials may put the men on the rock pile.

CONFEREES FAIL TO AGREE UPON FOOD CONTROL

Congressional Committee Upon War Expenditures Causes Deadlock Between Senate and House Conferes—President Insists Upon Elimination—Controller Agreed Upon.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The conferees on the administration food bill failed at their first session today to break their deadlock on the congressional war expenditures committee, opposed by President Wilson, and recessed until later today with a motion to strike out the provision still pending.

Senate and house conferees on the food control bill had only one problem to work out when they convened again today, namely, whether there shall be created a congressional committee on war expenditures.

As the situation now stands the provision for a food board of three members instead of a single administrator, will go out of the bill and it seemed strongly probable that the war expenditures committee also will be eliminated. President Wilson has insisted that both provisions be stricken out.

Expect Agreement.

Some of the conferees said it appeared virtually certain that the senate members would yield on the provision authorizing the government to commandeer gas pipe lines for military or public defense purposes. The clause empowering the president to commandeer oil pipe lines, however, was retained. The new provision for a wheat price fixing board of three members, inserted subject to re-consideration, was left unchanged.

CRIPPLED U-BOAT IN SPANISH HARBOR

King Alfonso on June 30 signed a decree by the terms of which submarines of all belligerent powers were forbidden to navigate Spanish territorial waters or to enter Spanish ports. It was declared that all such submarines which entered the Spanish zone for whatever reason would be interned until the end of the war.

CORUNNA, Spain, July 31.—The German submarine UB23 anchored in the harbor here late yesterday evening. She entered the roadstead with only her periscopes showing. The submarine had been seriously damaged, but the commander and crew refused to tell the cause of the accident.

MADRID, July 31.—Premier Dato announced today that the German submarine UB-25, which had anchored in Corunna harbor, had been taken to Ferrol, the chief naval arsenal of Spain, twelve miles north-east of Corunna.

The premier announced that the government intended to keep strictly to the terms of the recent regulation regarding the entry of belligerent submarines into Spanish ports.

AIRSHIP BUILDING HALTED BY STRIKE

OAKLAND, Calif., July 31.—Work relating to the manufacture of hydroaeroplanes for the government was halted this morning when the 300 employees of the Hall-Scott Motor company of Berkeley walked out because of a technical dispute over union rules. Company officials said their refusal to discharge a Portuguese helper, who received \$2.50 a day, led to the trouble. Telegrams interchanging today between the company heads and Washington indicate that the government may take a hand in the affair.