



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1917

NO. 132

Forty-seventh Year. Daily—Twelfth Year.

NEGRO SQUAD IN TEXAS KILL 17 IN RIOTING

Colored Soldiers of Twenty-fourth Infantry Mutiny, Slay Captain and Shoot Up Houston as Result of Trouble With Police—Every White Man Seen Is Shot At—Over Hundred Soldiers Still Missing—Situation Now Under Control.

HOUSTON, Tex., Aug. 24.—The death list resulting from rioting of negro soldiers of the Twenty-fourth infantry last night reached seventeen this afternoon when H. A. Thompson of Hempstead, Tex., succumbed to bullet wounds he received when the negroes fired into his automobile.

HOUSTON, Tex., Aug. 24.—More than 100 negro soldiers of the two companies of the Twenty-fourth infantry which engaged in a riot last night and caused the death of sixteen and the wounding of more than a score of persons are being sought today by strong patrols of regulars and Illinois national guardsmen under the command of General John A. Hulen, governor of the city, now under martial law.

Three companies of coast artillery regulars from Fort Crockett reinforced the 1000 or more Illinois guardsmen today, and order which was restored early this morning is being maintained. Roll call this morning by Major Snow, in command of the battalion of negroes, developed 125 men were absent. Eighteen of these have surrendered and others are being rounded up by the military patrols as the search of the negro district progresses.

Under military law, it is stated, soldiers may be shot for having mutinied and fired on their officers.

Martial Law Declared.

Martial law was declared by Governor James E. Ferguson, effective in Houston and vicinity at 1 o'clock this morning. All Texas guardsmen have been federalized, however, and none now are at his direct command. Early today nearly all the negro troops were in their camp under a heavy guard. Seventy still were unaccounted for. Those in barracks, however, were said by one of their high officers to be in an ugly mood.

The trouble is said to have begun late yesterday after some of the negro soldiers had complained of treatment accorded them by members of the Houston police force. About 9 o'clock last night some eighty negroes, later being joined by others, formed at their camp and began a march toward downtown Houston. Lights in residences along the way were shot out and a number of persons wounded as they sat inside their houses.

Crowds of Houston men, with unarmed Texas guardsmen here started for the camp, but stopped when an army officer mounted an automobile and addressed them.

Major K. S. Snow, commanding the negro troops guarding Camp Logan, early today declared that he attempted to control the men when he saw what was about to happen.

Ira D. Rainey, mounted police officer; Rufe Daniels, mounted police officer; middle-aged man named (Continued on page six.)

TONS OF BOMBS ON BELGIAN AERODROMES

LONDON, Aug. 24.—Bombing attacks were carried out yesterday morning by the royal naval service on the following military objectives in Belgium: Middelkerke Dump, Raversyde Dump and Houttave aerodrome. The admiralcy which makes the announcement says that many tons of bombs were dropped. All the machines and pilots returned safely.

WITHDRAWAL OF NEGRO TROOPS IN TEXAS LIKELY

War Department Investigating Houston Riots—Situation Under Control—Texas Senator Asks Removal of Colored Forces From State, Except Those Native Born.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—Senator Sheppard of Texas, after a conference with Secretary Baker today announced that the negro troops concerned in the rioting at Houston would be removed from Texas immediately.

Later Secretary Baker after reading first official reports announced that he could take no action of any kind until the affair had been investigated fully.

Secretary Baker also said that the Houston affair did not affect the policy of training negro troops in the south.

It is within the jurisdiction of the commander of the southern department to move the troops to any other point in his territory without orders from Washington.

Situation Under Control.

Reports from Major General Parker, commanding the southern department, said the situation was under control, and that no further rioting was feared.

Secretary Baker did not say whether the withdrawal of the 24th infantry detachment from Texas forecast a new policy which would keep negro troops out of southern states. Senator Sheppard said he would ask that no negro troops except those of Texas origin be sent into Texas for training.

Official reports on the troop rioting at Houston began arriving at the war department early today and were hurried to Secretary Baker as fast as they came in. They were coming from the commanding general of the southern department whose investigation possibly may be supplemented by a special inquiry by the inspector-general of the army as the affair is regarded as most serious, particularly in view of the fact that the negro troops concerned were regulars and not national guardsmen or drafted troops new to regular army discipline.

Like Brownsville Case.

The similarity of the occurrence to the celebrated Brownsville rioting as the result of which President Roosevelt summarily dismissed two battalions of negro troops is marked and officials indicate that the affair will be investigated just as thoroughly and dealt with as vigorously as its nature demands. They realize that it accentuates the delicate question of mobilizing negro troops in the south, against which protests have been coming from the states and which has confronted the war department with a very embarrassing situation.

FIRST BREAK IN FOOD EMBARGO

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The first break in the food embargo to European neutrals came today on conditions imposed by the United States. Under agreement to furnish some of the cargoes for relief of Belgians, the government will permit a score of Dutch grain ships to carry their cargoes to Holland.

In return for the privilege of being permitted to import 270,000 bushels of rye of the 1917 crop from the United States, Sweden today sold the Belgian relief commission at cost 600,000 bushels of grain now in American elevators. Arrangements for its transportation were made at once.

FOREST FIRES DESTROY PHONE LINES IN DOUGLAS

CANYONVILLE, Or., Aug. 24.—Forest fires last night destroyed poles carrying overhead wires of the Pacific Telephone company for a distance of a quarter of a mile near here. Repairs were in progress today.

1270 SHIPS OF 7,969,000 TONS COSTING BILLION

Government's Shipbuilding Program Calls for Enormous Fleet, in Addition to Ships of Two Million Tonnage Commandeered and Under Construction at Yards.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The government's shipbuilding program calls for a total of 1270 ships of 7,969,000 tons, it was revealed today in estimates the shipping board has sent to Secretary McAdoo on which to base a request for a new billion dollar appropriation.

Two Million Tons More.

This is in addition to nearly two million tons of shipping now building in American yards which has been commandeered by the emergency fleet corporation. A large part of the government fleet and of the commandeered fleet will have been completed by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1918. Building, commandeering and purchases of vessels will total about two billion dollars. Estimates of the entire cost of construction are given as follows:

Contracts already let, 435 ships of 1,919,200 tons, \$285,000,000; contracts ready to let, 452 ships of 2,968,000 tons, \$455,500,000; under negotiations, 237 ships of 1,281,000 tons, \$194,000,000; 150 miscellaneous vessels of 1,800,000 tons, \$300,000,000; construction of government-owned fabricating yards, \$35,000,000.

Billions Asked.

Commandeering will cost \$15,000,000 and the purchase of ships \$150,000,000. The board already has received for construction \$550,000,000 and for commandeering \$250,000,000. The board now desires from congress authorization to spend for construction \$719,500,000; for commandeering, \$265,000,000 and for purchase \$150,000,000. The appropriation asked to carry the board thru the fiscal year is divided as follows:

Building, \$400,000,000; commandeering, \$265,000,000, and purchases \$150,000,000.

PROTEST SEIZURES OF SHIPS BUILDING BY GOVERNMENT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—A sharp division of opinion has developed among government officials as to the final disposition of foreign merchant vessels now building in American shipyards.

All foreign, as well as American ships of more than 2500 tons under construction, were commandeered a few weeks ago by the emergency fleet corporation to speed up their construction. The shipping act, recently passed, gives the government authority to retain the tonnage after its completion.

Great Britain is protesting vigorously against retention of about 1,000,000 tons of ships building for British interests and negotiations are proceeding between the state department and the British foreign office regarding their disposal.

Neutral countries, too, are insistent that their vessels be turned over to them when completed.

Some officials of the state department, it is said, favor at least raising the embargo on British tonnage on its completion. The United States, they hold, can spare the ships, as they would be put into the trades most needed for the conduct of the war.

LONDON, Aug. 24.—Telegrams received here from Rome say that prominent persons at the vatican interpreting the papal peace note assert that Pope Benedict believes an indemnity is necessary for the restoration of Belgium and northern France, and also that the pope takes the view that restoration of Serbia is essential, but did not mention it in his note as he believed the whole Balkan question could be dealt with more effectively by negotiation as a separate problem.

FRENCH WIN STRONGHOLD AT VERDUN

In Brilliant Attack, Hill 304, Camard Wood and Fortified Works Are Captured From Germans—French Now Masters of All Important Points—Italians Take 30,000 Prisoners and Continue Advance—Canadians Battle for Lens.

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The British, French, Italians and Russians have captured 167,780 war prisoners since April 9, when the 1917 campaign opened, according to a statement issued by the British war department this evening.

PARIS, Aug. 24.—The French made an attack this morning on the left bank of the Meuse, between Avocourt wood and Dead Man hill. The war office announces the capture of Hill 304, Camard wood and the fortified works between Hancock wood and Bethincourt. The French gained more than their objectives, advancing to an average depth of two kilometers (one and one-quarter miles). An attack by the French east of the road between Esnes and Bethincourt enabled them to enlarge their positions north of Dead Man's hill to the extent of a kilometer.

The French are now masters of all the important points on the Verdun front which they held before the beginning of the great German attack last year.

Italians Capture 30,000.

ROME, Aug. 24.—The war office reports that the battle on the Isonzo front continues and that about sixty guns have been captured. General Cadorna announces that the Italians yesterday stormed new Austrian positions, broke up violent counter-attacks made by the enemy and took a large number of Austro-Hungarian prisoners.

More than 20,000 prisoners, the war office statement says, have been removed from the Austro-Italian front by the Italians.

Fighting at Lens.

LONDON, Aug. 24.—Heavy fighting was kept up through the night south of Lens, the war office announces. The British now hold German trenches immediately northwest of the bitterly disputed Green Grassier. Portuguese troops repulsed German raiders at two points in the region of La Bassee. Especially heavy losses have been inflicted on the Germans. Heavy artillery fighting continues around Ypres, where the British have improved their positions and successfully withstood counter-attacks.

Germans Admit Losses.

BERLIN, via London, Aug. 24.—The evacuation by the Germans of Hill 304, the famous stronghold on the Verdun front, is announced by the war office. It is said a weak garrison was left there.

Troops under Prince Leopold of Bavaria, advancing on the Russian city of Riga, have reached the River Aa at some places on the Gulf of Riga coast, the German general staff announced today.

The German general staff reports that the British lost twenty-one tanks during futile fighting on Wednesday. Some of the occupants were made prisoner.

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MICHAELIS CALLS PARTY CONFERENCE

LONDON, Aug. 24.—A Berlin dispatch received via Copenhagen says it is understood that Dr. Michaelis, the German imperial chancellor, and various parties in the reichstag are negotiating with a view to summoning their leading representatives to a conference for the consideration of important questions.

AMERICA LOANS RUSSIA CREDIT \$100,000,000

Full Confidence in Russian Government Expressed by State Department—Late Dispatches Create a Feeling of Optimism, Declares Lansing—Government Stronger.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—Another credit of \$100,000,000 to Russia was made today by the American government.

This brings the total of credits extended to the Russian government to \$275,000,000.

Ambassador Bakmeteff, in conference with Secretary McAdoo, pointed out the necessity of rendering aid speedily so that needed supplies might be sent to Russia before the closing of her ports by ice.

Some of the money probably will be used to purchase railway supplies and equipment in this country.

Complete confidence in the new Russian government was expressed today by the state department this afternoon.

Secretary Lansing denied that news from Russia has caused this government to take a pessimistic view of the situation, declaring that instead of there prevailing a feeling of pessimism, quite the contrary had been created by the confidential dispatches that have been received.

"I regard the government of Russia as stronger today than it has been for a month," he said. "I mean in general," he added, "both from political and military points of view."

PRICES FIXED UPON ANTHRACITE COAL; PROFITS LIMITED

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—Government control of the coal industry was made almost complete when President Wilson named Dr. H. A. Garfield, president of Williams college, fuel administrator, fixed anthracite prices for producers and jobbers and set a limit on profits to be adopted by bituminous wholesalers.

The next and final step will be to make regulations for coal distribution and to fix anthracite and bituminous retail prices. This will be done when a distribution program is perfected and when the federal trade commission has completed a plan under which retail profits may be fixed.

The anthracite prices fixed for September 1 virtually are the same as those now charged at the mines under a voluntary arrangement made by producers with the trade commission. The prices that may be charged by jobbers, however, will reduce present costs sharply. Bituminous jobbers' profits, too, will be cut by the new price scale set for wholesale transactions.

PLAN TO SPEED UP COAL PRODUCTION

CHICAGO, Aug. 24.—Governors and representatives of state councils of defense of nine states met here today and decided on a vigorous campaign to stimulate coal production and distribution. Those at the meeting explained that the prices fixed by President Wilson were "very liberal to the operators."

To see that the farming districts of the northwest, now threatened with a coal famine, get a sufficient supply of fuel, it was decided to ask President Wilson to have the recent priority shipment order amended so as to insure a hundred per cent efficiency in the delivery from the carriers, both lake and rail. In order to co-operate with the government in its handling of the fuel problem, a committee was appointed consisting of a representative from each state to handle, in conjunction with Washington, all production, price and transportation problems which may arise.

MRS. MOONEY REMAINS IN JAIL FOR NEW TRIAL

Judge Dunne Denies Recently Acquitted Woman Freedom on Bail—Six Indictments Still to Be Tried—Acquitted of Killing One Out of Ten Murdered by Bomb.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 24.—Mrs. Rena Mooney, recently acquitted here of one of nine indictments charging murder growing out of a bomb explosion last summer, was denied liberty on bail today by Superior Judge Frank H. Dunne. Two other superior court judges had agreed to accept bail on the six indictments pending before them.

Judge Dunne's decision means that Mrs. Mooney must remain on in jail where she has been confined since the explosion of July 22, 1916, which killed ten persons. She will be tried again later on one of the remaining indictments.

Court's Statement.

In his decision Judge Dunne said: "This woman is accused of the murder of ten people. She has been acquitted for one of these murders. There are eight indictments remaining against her. I do not believe the contention of counsel for the defense has any merit."

Arguments for her liberty on bail were based principally on the grounds of her acquittal and allegations that the district attorney had no new evidence against her.

The case of Frank C. Oxman, charged with attempted subornation of perjury in connection with the trial of Thomas J. Mooney, a bomb defendant, was continued until next Monday to be set for trial.

KAISER BLAMES ENGLAND FOR WAR; PREDICTS VICTORY

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 24.—England, the arch enemy of Germany, must be beaten down at whatever cost, Emperor William told his troops while on a visit to the Flanders front on Wednesday. An official statement issued in Berlin says the emperor addressed deputations from all detachments which have had a share in meeting the British attacks. He said he felt impelled to express his thanks and his full recognition of the heroic gallantry shown by troops from all parts of Germany in the hard fighting of the last week. The emperor referred to the marked contrast between the German and Anglo-French points of view, and continued:

"It is God's hands when in His wisdom He will give us victory. He has taught our army a hard lesson and now we are going to pass the examination. With the old German confidence in God we shall show what we can do. The greater and mightier the problem the more gladly we shall grapple with it and solve it. We shall fight and conquer until the enemy has had enough of these struggles."

"All Germans have realized who is the instigator of this war and who is the chief enemy—England. Everyone knows England is our most spiteful adversary. She spreads the hatred of Germany over the whole world, filling her allies with hatred and eagerness to fight. This everyone at home knows what you know still better, that England is particularly the enemy to be struck down, however difficult it may be. Your relatives at home who, too, have made great sacrifices, thank you thru me."

"A difficult struggle lies ahead of us. England, proud of her stubborn resistance, believes in her invincibility, but you will show that you can achieve still greater things, for the prize of the war is the German people's freedom to live—freedom at sea and freedom at home. With God's help we shall see the struggle thru and be victorious."

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—All members of the crew of the submarine steamer Devonian were saved, according to today's advices to the state department. In the crew were sixty-five Americans.

MONTANA SMELTERS SHUT DOWN

Strikers Force Shutting Down of Copper Mines and Smelters at Butte and Great Falls—Other Mines Forced to Close and Copper Output Ceases—Action Due to Radicals Among Unions.

BUTTE, Mont., Aug. 24.—It was announced at the offices of the Anaconda Copper Mining company today that its mines here and its smelter in Anaconda will be closed today because of labor troubles at Anaconda.

Because of the strike of smeltermen at the Washoe works at Anaconda, the Anaconda Copper company today announced a general shutdown of its properties in this state. All the mines of the company will be closed down, together with the smelters at Anaconda and Great Falls. Other mines that depend upon these smelters will be compelled to close down. Altogether a total of more than 15,000 men will be directly affected. The day shift will be employed as usual at the Butte mines, but no miners will be employed tonight except pumpmen. Fires are being drawn and furnaces tapped at Anaconda. The Great Falls smelters will continue to operate until the ores in transit have been disposed of. The smelter at Great Falls also closed.

Due to Radicals.

Today's developments follow the action of the radicals in the mill and smeltermen's union who announced their intention on Wednesday night to break away from the union and go on strike. These men were led by Tom Campbell and others of the metal mine workers union of Butte.

The smeltermen's union had previously voted against a strike. A small majority of those voting had favored the strike, but as a two-thirds vote is required, the proposal did not carry. Wednesday night leaders of the metal mine workers union in Butte secured control of the meeting of the men, the conservatives were ejected and those present voted to strike.

Just before noon today a committee representing the electricians union of Anaconda made a demand upon Manager Frederick Laist for an increase to \$6.50 a day with other conditions set out in their original demands, saying they would go out at once unless the demands were met. The committee was told that the company had already entered into a contract with the metal trades, which included the electricians and that it could not re-open a discussion of wages, the scale having already been agreed to by the metal trades and the company. At noon the electricians at the smelter quit work.

Government Needs Metal.

From the beginning of the trouble the mining companies have been in touch with the national council of defense. That organization urged the companies to make every effort to continue operations as the government needed copper and zinc for war supplies. The usual force of mechanics were employed altho there was not work for them and all the shafts of the company were kept at work so that the miners who would work would have the opportunity. Full forces of mechanics were employed after the companies had been compelled to abandon the night shift.

PRESIDENT MAY TALK ON PEACE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—President Wilson may decide to address congress on peace at the same time he makes reply to Pope Benedict's peace proposals. In that way he would not only inform the country on the question but also enable members of congress to carry the government's views home to the people when congress adjourns. No indications of the president's plans had come from the white house today.