



Forty-seventh Year.
Daily—Twelfth Year.

WEATHER—Maximum yesterday, 99; minimum today, 54. FORECAST—Tonight and tomorrow, fair.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1917

NO. 152

STRIKE TIES-UP ALL COAST SHIPBUILDING

25,000 QUIT WAR WORK BAY CITIES

Iron and Metal Workers at San Francisco Strike Following Rejection of Demands for 50 Per Cent Increase in Wages, Tying Up All Government Emergency Construction—All Shipyards of Coast Now Closed by Strikes—No Attempt to Operate.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 17.—Shipping board officials are confident that a basis will be reached this week for settlement of all labor disputes in Pacific coast shipyards.

On receipt of reports of the strike of iron workers at San Francisco today, the board made efforts to hasten a settlement of the strike in the Seattle Shipyards, in the belief that it will serve as a basis for agreements at Portland, San Francisco and other places.

25,000 Walk Out.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 17.—Approximately 25,000 iron workers and metal trades mechanics engaged in war emergency construction in San Francisco and the bay cities, went out on strike at 9 o'clock today following rejection of their demands for a fifty percent increase in wages. The walkout in more than 100 plants was carried out without a hitch, it was reported.

Fervish eleventh hour efforts to avert the strike, which had been threatened for a month, by employers and representatives of the United States shipping board, completely failed. Propositions to arbitrate on a basis of ten per cent increase offered, had been rejected by the conference committee of the Iron Trades council, composed of twenty five unions, on whose authority the strike was declared.

150,000 Affected.

Among other large plants affected are the Union, Atlas and Standard Gas Engine companies; the Hall-Scott Engine company, the Byron-Jackson and the Oliver Manufacturing companies and the Bert Gas Traction company.

Employers said that if the strike is of long duration probably 150,000 persons, including organized workmen of relative trades and their families, will be involved.

R. S. Scott of the Moore-Scott Iron works, said that under the contracts with the government, the employers were prohibited from granting any wage increases without federal sanction.

No attempt will be made to operate any of the factories or works with substitutes, it had been announced by the spokesman for the employers, who several days ago sought government intervention to settle the controversy.

In brief, the features which make the iron workers and shipbuilders strike today, in point of men involved and work affected, probably the most

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OREGON GRAINMEN TO SEE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Representatives of farming, warehouse and other interests of Oregon, Washington and Idaho will confer with President Wilson Thursday over the fixed price for wheat which they say is affected by the railroad rates.

Tri-state grain and other organizations hope to have the president remove alleged discrimination in rates by which they say farmers of that section are compelled to sell their wheat for 30 cents less than the Chicago standard price.

ALEXIEFF MADE COMMANDER OF RUSSIAN ARMIES

Confidence of Troops Restored by Removal of Former Generals and Situation Rapidly Clearing—Stronf Discipline Established—Russian Troops Recover Lines.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—General Alexieff's appointment to supreme command of the Russian army will be followed by a general reorganization in which old generals will give place to new ones.

First definite news of the reorganization was received at the Russian embassy today in dispatches from Petrograd. Confidence of the troops is being restored by the removal of former generals, the dispatches said, and the situation is rapidly clearing.

Government Strengthened.

The Korniloff uprising seems to have been quelled without bloodshed and Russian officials here say that the government now is stronger than ever. The original trouble might have been avoided, Russians here feel, if the emissaries from Korniloff had been able to explain the situation clearly to the government, and it is believed that a mistake was made in selecting the men to act as go-between between Korniloff and the government.

The Cossack movement is not considered seriously any longer, altho it is not over with. Strong discipline has been established in the army by General Alexieff and the spirit of the troops is said to be excellent.

Regain Seven Miles.

The advances to the Russian embassy here say that if the rebels had known of the true conditions in Petrograd they would not have made any move in the nature of an armed rebellion. The government is in good shape now, officials said, to quell anything in the nature of a counter-revolution and can present a united front to the German foe.

The military situation is said to be progressing satisfactorily and the armies are fulfilling their task of keeping as many Germans as possible on the Russian front. This is indicated by the report that the Germans now have more troops than ever on the Russian lines. During the last five days the Russian troops have regained seven miles.

THREE WITNESSES SAY AX MURDERER ADMITTED CRIMES

RED OAK, Ia., Sept. 17.—Assertion that the Rev. Lyn George J. Kelly, while in jail at Sioux Falls, S. D., in 1914 and 1915, had said he was guilty of the Villisca ax murders of 1912, was made today by three state witnesses in the trial of Kelly in connection with the ax slayings.

W. O. McQueen testified that he was jailer at Sioux Falls when Kelly was confined there in April, 1915, and that Kelly had said:

"I killed those people at Villisca, Ia.—the Moores and Stillinger girls."

Julius Wald, a deputy sheriff of Sioux Falls, testified Kelly told him in the jail that he had committed the murders and James Tyler, an inmate of the jail in 1915, repeated an alleged conversation in which Kelly said he was guilty of the crimes.

NO FOUNDATION FOR SUBMARINE STORY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—The navy department, after an investigation, is satisfied there is no foundation for reports that a hostile submarine is off the New England coast.

WHO SHOT MRS. KING?

Whole County in North Carolina Torn by Question as to Slayer of Millionaire Widow

Staff Writer Goes Over Scene, Guided by Farmer Whose Story Brought Reopening of Case—Secretary Who Seeks Property Under Suspicion.

BY J. HERBERT DUCKWORTH. CONCORD, N. C., Sept. 17.—No more eerie spot for the staging of a tragedy could be imagined than Blackwelder Spring, the scene of the mysterious shooting of Mrs. Maude A. King, handsome and wealthy Chicago widow, who kept an expensive apartment on fashionable Park avenue, New York.

After going to the place earlier in the day, I revisited the spring at night. It was then that I realized how Edgar Allen Poe would revel in making this dark glen the scene of a great tragedy.

Scene of Tragedy.

By day it was a delightfully cool retreat, a rendezvous for young lovers, set amid the corn and cotton fields of Carabarrus county. At night, shrouded by the surrounding woods from even the light of the stars, it is a pitch black hole in the side of the hill that one would shrink from exploring alone.

My companion was Farmer Charles S. Dry, who from his porch upon a hill 150 yards away heard two shots on the night of August 29. It was Dry who startled Concord after the body had been taken to Chicago with a story that disagrees materially from that of Gaston Means, Mrs. King's secretary.

By the light of Dry's lantern, I stumbled over the roots of giant cedars, stood by the forked tree beneath which Mrs. King fell with a bullet wound in the back of her left ear, and sat down by the spring, 30 feet away, where Gaston says he was drinking when the rich widow accidentally shot herself, while twirling a small automatic pistol around her head.

Dead in Lonely Dell.

Coroner Sears says he believes an injured ankle caused Mrs. King to lose her footing in the dary and when she threw up her arms to regain her balance the pistol was discharged.

This sequestered dell, vaulted by the stout branches of massive trees, off an old lane that turns in from the main Gold Mill road, was visited by the Means-King party on the night of the tragedy for the purpose of target practice, according to Mrs. Means. In the party besides Mrs. King and Gaston Means, were the latter's brother, Afton, or "Tony" Means, and Captain W. S. Bingham, a Concord man.

The party rode over in an automobile driven by a colored chauffeur, from Concord, the home of the Meanses, where the father is a lawyer and "Tony" the republican boss of the county.

Chicago Interests Planned. Gaston says that for two years he

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GOVERNMENT NOT TO RAID HOUSES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—The untraceable rumor that the government intends to take canned and dried foods from homes persists and has spread to such an extent that the department of agriculture today placed an explicit and official denial in the hands of every county agent and representative, with instructions to give it widest publicity.

The government never has contemplated commandeering foods from the homes in any sense, and the persistence of the rumor leads officials to believe that its basis probably may be found in propaganda to hinder food conservation and thereby cause high prices.



SEATTLE STRIKE AWAITS MEDIATION BY GOVERNMENT

SEATTLE, Sept. 17.—The woodworkers in the steel shipyard of the Seattle Construction & Dry Dock Co., the largest plant here, resumed work today, the company having given bond to use only lumber manufactured in eight-hour mills. Two other large yards had previously resumed work, using eight-hour lumber. Altho only a few hundred woodworkers are employed in the steel yards, making scaffolding and doing like work, there was danger that the steel workers would be obliged to stop work for lack of scaffolding. There was no change today at the wooden shipyards, which have been tied up for several days by a sympathetic strike of the wood workers against ten-hour lumber.

The feeling at strike headquarters is that the wooden builders' difficulties as well as the metal workers, would be settled by negotiations now in progress at Washington.

EDITORS FACE TRIAL FOR TREASON

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 17.—Charged with treason, Louis Werner, chief editor of the Philadelphia Tageblatt, a German language newspaper, and Dr. Martin Darkow, managing editor, were today held in \$10,000 additional bail for trial. They are already under bail on the charge of violation of the espionage law. In deciding to admit them to bail, Judge Dickinson of the federal court said every one realized the gravity of the charges, but that the treasonable acts charged in the indictment were such as to entitle the defendants to bail. They were indicted last Saturday. The charge of treason is not bailable except at the discretion of the court.

BOMB DESTROYS U. S. CONSULATE DUNKIRK, FRANCE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Destruction of the American consular agency at Dunkirk, France, by a German bomb on September 7 was reported today to the state department. The consular agent, Benjamin Morel, was uninjured, and the archives of the consulate were saved.

The dispatch added no other details regarding the destruction. It is assumed the bomb had been dropped from a German airplane, as that section of France frequently has been raided by enemy aircraft. Earlier in the war, however, Dunkirk was bombarded from a distance of about 20 miles by a huge German gun which had been brought to bear on the city. This battery soon was located by the French and concentrated attacks on it caused the Germans to remove it.

PARTIAL STRIKE PORTLAND PLANTS

PORTLAND, Sept. 17.—Partial cessation of work in wooden shipyards on the Willamette and Columbia rivers at Portland, Vancouver, Wash., St. Helens, Or., and Astoria, Or., was reported today as a result of a strike of approximately 2000 union men Saturday for the closed shop.

Two Portland yards reported they were running with full forces, while others were operating some department with non-union help. Many plants remained closed.

Steel workmen numbering approximately twenty-five, who have been employed on steel vessels for the government, went on strike here today at the Supple-Ballin Shipbuilding corporation's plant. The steel workers' strike is believed to be in sympathy with the striking employees of the wood ship yards.

SENATE PLANS ADJOURNMENT BY OCTOBER 1

Conferees Make Rapid Progress on Three Bills Before Them, War Tax, War Bonds and Enemy Trading Measures—Soldiers' and Sailors' Insurance Bill to Pass.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—The senate and house conferees on the war tax bill carried their deliberations into the third day with prospects that an agreement on a measure for levies of approximately \$2,500,000,000 will be reached before the end of the week. Rapid progress is being made, about two-thirds of the bill already having been disposed of.

Minor matters again today occupied the attention of the conferees who hope to reach the remaining big points in dispute, the war profits tax and the mail rates, by Tuesday.

Insurance Measures.

Senate leaders began making plans today to pass the soldiers' and sailors' insurance bill before adjournment, in accordance with President Wilson's request.

A sub-committee will devote only one day—tomorrow—to hearings, and it is expected to pass the bill next Monday or Tuesday under a unanimous consent agreement, and without resort to cloture.

With most all of the important legislation of the session enacted or about to be disposed of, leaders in congress today set about the task of carrying out plans, tentatively fixed, for adjournment early in October.

No New Legislation.

President Wilson has no new legislation to recommend, and is said to be ready to have congress take a vacation. The house has about finished its part of the legislative program, but prompt action by the senate is necessary to carry out the adjournment plans. Only two big measures, the soldiers' and sailors' insurance and the \$7,000,000,000 war deficiency bill, remain to be passed by the senate and it is expected that both will be expedited. The deficiency bill, now in the house, probably will pass today.

Three big measures are in conference today, with prospects of an early agreement on all of them. They are the war tax, the war bond and the trading-with-the-enemy bills.

AUSTRIANS STRIVE VAINLY TO RETAKE ITALIAN WINNINGS

Desperate resistance is being continued by the Austrians to the Italian advance on the Isonzo front. They made four attempts to recapture the ground won late last week by General Cadorna on the Bainsizza plateau, but each time were repulsed.

The Franco-Belgian front operations continue to develop only local actions. The Germans last night showed enterprise in a sector that has witnessed little activity lately, attacking French positions in Apremont forest, in the Ardennes. A lively engagement ensued which ended in a German defeat.

Along the British front there were only raiding operations, London reports. These were carried out in the Arras and Somme regions, the British taking prisoners and inflicting much damage.

CLOCKS IN GERMANY PUT BACK AN HOUR

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 17.—All clocks in Holland and Germany were put back an hour at 3 o'clock this morning. The daylight saving schedule began on April 15.

"Summer time" also ended officially in England at 3 a. m. today.

GERMAN NOTE TO SWEDEN REGRETS ARGENTINA ISSUE

Kaiser Sorry Representatives Sent Telegrams in Phraseology They Did, But Orders Envoys to Keep Code—Swedish Liberals Censure Government and Demand Change.

LONDON, Sept. 17.—Germany has sent a note to Sweden, according to the correspondent at Stockholm of the Central News Agency, highly regretting the disagreeable issues raised on account of Sweden transmitting telegrams to Germany.

Germany says she is obliged to the Swedish government for transmitting the messages, but regrets that her representatives in Argentina should have sent the telegrams in the phraseology they did.

The Nya Dagligt Allenhanda of Stockholm, which printed the announcement that Germany had sent the note to Sweden, says the German government has instructed all its representatives in foreign countries to refuse to accede to any attempt which may be made to force them to reveal to the Swedish government the contents of code messages which they may submit to it.

Germany has given no official excuse regarding Count Von Luxburg's abuse of Swedish confidence, says the Exchange Telegraph's correspondent at Copenhagen. He quotes the Nya Dagligt Allenhanda's Berlin correspondent, however, as stating that he had learned from the German foreign office that all German diplomatic representatives abroad had been informed that the Swedish government had no knowledge of the contents of the count's telegrams.

Liberals Censure Government.

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 17.—At a great liberal meeting held here today a resolution proposed by Professor Eden, leader of the liberal party in the second chamber, was unanimously adopted to the effect that the meeting expressed the deepest regret that the Swedish foreign office was not in a position to deny the assertion that it had forwarded cipher telegrams in ignorance of their contents, which contents when revealed awoke the just abhorrence of all Swedes.

The resolution vigorously demanded that the government immediately undertake all necessary measures to demonstrate indubitably to the Swedish people its determination to maintain toward all belligerents absolute neutrality.

Socialist's Parade.

The socialist parade today was prevented from being a full success by intermittent showers. Banners were carried reading: "Down with secret diplomacy!" Other banners indicated the parade might be interpreted as a peace demonstration as well as an election procession.

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BRITISH AIRSHIP RAID ON WARSHIPS

LONDON, Sept. 17.—An official statement issued by the admiralty today says:

"Naval aircraft made a bombing raid Saturday on enemy shipping between Blankenberghe and Ostend. Bombs were dropped on destroyers and trawlers or drifters. One large destroyer was hit amidships, and one, probably two, of a group of four trawlers was sunk.

"In the evening during a late patrol one of our seaplanes was attacked by two seaplanes which were engaged by our escorting airplanes and one was shot down in flames, the other being chased toward some enemy destroyers.

"About 10 a. m. yesterday our patrol engaged a formation of enemy aircraft, destroying one and probably two."