

JACKSON COUNTY W. S. S. BAROMETR. Quota for 1918, \$692,000.00 Sales to May 14, \$71,623.70 Buy Thrift Stamps EACH DAY

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Save and Buy for Victory Buy W.S.S. Thrift Stamps The World's Safest Investment

Forty-eighth Year. Daily—Thirteenth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1918

NO. 48

100 KILLED, \$1,000,000 LOSS; EXPLOSION

AETNACHEMICAL WORKS BLOWN UP NEAR PITTSBURG

Dead Estimated at 100, Injured at 150 and Property Losses at Over a Million Dollars—Series of Explosions Fire Plant and Shatter Structures in Vicinity—Red Cross Rescue.

PITTSBURG, May 18.—A series of explosions in the Oakdale plant of the Aetna Chemical company at Oakdale today probably cost the lives of 100 persons and injured 150 and did property damage which is estimated at \$1,000,000.

The explosions fired the plant which at 2 o'clock this afternoon was still burning and officers of the company say that some time may pass before the exact loss of life will be known.

Series of Explosions. The first explosion occurred at noon and was so slight that no one was hurt, and caused little damage. But it gave the employees warning and they hurried from the building. Many of them, however, were caught in the next explosion which occurred a few minutes later, and immediately the plant burst into flames.

Three other explosions occurred, each one scattering the burning debris. Some of it fell among the great crowds which had gathered on the neighboring hillsides and a number of persons were hurt but none killed.

Among the persons injured in the last explosion at the plant was a nurse, who had one of her legs blown off while acting as a stretcher bearer. Other persons were injured when a quantity of sulphuric acid which had found its way into a small stream was fired by sparks from the burning buildings. Fire on a hill top fully a mile from the scene of the explosion, was caused by flying sparks.

Paraders Go to Rescue. Portions of the wrecked building fell on the Panhandle railroad tracks. A wreck train was made up and sent to the scene, followed by a relief train sent out by officers of the Aetna company. A detail of state troops from the constabulary station near Oakdale was ordered to control the crowds.

Several hundred white robed women, gathered from Carnegie, Fort Pitt, Kennerdale, Walkers Mills and other villages near Oakdale, were at traction line stations waiting for cars to carry them to Pittsburg where they were to take part in the Red Cross parade. At the first sound of the explosion, they abandoned the program for the parade and marched to Oakdale. Many of them had taken the full surgical course of the Red Cross and proved valuable assistants to the doctors.

Revised estimates of the number of men employed when the explosion occurred place it at 300. Fully 150 of these, it was estimated, had been hurt in addition to the 100 killed.

39 NAMES UPON CASUALTY LIST

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The casualty list today contained 39 names divided as follows: Killed in action, three; died of wounds, three; died of disease, four; wounded severely five; wounded, degree not known, one; wounded slightly, nine; missing in action, 12; prisoners, two.

The following officers are included: Major Alexander Rasmussen, Sherwood, Ore., killed in action; Lieutenant Sherman DeMorse, Chicago, missing in action; First Lieutenant Abraham J. Gordon, Newark, N. J., prisoner, but not previously reported missing.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The total for the third liberty loan is \$1,170,019,650, an over-subscription of 29 percent above the three billion dollar minimum sought.

IRISH JAILED ON DISCOVERY OF HUN PLOT

Sinn Fein Leaders Arrested as Result of Conspiracy with Germany—Proclamation Asserts Treasonable Communication with Enemy in Progress in Emerald Isle.

LONDON, May 18.—Documents of great importance in connection with an Irish conspiracy have fallen into the hands of the government through the arrest by coast guards, of a German with certain evidence upon him.

LONDON, May 18.—Professor Edward De Valera, president of the Sinn Fein, Arthur Griffith, founder of the Sinn Fein; Countess Markievicz, Dr. Dillon and William Grosogrove, Sinn Fein M. P. for Kilkenny, have been arrested, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Dublin.

Additional arrests in Ireland reported in a Times dispatch from Dublin, include Dr. Hayes and Darrell Figgis.

Plot Discovered.

LONDON, May 18.—Ireland and Irish affairs again have come to the fore.

Discovery of a German plot involving certain persons in Ireland was announced last night in Dublin by the issuance of a proclamation signed by Edward Shortt, chief secretary for Ireland, in the name of the lord lieutenant, Viscount French.

The proclamation asserts that British subjects resident in Ireland, have entered into treasonable communication with the German enemy and calls for drastic measures to put down the movement.

Recruiting is urged in order that conscription may be avoided and that the Irish may assist in putting down the conspiracy.

Few are Involved.

A dispatch to the Times says a large number of persons already have been arrested in Dublin and other parts of Ireland.

The number of Irish in co-operation with the enemy is said to be very small. There have been various reports recently of German activity in the Sinn Fein ranks and there has been no full explanation of recent arrests, including that of a man who landed on the Irish coast from a German submarine in a collapsible boat.

LONDON, May 18.—A later dispatch from Dublin adds to the list of those arrested the names of H. Mellow and half a dozen others, who have not been identified here.

Professor De Valera is president of the Sinn Fein. Mr. Griffith is vice president; Mr. Cosgrove one of the treasurers; Mr. Figgis one of the secretaries and Dr. Dillon and the Countess Markievicz are members of the executive of the Sinn Fein organization.

YOUTHS OF 21 REGISTER JUNE 5

WASHINGTON, May 18.—June fifth has been fixed as the date for registration of youths who have attained 21 years since the first army draft registration June fifth last year. The resolution authorizing the new registration is awaiting the president's signature but the provost marshal general's office virtually has completed preparations for carrying it into effect.

It is estimated that about 800,000 men available for military service will be found among the new registrants this year. During the year beginning June 5, it is planned to have quarterly registrations.

PARIS, May 18.—Violent artillery fighting north and south of the Avre river below Amiens, is reported in today's statement.

YOUR DOLLAR TO THE RED CROSS MAY SAVE A WOUNDED BOY IN THE TRENCHES.



AMERICANS NOW MILITARY FACTOR ON BATTLE LINE

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The American expeditionary force has become such a military factor on the western battlefield, members of the senate military committee were advised today at their weekly conference with Secretary Baker and the war council, that they now rank third in the mileage held.

The French hold the most mileage, the British rank second and the Americans third, exceeding the mileage held by the Belgians.

The front line forces of General Pershing, the senators were told, are divided among four sectors, all on what is known as the french front, but other American troops are at the front as well as behind the lines in training, with both British and French forces.

The exact mileage in charge of the American forces was disclosed to the committee but was not made public for military reasons. The senators, however expressed great gratification at the extent of the American front line activity. One of the four American sectors, near Montdidier, was said to be of much activity and importance in the allied plans.

HERTLING STILL SURE OF VICTORY

AMSTERDAM, May 18.—"I am still optimistic enough to believe we shall have peace this year," said the German chancellor, Count Von Hertling, in an interview with the Berlin correspondent of the Budapest newspaper Az Est. "I cherish firm confidence that further events in the west will bring us nearer a speedy end of the war."

"If the world should one day unite in an international peace league," added Count Von Hertling, "Germany would unhesitatingly and joyfully join in it. Unfortunately present conditions give very little hope of that. Our desire is to win and preserve peace."

TWO MILLION HUNS MASSES FOR OFFENSIVE

Weather Conditions Awaited for Germans to Renew Smash—All Best Troops On Attacking Front—82 Divisions in Line and 58 Divisions as Reserve to Push Ahead.

PARIS, May 18.—The beginning by the Germans of a formidable offensive by which they expect to achieve final success now depends only on weather conditions. The commander-in-chief, the French troops and their allies are waiting for the shock with the greatest confidence.

The Petit Parisien says the enemy has massed all his best troops on the attacking front. Between the Belgian coast and the Oise, it states, one hundred and forty divisions (or about 1,500,000 men) have been distributed, eighty-two on the front line or for direct support, and the remainder behind the lines, to be used for augmenting the push at the principal point of attack.

This newspaper says the German plan is to threaten Amiens, cut the railroad between that point and Clermont, and break up the allied forces whatever the cost may be.

LONDON, May 18.—There has been violent artillery fighting along the line between Givenchy and Tonnay, and also in the Flanders area, the war office reports today.

SHOWERS MONDAY BALANCE WEEK FAIR

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Wednesday, issued by the weather bureau today are:

Pacific states: Generally fair except showers Monday on the north coast. Nearly normal temperature.

GERMAN LOSSES TREMENDOUS IN RECENT DRIVE

LONDON, May 18.—The most definite figures yet announced regarding German losses on the western front this spring have been given to The Associated Press. Since the beginning of the offensive on March 21, two hundred and six German divisions have been on the western front, of which 126 actually have been engaged on the Somme and Armentieres fronts.

The 208th German division, which was one of those suffering most heavily, lost 70 per cent of its effectiveness. Seven other German divisions are known to have lost more than 50 per cent and at least seven other divisions are named as having lost 40 to 50 per cent.

Only 40 men to the company were left in the 119th division after the fighting of March 22 and 23. Their first division was in similar straits after reaching Sully-Laurette on March 28, and the 234th division was weakened similarly on April 6. One regiment of the fourth Ersatz division virtually was annihilated April 9, and there are scores of instances of companies and battalions which disappeared almost completely.

In a five-page closely typewritten list of losses to German regiments and divisions engaged in the offensive which have been substantiated by British intelligence officers, there is scarcely a single instance where the losses were not so large as to cause serious crippling of the efficiency of the unit.

While it is impossible to make from these figures any exact estimate of the German losses it is sufficiently evident that the enemy casualties have been exceedingly heavy. One evidence of this fact is that the Germans, after calling upon all available reserve depots in the western area, have already been compelled to draw into crippled divisions men drawn from Germany itself, including those of the 19120 class. From this it may be concluded that the demand for men to replace losses has been greater than reserve centers could supply.

LONDON, May 18, Saturday.—A considerable number of arrests have been made in Dublin, and through Ireland, according to a dispatch to the Times from Dublin, timed 2 o'clock Saturday morning.

ALLIES TO AID JAPAN AND CHINA AGAINST HUNS

Entente Military Co-operation With Japan and China to Resist Dangers Threatening Peace of Far East From German Aggression—A Purely Defensive Measure.

PARIS, May 18.—Japan and China have been informed by the allied governments that they have arranged for entente military co-operation to meet the dangers threatening the peace of the far east from German penetration.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The entente military co-operation arranged to meet threats to the peace of the far east by German penetration, as reported today from Paris, is understood here as a purely defensive measure, in which participation for the present will be confined to Japan and China. Its primary purpose is the safeguarding of Manchuria with possibilities of its extension to Siberia.

To Prevent Invasion.

For some time negotiations have been in progress at Peking and Tokio looking to the co-operation in that direction. Japan felt herself responsible for the maintenance of order in the far east. When German influence first began to manifest itself in Siberia, the Japanese government conceived a plan of military occupation of some portions of Siberia.

Preliminary inquiries directed to the entente powers, however, developed a divergence of views as to the wisdom of a single handed movement of that kind by Japan. There was no disposition to question Japan's sincerity but doubt was expressed as to the actual existence of imminent danger from German aggression in that far off quarter of the world while the United States government feared that the effect upon the Russian people of Japan's invasion of Siberia would be misunderstood and that the Russians in their fear of permanent Japanese occupation would be thrown into the arms of Germany.

Change in Situation.

Therefore it was announced in Tokio that the project had been, if not abandoned, at least indefinitely postponed in execution.

Meanwhile the activities of General Semenov, the Cossack leader of the anti-Bolshevik party in Siberia, had resulted in practically a state of war on the border between Siberia and Manchuria.

Some German and Austrian prisoners of war have been fighting with the Bolsheviki elements. The Chinese government promptly employed what military force it had in guarding upper Manchuria but it was apparent that the task was beyond the powers of Chinese troops unaided by trained veterans. Therefore Japan has come to the aid of China.

HUNS' AIRPLANES MARKED TO DECEIVE

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Friday, May 17.—By the Associated Press.—A German airplane bearing French markings was discovered today flying over the lines northwest of Toul. American aviators tried to intercept him but he made his escape. The incident shows what cunning and deceit American airmen have to deal with and what caution they have to display in dealing with a supposed friend.

American patrols were very active on the Toul sector last night and today but did not establish contact with the enemy. The artillery fighting on this sector has fallen off to almost nothing. It is just opposite on the Luneville sector where the German guns are most active apparently retalating for recent heavy American bombardments.

WITHYCOMBE RENOMINATED AS IS M'NARY

Light Vote Cast Over State—West Defeats King and Pierce Wins Democratic Nomination for Governor—McArthur Defeats Lafferty By a Two to One Vote in Portland.

PORTLAND, Ore., May 18.—Scattering returns from all parts of Oregon on yesterday's primary election, when 42 per cent of the registered voters went to the polls, seemed to assure the nomination of Charles L. McNary, incumbent, for United States senator on the republican ticket, and the renomination of Governor James Withycombe. Former Governor Oswald West apparently was nominated by the democrats for United States senator and Walter M. Pierce for governor.

For the republican nomination for the short term as United States senator, B. F. Mulkey was in the lead, and Ralph Williams was named republican national committeeman.

McNary a Winner.

Nominations for other state and county officers were undetermined early today, and returns were coming in slowly. State wide figures on the senatorial and gubernatorial contests, so far as compiled, follow: Senator—Charles L. McNary, 11,034; Robert Stanfield, 7,335.

Governor—James Withycombe, 7,173; Ben W. Oleott, 3,719; L. J. Simpson, 3,500; Gus C. Moser, 2,014; F. C. Harley, 1,178; J. E. Anderson, 1,031.

Multnomah county returns showed Congressman C. N. McArthur leading A. W. Lafferty by almost two to one for republican representative of the third district. William Adams, present city treasurer of Portland, was well in the lead for the republican nomination for state treasurer; Charles A. Johns was leading for the republican nomination for justice of the supreme court, J. B. Schaefer for superintendent of the water division and Fred Williams for public service commissioner.

In Multnomah County.

Multnomah county nominations which seemed assured were: Judges Morrow, Stapleton and Gantenbein; county commissioner, Rufus Holman; coroner, Dr. Earl Smith; state senators, J. K. Gill and W. W. Burks; sheriff, T. M. Harburt.

PRESIDENT LEADS RED CROSS PARADE NEW YORK CITY

NEW YORK, May 18.—President Wilson today led in person and reviewed the great Red Cross parade here of 75,000 persons.

The president unexpectedly drove up to the starting point of the parade, just as it was about to get under way. With Secretary Tamm and Rear Admiral Grayson, he alighted from his automobile, greeted the grand marshal, Brigadier General Dyer and took his place at the head of the procession. A human Red Cross, made up of hundreds of marchers clad in red, a living, moving emblem of the society of mercy that has become known as "the greatest mother in the world"—held the post of honor in the parade down Fifth avenue.

President Wilson, who as head of the society, is to formally open the national campaign for a war fund of \$100,000,000 with an address here tonight, was the principal reviewing officer.

Another picturesque feature of the procession was a body of more than 2,000 nurses garbed in every variety of costume worn by nurses all over the world.

British Destroyer Sunk.

LONDON, May 18.—A British destroyer was sunk on Tuesday by a German submarine, the admiralty announced.