



# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



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## HUNS ABANDONING OFFENSIVE IN WEST

### IMPORTANT POINTS BEING EVACUATED

Germans Preparing to Assume Defensive From Ypres to Rheims—Withdrawals in Picardy and Flanders—Allied Captures of Prisoners and Munitions Astounding—Americans Alone Capture 8,400 Huns—Retirement to Aisne Likely in Progress.

In Paris it is declared that when the aggregate of prisoners captured is made known, it will thrill the world. General Pershing reports that American troops alone captured 8,400 prisoners and 133 guns.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—More than 500 guns and 500 trench mortars have been captured by one French army alone, that of General Mangin, since the beginning of the allied offensive on July 18.

It will be impossible to take stock of all booty captured by the allies for some time, but it is known that it includes 77 millimeter guns while 77 millimeter shells salvaged up to the present total 1,500,000.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—Advanced lines on a sector nearly half a mile along the La Bassée canal have been evacuated by the Germans and the British have pushed forward and occupied this ground.

On the Defensive BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, Aug. 5.—The Germans are preparing to assume the defensive on the front Ypres to Rheims.

While congratulating their retirement toward the Aisne, the Germans have abandoned good defensive positions in Picardy east of Amiens, as well as along the La Bassée canal in Flanders. The movements north and south of the Somme have been only local in character but indicate that the German command is aware of the danger of an allied attack north of the present battlefield. Between Soissons and Rheims the Vesle virtually has been cleared of enemy troops and Fismes is in the hands of the Americans, having been carried by storm. West of Rheims the French have made important gains and beyond Soissons the French are north of the Aisne.

Allied troops have not advanced so rapidly during the last 48 hours. The leading units keep in close touch with the Germans, but it is probable that heavy artillery will have to be brought up.

Retire to Aisne

There is little doubt in allied circles that the German crown prince will retire to the north of the Aisne. The heights of the Chemin Des Dames offer the most suitable defensive position, but even this would be precluded.

(Continued on Page Four.)

### TO ASSIST BANK LOANS TO FARMERS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—To help finance crop movements, the war finance corporation announced today it would welcome applications from banks for loans to cover advances by the banks to farmers and merchants for harvesting and marketing wheat and other crops. Loans will be limited to four months and will carry interest at 6 per cent per annum.

### HOSPITAL SHIP SUNK BY HUNS 150 SICK PERISH

Patients Killed by Explosion of Torpedo as Hospital Ship was Returning from France to England—400 Aboard, 100 Landed—Total Loss of Life Not Ascertained.

LONDON, Aug. 5.—The vessel which was torpedoed on Saturday morning near a British port while bringing wounded men to England from France was the Warilda. The total number missing is 123. They are as follows:

Two military officers, a commandant in Queen Mary's auxiliary corps, one American soldier, seven of the crew and 112 others.

LONDON, Aug. 5, Saturday, 3.—One hundred and fifty patients are reported to have been killed by the explosion of a torpedo which sank a hospital ship this morning.

The ship was returning from France and nearing a home port when the torpedo struck her, penetrating the ward room where patients were accommodated. About 100 wounded have been landed at a British port, coming ashore in what clothing they could reach when rudely awakened.

400 Patients on Ship

About 400 patients were on board the vessel. It is not known definitely what the loss of life was. One hundred patients, however, are accounted for as having landed at one port where they were cared for by British organizations and the American Red Cross.

Two American officers and five privates were on board the vessel. Both the officers are reported officially as saved. They were Captain J. T. Beatty and Lieutenant H. T. Hubbard. The fate of the privates is uncertain. The official report indicates that two of them were saved.

Killed or Trapped

A BRITISH PORT, Sunday, Aug. 4.—(By the Associated Press.)—The ship was torpedoed yesterday morning as she was nearing home from France, was struck in the afterpart of the engine room. Three members of the crew were killed here and the dynamo was destroyed, plunging the vessel into darkness.

Just over the dynamo was the ward room, containing more than 100 patients. Most of these were killed outright by the explosion. The others, injured by the explosion, were trapped and perished, except a few who jumped overboard and were picked up.

### OVER MILLION MEN UNDER CROWN PRINCE

PARIS, Aug. 5.—The German crown prince has engineered forty of his divisions (540,000 men) in the Champagne and 47 divisions (675,000 men) between the Aisne and the Marne since he began his offensive on July 15, the intrasurgent states. It is estimated that by the shortening of the front thru his retreat he has economized in the number of troops necessary along the line to the extent of ten divisions (135,000 men).

### RAILROAD ORDERED JUNKED BY COURT

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Aug. 5.—The last passenger train over the Colorado Midland railroad, which has been ordered junked by a decree of the district court because of inability to meet operating expenses, reached Colorado Springs from Grand Junction, Colo., at 8 o'clock this morning. Employees of the road are leaving to accept positions elsewhere.

### TWO U-BOATS OPERATING OFF U. S. SEABOARD

American Tank Steamer Jennings Sunk 100 Miles off Virginia Coast—Second Raider Operating off Coast of Nova Scotia—Captain and 13 Members of Crew Missing.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Sinking of the American tank steamer O. B. Jennings yesterday 100 miles off the Virginia coast announced today revealed the presence of at least two German submarines on this side of the Atlantic. The second raider has been operating off the coast of Nova Scotia and nearby waters for several days.

The American tank steamship O. B. Jennings was sunk by a German submarine yesterday about 100 miles off the Virginia coast and thirty survivors of the vessel's crew have been brought to Norfolk by a naval vessel, the navy department was today informed. The captain and one boat containing 13 members of the crew are missing.

Wireless calls from the steamer, saying that she was being shelled by a submarine, were received yesterday between 11 o'clock and noon.

Naval vessels were sent at once but arrived only in time to pick up survivors, the vessel having gone down. The Jennings, which was built in 1917, was of 7890 net tons and belonged to the Standard Oil company.

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—There were 49 men on board the tank steamship O. B. Jennings, torpedoed and sunk by a submarine off the Virginia coast yesterday according to the records of the Standard Oil company. The captain, G. W. Nordstrom of Brooklyn, and 17 men are unaccounted for.

A CANADIAN ATLANTIC PORT, Aug. 5.—The fishing schooner Nelson A. of Yarmouth, N. S., has been added to the list of vessels sunk by a German submarine off the South Atlantic coast. The crew of the schooner landed here today and reported their vessel was destroyed last Saturday.

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—This is the second appearance of the O. B. Jennings in the marine casualty news this year. On March 24 the tanker collided off the British coast with the British steamship War Knight, also oil laden, and 37 lives were lost. The Jennings, after was shell by British warships, until her decks were awash. She was salvaged by wrecking tugs in the service of the United States forces abroad, and was on her way to a United States shipyard when sunk. She was valued at more than \$1,000,000.

A CANADIAN PACIFIC PORT, Aug. 5.—The Japanese steamer Canadian Maru has been floated and is proceeding to port under her own steam.

### GERMANS ADMIT ADVANCE STOPPED: SILENCE ENJOINED

BERNE, Aug. 5.—The German offensive has been stopped and present operations cannot be publicly discussed, declared General Hellingrath, Bavarian minister, in speaking in the first chamber Saturday.

### WILSON DISPELS FEAR OF U. S. IN LATIN REPUBLICS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Letters exchanged by Presidents Wilson and Melendez of San Salvador, regarding Mr. Wilson's recent address to Mexican editors were made public today by the state department. Promising the full co-operation of his people, the Latin American executive heartily congratulated President Wilson upon the sentiments of justice and fraternity expressed, adding: "In expounding the Monroe doctrine you have dispelled pre-judgments and unfavorable conjectures that have for many years hampered the full blossoming of principles of true cordiality which must exist between the United States and the other republics of the American continent."

In reply President Wilson said: "It is delightful to feel that a mutual understanding is being established among the nations of the Americas which promises to constitute a permanent foundation of friendship and I beg your excellency to believe that the speech to the Mexican editors to which you so kindly refer came without premeditation from my very heart. I wish you also to know that it expressed something very much more than my personal feeling and policy, for I believe it expressed the real attitude of the people of the United States."

PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL CROWDER, in a statement submitted by Senator Chamberlain, suggested September fifth as the date for a national registration of men within the proposed new ages.

### PORTLAND GIRL SLAIN BY SUITOR

PORTLAND, Aug. 5.—Mary Espina, aged 18, was slain in her home early today by a man who entered the room where she was sleeping thru a window and shot her seven times. Her father, Eugina Espina, told the police that the slayer was John Monocco, a rejected suitor. Espina said he was alarmed by the sound of the shots, and rushing into his daughter's room, grappled with Monocco, but was overpowered so that the murderer escaped. Espina said he had forbidden Monocco the house some time ago, since which time Monocco had gone to Seattle to live. The police are searching for Monocco.

### BILL TO DRAFT MEN 18 TO 45 IS INTRODUCED

New Administration Man Power Bill Extending Selective Service Act Before Both Houses—Hope to Force Speedy Passage for Registration by September 5.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—The new administration man power bill extending the selective service act to all men between the ages of 18 and 45 inclusive, was introduced today in both branches of congress.

The measure was referred to the military committee, Congressional leaders plan to have it considered this month.

In presenting the bill to the senate, Chairman Chamberlain of the senate military committee gave assurance that everything would be done to expedite its passage.

To Summon Quorum Senator Curtis of Kansas and Senator Jones of Washington announced themselves in favor of summoning a quorum of the senate so the bill can be taken up immediately. The suggestion was approved by Senator Chamberlain.

Senator Chamberlain also presented a communication from the secretary of war, showing the number of men affected by the bill. According to these figures, 2,398,000 men between the ages of 18 and 25 inclusive and 32 and 45 inclusive, would be subject to military service. Of this number 601,000 would be men between 32 and 45.

Chairman Dent of the house committee said that with only three members of the committee now in the city, it was doubtful if the committee could be called together before the house re-assembled on August 19.

Register September 5

Provost Marshal General Crowder, in a statement submitted by Senator Chamberlain, suggested September fifth as the date for a national registration of men within the proposed new ages.

Weekly registration of youths attaining the age of 21 during the next weeks was proposed by General Crowder as the only means of obtaining the 200,000 men to be called to the colors in September. This could be done by presidential proclamation and would add about 85,000 to the number of men available.

### PACKERS INDICTED FOR REBATE PLOT

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—Federal indictments were returned here today, charging the Pennsylvania railroad, Armour & Co., Swift & Co., and the New Jersey City Stock Yards company with conspiring to violate the federal statutes which prohibits the giving or receiving of rebates. The alleged offenses have to do with the routing of traffic.

### WILSON SEES FIRST LAUNCHING AT HOG ISLAND

Mrs. Wilson, With President Standing by Her Side, Christened Cargo Carrier Quisticonk, the First of 180 Ships Scheduled for Launching—Vast Output Due to President.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—With a hearty God-speed from the president of the United States and Mrs. Wilson, the cargo carrier Quisticonk, the first ship built at the Hog Island plant, was successfully launched at 12:38 o'clock this afternoon.

President Wilson, accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, arrived at the Hog Island shipyard at 12:30 p. m. today on a special train. The president received a tremendous ovation. The Quisticonk is the first of the 180 ships to be launched at the great yard.

Mrs. Wilson, with the president standing at her side, christened the ship as nearly 50,000 persons standing in the broiling sun, wildly cheered. There were nearly 400 prostrations due to intense heat.

"Good Luck to You"

The president made no speech, but in response to the urgent appeal of the crowd he waved his hat and shouted: "Good luck to you." Mrs. Wilson smilingly repeated this sentiment.

The presidential party returned to Washington after remaining in the yard less than thirty minutes.

"It was no more incident in a nation's shipbuilding program that brought the president and Mrs. Wilson to the scene of this achievement," said Chairman Hurley, principal speaker at the launching. "It was the beginning of an epoch in the nation's history."

This launching marks another milestone in America's progress in the war against the German government. It marks the beginning of quantity production of ships in all the yards of the United States.

Due to President

"It is doubtful whether any nation ever would have undertaken a shipbuilding program on such a large scale if Germany had not plunged the world into the war," Mr. Hurley continued. "We are in it now and we are going thru with it. We are producing more tonnage today than the submarines are sinking and from this time forward our great task will be to replace the tonnage that was lost."

"I doubt whether I will ever have a better opportunity to state that the vast scope of this program was due to the vision of the president. We are going thru with the shipbuilding program to the finish and we are going thru with the war to a finish."

### AMERICAN BRAVERY CONSOLES GERMANS

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 5.—"American troops who have been employed in battle have shown themselves to be thoroughly good fighters," remarks the Berlin correspondent of the Cologne Volks Zeitung. "That enhances the success which our brave troops and their commanders have attained," he adds.

### AVIATION TRAINING FATALITIES ARE LOW

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Figures on army aviation training fatalities in this country, made public today for the period between September 1, 1917, and July 25, 1918, show a total of 155 deaths, or an average of .000205 for each hour of actual training flight. Officials believe this is a new low record.

### AMERICANS WIN GLORY AT FISMES

German Base Captured in Hand-to-Hand Fighting With Prussian Guards Who Were Bayoneted, or Clubbed to Death by Yankees—Bosche Resistance Along Banks of Aisne and Vesle Rivers Grows Stiffer—Huns Driven Across Vesle.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 5.—(By the Associated Press, 1:30 p. m.) German resistance along the banks of the Aisne and Vesle rivers is growing more stubborn. Allied patrols which have crossed these rivers have met with the sternest resistance.

Near Mulson, on the south side of the Vesle, the Germans fought fiercely last evening before they were forced back. The battle was especially severe around the Vautes farm and the adjacent woods. On the end of the line nearest Rheims, a heavy artillery duel is going on.

Show Huns No Mercy

PARIS, Aug. 5.—The Americans covered themselves with glory in the hand-to-hand fighting in the streets of Fismes yesterday, when they captured German base. The fighting is said to have been the bitterest of the whole war, the Prussian guards asking no quarter and being bayoneted or clubbed to death as they stood by their machine guns.

There was a lull in the battle along the Soissons-Rheims front last night and the breathing spell extended into this morning. The Germans are being favored by the weather conditions, which have transformed the Vesle river banks into swamps and morasses and they are making a stiffer stand here than was anticipated.

Pursuit Continues

PARIS, Aug. 5.—Pursuit of the Germans continues and only a few enemy troops remain south of the Vesle, says the Havas agency today. French patrols have crossed the Vesle at Bazoches and Jonchery.

Allied troops hold the entire southern bank of the Vesle between Fismes and Rheims. Stubborn resistance was made by Prussian and Bavarian guards between Mulson and Champegnny, but they were forced back, suffering heavy losses. Both banks of the Vesle now are under heavy artillery fire. The Germans, it is believed, probably will not attempt a definite halt before the Aisne is reached.

The enemy has suffered serious losses in men and material. Enemy dead are scattered along all the roads leading north.

### ENTENTE MINISTERS DISCOVER BOLSHEVIKI

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 5.—The entente diplomatic representatives after leaving Volodga for Kandahaska, according to the Russian newspaper Pravda as quoted by German newspapers, declared their countries did not desire to maintain any sort of connection with the soviet government, as long as that government was supporting "German junker power on Russian soil."

HUN CLOTHING NOW MADE OF AWNINGS

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 5.—A German woman writing to a relative in Holland says that owing to the scarcity of clothing she has taken down her awnings, dyed them and converted them into a skirt and coat. Her bed sheets she has made into underclothing.

HOW THE ALLIES HAVE WIPED OUT THE MARNE SALIENT AND FORCED THE HUN BACK.

