

The Weather  
Maximum yesterday.....60  
Minimum today.....41  
Precipitation......33

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Predictions  
Tonight and tomorrow, rain.  
Southeasterly gales.

Forty-eighth Year.  
Daily—Thirteenth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1919

NO. 254

## PEACE CONFERENCE FORMALLY OPENED

### BREAK-OFF ARMISTICE IF UNKEPT

Foch to Immediately Cease Relations With Germans If Bad Faith Shown—Extension Gives Allies Right to Occupy Strassbourg Defenses Comprising Forts East of Rhine and Territory Beyond—German Passenger Steamers to Be Used.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—(Havas.)—Marshal Foch, according to the Matin, will immediately break off the armistice with Germany if the conditions of the armistice are not fulfilled. The allied commander-in-chief in the news-paper adds, does not believe the Germans exaggerate when they cry "famine."

Germany still possesses an army, the marshal declared, but the allies hold the Rhine, which constitutes a formidable strategic barrier. Marshal Foch is said to have declared that he did not believe that a Bolshevik invasion through Germany of France was possible.

PARIS, Friday, Jan. 17.—The agreement for the renewal of the German armistice signed by Marshal Foch, Admiral Browning and the German armistice-commissioners on Thursday provided for the renewal of the armistice from time to time after the date for which the extension runs, until the conclusion of peace, subject to the approval of the allied governments.

The principal terms of the renewal are substantially as has been reported. In addition, there is a clause by which the allied command reserves the right to occupy that part of the Strassbourg defenses comprised by the forts of the eastern bank of the Rhine and a strip of territory from 3 to 6 miles beyond. Other clauses provide for the substitution for supplementary railway material large quantities of industrial and agricultural implements, and give control of Russian prisoners in Germany to allied and associated delegates for repatriation.

All the more important German passenger steamers, including the huge Imperator, may be used to transport American troops homeward, under the extension of the armistice signed at Treves. The German mercantile fleet is placed at the disposal of the associated governments. Only smaller steamships are left to the Germans and are for Baltic coastal traffic.

### GERMANY NAMES PEACE DELEGATION TO PRESENT CLAIMS

BASEL, Jan. 18.—The German government, according to a dispatch from Berlin, has appointed Count Von Brockdorff-Rantzau, the foreign minister, and Philipp Scheidemann to head the German delegation to the peace conference.

The German delegation, the dispatch says, will oppose demands of the allies which go beyond the program outlined by Wilson and will seek immediate suspension of all economic measures against Germany.

The German delegates, according to the dispatch, will declare German readiness in common with other states, to disarm on land and sea and in the air. Germany, it is declared, already has realized the greater part of her disarmament through the armistice and it is claimed that this fact renders unjustifiable the retention of prisoners by the allies.

### TURNER NAMED AS RECEIVER OF LOCAL RAILROAD

Former Medford Man Now President of Hill System in Oregon, to Manage Pacific & Eastern Which Has Been Forced Into Bankruptcy By Federal Control of Railroads.

William F. Turner, formerly of Medford, now president of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railway, has been appointed receiver for the Pacific & Eastern railway, a subsidiary corporation of the Hill railroads, owning 35 miles of road extending from Medford to Butte Falls. The short line railway was thrown into receivership on the petition of the Columbia Trust company, of New York, trustee for the eastern bondholders of the company.

The direct cause of the situation in which the railroad finds itself is federal control of the railroads of the country, which included the Pacific & Eastern until last September, when it was returned to its owners. Wages of employes having been increased under Order 27, and with lessened revenues, the road was creating an operating deficit each month. Default in payment of interest on bonds resulted in action demanding appointment of a receiver.

History of Railroad  
The Pacific & Eastern was organized as the Medford and Crater Lake railroad in 1905 by Medford citizens with A. A. Davis as president. Some progress was made in acquiring rights-of-way and grading and some rails laid, when financial disaster overtook the company and Dr. J. F. Reddy was appointed receiver on the application of creditors.

Reddy, as receiver, sold the property to George Estes of Portland, and its construction to Eagle Point and Savings bank. When the bank failed, in 1907, the purchase price of the railroad was tied up, and the railroad reverted to the receiver, who in 1909 sold the property to John R. Allen, who disposed of it to the Hill railroad interests. It was the announced intention of John F. Stevens, then chief executive of the Hill lines, to extend the Pacific & Eastern east over the Cascades to a connection with the Oregon trunk, then being built down the Deschutes in central Oregon and later extended west to Crescent City. Wm. M. Gerig, an engineer of repute, was placed in charge of construction, the roadbed was graded upon a uniform grade and heavy rails laid. The edge of the great Cascades timber belt at Butte Falls had been reached, when the heavy expenditures caused by the warfare between the Hill and Harriman interests in central Oregon, forced the Wall street financiers of both systems to call a halt, and a truce was agreed upon whereby both railroads agreed not to engage in any Oregon construction for an indefinite period.

Opposed by Louis Hill  
Some millions had been set aside for completing the Pacific & Eastern, but Carl D. Gray, who succeeded Mr. Stevens as head of the Hill system, diverted the money into the purchase of terminals in East Portland, Louis W. Hill, who succeeded his father as president of the Great Northern, developed a prejudice against the completion of the Pacific & Eastern because it had been a pet project of Mr. Stevens, with whom he violently quarreled, and vigorously opposed the project—and it has since remained a part of an incomplete railroad leading nowhere—a feeder virtually for the opposition Harriman system.

Efforts have been made to adjust the affairs of the company without necessity of sale under receivership or scrapping the road, which is now  
(Continued on Page Six.)

### 6500 ASSIGNED TO EARLY CONVOY HOME

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Assignment to early convoy home from France of units comprising 250 officers and 6,500 men was announced today by the war department. The units include the 11th engineers complete; 372nd infantry, medical detachment and 2nd battalion; 371st infantry; 16th and 14th engineers and 3rd evacuation ambulance company,

### ARMY IN FRANCE TO BE REDUCED TO A MINIMUM

American Forces to Be Cut Down as Much as Possible Consistent With National Obligations. States March—Armistice Fixed Force in Occupied Zone.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—American forces in France and in the occupied territory of Germany are to be reduced to the minimum strength "consistent with our national obligations," General March said today. He added that General Pershing had been informed of this policy by General Pershing.

What strength is to be maintained is under discussion now by American officials and the allied military leaders. No report has been received indicating the number of divisions to be supplied by the United States, but General March was positive that it would be far less than the 30 divisions given in unofficial reports as the probable American military contribution.

Fixed by Armistice  
The American force for the occupied zone was fixed by international agreement at the time the armistice was signed. General March said Marshal Foch undoubtedly would refuse to permit a reduction of his total strength to a point where it would be inadequate to handle any possible disturbance.

Demobilization of all army units in the United States has been ordered, General March announced, with the exception of the regular army regiments needed for camp guard purposes and various detachments necessary to continue the demobilization process. The total now listed for demobilization is 1,177,000, 104,000 returned.

Troops actually returned from France for demobilization now number 104,000. This gives a grand total ordered discharged of 1,281,000, of which 768,626 men and 51,593 officers have been discharged to date. The rate of discharge again is nearing the maximum capacity of 1000 men per camp per day after an interruption by the holidays.

In addition to the regular regiments, the exceptions from the blanket demobilization order include the cavalry on the southern border, coast artillery troops in the coast defenses, detachments at ports and the medical personnel. This last force now numbers 95,000, but General March said it would be reduced gradually as the number of men it had to care for was reduced.

### TRANSPORTS BRING 3000 TROOPS HOME

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—The American steamship President Grant and the battleship South Dakota arrived today from Brest with troops.

On the warship were 16 officers and 1,372 men, representing the 56th Coast artillery and the 47th Aero squadron, seven officers and 145 men.

Troops aboard the President Grant included the headquarters company of the 8th field artillery brigade, two officers and 41 men, and the following field artillery regiments: Second, 42 officers, 1,431 men; 81st, 332 officers, 1,294 men; 83rd, 23 officers, 1,371 men; company H, 347th infantry, four officers and 207 men also were aboard. All these troops are regulars.

Aboard the President Grant also were the 113rd trench mortar battery consisting of nine officers and 121 men.

### WANTS TO PAY \$10 A MONTH TO TROOPS

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 18.—Senator G. R. Lamping, Seattle, republican, has announced he intends to introduce into the state senate here a bill directing the appropriation by the state of \$2,500,000 for the relief of returned soldiers and sailors. Needy soldiers, who are residents of Washington, will receive \$10 a month for every month of service, providing they have served two months, if the bill is passed,

## ALLIES PRAISED BY POINCARÉ

### BIG NATIONS TO BE ARBITRATORS FOR LITTLE ONES

Representatives of Five Great Powers to Pass Upon Claims of Small Nations at Peace Conference—League of Nations First Subject to Be Considered.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—With the assembling of the first full session of the peace congress today, the prospects of rapid progress seem enhanced by the apparent defeat of Bolshevism in Germany, thus opening the way to the stabilizing of the government and the prospect of its being able to send responsible representatives.

The congress is expected to devote itself single-mindedly to the creation of a League of Nations and the first steps toward formation of that league it is understood will be taken today. A study of the methods by which the league can be organized will be committed formally to an inter-allied commission, sitting contemporaneously with the congress, which will present the result of its labors for ratification at the close of the congress.

No Russian Representation  
All questions at issue of whatever kind, will be settled before the enemy delegates arrive. As regards Russia, it is said that the five leading powers have agreed that her representation by any Russian element is impossible for the moment.

As to the other questions before the congress, territorial, financial and economic, the order of their consideration will be indicated in the rules of procedure to be read by Premier Clemenceau as president of the congress. It is understood that the method of work will be such that each delegation will record its opinion on each question in a memorandum which it will hand to the general secretariat. The five great powers, the organizers of the conference, will deliberate on these memoranda, either making a decision at once or inviting the delegates of the countries especially affected by the question at issue to come and discuss it with them.

Big Nations to Arbitrate  
Thus the 25 representatives of the great powers will act, in a way, as the arbitrators of the conflicting claims of the small nations.

By this method there will be few plenary sittings, there being no reason for holding them except when the question is one of ratifying an entire category of decisions affecting the assembled states as a whole and above all when the future organization of the world, that is to say the question of the League of Nations, is dealt with.

### PHILIPPINES SEEK FULL INDEPENDENCE

SEATTLE, Jan. 18.—Complete political independence is desired by the Philippine Islands, Manuel L. Quezon, president of the Philippine senate declared in a statement issued here today. Quezon, who was the Philippine delegate to congress from 1910 to 1917, arrived here yesterday on a honeymoon tour.

"We want freedom," he said. "The United States, however, has been so just and so honorable in dealing with the Philippines that it would be ungrateful for us to bring up the matter during the present emergency."

### FAVOR COMPLETION HOUSING PROJECTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Completion of 22 government war housing projects, costing \$48,000,000 will be recommended by the house public buildings committee, which decided today to amend to this end the senate bill calling for discontinuance of work on all projects not 75 per cent completed. The projects selected for completion include Mare Island, Cal., and Puget Sound, Wash.

### FRENCH PEACE DELEGATES



France has announced her five delegates to the peace congress. Clemenceau heads the list. With him as they appear under the face of Clemenceau left to right, are Stephen Pinchon, Andre Tardieu, who is French commissioner of American affairs, Jules Cambon, minister of foreign affairs, and Louis Klota, minister of finance.

### SCENE OF PEACE CONFERENCE FINEST RECEPTION ROOM

PARIS, Jan. 18.—All preparations had been completed early today for the holding of the first formal session of the peace congress at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The Salle d'Horloge, now re-christened the Salle de la Paix, and one of the most splendid reception rooms in Europe had been placed in readiness for the delegations as they inaugurate the sittings of the full congress.

First to catch the eye of the plenipotentiaries entering the hall, a statue of peace, holding aloft the torch of civilization, had been placed. This heroic marble figure stands directly behind the chair of Premier Clemenceau of France, the presiding officer.

In front of the statue is spread the council table, covered with the traditional green baize of diplomacy. This table is in the form of a huge horseshoe. Across the upper end are nine seats of honor, for the presiding officer, the vice presidents and premiers. On each side of the two arms of the horseshoe there are 15 seats, making 60 seats, besides the nine at the head of the table.

Leading from the council room is another large chamber overlooking the gardens. To this room the delegates can retire for consultations. A large table at one end suggested that refreshments would be served there to the delegates.

Further on is a gorgeous state dining room where luncheon and dinner may be served to the delegates in case protracted sessions are held. The whole suite of rooms is suggestive of elegance and beauty and the artistic taste of the French.

### RIVERS RISING AS RESULT OF STORMS

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18.—The Willamette and Columbia rivers are reported rising rapidly due to heavy rains of yesterday and today. Several great log rafts have been torn loose, making navigation dangerous. Wind last night did some damage here and at Astoria to railroad property.

## FRENCH PRESIDENT OPENS PEACE CONFERENCE WITH REVIEW OF WORLD WAR

Poincaré Thanks Allied Nations in Name of France—Tells of Heroic Sacrifices Forced By Criminal Course of Germany in Attempting to Secure World Dominion—One By One All Nations Forced By Hun Aggression to Ally Themselves Against Common Enemy to Ensure Liberty—Intervention of United States Supreme Judgment Passed By Free People.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—The peace conference was formally opened this afternoon with a speech by President Poincaré of France.

President Poincaré thanked the allied nations for having chosen Paris for their important work and praised the valor of the allied armies which preserved the capital of France from the enemy. The president's speech was as follows:

"Gentlemen: France greets and thanks you for having chosen as the seat of your labors the city which for more than four years the enemy has made his principal military objective and which the valor of the allied armies has victoriously defended against unceasingly renewed offensives.

Permit me to see in your decision the homage of all the nations that you represent toward a country which more than any other has endured the sufferings of war, of which entire provinces have been transformed into a vast battlefield and have been systematically laid waste by the invader and which has paid the human tribute in death.

Sacrifices of France  
"France has borne these enormous sacrifices altho she had not the slightest responsibility for the frightful catastrophe which has overwhelmed the universe. And at the moment when the cycle of horror is ending, all the powers whose delegates are assembled here may acquit themselves of any share in the crime which has resulted in so unprecedented a disaster. What gives you the authority to establish a peace of justice is the fact that none of the peoples of whom you are the delegates has any part in the injustice. Humanity can place confidence in you because you are not among those who have outraged the rights of humanity.

"There is no need of further information or of special inquiries into the origin of the drama which has just shaken the world. The truth, bathed in blood, has already escaped from the imperial archives. The premeditated character of the trap is today clearly proved.

Central Empire Plot  
"In the hope of conquering first the hegemony of Europe and next the mastery of the world, the central empires, bound together by a secret plot found the most abominable of pretexts for trying to crush Serbia and force their way to the east. At the same time they disowned the most solemn undertaking in order to crush Belgium and force their way into the heart of France.

"These are the two unforgettable outrages which opened the way to aggression. The combined efforts of Great Britain, France and Russia were exerted against that man-made arrangement.

"If, after long vicissitudes, those who wished to reign by the sword have perished by the sword, they have only themselves to blame. They have been destroyed by their own blindness.

Shameful Bargains Made  
"What could be more significant than the shameful bargains they attempted to offer Great Britain and France at the end of July, 1914, when to Great Britain they suggested: 'Allow us to attack France on land and we will not enter the channel' and when they instructed their ambassador to say to France: 'We

### HUMBERT CLEARED OF DISLOYALTY CHARGES

PARIS, Jan. 18.—(Havas.) Investigations have established the falsity of accusations made against Charles Humbert, who was charged with communication to Germany the contents of two documents relative to the national defense.

will only accept a declaration of neutrality on your part if you surrender to us Briey, Toul and Verdun. It is in the light of these things, gentlemen, that all the conclusions you will have to draw will take shape.

"Your nations came one and all to the help of threatened right. Like Germany, Great Britain had guaranteed the independence of Belgium. Germany sought to crush Belgium. Great Britain and France both swore to save her.

Two Ideals in Conflict  
"Thus, from the very beginning of hostilities there came into conflict the two ideas which for fifty months were to struggle for the dominion of the world—the idea of sovereign force, which accepted neither control nor check, and the idea of justice, which depends on the sword only to prevent or repress the abuse of strength.

"Faithfully supported by her dominions, Great Britain decided she could not remain aloof from the struggle. Japan, in her turn, only decided to take up arms out of loyalty to Great Britain, her great ally, and from the consciousness of the danger in which both Asia and Europe would have stood of the hegemony of which the Germanic empires dreamed.

"Italy arose against an age-long foe only to answer the call of oppressed populations and to destroy artificial political combination which took no account of human liberty.

Entrance of Nations  
Rumania resolved to fight only to realize that national unity which was opposed by the same arbitrary force. Abandoned, betrayed and strangled, she had to submit to an abominable treaty, the revision of which you will effect.

"Greece, whom the enemy for many months tried to turn from her traditions and destinies, raised an army only to escape attempts at domination.

"Portugal, China and Siam abandoned neutrality only to escape strangling pressure.

"Thus, it was the extent of German ambitions that brought so many peoples, great and small, to align themselves against the same adversary. And what shall I say of the solemn resolutions taken by the United States in the spring of 1917, under the auspices of its illustrious president, Mr. Wilson, whom I am happy to greet here in the name of grateful France, and, if you will allow me to say so, gentlemen, in the name of all the nations represented in this room?

American Powers Join  
"What shall I say of the many other American powers which either declared themselves against Germany—Brazil, Cuba, Panama, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Haiti, Honduras—or at least broke off diplomatic relations—Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Uruguay? From the north to the south the New World arose with indignation when it saw the empires of Central Europe, after having let loose the war without provocation, carry it on with fire, pillage and massacre.

"The intervention of the United States was something more, something greater than a great political and military event. It was a supreme judgment passed by the lofty con-

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Monday, issued by the weather bureau today are:  
Pacific states: Temperature will be above normal with frequent rains except in southern California.