

The Weather

Maximum yesterday.....45
Minimum today.....30

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Predictions

Tonight and tomorrow,
Rain.

Forty-eighth Year.
Daily—Thirteenth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 1919

NO. 261

DEBATE FATE OF COLONIES LOST BY HUNS

Supreme Council of Peace Conference Discusses Disposition of Former German Colonies in Pacific, Far East and Africa—Representatives of Dominions and China Heard—Economic Questions Also Under Debate.

PARIS, Jan. 27.—The supreme council at its meeting this morning laid out a program of work and the constitution of new committees for economic and financial questions. Questions concerning private and maritime laws also were discussed.

At the afternoon session the exchange of views on the former German colonies in the Pacific and Far East were continued. Representatives of the dominions and of China were heard.

PARIS, Jan. 27.—The supreme council of the peace conference met at 10:30 o'clock this morning. There was a full attendance of the members.

A number of technical advisers on colonial matters, including three Americans, accompanied the various delegations as they entered the foreign office for the day's session.

One of the questions which it was expected the supreme council would take up today was the ultimate fate of the German colonies. France and Great Britain, it is declared, are agreed that under no consideration shall the colonies revert to Germany. The reasons advanced for such a decision are various, but prominent among them is that it would render it impossible for Germany to establish submarine bases in her colonial possessions.

Dividing Africa
The American attitude is as yet unexplained. A prominent official declared to the Associated Press today that should the Franco-British viewpoint prevail, the German Kamerun would be taken over by the French. Belgium lays claim to that part of the Congo which she conquered by force of arms, the Belgian troops having captured Tabora and the territory lying beyond the western slopes of Lake Victoria Nyanza. The Belgians also desire a strip of territory along the left bank of the Congo, the delimitation of course, to be settled amicably with Portugal, territorial compensation being given the latter.

The Council of Ten, as the French now call the ministers of the five great powers, has before it for consideration today also questions of territorial adjustments, abolition of conscription and economic reconstruction of Germany. These questions will be referred to suitable commissions.

German Peace Terms
There appears every prospect that the peace conference will make rapid progress with the work of fixing the peace terms for Germany. A high French authority is quoted as estimating that the conference will have the peace terms ready for ratification by the various national governments between the middle and the end of March. If this is accomplished the German delegates will be summoned to Paris early in April.

The delegates of the small powers will meet this afternoon to choose representatives on commissions provided for in resolutions adopted by the peace congress Saturday. It was understood this morning that the great powers had undertaken to reconsider the decision that the small powers shall have between them only five members on these commissions. Without waiting for a decision on this question, however, the commission will get to work at once.

HUNS STILL THINK GERMANS VICTORIOUS

PARIS, Jan. 27.—A French general who just arrived from Berlin, describing conditions in the German capital in the Matin, says:

"The German people, believing the war is over, think that their bad times are at an end. They do not believe that the German army was beaten, and that, therefore, no war indemnity will be exacted. They labor under illusions regarding the feelings of the American people, especially president Wilson. I have seen processions passing the Adlon hotel cheering the general in command of the American mission in Berlin."

WILSON VISITS WASTED AREA OF BATTLE LINE

President Makes First Inspection of Devastated Regions—Drives From Chateau Thierry to Rheims—Deeply Impressed By Scenes of Desolation and Ruin.

PARIS, Jan. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—President Wilson yesterday made his first trip to the battlefield and devastated regions, visiting Chateau Thierry and Rheims. At the close of a tour that took him through a dozen razed villages ending in the ruins of the historic cathedral at Rheims, he made this comment:

"No one can put into words the impressions I have received amongst such scenes of desolation and ruin."

That was Mr. Wilson's only expression of his feelings after a trip that every Frenchman has been hoping he would make before he takes part in deciding what is to be exacted from Germany from the devastation of northern France.

Visits Chateau Thierry
Accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, Admiral Grayson and a very small party, Mr. Wilson left the Murat residence at an early hour this morning, foregoing attendance at church and the rest which he felt he needed very much, to perform what he considered to be a duty. The party motored first to Chateau Thierry, where lunch was taken on board a waiting train.

The party then proceeded by motor to Rheims, passing through many ruined villages and along the old fighting lines, where evidence of combat are still plainly to be seen. After visiting Rheims the president and his party abandoned their motor cars and, boarding a special train, returned to Paris. The last part of the motor trip was made in a swirling snowstorm, the first snow Mr. Wilson has seen since last winter.

The first fighting ground was reached as the party neared Belleau Wood, immortalized in the history of the war by the gallant fighting of the American marines. The motor cars turned off the main roads and crawled perilously through back lanes to bring the president close to the place where fighting took place. The president stood beside the graves of 100 or more boys who gave their lives at that point, and looked across the strategic valley to Belleau wood, a tangled mass of tree trunks and underbrush, but now a national monument to the marines, after whom the French government have named the place.

Sees Wastage of War
It seemed as if the fields had been sowed by Mars with the wastage of war in the hope that it would take root and blossom. American as well as French graves, lay along the roadside. There were German graves to be seen, too. Desecrated cemeteries were found in many cases. At every turn of the road was a farm, deserted and in ruins, its fields dotted with shell holes filled with water and crusted ice. There was a constant panorama of destroyed or charred vineyards, gardens and homes.

The president was welcomed at Rheims by the mayor and a committee, to whom Mr. Wilson explained that he had not come to the devastated regions sooner because he had been wholly engaged at Paris with the business of making peace. Before going to the cathedral, he passed through the streets of a deserted city, which was once the home of 115,000 people, but where less than 5,000 are now eking out an existence among the ruins. He visited Red Cross canteens where hundreds of destitute persons are fed night and day and the hospital where the sick and injured are cared for.

A light blanket of snow covered the ground as the president drove up to the cathedral and Rheims, ravished and naked in all its misery and desolation, looked like a graveyard in the moonlight. There were more rows in the air, circling over the ruined town, than were human beings in the littered streets.

CHENOWETH NAMED TO REPRESENT CURRY

SALEM, Jan. 27.—George B. Chenoweth of Gold Beach, has been named by the county judge of Coos and Curry counties as representative to the state legislature in place of J. R. Stannard, deceased. He has not yet arrived in Salem. He will be accorded the courtesy of the floor, and may participate in debate, but will have no vote.

YANKS ESCAPE FROM BOLSHEVIKI THRU A RUSE

Allied Forces On Archangel Front Forced to Evacuate Town of Shenkursk to Avoid Possibility of Long Siege—Large Stock of Provisions Lost to Enemy.

ARCHANGEL, Jan. 27.—(By Associated Press.) Allied headquarters here in announcing today that the evacuation of Shenkursk on Saturday was to avoid the possibility of a long siege, revealed that it was only by a ruse that an American battalion and other allied forces succeeded in escaping.

The Bolsheviks who had already closed in on the town from the south, east and west, had appeared in considerable numbers on the highway north of the town and had cut all telegraph wires. To escape them the American troops slipped out of the town along a seldom-used trail thru the swamps, bringing with them virtually all of their equipment.

The Bolsheviks captured a large store of provisions at Shenkursk which the garrison was unable to burn for fear of revealing the intention to withdraw. All the American guns were either removed or rendered useless.

In a fight Saturday at Tarsovo (Tarasovka, northwest of Shenkursk) in which the Bolsheviks were defeated, the American troops captured several prisoners, a number of machine guns and other equipment.

Evacuation Successful
ARCHANGEL, Saturday, Jan. 25.—(By Associated Press.) The town of Shenkursk, 190 miles south of Archangel, was evacuated Saturday afternoon by the American and allied forces in order to avoid unnecessary casualties. The allied forces moved northward to a line along the Vaga river.

The withdrawal from Shenkursk was carried out successfully. A number of wounded in the American hospital were removed on sleds. There was little or no interference from the Bolsheviks.

A large number of peasants and Russian partisan troops also moved out with the American forces.

To Drive Allies Into Sea
The Bolsheviks have apparently begun in earnest their threat to drive the allies into the White sea by March. The situation, however, is well in hand and Russian troops trained in Archangel are being added to the allied forces. Isolated positions like Shenkursk, however, may have to be given up.

In the fighting near Shenkursk, Russian troops fight side-by-side with the Americans, British and French with great bravery. Allied airplanes flew low over the roads wherever the slow moving Bolshevik sled transports were seen, and bombs were dropped on them. The aviators also attacked the Bolsheviks with machine gunfire.

GERMAN CANNON FOR MEDFORD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Congressman Hawley introduced in the house of representatives, January 18, the following bill, which was referred to the committee on military affairs:

A bill authorizing the secretary of war to donate to the city of Medford, Jackson county, in the state of Oregon, one cannon or fieldpiece.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that the secretary of war be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to donate to the city of Medford, Jackson county, state of Oregon, one cannon or fieldpiece captured by the American army from the forces of the Imperial German government during the present war.

BRITISH FORCES SEIZE SIBERIAN RAILWAY

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 27.—British forces, according to a report received here from Berlin today, have advanced from Baku and occupied the Trans-Caucasian railway. The report adds that the British also have occupied Petrovsk, and Astrakhan, at the mouth of the Volga river.

MORRIS ASSERTS BEEF PACKERS WON THE WAR

One of "Big Five" Declares War Would Not Be Over Except for Cooperation and Patriotism of Beef Barons—Says Hands Are Clean—Denies Existence of Monopoly.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Edward Morris of Chicago, president of Morris and company, told the house interstate commerce committee today that enactment of pending legislation for government regulation of the meat packing business would put that industry into the situation where the railroads are now. This, he said, not only would mean a great increase in the cost of living, but might cause ultimate ruin of the industry.

With Clean Hands

He denied categorically the charges of the federal trade commission that there was collusion among the five big packing firms. He said the packers came before the public now for a hearing with "clean hands" and that all they asked was a "square deal." He added that possibly "the unjust suspicion" against them was due to their failure in the past to take the public into their confidence.

Mr. Morris said he would make the statement deliberately and challenge successfully contradiction that "the war would not now be over if it had not been for the five big Chicago packers."

Say Won the War

"This," he said, "was one of the big industries that stood up and delivered the goods in the stress of storm. It never faltered and it never wavered, and it never asked or received one cent of assistance from the government. Be it said to the eternal credit of the packers that they made a smaller percentage of profit during the war period than the food administration authorized and approved. In the case of Morris and company the war profits were scarcely more than one-half of what the food administration approved. This, alone gives the lie to the charge of profiteering and should forever silence the charge of monopoly and illegal combination."

Mr. Morris read a prepared statement covering 134 pages. He sharply assailed the trade commission for its report on the packing industry; said the market committee of the National Livestock association was behind the commission's investigation and declared that the committee sought higher prices for livestock, which necessarily would mean higher prices to the consumer.

SEEK DEEDS FOR SILETZ INDIAN LANDS

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.—The senate has adopted the house memorial, introduced by Representative E. F. Jones, urging congress to enact legislation giving the Indians on the Siletz reservation fee simple deeds to their lands. This would place two million dollars worth of lands on the tax rolls. The senate also adopted the house joint memorial urging congress to pass the Sinnott bill for appropriation of one billion dollars for reclamation and drainage in the western states.

Senator Pierce introduced a bill for reference to the people at the first election held in the state, providing for an additional tax levy on all taxable property, the proceeds to be used for roadbuilding purposes.

CURB SALE OF BITTERS AND TONICS

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.—A bill prepared by the Anti-Saloon League of Oregon, with the approval of Attorney General Brown, to curb the sale of "bitters" and "tonics" now being held in Oregon, it is alleged, as substitutes for liquor, was introduced in the legislature by Representative Elmore. It would give the state board of pharmacy power to prohibit the sale of any alcoholic mixtures or compounds intended or likely to be used as beverages.

POLICE FIRE ON MOB KILLING QUAYKILL STRIKERS

GUAYAYQUILL, Jan. 26.—Several persons were killed and wounded when the police fired upon a mob here tonight. The disorders were the result of a strike. Order has been restored.

WILLING TO OPERATE P. & E. SIX MONTHS IF COST IS GUARANTEED

WAR REVENUE TAX BILL AGREED ON BY CONFEREES

War Excess Profits for 1919 Increased Slightly—Senate Oil Tax Adopted—Compromise Effected—Effected.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Virtual complete agreement on the war revenue bill was reached late today by senate and house conferees. It was announced that the war excess profits taxes for 1919 were increased slightly, the senate oil tax adopted and that the house plan for taxing estates at reduced rates and the senate amendment substituting a modified zone system of second class postage rates for the present law are eliminated. It is planned to present the formal agreement within a few days.

A compromise on war excess profits taxes for this year was reached. The house managers accepted the first senate bracket, imposing 30 per cent taxes on corporations' net income under 20 per cent of their invested capital. The second bracket was made 65 instead of 60 per cent on the excess income over 20 per cent, the senate managers agreeing to the increase.

CIVIL WAR RAGES OVER MONARCHY FOR PORTUGUESE

LISBON, Sunday, Jan. 26.—The government is assembling large bodies of troops to put down the royalist rebellion at Orporto, says an official statement issued today in which the republican victory near the capital is described. The statement says in part:

"Units belonging to the Lisbon garrison declared in favor of the Orporto royalist rebels, left their barracks and took up positions in the mountains of Mansanto above Lisbon. Their forces were composed of one regiment of cavalry and three batteries of field artillery.

"The government immediately ordered faithful troops to surround the position. The rebels were surrounded and promptly defeated. Their guns were captured and what remained of their cavalry fled in disorder.

"Avres de Ornellas, the chief official representative of King Manuel, was with the rebel troops. (A Lisbon dispatch yesterday reported that Ornellas had been killed in the fighting.)

"The government is concentrating large bodies of troops with the object of suppressing the Orporto rebellion."

STRIKE THREATENS TEXTILE INDUSTRY

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—A nation wide labor crisis involving industries engaged in manufacturing silk and cotton goods and to some extent woolen goods, is impending unless employers in these trades concede the 8-hour day by February 3. It was learned here today.

Information that employees planned to work not longer than eight hours on that date and on each day thereafter was conveyed to the reconstruction commission recently appointed by Governor Alfred E. Smith to adjust labor disturbances. This information came from John Golden, president of the United Textile Workers of America.

RAILROAD RECEIVER AGREES TO POSTPONEMENT OF CLOSURE ORDER IF OPERATING EXPENSES PROVIDED

Public Service Commission Cannot Set Aside Decree of Federal Court. But Receiver May Join Shippers in Postponement Plea—If Sold, Purchaser Can Junk Road If Desirable—Government Policy Cause of Railroad's Suspension Says Turner—People of Eagle Point Blamed.

SALEM, Jan. 26.—(Special Correspondence.) Information from Portland is to the effect that a postponement of the receivership of the Pacific & Eastern will be granted and a public hearing allowed when protests against the recent order will be heard.

According to report, however, W. F. Turner, receiver of the road is of the opinion that the decree of Judge Wolverton of the federal court, can not be set aside by the public service commission, and the original plan for a receivership will be carried out, operation of the road discontinued, and the property offered for sale. The railroad, however, will consent to a delay and continue in operation for six months, if operating expenses are guaranteed during the interval. Arthur Hill of Medford, who is here representing the Medford and Butte Falls lumber men, left for Portland to ascertain just what is included in operating expenses.

When sold it is Mr. Turner's opinion that the purchaser can either operate the road or sell it for junk, and if sold for junk, there will be no way to prevent the property being dismantled and the equipment shipped away.

Want Loss Made Up

Mr. Turner, who got his start in Medford, is familiar with conditions in southern Oregon, has a genuine attachment for that part of the state and has expressed his willingness to aid in advancing the interests of the Rogue River valley, but fears that the only way out of the dilemma will be for the people of southern Oregon,

or the individuals interested in timber along the line, or both, to agree to guarantee the operating expenses of the property, when the present management would be willing to resume operations.

To a member of the Jackson county delegation Mr. Turner when interviewed in Portland on Saturday said: "The Pacific & Eastern railroad was turned back to private ownership because it did not pay operating expenses. In other words the government policy is to operate roads and feeders that pay a profit, and ask the railroads to operate those that don't pay a profit. This automatically forces all railroad units, operating at a loss, and previously maintained by profits of the entire system, to be abandoned."

Support Withheld

"The people living along the Pacific & Eastern have not supported the railroad as they should. Only a short time ago the people of Eagle Point threatened a boycott because a train was late. They have not ridden on the road or shipped freight over the road, when automobiles or motor trucks could be substituted. The increase in timber shipments the past year have enlarged receipts somewhat but not enough to justify operation.

"If the people of southern Oregon will themselves, or thru other responsible parties pledge the operating expenses of the property, I have no doubt the operation of the Pacific & Eastern can be continued. If this is not done, I can see little chance of preventing the ultimate abandonment of the property."

JAPAN READY TO GIVE TSING TAO BACK TO CHINA

PARIS, Jan. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Japanese delegation in its attitude on questions coming before the peace congress will be inspired by sentiments expressed by Viscount Uchida, the Japanese foreign minister, on the opening of the diet at Tokio, Japan's senior delegate, Baron Makino, said to the Associated Press today.

The Japanese will contribute in every way possible to the conclusion of a just and permanent peace and neither expect nor desire any territorial expansion in China or Siberia, he said.

Baron Makino said: "Our minister of foreign affairs disposed of any question as to Japan's relation with Russia by declaring she neither intends nor desires to interfere in Russian affairs, but is willing to aid Russia in restoring order.

"Viscount Uchida gave ample assurance that Japan has no territorial ambitions in China. On the contrary, we have solemnly engaged to respect the political and territorial integrity of China. Our country proposes to demonstrated she is a sincere friend of China by using every endeavor to promote good will and the common welfare."

LAND SETTLEMENT COMMISSION ASKED

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.—A bill creating a state land settlement commission and providing for co-operation, through the commission, between the state and federal governments in the settlement of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines upon Oregon lands, was introduced in the legislature today by Representative Ben C. Sheldon. The bill incorporates the plan of Secretary of the Interior Lane for land settlement.

300,000 YANKS TO BE TRANSPORTED HOME MONTHLY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—General March, chief of staff, informed the senate military committee today that shipping arrangements had been made by which 300,000 men might be transported home monthly and that all of the American expeditionary forces could be returned home and demobilized within six months.

How many Americans will be held abroad in the army of occupation is to be determined by President Wilson. General March stated, but Americans already have been designated for return home than originally proposed by Marshal Foch. He indicated that 10 divisions had been suggested as America's contribution to the army of occupation.

There are still about 785,000 men in camp in the United States and all will be demobilized with a month from today except those retained for "overhead duty." General March added. Up to noon last Saturday, he said, 104,000 men had arrived from overseas.

RETURNED CANADIANS RAID SOCIALISTS

WINNIPEG, Man., Jan. 27.—Returned Canadian soldiers yesterday prevented Winnipeg socialists from holding a meeting called to honor the memory of the late Karl Liebknecht, German Spartacist leader. The soldiers later ransacked the socialist headquarters, wrecked a socialist club and burned a red flag they found.

Deputy Sheriff Ernest Lister has received a letter from Ralph G. Jennings, who says he is again located on his Applegate ranch. Mr. Jennings resigned as sheriff of Jackson county to go to war. He states that he had a fine time and got lots of experience. —Grants Pass Courier.