

ENEMIES FOOD CONDITIONS FRIGHTFUL

GRUESOME TALES BY WITNESSES ARE TOLD

FAMINE MAY PROVE BIG AID TO ALLIES IN COMING MONTHS. MORALE IN CENTRAL POWERS DECLARED VERY LOW

ALLIES IMPROVE CONDITIONS BY LOCAL ATTACKS—400 PRISONERS TAKEN BY FRENCH—BE THUNE IN RUINS

Summary by Associated Press The allies are continually improving their positions by local attacks. The Germans strangely do not react against the nibbling tactics. The French have taken 400 prisoners between Kemmel Hill and Mont Rouge, and have greatly improved their situation in that district.

Beihune is declared to be a mass of ruins from the German bombardment.

LONDON, May 21.—Two German airplanes which had been forced to land on the north sea were returned by Swedish steamers.

Northwest of Merville in the Flanders salient, the British have improved their positions and have taken thirty prisoners and six machine guns. They succeeded in crushing a counter attack.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 21.—Officials believe that the food situation in Germany is now more critical than ever. Information just received indicates that future reductions in the rations will be necessary until harvest.

Correspondents learn that famine is likely to prove a strong ally of the entente. It is declared that the morale of the central powers population is now very low, due to hunger.

One witness declared that two prisoners of war were murdered by their fellow workers in Vienna, who ate part of their bodies. Stories of people fainting from hunger on the streets are also current.

FORECLOSURE SUIT FILED

Suit for the foreclosure of a mortgage alleged given by the defendant in securing a loan of \$200 on a sixty-day note, has been instituted by John D. Morgan against C. T. Darley in the office of the circuit court clerk, thru his attorneys, Rutenic & Yaden. The mortgage mentioned in the action included four horses and machinery. The complaint asks for the full amount of the note, 10 per cent interest from February 2, 1918, and \$100 attorney fees.

BIG CLASS TO BE GRADUATED FRIDAY NIGHT

CELEBRATED MAN WILL DELIVER COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS. PRESENT CLASS HAS PROVEN EXCEPTIONALLY PATRIOTIC

The annual commencement exercises of the Klamath County high school will be held at Houston's opera house next Friday evening at 8 o'clock. The class this year numbers twelve boys and eighteen girls. Thirteen members are native sons of Oregon, while the other seventeen hail from California, Missouri, Oklahoma, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Dakota, Washington, Idaho, New York, Iowa and Colorado. Six members of the class have completed the four years' work in from three to three and one half years. Seven members have attended other high schools. Eighteen have signified their intention of going to college, the most popular colleges selected being University of Oregon, University of California and O. A. C. The average age of the class is 18.5 years, which is slightly higher than normal.

The following program will be rendered on Commencement night:

- Selection..... H. S. Orchestra Double Number..... H. S. Orchestra Selection..... H. S. Orchestra

Invocation..... Rev. Cox Salutatory..... Alma Brookfield Address of Evening..... Colonel Leader Valedictory..... Pearl Leavitt Presentation of Diplomas.....

Benediction..... Rev. Lawrence The class roll is as follows:

- Ina Akin, Cecil Adams, Elton Cofer, Betty Colvin Helen Condrey, Tom DeWitt, Florence DuPaul, Herman Foster Hazel Griffith, Ina Graham, Beatrice Hensley, Earl Humphrey, Fernie Hoagland, Lucy Hotchkiss, Pearl Leavitt, Maybelle Leavitt, John McAndrews, Ernest Nitschelm, Carl Newbury Howard Orem, Beaulo Ogle, Glenn Parker, Audrey Roberts, George Riggs, Marie Ranbo, Gertrude Staub, Lloyd Thomas, Flora Ward, Gertrude Wirtz.

The class of 1918 has been cast upon heroic times. They have responded well. A decision to spend only a moderate sum for graduating gowns was reached several weeks ago. In accordance with the suggestion sent out by the federal commissioner of education, the class has dispensed with commencement invitations and are contributing the money that would be thus spent to the American Red Cross. The class made a present to the student body of \$50 worth of Thrift and War Saving stamps.

By an almost unanimous decision it was decided unpatriotic to receive flowers and presents at commencement this year. The friends of the class are earnestly requested to abide by this decision.

Colonel John Leader, who gives the address this year, was secured with much difficulty, as his position with the University of Oregon, where he has charge of military training, takes practically all of his time. Colonel Leader is an English army officer who

C. ZUMBRUM TELLS OF LIFE ACROSS WATER

LIKES CLIMATE THERE, BUT WOULD PREFER THE BRACING AIR OF KLAMATH COUNTY. FEED GOOD, BUT MONOTONOUS

A letter has been received by Mrs. Charles J. Ferguson from Charles Zumbrum, commonly known as "Chuck" Zumbrum of Fort Klamath, but well known in Klamath Falls, having played on the ball team here one summer. Among other things he says:

"We are training at an English aerodrome, and getting along fine; expect to go to France soon. All our letters home are not censored, but are subject to censorship at any time. One of our boys just received a box from home filled with such toothsome morsels as dates, figs, candies, and other long-forgotten goodies. Of course, we get enough to eat, but the same 'chow' every day. We do manage to slip off to a farmhouse once in a while and get a real feed cooked by a woman's hand. Klamath surely must be quiet, with all its young men gone to war. You people at home will have to make some sacrifices before we finally down the 'Huns.' Much depends on how you keep the 'home fires burning.' An army cannot fight without the full support of the home people. I know all the Klamath people are doing their share towards texting the unappealing 'boche.' We have been in Winchester and Lincoln, England, and then came here. We have visited the old Winchester cathedral. The winters are not very severe here; very little snow, but plenty of rain. However, I would rather have the keen bracing cold of Klamath County, tempered with pine laden breezes. Tell Mrs. Sismore thanks for the Red Cross membership card. I received it thru Mrs. Page. I may have good use for it when we get to France. Will you please send me a Klamath paper occasionally?"

Mr. Zumbrum is with the Ninth Aero Squadron, and went to England after several months' training at Mt. Clemens, Mich. He was on the list of those to whom the Woman's Relief Corps sent boxes of home-made candies, and no doubt he has received same before this.

has been service on the western front. He is a forceful and convincing speaker in whom the public of Klamath Falls will receive a real treat. Commencement exercises are free to the public so that no one need wait for an invitation to attend. A number of reserved seats have been set aside for the parents and relatives of the class. Persons who hold these tickets must be in their seats by 8 o'clock. Seats remaining unclaimed after this time will be thrown open to the public.

BRYANT MOUNTAIN SCHOOL CLOSES

The nine months term of the Bryant Mountain school, District No. 45, one of the newest Klamath districts, has just been concluded. A very successful term is reported.

This school has had an attendance of sixteen pupils, and altho remote from most districts of the county, has a very effective Junior Red Cross auxiliary organized, at which a great deal of work has been done. Two contests for the "four-minute speeches" along patriotic lines have been conducted. One of these was won by Devere Philpott and the other by Oliver Lindsay.

The teacher, W. F. Beck, has left for Northern Oregon points for the summer months, and will return in the fall.

Aircraft Board Now Separate Organization

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 21.—As his first act under the new law permit-



JOHN D. RYAN

ting extensive authority, the president took the production of the aircraft from the army signal corps and established an air production board, headed by John D. Ryan, as a separate organization.

WITHYCOMBE'S LEAD THRUOUT STATE BIGGER

EXECUTIVES PLURALITY INCREASES AS RETURNS COME IN. STATE TREASURER STILL DOUBTFUL — JOHNS LEADS KELLY

The latest returns from the state ticket on the primary election give Governor Withycombe a lead of 13,456 over Ben Olcott, who stands second in the race, with 18,091. Simpson comes third with 14,577.

There is now strong indication that Charles A. Johns of Multnomah County has been nominated for justice of the supreme court over Percy R. Kelly of Linn County, who had a good lead at the beginning of the race. Last returns are Johns 25,140, Kelly 22,790, Cook 22,430.

The state treasurer is still doubtful. Thomas Ryan has 18,948 votes, and O. H. Hoff has 16,879. This contest will be very close.

Frank J. Miller now has a lead over Fred A. Williams for public service commissioner which is declared sufficient to insure his nomination.

PINE GROVE PLANS RED CROSS SOCIAL

A rousing Red Cross meeting is announced for the Pine Grove school house tomorrow evening, to which everyone is cordially invited to attend.

A box social is to be one of the features of the evening, and with the other things planned it is safe to conclude that the best kind of a time will be had by those attending. A number of speakers from Klamath Falls will be present, and make short addresses on the work of the Red Cross.

GERMAN BREAD RATIONS CUT MATERIALLY

SOLDIERS ARE OBLIGED TO FIGHT ON LESS FOOD—SUPPLIES EXPECTED THRU RECENT OFFENSIVES WERE NOT SECURED

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, May 21.—The German soldiers have been put on reduced bread rations. They were promised that the offensive which began March 21st would bring them into a country yielding additional quantities of food. The capture of some British canteens and transport wagons containing supplies tended to confirm this promise, and whetted the appetites of the men for a square meal.

The meager spoils of the first drive, however, were speedily exhausted, and since then the troops have had to subsist on what rations could be brought thru the British barrage. On the whole, they have not starved, but there is great discontent, owing to the failure to improve their food.

During March the bread allowance was reduced from 1,500 to 1,000 grammes for each man, making his daily ration half a loaf of only 700, instead of 750 grammes. Despite repeated protests, this has not been increased. The men have been told that they "must economize."

IMPORTANT W. S. S. CONVENTION SOON

A very important meeting of the county chairmen and committeemen of the War Saving Stamp workers has been called by State Director C. S. Jackson for May 29th, at the Elks hall in Portland. At this meeting various changes and improvements in the campaign now being waged will probably be worked out and discussed. Chairman J. W. Siemens from Klamath County has announced his intention of attending this meeting, and it is earnestly desired that other members of the central committee and workers be present to make a strong delegation from Klamath County.

INTERESTING PROGRAM AT BARNES VALLEY

Closing Day exercises in the Barnes Valley school, in Eastern Klamath, were celebrated this year with an extensive program under the direction of the teacher, Harold S. Tuttle. Altho the school consists of six pupils only, and is represented by only three families, a very successful program was given. A subscription was taken for the war saving and thrift stamps, following the program, and a total of \$70 secured. A recitation entitled "The Red Cross Spirit," by Inez Gibson, in Grade Eight, and a song by Lois Tuttle in Grade Five, were especial features of the program.

CALIFORNIA MAN BUYS RANCH IN KLAMATH

A forty-acre ranch located two miles east of Dairy changed hands yesterday when the property owned by D. W. Hearn of Grants Pass was purchased by Johannes M. Horstius of San Francisco. The consideration was not made public, but it was reported to be a cash consideration. The deal was made thru the agency of the Smith Realty company. The new owner left for San Francisco this morning, but intends to return and move on his new property early in the fall.

RED CROSS QUOTA HALF SUBSCRIBED

KLAMATH COUNTY RAISES HALF OF ITS \$8,800 ON FIRST DAY OF DRIVE—RESULTS CERTAIN IF WORKERS KEEP UP EFFORTS

The prediction made before the opening of the big Red Cross drive that Klamath county was willing and anxious to do its part for this great work again this year, is evidenced by the fact that \$4,512, over half the quota designated for the county, was subscribed thruout the county yesterday.

There will be no doubt about the district going over the top again this year, according to Chairman H. D. Mortenson, of the workers keep assiduously at the task they have undertaken.

The county greatly exceeded its quota last year and should double it this time, as the great work being done is so much better known, it is believed.

BIG CROWD TO BE OUT FOR PARADE

RED CROSS PAGEANT THIS EVENING WILL BE MAMMOTH AFFAIR. LIBERTY LOAN CHORUS SCHEDULED TO SING

Plans are working out nicely for the big Red Cross parade this evening, and it is now announced that the Liberty Loan Chorus which did such excellent work during the recent campaign, will appear again this evening.

Everybody who owns an automobile or can ride with his neighbors is urged to get busy today and decorate the cars in an appropriate manner.

Those participating in the affair will meet near the White Pelican hotel at 7:30. The Junior Red Cross will go in a body, and will meet at the office of the Klamath Development company.

PREPARES BOAT FOR SUMMER VACATION

F. J. O'Gara, who has been here for several days putting his power house boat at the Upper Klamath Lake, in shape for the coming summer, left this morning for his headquarters at Salt Lake City. Mr. O'Gara, who is a Klamath enthusiast, is reported to have a very completely equipped house boat here for his summer outings. He made an extensive visit here last year.

RETURNS FROM CALIFORNIA

Mrs. S. H. King of Fort Klamath has returned from California, where she has visited her daughter in San Diego, and mother in San Francisco, being accompanied by her grandson.

KENO POWER PLANT NOW OFFERED TO THIS CITY

OFFER MADE BY KERNS BROTHERS TO CITY COUNCIL LAST NIGHT—NO PRICE NAMED—MAY BE TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT

MARTIN BROTHERS GIVEN PERMIT TO PROCEED WITH FOUR STORY FLOUR MILL AND GRAIN ELEVATOR—OTHER BUILDING PERMITS

A tentative offer to the city of Klamath Falls to take over the power plant of the Kerns Brothers of Reno for the disposal of light and power to the residents, was made to the city council, by this firm at its regular meeting last night. No price was named at this time, but the matter was presented to the council for its consideration.

No official opinion on the probable action of the city has been voiced, as it was desired to investigate thoroughly the authority of the municipality to go ahead, before taking any steps in that direction. The matter was referred to the light and water committee for consultation with legal authorities.

The bid of G. C. Lorenz for the sewer in Fairview Addition was accepted.

A permit was granted to Louis Bradford for the construction of a six-room cement bungalow on bloc. 63, in Nichols Addition, at a cost of \$8,200.

Martin Brothers were given permit to construct a four-story concrete flour mill, with a wood elevator adjacent on their property at Sixth and Spring streets.

Another permit was given E. A. Emmitt for a seven-room house on his property on Pine street, near Sixth.

An ordinance to vacate certain property in Lakeside Addition on the west side of Link River passed second reading.

The matter, previously discussed, of bringing Lincoln street, between Ninth and Tenth, to grade, was referred to the mayor.

The committee, which had been investigating the grade on Sixth street, between Main and Pine, made a report, recommending that this grade remain as originally established.

Disastrous Fire In Airplane Plant Today

SAN FRANCISCO, May 21.—Fifteen airplanes under construction and a considerable quantity of dried spruce

and Irish linen were destroyed by fire in the Fowler Airplane corporation plant here today. The damage is estimated at \$750,000.

Troop Train Wrecked With Fatal Results

TEXARKANA, Ark., May 21.—A troop train northward bound was wrecked today near Farland, Ark. The engine and four of the coaches were overturned. The fireman and engineer are reported killed and sixteen more soldiers injured.