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ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS—FIVE CENTS

TERRIFIC BATTLE IS BEING FOUGHT ON ITALIAN FRONT

Fighting Rages Around Monte St. Gabriel Which Neither Side Can Hold

DEFENSES ON MOUNTAIN LITERALLY BLOWN AWAY

Petrograd's Patriotism Awakened by Fall of Riga—Prepares for Defense

London, Sept. 7.—Arrival of fresh reinforcements, some of them believed to be German divisions, increased the ferocity of the battle on the Austrian-Italian fronts today.

What is described as the most bitterly contested battle ever fought in this theatre of the war is now raging over and around Monte St. Gabriel. Capture of the dominating height was announced by the Italians several days ago. They held it, however, not more than 24 hours before Austrian counter attacks of terrific force dislodged them. Since that time the summit has changed hands again and again, neither side being able to maintain its riven and rocky slopes against the other. Intense artillery fire has worn down practically all the carefully blasted out trenches and defensive works and no cover is available.

PETROGRAD WAKES UP.

(By William G. Shepherd)
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Petrograd, Sept. 7.—Petrograd is preparing for a possible German attack. Red placards scattered everywhere on walls and buildings today called on all Russians to do their duty.

Troops are passing through the streets en route to the front to repel the invader. But the populace remains quiet and apparently unworried. No panic is visible.

Riga's fall electrified the city. It was not the shock of fear, however, but rather a powerful impetus to patriotic sentiment inspiring determination to fight.

Regiments which yesterday passed in review before Premier Kerensky as they entered for the front, where the Germans are now battering forward, drew a tremendous ovation from the Petrograd populace. Kerensky himself was cheered to the echo by the troops and the crowds.

Public attention today is centered more on the wholesale arrests of the provisional government in the counter revolutionary plot than on the prospect of the Germans reaching Petrograd. The popular belief that the conspiracy was of the monarchists was supported in the arrests of two grand dukes already announced.

One other report circulated today was that the wife of the Grand Duke Jean Constantinovich, son of the former czar's uncle, the Grand Duke Constantin, had been implicated in the plot and taken into custody. She was formerly the Princess Helene of Serbia.

Took Steamships Out.

Petrograd, Sept. 7.—Russian gunboats and torpedo boats convoyed steamships and floating defenses out of the Port of Riga before the Germans occupied the Baltic city, an official statement declared today. The Russian war craft remained in the mouth of the Dvina "until the last moment", the statement said.

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ABE MARTIN



It occurs to us that a good many young men are too busy brushing their hair back to think about enlistment. Business is often done discreetly, an infrequently hard luck shows up looking like a million dollars.

Escaped Prisoners Could Not Behave

Parole Officer Keller received notice yesterday that George Kemp, who escaped from the penitentiary, had been arrested in Seattle for passing bad checks. As a result of the arrest, Kemp is to be sent to the Washington institution for the third time. After being in the penitentiary for the third time, he was released on parole for the next day.

W. T. Pat, a forger who escaped from the penitentiary last September and who took in the state fair unnoted before he left the country, was brought back to the penitentiary yesterday from Vancouver, B. C., by Officer Keller. Terrell Pope, a parole violator, was returned to the penitentiary yesterday. He is in for obtaining money under false pretenses.

MRS. KING MURDERED SAYS THE CORONER

Mystery Surrounds Death of Rich Woman—Death First Laid to Suicide

Chicago, Sept. 7.—An examination of the body of Mrs. Maude A. King, widow of James C. King, Chicago millionaire, performed in Graceland cemetery early today, resulted in Coroner Peter M. Hoffman declaring that Mrs. King was murdered.

"It is my opinion that the wound in Mrs. King's head was not self-inflicted—that a crime had been committed," said Hoffman, in contradiction of the verdict of the coroner's jury at Concord, N. C., which found that she had died from a bullet wound inflicted by herself near that city August 29.

Hoffman was called from his bed about midnight to perform the autopsy on the order of Circuit Judge Karsten. The body was removed from the copcoffin in which it had been shipped to Chicago and was examined by Dr. William Burnmeister, pathologist of Northwestern University, in the presence of Hoffman and a city detective.

They discovered the wound showed no powder marks. They also found that Mrs. King's left ankle had been broken "some time prior to her death."

Mrs. King's death occurred about two miles from Concord, where she had gone with Gaston B. Means, her business adviser; A. S. Bingham and Afton Means, a brother of Gaston.

Disposition of her estate, estimated at \$2,000,000, has not been determined. Means today was believed to be in Minneapolis.

Vorwaerts Says Wilson "Demands Only of Germany What German People Want"

Berne, Sept. 7.—Declaring that President Wilson in his reply to the pope has demanded nothing more than has been demanded by the people of Germany themselves, the Vorwaerts in its September 3 issue, replies to the pan-Germanic press, which has been railing at the original reception given the Wilson note by the Vorwaerts.

"The situation at the moment is this," said the Vorwaerts, "Any enemy power before beginning negotiations with us demands of Germany that which the German people themselves demand. It is natural that adversaries of German liberties should try to complicate matters. It is also natural that peaceful men earnestly study the American note and protest against efforts to twist its meaning."

Note is Acceptable

"In reality, the Wilson note contains nothing that is unacceptable to us. It imposes but one condition, and that an extremely acceptable one. The people of Germany are willing to furnish the guarantees that President Wilson asks for. If we are obliged to fight against four fifths of the Universe, it is not the fault of the German people. An American cannot conquer us and as we have but little chance to enter Washington, this carnage is senseless and absurd. When it is proposed to end it by reforms which the German people have demanded for years, the proposition of the conservative press will change nothing."

The Wilson note, according to the Frankfurter Volkstimme (socialist) leaves in doubt the question of whether America will support or oppose the entire annexation plans. Meantime, the paper holds it incumbent upon the Reichstag to take a stand for democratic reforms that will force President Wilson to speak out clearly and unreservedly on the question of annexations.

Junker Press has Fit

The original article in the Vorwaerts commenting favorably upon the note has thrown the junker press into paroxysms of indignation. The Kreuz Zeitung says:

"The efforts of the socialists to organize German democracy in the midst of the war tends to weaken the resistance of the empire. These making this move are walking hand in hand with"

AMERICAN CROPS SHOW GOOD GAINS EXCEPTING WHEAT

Wheat 138,000,000 Bushels Below Average—Potatoes 100,000,000 Above

CORN IS HALF BILLION BUSHELS TO THE GOOD

Oats 250,000,000 Above Average—Cotton and Flax Are Short

Washington, Sept. 7.—The great war crops of the United States continue to boom. September estimates announced by the government today show big gains over the forecasts of August 1 in all grains. The entire wheat crop promises to bring 668,000,000 bushels, as compared with 640,000,000 bushels last year.

The promised corn yield of three and a quarter billion bushels is dependent upon escape from an early frost, but in all events the yield will be large.

The increase in spring wheat estimates of 1,400,000 bushels over the August 1 forecast is based upon greater yields resulting from threshing in Minnesota, South Dakota and Iowa than had been expected.

Fruits, peaches and apples show a falling off from the average.

Nearly All Above Average

Washington, Sept. 7.—The condition of the spring wheat crop September 1, was 71.3 as compared with 48.6 a year previous, 74 the ten year average and 68.7 on August 1, the agricultural department crop reporting board estimated today.

The total production of spring wheat was forecast at 250,000,000 bushels against 228,000,000 the August estimate 158,000,000 the production in 1916 and 264,000,000 the 1911-1915 average.

Estimating the winter wheat production this year at 417,000,000 bushels, the entire wheat crop was forecast to be 668,000,000 bushels, or 28 per cent above the 519,000,000 bushels of the 1911-1915 average of 808,000,000 bushels.

Corn's condition September 1 was 75.5 compared with 78.8 a month previous, 71.3 a year ago and 75.2, the ten year average.

(Continued on Page Two.)

Burton Durdall Says He Likes the School

Burton Durdall, of this city, who is now at the Radio Electrical school at Mare Island, San Francisco, Calif., writes to J. E. Adams, navy recruiting officer here that he is now out of the detention camp and at work in the school. He says the time at the detention camp, where they spent 21 days to develop any disease that might be lurking in their systems was like a vacation.

"I like this school," he says in his letter. "They don't work us very hard and it is about as you said. Have had good marks so far. The best you can make out of the school is second class electrician and I am trying my best to get that. Then you have to have six months at sea to get first class."

"They sure give us good things to eat down here and we have a good barracks to sleep in but it is cold here, and until you get used to it you nearly freeze to death."

The Germans have been able to get across the Ikskull because the Russians have not been able to get across the thick skull.

THE RAINBOW DIVISION

Hempstead, N. Y., Sept. 7.—California's contribution to the "Rainbow Division" marched into Camp Mills today, the 17th regiment of engineers. With the arrival of Iowa's and Ohio's contingents, the division will be nearly complete.

Preparations have been made at the camp for handling ten thousand more men, making the capacity of the reservation 35,000 men.

MUST STAY FOR LIFE

San Francisco, Sept. 7.—Warren K. Billings, first of the alleged conspirators convicted of planting a bomb during the preparedness parade July 23, 1916, must serve the remainder of his life in prison. This was the decision handed down late yesterday by the appellate court. Objections on which the defense based its appeal were brushed aside as matters for the jury to decide.

GERMANS MAY PUT PETERSBURG BACK ON MAP OF RUSSIA

Preparing to Send Battle Fleet to Bombard Russian Capital

RUSSIAN FLEET UNABLE TO COPE WITH GERMAN

Russians Rely On Rains to Make Swamps Impassable to Germans

London, Sept. 7.—Germany may be preparing to turn her battle fleet to the job of blasting the Russian fleet and bombarding Petrograd.

Within the last week the presence in the Baltic of submarines, destroyers, mine sweepers, cruisers and even heavier warships, has been reported, culminating today in dispatches indicating a German fleet at the entrance to the Gulf of Finland. This would put the enemy vessels about one hundred miles distant from Petrograd.

If Germany chooses, she can concentrate a big squadron for a sea drive on Russia. The Kiel canal would permit transfer of any necessary ships now in North sea German ports into the Baltic.

Two great Russian naval depots and fortresses guard the capital. They are Revel, close to the mouth of the Gulf and Kronstadt, only a score of miles from Petrograd. The Gulf itself has been thickly sowed with mines. Part of the Russian fleet is known to be at Revel. It is so far outranked by the German fleet, however, that it is doubtful if it could impede any formidable squadron.

Must Negotiate Swamps

There was considerable doubt expressed here that Germany would dare send any of her big seas fleet out of the Kiel canal to the Baltic because of the constant German fear of an attack by the great British battle fleet. Nevertheless, she has plenty of vessels outranking and outranking the Russian warships which could be spared for such a naval campaign.

On land, the threefold German advance out of Riga was apparently still gaining ground today. Petrograd was relying on early coming of the fall rains to slow up, if not entirely stop the Teutonic campaign. Before the force of the blow was felt in the capital. The ground over which the German troops must henceforth travel in their drive toward Petrograd is a vast succession of marshes, lakes and sluggish rivers. The usual fall deluges of rain will transform this terrain into a morass believed to be impassable.

The Fortress of Kronstadt, main defense of Petrograd, is located 20 miles from the capital, at the eastern extremity of the Gulf of Finland. An artificial channel gives access from here down the Neva to Petrograd seven months of the year. During the other five ice seals the waters.

Kronstadt ranks as a first class fortress, but there have been frequent indications of an impairment in morale of the garrison stationed there. Kronstadt a few months ago proclaimed independence from Russia and was the scene of bloody rioting against provisional government. Later, however, order was restored and the malcontents removed.

ROBINETT ARRESTED COMMITS SUICIDE

Ex-Attorney General Crawford Thrown In River When He Tried to Prevent Deed

Portland, Or., Sept. 7.—H. J. Robinett, 50 years old and an old-time resident of Roseburg, evidently fearing to return to Roseburg to face a serious charge for which he was arrested yesterday morning, killed himself by slitting his throat with a large butcher knife on a South Portland saw at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon after a spectacular battle with Deputy Sheriff Rexford and his attorney, A. M. Crawford, former attorney-general.

The body is now at the city morgue pending word from relatives.

It was shortly after 2 o'clock that Robinett, in company with Mr. Crawford and Deputy Sheriff Rexford, went to his tent home in South Portland to get his personal effects, pending his removal to Roseburg under a telegraphic warrant received from Sheriff Quine yesterday morning.

Used His Pocket Knife

As he was putting his clothing in a grip, he suddenly pulled a small pocket knife from his pocket and cut his throat. As he fell to the floor, apparently unconscious, Deputy Sheriff Rexford ran from the tent in order to telephone for an ambulance. Mr. Crawford sat near, but paid no heed to the injured man, thinking that he would remain unconscious.

Suddenly Robinett jumped to his feet and ran toward the river, about 100 feet away. Mr. Crawford hurried after him and they grappled in about two feet of water for some minutes before Robinett was able to throw Mr. Crawford into the river.

Slashed His Throat

Robinett then scrambled upon a small plank which he nearly scalded and rushed through an open door. A large butcher knife lay upon the table, and grabbing this he slashed his throat from ear, dying almost instantly.

Robinett had been in Portland only a short time, it was said, and had been working in a sawmill in South Portland. When Deputy Sheriff Rexford and his attorney, A. M. Crawford, saw him, they expressed surprise over his arrest and apparently did not believe he was in serious trouble.

Did Not Seem Worried

He said that he had purchased an automobile in Roseburg, on which \$85 was still due, and he said he thought possibly that his arrest might be because of his automobile. He asked Sheriff Hurlbut for permission to drive his machine to Roseburg, declaring that he would return at once and give himself up as he had no fear of consequences.

This, of course, the sheriff refused to do, and it was only a short time later that another telegram was received from Sheriff Quine, of Roseburg, announcing that Robinett was wanted on a more serious charge.

County officials yesterday had not learned whether or not Robinett was married or whether he had any relatives living in or near Roseburg, although they believe he has because of his extended residence there.

Mr. Crawford suffered no ill effects from his wrestling with Robinett other than a chill from his immersion in the water while attempting to restrain Robinett from carrying out his suicidal efforts.

WELL KNOWN IN ROSEBURG

Roseburg, Or., Sept. 7.—H. J. Robinett, who committed suicide in Portland today, following his arrest on a serious charge preferred by his 15-year-old daughter, had resided in Douglas county for many years and had held several positions of public trust.

He was at one time Justice of the Peace here and had taught school in various parts of the county. For the past few years he lived on a homestead near Peol and owned property in this city. Mr. Robinett was about 45 years old and is survived by his widow and several children. His arrest and subsequent suicide caused a sensation here.

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SIX BIG FREIGHTERS SENT TO COAST BY JAPAN

San Francisco, Sept. 7.—Teiji Ishida, president of the new Ocean Transport company, was in San Francisco today preparing to open offices.

Ishida's company, a \$20,000,000 corporation, already has dispatched six large freighters from Japan for American Pacific coast ports. Six others are under construction, and will be in service within a few months. Manila will be made a port of call.

Organization of the new company is said to have had the complete sanction of the American and British governments as an important war measure.

BAD WEATHER GIVES CORN AND OATS BOOST

Chicago, Sept. 7.—Continued bad weather in the corn belt caused a rush of buying today, which sent corn up 1 5/8 cents.

December opened at \$1.13, up 1/2 cent from yesterday's closing and later gained 1 1/8. May opened 5-8 higher at \$1.09, later going to \$1.10.

The rains also will delay threshing of oats and that grain went up 1 1/8 to 1/2.

September oats was 3-8 up at the opening, later gaining 1 1/2 to 2 7/8. December opened at 55 3/4, up 3/8, later gaining 3-4. May opened 59 later going to 59 1/2, a gain of 1 1/8 over yesterday's close.

Provisions were steady in the face of an active and higher hog market.

PAVING PLANT IS JUNKED, COUNCIL WILL BUY ANOTHER

At Special Meeting This Morning Steps Taken to Buy Plant in Albany

OLD PLANT COST \$6,000 FORCED TO BUY OR RENT

Plant in Albany Will Cost \$5,000—40,000 Yards To Be Paved

Six thousand dollars of the taxpayers money is ready for the junk pile.

That is the price paid last year for the city's paving plant and now it is worn out and useless and the city is compelled to get another plant in order to complete the paving that has been started.

Six thousand dollars was the cost of the machine, and it was purchased by the street committee of last year's council under protest.

This morning the council held a special session at 9:15 o'clock for the purpose of considering the advisability of buying a paving plant.

Yesterday evening the street improvement committee, which has an special charge of the paving work, went to Albany to look over the paving plant of Mrs. Travis, which was dismantled for the winter, with the purpose of renting it to complete the work here, and the meeting this morning was the result of a call of Councilmen Elliott, McClelland, Urush, Johnson, Buckner, and Ward.

The meeting this morning resulted in the street improvement committee being authorized to go to Albany and either rent the machine or secure a thirty day option on it. The committee left this morning by automobile for Albany.

Bought Under Guaranty

When the present machine was purchased by the street committee, which was composed of Councilmen Elliott, Mills, and Cooke, it was guaranteed to lay 800 yards of two-inch top a day but it is declared the machine never did come up to its guarantee.

At that time, Councilman Ward brought an injunction suit against the city to enjoin it from paying for the plant. He stated in the complaint that it was the opinion of engineers that the plant was not worth the money and could not do the work. He went to bat on the case before Judge Galloway but the judge overruled him and the machine was paid for.

Now, with scarcely a year's use, it is ready for the scrap heap. A few days ago, the boiler fell out and the city is paying \$5 a day for the use of another one.

Forty thousand yards of top pavement is yet to be laid by the city before the summer's work is complete. With this work ahead the council met in special session today to rush things through.

Mrs. Travis will rent the machine to the City of Salem at the rate of ten cents a yard superficial area, or the city can purchase it for \$5,000. The freight on it to this city will be about \$150.

Cheaper to Buy

If the machine is rented at the rate of ten cents a yard it will cost the city the sum of \$4900 to finish the 49,000 yards.

Councilman Elliott moved that the council rent the Travis plant and determine at the first meeting in October whether or not to purchase it.

It was pointed out that the plant was three years old and had been used by the county last year and at Albany three months this year and was in perfect working order.

Councilman Johnson suggested that the council offer Mrs. Travis \$4500 for the machine and save \$500. Councilman Buckner was in favor of offering her \$7000 with the machine laid down in Salem ready for business.

Councilman Ward moved that the matter be left at the discretion of the street improvement committee with instructions to get the machine on a thirty day option and a price limit of \$3000.

It was the opinion of Councilman Roberts that the securing of an option on the plant was the better policy as there might be undiscoverable faults develop with the machine. He favored renting it with a thirty day option. He said it was no hand to trade horses without trying them out. He even suggested a ten day option.

Some Advice Offered

Both Councilmen Elliott and Buckner who went to Albany yesterday to see Mrs. Travis, said they did not believe she would take any less than \$5000 for the plant. Councilman Buckner stated she appeared to be very determined and set on her price and that she wanted \$5000.

Mayor Keyes stated that the proceedings brought to mind the time he bought a second hand automobile. He said the experience was good but the

(Continued on Page Two.)

GERMAN AIRSHIPS MAKE DELIBERATE RAID ON HOSPITAL

American Officer Attached to Medical Corps, Harvard Unit, Killed

THREE STAFF MEMBERS SEVERELY WOUNDED

Of Sixteen Wounded at Harvard Unit, Five Americans, Ten Patients

With the British Army in the field, Sept. 7.—One American army medical corps officer was killed, three were severely wounded and two other Red Cross workers were injured when German airships deliberately bombed hospitals served by Harvard and St. Louis units Tuesday night.

In addition to the officers and workers wounded by the exploding bombs, ten patients in the Harvard hospital were injured.

One man in the hospital served by the St. Louis unit was wounded. The total wounded was sixteen.

Of the sixteen wounded at an American medical corps man attacked to the Harvard unit.

Three members of this officer's staff were severely wounded.

One man in the hospital served by a St. Louis unit was wounded.

Of the sixteen wounded at the Harvard unit's hospital five were members of the American staff and ten were patients.

The hospital of the Harvard unit suffered the greatest damage. Only one bomb fell on the St. Louis unit's hospital.

The Harvard unit, however, was subject to a heavier attack.

In addition to the American hospital a British military hospital was bombed.

The raids occurred on Tuesday night and, like the bombardment of hospitals nearer the front during the past few days, the attacks were deliberate.

WASHINGTON INQUIRES

Washington, Sept. 7.—Informed by the United Press of the death of an American officer in the American field hospital, the war department immediately sent a request to headquarters in France for detailed information. No official report on the fatality had come from General Pershing.

At the Red Cross headquarters in New York, no information had been received concerning the attack on an American hospital this afternoon, other than that furnished in United Press dispatches. At last reports, unit number 31, from St. Louis was stationed at Bouzon, France. The local press, at present of the Harvard, Cleveland and other units, was not known.

MAY CHANGE COAST TO FIELD ARTILLERY

Camp Lewis, Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 7.—Scarcity of both light and heavy field artillery in the United States army and the necessity for keeping this arm of the service on a par with the infantry units being sent to France, has led to the decision by the war department, it was learned today, to convert most of the coast artillery on the Pacific coast into field artillery.

Fifteen hundred members of the national army who will report at Camp Lewis will, it is said, be trained at the forts on Puget Sound, displacing an equal number of regulars and national guardsmen who will be shifted to this camp for intensive training in handling field artillery.

Incompleteness of some of the camps and want of railway facilities will not permit the full 274,800 men to entrain on the 19th. Some change in the second forty per cent originally ordered to mobilize on October 3, also will be necessary.

THE WEATHER

Oregon: Tonight and Saturday fair except probably showers north-west portion; gentle to westerly winds.

WEDNESDAY

KNEW WE GET THIS

