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The Daily Capital Journal

TODAY'S WEATHER

Oregon: Tonight and Sunday rain; strong southerly winds.

FORTIETH YEAR — NO. 262

SALEM, OREGON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1917

PRICE TWO CENTS ON FRIGID AND NEW STAMPS—FIVE CENTS

ITALIAN BATTLE FRONT CENTERS ATTENTION OF CONTENDING FORCES

Italians and Germans Are Massing Heavy Reserves of Guns and Men For Final Decisive Struggle to Decide Fate of Italy—Allies Fear Most Flanking Move by Germans Through Trentino—Rome Dispatches State That Italians Made Heroic Sacrifices During Retreat In Order to Save Main Army From Disaster

London, Nov. 3.—With forces on both sides arrayed and Italians and Germans both massing reserves, artillery and munitions for the impending fight, the battle of the Tagliamento had apparently started today in local attacks, tactical skirmishes, strategic shelling and jockeying for strategic advantage. It may be days before the full force is thrown into the struggle by either side.

In the meantime, word was received here today from Swiss sources indicating that the Germans are transporting great numbers of men and guns to the Trentino, apparently with the idea of striking on this front in an attempt to break through and outflank General Cadorna's line on the Tagliamento. From the easternmost point of the Trentino battle lines today to behind the Tagliamento is about seventy miles. A drive from this direction would be a logical development of General von Mackensen's campaign of advance by flanking operations.

Rome dispatches today emphasized the orderly arrangement of General Cadorna's rescued army behind the Tagliamento and the high morale among his forces. Complete confidence was expressed in the strength of this line to repel every assault of the invaders.

Experts here believe the German command will either try a quick powerful blow at the Tagliamento line in an attempt to force a breach—which would result immediately in a great battle—or else they will delay while perfecting their communications. If the latter plan is followed out, experts here predicted the Italians would be given time in which to reorganize completely and possibly to reform with aid from the allies now en route. It is recognized here that the Italian line, however, is always menaced by the northward flanking movement which Swiss reports would seem to indicate is in preparation by the enemy.

Rome dispatches today laid stress on the heroic sacrifices which the overwhelmed Italian troops made to aid in extricating large bodies of their comrades. General Gogna sustained eleven wounds. All of his staff was killed or wounded and only three of his personal escort of fifty escaped. General Radoglies and three of his regiments were utterly wiped out.

Germans Press Plank
Rome, Nov. 3.—Increasing pressure on the Italian left wing yesterday, apparently foreshadowing an enemy attempt at envelopment of the Italian positions on the Tagliamento, was reported in today's official statement. Attempts of the enemy to reach the right bank were, however, repulsed, the war office reported.

GERMANS ATTEMPT TO OFFSET AIR PROGRAM OF THIS COUNTRY

By Henry Wood.
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With the French armies in the field, Nov. 3.—Germany is making supreme efforts to meet America's aviation program. Whatever the number of airplanes and pilots America may be able to contribute by next spring, Germany will duplicate the performance, if it is at all possible. Documents taken from prisoners and assembled today showed some extraordinary efforts by Germany to increase the number of her planes and counter-balance the aviation superiority which America's contribution otherwise would bring.

Since last spring no less than 29 huge German factories formerly engaged in production of general war material have been converted into factories for airplanes and hydroplanes. In addition, old established airplane factories at Berlin, Cologne, Altkana, Johannisthal, Potsdam, Charlottenburg, Dresden, Spandau and other industrial centers have been greatly increased in size.

The Fokker factory has just taken over the largest piano factory in northern Germany—the Bersina, at Schwerin. But not only is Germany increasing her own production, she is making purchases of foreign countries. An order for 250 Argus motors has been placed with the Radzaskesche at Zurich.

Will Hammer West Front
Washington, Nov. 3.—French and British forces will senselessly hammer the German lines on the west front to prevent further German aid to Austria in the Italian campaign, it was officially announced today.

It is the hope that the allied offensive will engage all available German forces until such time as "the situation can be retrieved on the Italian front."

Prisoners Number 200,000
Berlin, via London, Nov. 3.—Prisoners in the great pan-Austrian drive reached the total of more than 200,000 today an official statement declared. Eighteen hundred guns have been taken.

"No important fighting" was reported in the statement today.

Retail Food Prices Decrease 10 Per Cent

Washington, Nov. 3.—Retail food prices in the United States have decreased an average of 10 per cent from the high water mark reached in May and June, it is officially announced today.

Meat prices are dropping and official hope of even lower living costs is held out to the public. Limitation on meat storage to thirty days is tending to increase the visible supply.

The food administration, by licensing packers, has forced farmers to mature their hogs by keeping down prices for light stock.

While average American retail prices are still forty per cent higher than in June, 1914, official figures of increases in Canada, Great Britain and Germany in the same period are 60 per cent, 110 per cent and 130 per cent, respectively.

BLACKMAILER ARRESTED

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 3.—Federal officials thought Jacob Yellin, whom they arrested yesterday, was the author of a letter to Edsel Ford demanding \$10,000 or the life of his son, Henry Ford II. The secret service operatives drew the conclusion after three hours of cross examination and when Yellin refused to speak on any accomplices, that he alone was responsible for the letter.

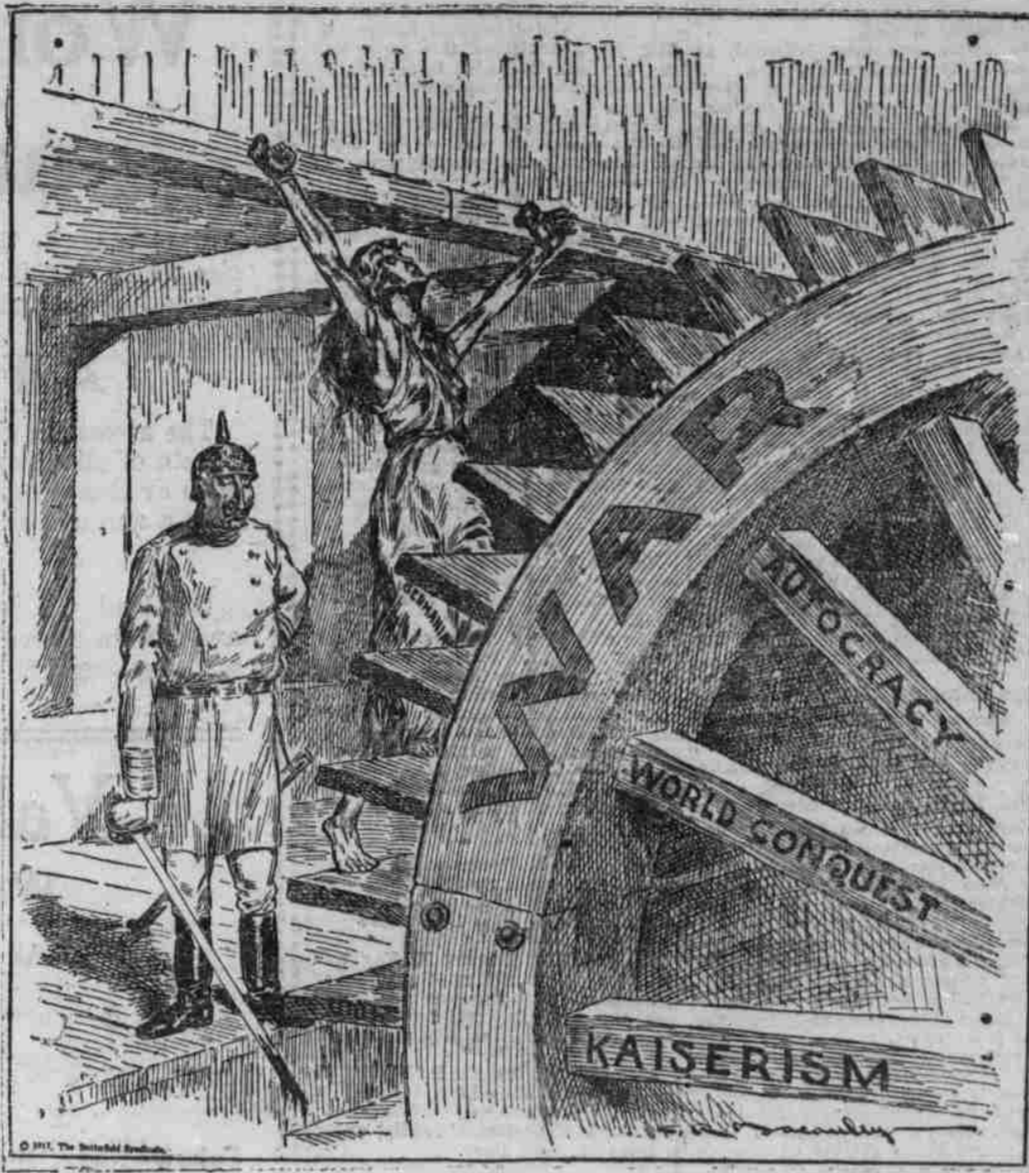
Every possible clue, however, is being run to the ground for the other nine men at first supposed to be in the plot. Yellin is held on \$5000 bond.

Simultaneously with this speed up program in manufacture, Germany is experimenting to improve her output. Among the newer types now being put out is a 200-horsepower fighting monoplane and a triplane Fokker. A new bombing plane has also been developed—a two engine machine with a carrying capacity of 1,700 pounds of bombs. The motors are Mercedes types, 200 horsepower, and when fully loaded the planes are capable of climbing 12,000 feet in 35 minutes.

Germans now figure an airplane is "worn out" after 150 hours of flight. At present the greatest weakness in manufacture is the propeller, as the Germans do not seem to have a sufficient supply of proper wood.

To provide the necessary pilots for the new German aviation program, the military authorities are offering exceptional facilities for aviators.

Some idea of the degree of perfection which the Germans are endeavoring to put into their new program may be gathered from the fact that a new German plane recently forced to land on French soil was equipped with an electrical apparatus for drying the clothing and gloves of the aviator and at the same time furnishing current for wireless operation.



THE TREADMILL

REPLY IS RECEIVED TO PROPOSITION TO TAKE OVER PHONES

No Further Move On Part of Mediator Is Made Up To Present Time

San Francisco, Nov. 3.—Although United States Mediator Verner Z. Reed at noon today received a reply from Secretary of Labor Wilson to his suggestion that the government commandeer the plant and services of the employees of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, Reed had not made any further announcement of his position at 1 p. m. He told the United Press that he was awaiting receipt of a further telegram from Secretary Wilson before issuing a statement.

Meanwhile, complications in the telephone strike have set in. The action of International President McNulty of the electrical workers union, instructing locals in the northwest to order their striking members back to work under penalty of loss of charter, did not have any immediate result.

Officers of the district council of the electrical workers did not regard seriously McNulty's threat to revoke charters. These officials say the striking members at Tacoma, Portland and other northwestern points do not wish to resume work now, believing that such action might result in advantage to the telephone company.

Although officials of the telephone company were silent regarding the situation, it was reported that they do not believe the government will commandeer their plant and employees. It was pointed out in some quarters that the federal mediation board has no authority to commandeer its powers being confined merely to recommending.

Will Not Return to Work

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 3.—Striking telephone operators and electrical workers refused to return to work today until either the federal government had commandeered the telephone system or else the company reversed its decision relative to granting the workers their demands.

James Dunan, secretary of the labor council, said at noon that the workers would gladly return to work, providing either of these actions resulted. He said the operators would welcome the commandeering of the system.

A vote to continue the strike was taken at a mass meeting of the strikers in the labor temple this afternoon.

Telephone services in all outlying districts was practically dead. The police, hospitals, port commission, newspapers and a few of the largest downtown business houses were given out-of-service. There is absolutely no service for many residences in the city.

Miss Rhoda Kerr, president of the operators' union, announced today the

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BRITISH GET ELEVEN GERMAN WAR BOATS INCLUDING CRUISER

Admiralty Officially Gives Out Details of Decisive North Sea Victory

London, Nov. 3.—One German cruiser and ten armed patrol boats sunk, told the story of a British sea victory announced today by the admiralty from the North sea.

According to Copenhagen dispatches, describing the action, the German auxiliary cruiser sunk was the Marie of Flensburg (or Flensburg). She was literally overwhelmed by the deadly accuracy and rapidity of the British fire and sank, aflame, ten minutes after starting the engagement.

Her commander, Captain Lauterbach, was one of the seven German survivors brought into Copenhagen wounded.

"My vessel's four guns were almost unworkable because of the hail of fire which the enemy destroyers centered on us," he declared. "We were soon a mass of flames."

The admiralty statement located the battle as occurring in the Categat—an arm of the North sea, just adjacent to the Skagerrack, where was fought the famous battle of Jutland earlier in the war.

Copenhagen placed it still more definitely as occurring twelve miles north of Flensburg, or to the north of Gothenburg.

The loss of life on the German vessels must have been very great. Copenhagen reported the seven survivors landed there had said thirty of their crew of 81 aboard the cruiser were killed outright.

The British admiralty mentioned sixty-four prisoners having been taken.

"The British squadron suffered no losses, it was officially stated.

"The British fleet was referred to as 'our naval forces operating in the Categat.'"

Another Copenhagen dispatch relayed from Halmstad declared that the sea battle off the coast of Sweden continued for three hours, during which there was violent cannonading.

Lloyd's register of shipping lists a steamer Marie, home port Flensburg, which may be the auxiliary cruiser. She is given as of 1,455 tons net, property of the German firm The Flensburger Shipping company, and 241 feet in length by 36 feet beam.

If "electrically controlled high speed boat" means a vessel whose course and operations are directed from the shore or from some other boat by means of electric impulse, the Germans have tried it something entirely new.

In America John Hays Hammond Jr. of Gloucester, Mass., sometime ago was reported to have achieved success in the direction of a torpedo by electric waves, but experiments in the direction of boats horetofore have not

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Six Army Officers Travel by Balloon

Grinnell, Iowa, Nov. 3.—Six army officers, travelling by balloon, arrived here at 6:55 this morning from Omaha, which they left last night at 11:30. They stopped to secure ballast and started on the return trip shortly before noon. Captain Frank W. Goodale of Omaha piloted the party. Sergeant H. E. Hill, Royal flying squadron, who has seen service on the French front, was also in the party.

RAILROAD MEN ASK THIRTY-ONE PER CENT MORE OF EMPLOYERS

Want Largest Increase for Those Getting the Lowest Wages

Chicago, Nov. 3.—Wage increases averaging thirty per cent for all railroad employees "back of the engine" will be asked by the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors, it was learned this afternoon. The railroads will be asked to make the largest increases for employees receiving the lowest wages.

The executive committees of the two organizations are still in session.

This applies to all employees engaged in the actual operation of trains, except engineers and firemen, who were "taken care of" under the Adamson law.

Lee Don't Want Strike

Chicago, Nov. 3.—"I would rather talk a month than strike a minute," W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, in an interview with the United Press today, thus denied reports that union officials in conference here would force a strike of 250,000 railroad employees—tying up every big railroad in the United States—unless they were granted substantial wage increases.

Lee said the purpose of the present joint conference of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and Order of Railway Conductors was to "take care of" provisions of the Adamson law, passed by congress to avert a general railroad strike. He advocated a rate increase for all railroads to enable them to meet the wage advance that will be asked.

"I believe the railroads are entitled to a rate increase," Lee told the United Press.

"It is not fair that they should be forced to ask the government for rate increases so their employees may have more money."

"The United States Steel Corporation and other big concerns have given

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FRENCH ADVANCE OVERGROUND LEFT BY GERMAN FLIGHT

Front of Thirteen Miles Is Abandoned Under Severe Pressure

PROGRESS TOWARD LAON IS MADE MUCH EASIER

Berlin Reports "North American" Prisoners Have Been Captured

Paris, Nov. 3.—France won a great bloodless victory today in a sweeping advance following a German retreat from all of the Chemin-des-Dames line between Oise and Aisne canal on the west and Corbeny on the east. Over this section today's official report recorded a French advance to the Ailette river.

The advancing French found the Germans in their "strategic retreat" had blown up all bridges across this waterway.

First announcement of the German withdrawal in the Aisne sector was made in last night's official statement, which was delayed far beyond the usual hour of issuance. This night statement mentioned a French advance over a front of twenty kilometers to a depth of one kilometer and occupation of Courcien, Cerny, Ailles and Chevreux.

Today's war office report, fixing the advanced French line at the Ailette, indicated a further step forward.

Occupation of Courcien, Cerny, Ailles and Chevreux in a French advance over a frontage of thirteen miles on the Chemin-des-Dames was announced by the war office today as the result of the German retreat from the Aisne sector.

Owing to pressure by the French infantry and the crushing effect of the French artillery, the Germans have evacuated the Chemin-des-Dames, the statement said.

The French have advanced over a front of 20 kilometers and to a depth of one kilometer (two thirds of a mile)

Courcien, Cerny, Chevreux and Ailles, now occupied by the French are all beyond the Chemin-des-Dames road and the ridge on the way to Laon. The cities form a chain all approximately

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SENATOR CHAMBERLAIN WILL SPEAK MONDAY AT HOSPITAL MEETING

The Salem Commercial club promises the people of Salem a rare treat Monday night. Mr. George Chamberlain, chairman of the military affairs committee of the United States senate has agreed to speak to Salemites and give them first hand information on War matters. The meeting will be held in the armory at 8 o'clock and will be free to everyone.

Mr. Chamberlain is in great demand as a speaker and it is a real treat that the Commercial club has in store for Salem. Senator Chas. McNary will act as chairman of the meeting and will also make a short talk on some pertinent subject. Appropriate music will be provided.

Mr. Chamberlain had made several other important engagements for Monday night and it was only after F. W. Steusloff, president of the Salem Commercial club had wired him several times that he could be induced to come to Salem.

Mr. Steusloff promised Mr. Chamberlain that the citizens of Salem would turn out in a big mass meeting for him and Mr. Chamberlain expects to deliver a message to them that could not be secured from any other source. He will give them an idea of what the war has meant to the United States, and what has yet to be done. As chairman of

German Messenger Captured On Border

El Paso, Texas, Nov. 3.—Ernest Losendorf, a German subject, was arrested here today by agents of the department of justice, while attempting to cross the border from Juarez into El Paso. He is alleged to have carried messages from the United States to German diplomatic officials in Mexico. Losendorf is said to have admitted carrying messages from German Minister von Eckhardt at Mexico City to Chihuahua, the German consul at Chihuahua City.

the Military Affairs Committee, Mr. Chamberlain has been in constant touch with the military affairs of the nation and knows probably as well as any other man in the country the real issues of the present struggle.

A small portion of the lower floor will be reserved for the hospital workers. Outside of this the seats will all be free to the public.

ABE MARTIN



Maybe it just happens, but among all the men who are doing big things for their country these days not one wears long hair. Mrs. Lafe Rod's mother arrived today and "I watch the baby for a month or two while her daughter gets a dress altered."