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# The Daily Capital Journal

TODAY'S WEATHER
Oregon: Tonight and Friday fair west; showers east portion; gentle variable winds

FORTY-FIRST YEAR— NO. 85 SALEM, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1918 PRICE TWO CENTS ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS—FIVE CENTS

# GERMANS PUSH BRITISH BACK FOUR MILES IN DRIVE TOWARD COAST

## Hindenburg's Forces Have Crossed Lys River and Penetrated to Edge of Estaires—Are Now Battling In Outskirts of Messines and Wytschaete—In Some Places Heavy British Counter Attacks Have Succeeded In Regaining Ground—Issue Still at Stake at Many Contested Points

By William Philip Simms,
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With the British Armies In France, April 11.---The Germans have reached the neighborhood of Steenwerck (four and a half miles west of Armentieres and two miles north of the Lys river), it is reported, as this is cabled.

The enemy also is reported to have reached the edge of Estaires (four miles and a half south and west of Steenwerck) and to be in the eastern half of Ploegsteert wood, just outside the ruins of the villages of Messines and Wytschaete.

Wednesday's fighting continued throughout the night in the new salient north of the St. Muir bridgehead. General Von Quast enlarged his gains.

Around Messines and Wytschaete the fighting yesterday was particularly heavy. These places were taken and retaken several times in hand to hand struggles.

Steenwerck and La Creche were the scenes of similar fighting.

On the southern part of the battle front the fighting was desultory.

At four o'clock this morning German artillery began shelling Martinsan and Englebelmer.

Wednesday's fighting continued throughout the night. A new salient from north of the St. Maur bridgehead to Van Quast enlarged the enemy's gains. Once they occupied La Creche, Nieppe, Ploegsteert, Messines and Wytschaete, but the British counter attacked heavily, driving them out of La Creche, Nieppe, Messines, Wytschaete and retaking the west half of Ploegsteert.

Simms' dispatch shows that the British, after evacuating Armentieres---officially announced by Haig---retired at least four miles and a half northwestward. Their counter attack threw the Germans back a portion of this distance.

La Creche is four miles and a half northwest of Armentieres on the Bailleul-Armentieres highway. Steenwerck is the same distance from Armentieres and a mile and a half south of La Creche. Nieppe is mid-way between La Creche and Armentieres on the Bailleul-Armentieres highway. Messines is four miles due north of Armentieres and Wytschaete is two miles north of Messines. Ploegsteert is mid-way between Messines and Armentieres.

London, April 11.—Field Marshal Haig today announced the withdrawal of the British forces from Armentieres.

"We have withdrawn from Armentieres, which is full of gas," said Haig.

"The battle is continuing on the whole front from the La Basse canal to the Ypres-Comines canal. There is severe fighting in the neighborhood of the Lys and Lawe rivers, from about Lestrem to Armentieres.

"North of Armentieres there is little change. In the neighborhood of Ploegsteert, Messines and Wytschaete there was heavy fighting until a late hour last night."

### AMERICA MUST ACT.

By William Philip Simms
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With the British Armies in France, April 10.—Whatever cards America has up her sleeve she must be prepared to show down within a few months.

Hindenburg undoubtedly intends to play fast and furious to end the war as soon as possible. Avowedly he is aiming for annihilation of both the British and French. He is prepared to concentrate against either, shifting his drive first against one then the other, according to conditions.

Present indications point toward concentration against the British. Checked from Arras southward, the Germans took advantage of their exceptional transportation and quickly sent up divisions between Armentieres and La Basse, striking the Portuguese and British. They were stopped by the stiffest hand to hand fighting, notably by the Fifty Fifth division holding Givenchy hill, which commands the line as far as Armentieres.

Slipping to one side, the enemy struck

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## Crown Prince Drives On Twenty Mile Front

Crown Prince Rupprecht was continuing his northern offensive today on the entire twenty mile front from the La Basse canal to the Ypres-Comines canal.

In making this announcement, Field Marshal Haig reported there was particularly severe fighting along the Lawe and Lys rivers, from Lestrem to Armentieres. Lestrem is on the Lawe about a mile south of its confluence with the Lys and is nine miles southwest of Armentieres.

Armentieres, which is only a pile of stone and brick and of no strategic consequence has been abandoned before its position at the apex of a dangerous salient. Haig said the city was gas filled when the British withdrew.

North of Armentieres heavy fighting continued until a late hour last night, Haig said, in the neighborhood of Ploegsteert, Messines and Wytschaete.

These three towns constitute a five mile front, midway between Armentieres and Ypres.

The drive on this front has become within the last two days equal in importance to the original offensive farther to the south, which began on the fifty mile front from Arras to LaFere. The particular objective of this new offensive is now believed to be the splitting of the British line along the Lys river, with the rolling back of the northern portion of Haig's forces on the North sea and the capture of the channel ports. The main objective—division of the allied forces—coincides with that of the southern, but the latter had for its additional aim the taking of

(Continued on page three)

KAISER—"ACH VOT PIKERS".

## LIBERTY LOAN IS GROWNING FAST AS REPORTS ARE FILED

### Oregon Has Alrealy Over Subscribed Quota, Gaining First Honors

Washington. April 11.—Liberty loan subscriptions have already reached the $400,000,000 mark, according to conservative estimates compiled here early this afternoon from official treasury department figures.

Eight of the 12 federal reserve districts had reported subscriptions of $212,905,250, up to close of business Tuesday. The Dallas, Minneapolis, Richmond and Philadelphia districts had made no report.

#### Oregon on Honor Roll

Portland, Or., April 11. — Oregon claimed today the honor of being the first state to pass its quota—$18,495,000—in the liberty loan drive.

Oregon will now work for a decisive over-subscription on a million a day basis.

The speedy work of Oregon is attributed both to patriotism and efficient organization. Portland also passed its quota.

#### Where Bonds are Popular

Santa Rosa, Cal., April 11. — Two thirds of the rural districts of Sonoma county has been covered by liberty bond salesmen without a single refusal to buy bonds, according to the committee's report today.

A cannon has been mounted in Santa Rosa and is fired whenever a bond is sold in the city. The artillerying is rapidly developing into drum fire.

## TELLS OF LYNCHING OF GERMAN AGENT

### Witness Says Praeger Only Cried When Forced to Kiss American Flag

Collinsville, Ill., pril 11.—Joseph Riegel, discharged soldier, was asked today by the coroner's jury investigating the hanging of Robert Praeger here for the names of ring leaders in last Friday's lynching. Riegel informally admitted his part in the violence and was said to have given the same testimony in the jury's secret hearing.

"The bravest guy I ever saw," said Riegel. "Prager didn't shed a tear except when he kissed the flag, and he didn't beg for mercy."

"It might have been me," replied Riegel to a query as to who attended to some details of the lynching. "I had a lot of liquor in me, and being a soldier, they kind of looked up to me and I was sort of swelled up."

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## AMERICANS NOW IN ALLIED FRONT OPPOSING GERMANS

### Entire Reserve of Pershing's Army In France Absorbed In Front Line

By Carl D. Groat
(United Press staff correspondent)

Washington, April 11.—Shifting of the main American reserve into the west front battle is about complete.

News that a small portion of this army of freedom has been dissolved in the brave and hard pressed British battalions was followed by information that others will soon be doing their part in withstanding the boche.

The men already fed into the British front are well seasoned and have been tested by the Teuton fire. Their record has been splendid. The others coming in are of the same type—the kind America can count on for valiant service.

Before long, the men who have not had the same test of battle will be going in, too, brigaded with the veteran Britishers. Whether the first contingent was placed on the new battle front or in the Picardy salient is not revealed here, but it is assumed that if the battle develops on the present lines, Americans will quickly be plunged into the northern sector.

The western battle had a new, di-

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## Abe Martin

Change out of a dollar is hardly worth waitin' fer any more. Who remembers th' ole time street fakir that used t' eat his soap jest t' show that it would not injure th' most delicate scalp?

## MILITARY CRITIC THINKS HINDENBUG PLAN TOO COSTLY

### Believes German Commander Will Be Unable to Break Allied Lines

By J. W. T. Mason
(Written for the United Press)

New York, April 11.—To permit Hindenburg to wear out Germany's manpower in persistent offensives along the west front is more and more being demonstrated as the best strategy the allies can adopt while waiting for America's full battle strength to arrive in France.

Every major attack such as the one Hindenburg is now developing in the Armentieres sector is playing America's game better than anything else the Germans could do. As long as the allied line is not broken in the west, Hindenburg's slaughter of his men will make America's task the less difficult when at last General Pershing is fully prepared to strike.

So long as the German people do not openly revolt against Hindenburg's man-killing policy, just so long is the cause of the allies being served. It is becoming increasingly apparent Hindenburg and the Hohenzollerns will not stop of their own accord, for to do so would admit defeat. Two to three months more of the present self-slaying of Germans may be necessary before the futility of the task becomes fully impressed upon the German people.

During this period preceding the disillusionment any temptation whereby Hindenburg is persuaded to continue his assaults such as the evacuation of Armentieres, may be a matter of military strategy favoring the allies.

The participation of American troops in the fighting along the British front will probably be on a defensive scale, for this reason. It is not to be expected that the arrival of the Americans in the battle line will mean the quick assumption of a major offensive by the allies. The chief military value to the Americans of their new activity will be the post graduate training, particularly for the higher officers, in conditions of intense warfare. The American officers now beginning to fight offensively against the Germans are picking up the tricks of Hindenburg's trade for use against the kaiser when America's own offensive begins.

## Socialist Candidate Guilty of Disloyalty

Minneapolis, Minn., April 11.—Socialist gubernatorial candidate, J. O. Bentall was found guilty by a federal jury here today on a charge of disloyalty. A second count charging obstruction of recruiting was not upheld.

Judge Morris will pass sentence later.

The charge upon which a conviction was obtained carries with it from one to twenty years imprisonment or $10,000 fine, or both.

## ENGLAND MAKES GREAT PROGRESS IN WAGING WAR

### German Efficiency Has Been Backed Off Boards, Reports Indicate

### WOMEN TAKE PLACES OF SOLDIERS AT HOME

### Food and Factory Production Shows Wonderful Increase During War

New York, April 11.—British efficiency—little advertised—is backing the German brand off the boards according to official statistics received here today.

With the war well into its fourth year, Britishers are preparing to outstick the Hun. In food production, Great Britain last year increased cereals by 850,000 tons and potato production five million tons. The cultivated area was increased one million acres. No estimates have been made for the coming year.

While 820,045 men were taken from the industrial organizations and placed in the army in 1917, the war office replaced them with 804,000 women—and increased production of aircraft 250 per cent; guns, 30 per cent and built 1,165,000 tons shipping.

Standardization is the keynote. Arrangements are being made for supplying standardized civilian clothing at standardized prices. Already provisions have been made for the manufacture of 2,000,000 men's suits, 500,000 men's overcoats and 250,000 boys' suits. Thus far, no attempt has been made to turn out standardized women's wearing apparel.

#### Activity In Italy.

Rome, April 11.—Artillery fighting along the whole Italian front was reported by the war office today.

## APPEAL FOR MEN MAY CAUSE PLAN TO BE CHANGED

### Many Amendments to Present Law Sugested to Meet Emergency

### DRAFT AGE LIMIT PROPOSED AT 40 YEARS

### Three Million Active Men In France Needed Declares Representative

Washington, April 11.—With the allies appealing for more men, the house today plunged into one of the greatest legislative battles of the session to remove the last obstacle to the second draft plans.

The storm center was the draft quota bill, basing the allotments of men the various districts must send on the number of men in class one, instead of the population as was done in the first draft. Other amendments to give the president power to call skilled workers from any class and to disregard volunteer enlistments in fixing quiet quotas for the present, brought sharp skirmishes.

Representative Julius Kahn, ranking republican on the military committee who will lead the fight for the amendments, is ready to make the issue an indorsement of the operation of the draft thus far. Opponents of the plan have been working for weeks lining up information to show injustice they claim the new plans will bring and also members, particularly from the south.

Representative Shallenberger of Nebraska, one of the most vigorous opponents of the draft originally, will urge that the draft age be raised to 40.

"We must have 3,000,000 men in France and to do that we must have 10,000,000 under arms," he said.

Shallenberger's amendment to give credit for volunteer enlistments probably will prevail, as President Wilson, is understood to favor it.

## AMERICAN HOMES MAY GET BAD NEWS FROM WAR FRONT

### Heavy Casualty Lists May Be Expected Now Boys Are In Fight

Washington, April 11. — American homes must prepare for the shock which will follow large scale participation of General Pershing's forces in the heavy west front fighting.

War department officials warned today that henceforth the casualty lists will swell commensurately with the extent of America's participation. The big lists probably will not begin coming in, it is believed, for some days.

Today another casualty list was to be given out—and owing to the heavy fire some of the American forces have been sustaining on portions of the front during recent days, it may be somewhat larger than usual.

#### Germans Driven Off.

With the American Army in France, April, 10. — A fully prepared German attack in the sector northwest of Toul was crushed by the prompt and effective fire of American batteries.

Two Germans taken prisoner declared the attack was rehearsed by a force of 800, but that they were stunned by the American fire.

The attack was proceeded by a tremendous German barrage, the American guns replying immediately.

There were no American casualties.

#### French Report Repulse.

Paris, April 11.—German attacks against Franco-American sectors in the Champagne and Lorraine were repulsed the French war office announced today.

"East of Soufin (near Tahure, where American artillery is stationed), after a lively combat, a German attack was repulsed," the communique said. "A German attack failed in the Apremont forest (four miles east of St. Mihiel, in

(Continued on page two)

## GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES NEW SYSTEM OF PRIORITIES

### Places Industries In Their Order of Relative Importance to the War

Washington, April 10.—The government's policy toward the nation's industries was established today with the completion of a new priorties order by the war industries board.

The purpose of the order which provides for conservation of fuel and raw materials by placing industries in their order of relative importance is aimed to prevent conflict of interests among the various departments in the war government and speed up production and transportation.

Automobile and candy manufacturers are hit by the new ruling, no provision being made in the priorities list for either industry to receive fuel and transportation facilities until vital needs have been supplied.

This ruling does not apply, however, to those portions of the plant engaged on special work for which fuel provisions are made.

The government's action practically places the country's business under federal control.

Recently musical instrument manufacturers agreed to a reduction of 30 per cent in the production of such instruments. Conferences between the war industries board and other manufacturers have been going on for some time to bring about a general reduction in all output in order to give war work the right of way.

No distinction is made, it was officially stated today, between any of the industries and plants which are included in the list and no significance is to be attached to the order in which the industries appear on the list.

The list follows:

Aircraft—plants engaged exclusively in manufacturing aircraft or supplies and equipment therefor.

Ammunition—plants engaged in the manufacture of ammunition for the United States government and the allies.

Army and navy cantonments and camps.

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