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(From a letter to Dr. Caldwell written by Mr. G. C. Murphy, 4 Walker Street, Atlanta, Ga.)

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IMPERILS FLANK OF GERMAN ARMY ALL ALONG MARNE

Great Counter Offensive Was Taken Entirely Without Artillery Preparation

By Fred S. Ferguson
With the American Armies in France, July 18.—The advance of the French and American armies today is believed to imperil the whole right flank of the German armies along the Marne, and that the Germans were completely surprised at their reserves.

fact that it was undertaken without artillery preparation. A heavy thunderstorm during the night enabled the allies to bring up large numbers of troops unobserved.

The day broke clear with weather splendid for an attack. The French and Americans laid down a sharp rolling barrage and then the infantry went over the top, assisted by tanks.

Today's counter offensive was made possible by the work of the American and French units, in holding up the enemy south of the Marne.

Boat Death

Washington, July 18.—Lieutenant Quentin Roosevelt was officially reported missing today by General Pershing in the following cable:

"Headquarters first brigade air service, reports First Lieutenant Quentin Roosevelt, 958 air squadron, first pursuit group, missing. Last seen enemy side of line in combat with German plane about 9:15 morning July 14. Nearest relative Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Oyster Bay, N. Y."

RIVER REACHES A VERY LOW STAGE DUE TO DROUGHT

Facts of Interest Concerning Weather From Record of Twenty Years

After two months' drought, from May 19 to July 19, the river gauge stands today at one and three tenths below the zero mark. During the past 20 years, according to the official records, the river has been lower only two times.

In the latter part of October, 1915, when there had been scarcely two and a half inches of rain for the preceding four months, the gauge was 1.4 feet below zero. On November 3, 1917, following a month when there had been no rainfall, the gauge read 1.8 feet below zero, the lowest since official records have been kept in Salem, beginning in February, 1899.

For several days following August 31, 1914, after the 72 days of drought, the river stood as it is today, one and three tenths feet below zero.

For the first time during the past 20 years, June of this year was an entirely rainless month. Ordinarily June is good for little more than an inch or more of rain, although it broke the record in 1916 when the precipitation was 3.48 inches.

During the past 20 years July has been entirely without rain only three times and these were in the years 1906, 1910, 1914. There has been several years that were almost dry, such as 1908 with only .95 of an inch of rain, 1908 with only .92 of an inch of rain and 1911 with but .96 of an inch.

August holds the record as dry month of the year for this part of the state. During the past 15 years, six times has the month passed without a drop of rain and these were in the years '06, '10, '11, '14, '15 and '17. Other years that came pretty close to the dryness record were 1905 with only .04 of an inch, 1909 with but .02 of an inch and 1913 with a precipitation of only .30 of an inch.

On an average, the month of November is the wettest of the year.

Rainfalls of more than six inches for the month are quite common, according to the official record and only once has it fallen below two inches and that was in 1911, when the precipitation was 1.97 inches. The rainiest November for the past 20 years was in the year 1909 when the record was 10.62 inches.

December of 1917 was the wettest month experienced by the present generation living in Salem. The rainfall for the month is officially recorded as 14.93 inches. The month also included

Can State Legally

Pay Convicts Prizes

Will it be legal to use state funds to pay convicts prizes for winning athletic events held in connection with a Fourth of July celebration at the penitentiary?

That question has been put up to Attorney General Brown by Secretary of State Olcott. Warden Murphy of the penitentiary presented a claim, which had been approved by the governor, for \$50 to pay prizes awarded to the convicts.

"The records of the office," says the letter from the secretary of state to the attorney general, "do not show that a similar claim has ever heretofore been presented to it for audit."

The penitentiary has exhausted its maintenance appropriation, and at a recent meeting of the state emergency board asked for authority to incur a deficiency of \$70,000. The board authorized a deficiency of half that amount but expects to meet again in the fall and authorize a further deficit.

The claim in question is drawn upon an appropriation for musical and literary purposes, and for the amusements and purchase of a moving picture machine.

Kaiser was at Front

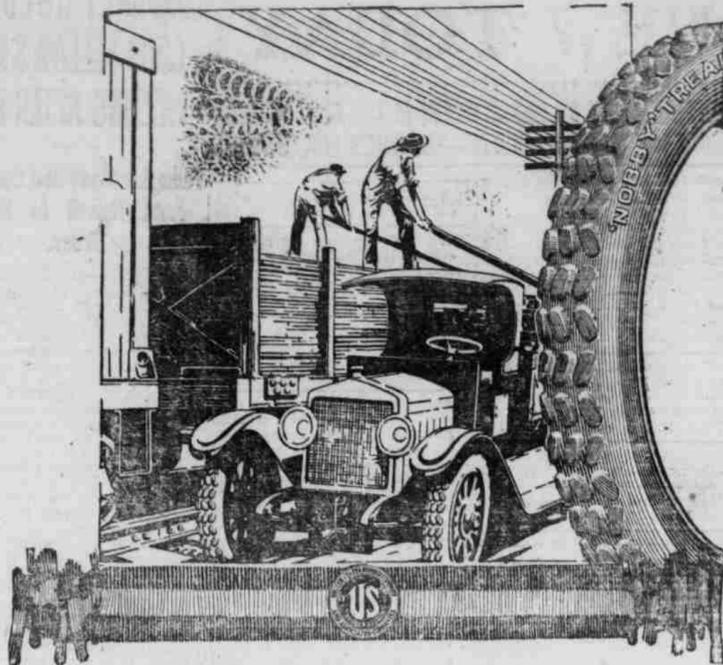
The kaiser spent Sunday night in an advance observation post east of Rheims, the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger declares.

The heaviest rainfall for any 24 hours during the past 20 years and that was on December 19, when the total precipitation was 4.05 inches.

The old saying that it rains a month at a time in Oregon is not confirmed by the official records for the past 20 years. About the most continuous month of rain was February of 1909, when the heavens were busy for 26 out of the 28 days. The month of November of 1909 was an all around rainy month as out of the 30 days, it rained 26 and there was a precipitation that month of 10.62 inches. For a real continuous rainy period, February and March of 1904 hold the record. It was cloudy during the entire two months and the rains ceased only seven days during the 59 and there was a rainfall during the two months of 18.28 inches.

The greatest flood time in Salem for the past 20 years was on November 25, 1909, when the stage of the river was 30.7 feet above low water mark. The next highest stage was February 7, 1907, when the water reached the 29.8 foot mark. Very close to this high water record was that of January 16, 1901, when the stage was 29.5 feet above zero. The next record is February 9, 1916, with the water touching the 26.2 feet above mark. Last December when there was such floods in Salem the gauge of the river read 24 feet above the low water mark.

Today, July 19, 1918, it is 1.3 feet below low water mark.



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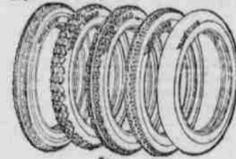
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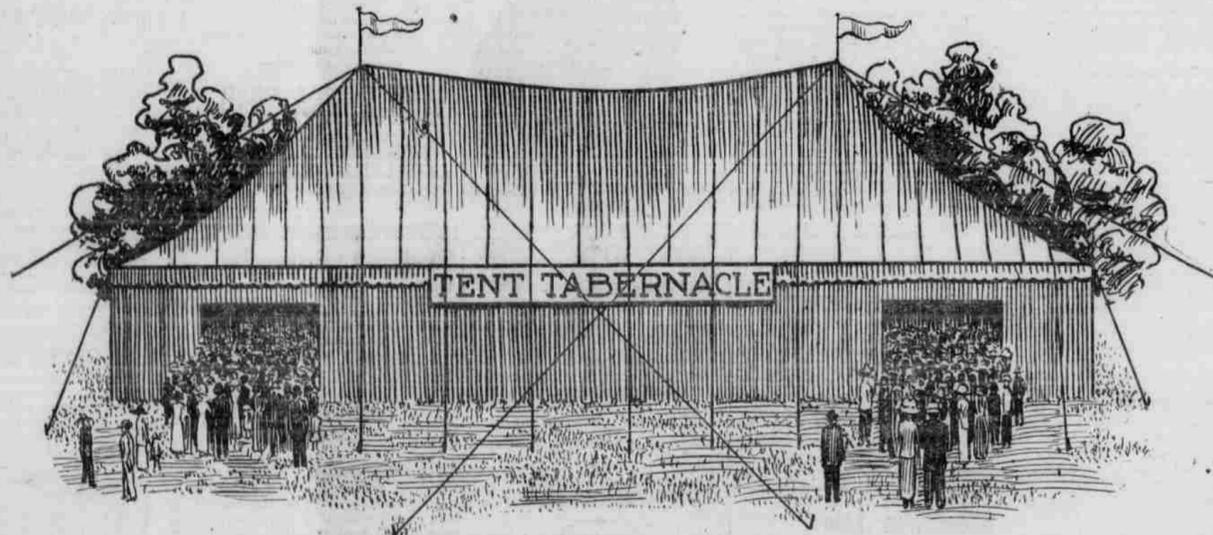
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