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The Daily Capital Journal

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Oregon: Tonight fair and warmer; Wednesday fair and continued warm; gentle northerly winds.
COME ON YOU SAMMIES

FORTY-FIRST YEAR-- NO. 191.

SALEM, OREGON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1918.

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ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS—FIVE CENTS

CAPTURE OF LASSIGNY, GERMAN BASE, IS NEAR

TEUTONS CLING DESPERATELY TO WOOD AND ITS HEIGHTS AS ALLIES HAMMER CLOSER TO KEY POSITION

LOSS OF LASSIGNY WILL FORCE RETREAT TO SOMME CANAL

Somme Bridge at Peronne Has Been Smashed Adding To Difficulties Of Retreat.—Germans At Present Cling Desperately To Old Somme Line, Using Mustard Gasses and Artillery Barrages To Hold Allies In Check.—Counter Attacks Attempted Are Feeble.—Meanwhile Vast Military Stores Are Being Removed From Peronne.

By Lowell Mellett
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With The French Armies In The Field, Aug. 13.—With the enemy throwing gas and heavy shells, and clinging desperately to such positions as Les Loges wood and the heights nearest Lassigny, the first phase of the new battle is ended.

When the second phase begins the Germans may be the prongs of the allies' pinchers. The allies have won the necessary solid bases and are prepared to squeeze.

FALL OF LASSIGNY EXPECTED.

London, Aug. 13.—The fall of Lassigny, expected hourly, probably will force the Germans to retreat to the Somme canal line, an additional retirement of five to ten miles all along the front—according to information received here this afternoon.

The Somme bridge at Peronne has been smashed, cutting off the enemy's supplies from that direction and hindering the retreat.

Paris, Aug. 13.—(10:16 a. m.)—German prisoners taken from Thursday to Sunday exceed 37,000, of which 2300 are officers, Marcel Huton, military writer of the Echo De Paris, declared today.

Huton said more than 1000 cannon and over 10,000 machine guns have been captured.

The total of enemy prisoners taken since July 18 is more than 70,000, Huton says.

London, Aug. 13.—(1:17 p. m.)—The Germans, as the result of French pressure, are evacuating the southern defenses of Ribecourt, it was learned this afternoon.

The enemy retired from their trenches

GERMAN TROOPS TO OCCUPY PETROGRAD

That Is Report Coming From Copenhagen.—Bolsheviki Falling

Copenhagen, Aug. 13.—German troops are marching on Petrograd, intending to occupy the city, according to the Helsingfors correspondent of the Politiken.

Stockholm, Aug. 13.—The Finnish landtag has voted, 58 to 44, to establish a monarchy in Finland, a Helsingfors dispatch announces today. A king will be elected in September.

By Joseph Shaplen
(United Press staff correspondent)
(Who arrived today from Russia)
New York, Aug. 13.—Events are

sweeping Russia back into the war. There is every reason to hope now that next summer will bring restoration of the eastern front. The abrogation of the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty may be expected any moment.

That the end of the bolsheviki is near has been pointed out repeatedly in United Press dispatches. I have never been so convinced of it as I am now. The big question was who would succeed them. Germany has felt the inevitable downfall of the bolsheviki. The late Count Mirbach's principal work in Moscow was to prepare for the downfall of the bolsheviki and the establishment of a government similar to that of Skoropadsky in the Ukraine. But Russia's passion for freedom and unity has frustrated the schemes of Germany. There will be no Skoropadsky government in

WORK OR FIGHT IS EDICT OF SENATE IN MAN POWER BILL

Senator Reed's Amendment Is Adopted By Military Committee Today

Washington, Aug. 13.—The senate military committee today agreed to a work or fight amendment to the new army man power bill. It also accepted an amendment offered by Senator Reed of Missouri, providing for the further education of persons under 21 who may be drafted into the service.

The committee has completed its work on the bill and will report it Thursday.

The work or fight amendment is a modification of that suggested by Senator Thomas, Colorado. It provides that when any person shall have been placed in a deferred or exempted class for industrial reasons, he shall not be entitled to retain his status unless he shall continue while physically able to work at his regular occupation. Failure to do so makes his subject to the draft.

The Reed amendment providing for the continued education of men under 21 who may be drafted makes it possible for any person desiring such education to obtain it at the expense of the government at the close of the war. Such education shall not exceed two years. Applications for such educational privileges must be made within six months after the discharge of the applicant.

A third amendment accepted by the committee provides that all soldiers and sailors shall be eligible for commissions in either the army or navy regardless of their age. They shall be eligible for admission to officers' schools. Wives of soldiers or sailors serving in the war shall not be disqualified for any government position because of their being married. This amendment was introduced by Senator Reed and accepted.

The bill in other respects is the same as the administration's bill approved by the war department. No change was made in the draft age of 18 to 45.

More objection to lowering the age is expected to develop in the house than in the senate. But the bill is an administration measure and thus far most of the opposition to such bills has resulted in vast talk but comparatively few votes.

"Big army" men on the republican side have favored lowering the ages from the start and may be depended on to support this measure to the limit.

By John De Gandt

Paris, Aug. 13.—(4:10 p. m.)—The

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HINDENBURG FACES SERIOUS PROBLEM ON SOMME FRONT

Must Maintain Present Unsatisfactory Position Or Make Undignified Retreat

By William Philip Simms
(United Press staff correspondent)

With the British Armies in France, Aug. 12.—(Night)—Von Hindenburg today is face to face with a poser. Can he maintain himself on his present lines or will he be forced to beat an undignified retreat along the lines over which the French and British pushed him in 1917? And can he hope ever to assume the offensive again, or must he from now on act purely on the defensive?

Foch and Haig, by the battle of Amiens, plainly have given him a hard nut to crack. Prisoners just taken dejectedly admit the Germans will be unable to resist further in their present positions. They declare the battle of the Marne had a demoralizing effect on the whole army while the entrance of the Americans "is regarded with dismay."

Haig's new blow has greatly added to this depression. The feeling is gradually spreading that Germany has finished her course. But Germany is not finished and undoubtedly will put up a stubborn fight for some time to come.

Nobody here even intuits the war is over. Von Hindenburg, however, is clearly facing the probability of purely defensive warfare.

The fifth month of the present fighting season was near its end when Haig struck Thursday. German divisions in reserve on the whole west front were very low. I should calculate there were not over forty (probably 480,000 men.) Since Thursday some ten of these have been identified. Yet, as a result of Von Hindenburg's half-successful blows two large salients remain to be held. The cost of holding them is huge, as the allied guns pound ceaselessly day and night, just as they pounded the

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THIRTY BATTLE PLANES DOWNED BY BRITISH

Bombing Operations Extend To Frankfurt Where Loss Is Inflicted

London, Aug. 13.—Destruction of thirty battle planes over the area of the Picardy drive and in Flanders was reported in today's British air ministry communique. Ten others were reported destroyed, four by a bomb dropped on them as they rested on the ground and 25 more were driven down out of control.

Four hostile observation balloons were shot down in flames. Seven British aircraft are missing.

Bombing operations were carried on extensively by the British. Aerodromes and other ground targets were attacked with bombs and machine gun fire after hard fighting with protecting German flyers. The airplane and chemical works at Frankfurt were bombed with good results.

Some crossings and railway stations at Peronne and Cambrai were steadily subjected to bombing attacks.

The work of artillery observation balloons was maintained without interruption from the British side of the lines, it was stated.

House Committee Favors Newspapers

Washington, Aug. 13.—Reversing its former action, the house war and means committee today struck from the great tax bill the proposed 10 per cent tax on press association wires. Only broker wires are now included under this tax.

Representative Rainey Illinois next to Kitchin in democratic rank on the committee, led the fight for re-consideration and disapproval of the original action on the tax. He showed that the voluntary sacrifice of revenue by newspapers in curtailing the amount of news and advertising by reducing print paper consumption, would make it virtually impossible for scores of small dailies to receive telegraph news if forced to meet the additional tax.

GO TO FRONT.

Amsterdam, Aug. 13.—Chancellor Van Hertling and Foreign Minister Van Hintze have gone to German headquarters it was learned today.

GERMAN U-BOATS NOW OPERATING ALL ALONG COAST

Submarine Raiders Take Toll Of Fishing Boats And Other Small Craft

NORWEGIAN STEAMER SUNK OFF FIRE ISLAND

American Light House Crew Off North Carolina Gassed by Submarine

Washington, Aug. 13.—German U-boats now appear to be operating all along the Atlantic coast.

From New England to the Carolines, the sea scavengers are exacting their toll of fishing smacks and other small vessels, and have even gassed a light-house.

The navy department today added another victim in the Norwegian steamer Sonorstad, torpedoed off Fire Island yesterday morning.

The navy is taking all measures to meet the spectacular terrorist efforts of German U-boat commanders. Thus far, however, there is no direct evidence that any of the enemy submarines have been sunk. There is some cause to believe that a destroyer, which had a brush with one of them, disposed of it.

Secretary Daniels stated today that all possible precautions have been taken to protect coast stations from further gas attacks by German submarines. Asked whether gas masks had been issued, Daniels said:

"Oh, yes, we are doing all those things."

The Sonorstad, it was later revealed, was sunk only 25 miles off Fire Island.

The navy department issued the following statement on the sinking of the Sonorstad:

"The navy department is informed that the Norwegian steamer Sonorstad was sunk at 8:15 a. m. yesterday, August 12, 25 miles southeast by east from Fire Island. The captain and 30 members of the crew were rescued and have reached port. There were no casualties."

"Captain Hansen reports that he saw the wake of a torpedo; the engines were reversed, avoiding the torpedo which was seen to go under the bow of the vessel. The ship was drawing only seven feet of water and the torpedo continued on its course. The captain ordered full speed ahead. The torpedo, he states, turned sharply to the left and returned, hitting the vessel between the third and fourth holds on the port side. In five minutes after

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ABE MARTIN

Members of Salem, Oregon Lodge No. 335, B. P. O. E. are doing service in various parts of the world but regardless of their duties they find time to write to their Elk friends here, all asking how things are getting along at the lodge. The following are extracts from letters written by well known members of 335:

Leo G. Page writes from the Presidio to Secretary Wiedmer thanking him for a recent copy of the Elklet, the monthly magazine issued by the Salem lodge and mailed to every man from the lodge in the service. "To say that I appreciate the Elklet is putting it mildly," he writes, "as when one is away from old familiar haunts, news such as one gleams from this little 'Apostle of Cheerfulness' is certainly more than welcome."

"Just a word about my present location and address: I am with the regimental infirmary attached to the 6th Infantry at the presidio of San Francisco, Cal., but will leave here early in August for the east, destination unknown. Captain H. E. Clay, whom you all remember is the commanding officer of our detachment."

Rigdon at Camp Lewis.

Lloyd T. Rigdon, former city alderman, is now doing duty at Camp Lewis, 20th Company, 5th Battalion, 166 D. B. He writes to Secretary Wiedmer in part as follows:

"Shortly after reading the latest Elklet, I was going up the avenue and ran into Bro. Murray Hart. We had both become aware, through reading the Elklet that we were not far apart. I ran into Bro. Bert Pratt a week or so ago. Bro. Levy who arrived in the last draft I also looked up last Sunday.

"The other day I met a brother Elk, Sergeant Hughes from Minneapolis, Minn. After we became acquainted and I told him I was from Salem, he

AMERICANS CONTINUE TO HARRASS ENEMY IN THE VESLE SECTOR

Heavy Artillery Bombardments Interspersed With Sharp Infantry Thrusts.—Heights North of Vesle River Strongly Held By Germans And Several Attempts To Storm Them Have Failed.—Prussian Troops With Machine Guns Constitute Most Of The Defensive Units.—Position Of Yankees Is Not At All Favorable.

By Frank J. Taylor

(United Press staff correspondent)

With the American Armies in France Aug. 12.—(Night)—The Americans continue to harass the Germans north of the Vesle, varying heavy artillery bombardments with lightning like thrusts into the enemy line. There was some infantry fighting on the right wing of the American sector last night, but this morning, they were practically unbothered, save for a German tent which failed to develop into an attack.

The doughboys attempted to storm the German positions on the heights north of the river last night, but could not maintain their gains on account of the heavy machine gun fire. This was the second attack of the day, the Americans going over the top from hastily dug trenches in the morning. Advancing north of Fismette, they drove the boches from a wood, capturing machine guns, which they turned on the fleeing enemy. The Germans later counter attacked and drove the Americans from the wood.

Yesterday the Americans captured thirty machine guns from a German stronghold at Chateau-Diable. They brought them back and used them against the Germans until they ran out of ammunition. Then they despatched a detachment of infantry to gather in some German machine gun ammunition from the rear areas. They now have sufficient to keep the guns going until they capture a new supply.

The German positions are still held by Prussian troops, mostly machine gun companies. They prevent much hand to hand fighting.

Officers tell many stories of the pluck of American doughboys holding extremely difficult and unfavorable positions at the foot of the heights north of the Vesle. These men are continually sniping the enemy, preventing the Germans from making advances, ignoring the enemy's artillery and working with little food until relieved and sent to the rear.

The streets of Fismette are being raked continually by enemy machine guns and American pontoon bridges over the Vesle are constantly under heavy shell fire from the Germans, making the maintenance of communications difficult. Despite the peril of the work, hospital men are working courageously and ambulances are continually carrying wounded off from advanced dressing posts to the rear through German barrages.

Near Petro-on-Tarlonia, I saw evidence of Germany's scarcity of metals. Along the railroad the enemy had made huge piles of zinc, copper and brass utensils, preparatory to shipping them to Germany. They evacuated this region so rapidly, however, that they were forced to abandon this loot. The booty all pillaged from French houses, included sunshades, clocks, lamps, rods, screens, pots, bath tubs, pads and innumerable other articles.

MEMBERS OF SALEM ELKS LODGE SERVE NATION IN U. S. ARMY

Many of The Boys Write From Their Posts to Secretary Of Home Lodge

Members of Salem, Oregon Lodge No. 335, B. P. O. E. are doing service in various parts of the world but regardless of their duties they find time to write to their Elk friends here, all asking how things are getting along at the lodge. The following are extracts from letters written by well known members of 335:

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asked me if I knew Harry Albert. They both worked together as bank examiners in Minnesota and are friends. Tell the boys not to fail to look me up if any of them come to Camp Lewis."

Too Hot for Meeting.

Sergeant H. J. Meiring writes from San Antonio, stationed at Ft. Sam Houston.

"There are a number of Oregon men here in different camps and we manage to get together once in a while. About a month ago we had a little dinner at the Menger hotel and about 45 Oregon men were present. Salem as well as the rest of Oregon is well advertised here and we sure do talk about the land of Paradise. So much so that all the natives here are anxious to see Oregon."

"I noticed in the Capital Journal where several of the old bunch had been called by the draft. Well there is coming a day when most of us will return and then we will sure live the old club up."

"As for myself, I am still in this hot hole and about as near hell as I ever want to go. It is 106 to 110 in the shade and this is pretty warm for an old Oregonian. Am anxious to get over there and help out but I can't go till they send me. I notice where 'Slats' was on his way over there. Pretty lucky."

Viesko, "Over the Top."

Ed. B. Viesko, who has been transferred from Fort McArthur to the Exposition Park at Los Angeles, writes friends here that Los Angeles is as hot as the hub of hell and that at the Exposition Park the soldiers amuse the people three times a day by "going over the top." He also writes that he is getting wise to the game of this thing of going over the top at the exposition park and is one of the first to go to do. As he explains it, certain men are counted off who are supposed to be hit early in the fracas and as the weather is pretty hot down there, he finds it more convenient to die early

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