

THE RONAN PIONEER

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RAINY WEATHER HALTS FIGHTING

MANY PRISONERS ARE TAKEN

British Forces Have Also Captured Seventeen Heavy Guns and Over One Hundred and Thirty Lighter Ones—Teutons Yielding Ground Before Russian Armies.

London, July 18.—Bad weather has settled down over the fighting front in France. Hostilities virtually have ceased for the moment in the Somme region, where the latest reports had credited to the British additional large gains against the Germans near Bazentin-Le-Petit wood, in the vicinity of Lebaival and at Ovillers-La-Boisselle.

Bombardments are in progress near Soeville, in the Verdun sector.

In the actions during the rain and mist the British have captured additional German prisoners in the Somme region and brought their total since July 1 up to 139 officers and 10,779 men or other ranks. In addition seventeen heavy and 133 lighter guns have fallen into British hands.

In Volhynia, in the region of Lutsk, where the troops of the Teutonic allies have been forced to give ground before the attacks of the Russians and retire behind the Lower Lipa river, the Russians continue to press their foes.

Many attacks by the Austrians against the Italians in the Upper Posavina valley proved unavailing in bending back the line of the Italians.

In a counter attack, in which there was hand to hand fighting, the Italians repulsed the Austrians over the entire front. Failure likewise followed an attempt of the Austrians to surround the Italians in the Tovo valley, according to Rome.

GERMAN STAFF ASKS PUBLIC'S CONFIDENCE

London, July 18.—The German general staff has issued an appeal to the people of Germany for confidence in the conduct of the war, according to a Rotterdam dispatch to the Daily News. "Never has the world experienced anything so stupendous as the present battles," the appeal says. "Never has an army braved what ours has braved."

DESIRES DIRECT SERVICE

Australian Premier Comments on Trade With America.

New York, July 18.—America needs Australia's goods—and Australia desires American products—therefore there should be a direct steam service between the two countries, in the opinion of Premier Thomas J. Ryan of Queensland. "I am a strong believer in the possibilities of great trade between Australia and the United States," the premier said. "One of the things I want is a direct steam service between Brisbane, the capital of Queensland, and San Francisco."

MINIMUM WAGE DEFEATED

Minority Leader Mann Has Nolan Bill Indefinitely Shut Out.

Washington, July 18.—The Nolan bill, providing a minimum wage of \$3 a day for federal employes, was indefinitely shut out of consideration in the house by Republican Leader Mann.

RESULTS ON THE DIAMOND

National League.

Standing of the Clubs—Brooklyn, 600; Boston, 563; Philadelphia, 554; New York, 493; Chicago, 481; Pittsburgh, 478; St. Louis, 458; Cincinnati, 402.

Brooklyn 2, Chicago 1.
St. Louis 5, New York 1.
Cincinnati 9, Boston 6.

American League.

Standing of the Clubs—New York, 580; Boston, 563; Cleveland, 561; Chicago, 538; Washington, 525; Detroit, 524; St. Louis, 444; Philadelphia, 243.

New York 3, Detroit 2.
Cleveland 7, Washington 5.
Boston 3, St. Louis 2.

American Association.

Standing of the Clubs—Kansas City, 575; Indianapolis, 560; Louisville, 541; St. Paul, 519; Minneapolis, 518; Toledo, 513; Columbus, 405; Milwaukee, 365.

St. Paul 6, Columbus 5.
Toledo 9, Minneapolis 1.
Milwaukee 4, Louisville 1.
Indianapolis 5, Kansas City 2.

FRED WAGNER WRITES FROM DOUGLAS, ARIZONA

The following letter written from Douglas, Arizona, July 11, and addressed to Harry Carper, will be read by the many friends of Fred Wagner with much interest. Fred is a member of Co. F, Second Montana Infantry, and went from Ronan, being a try, member of the Kalispell company. He writes:

Dear Friend:—I will write a few lines this forenoon. I was glad to hear from the boys at home as it gets pretty lonesome down here. We have our camp in good shape; there are eight men to a tent; the tents are about 16 feet square so there is plenty of room; we all have cots to sleep on so it isn't bad. It gets pretty cool at night but it sure does get hot during the day time. It has been raining here every day since we got here; and has been raining all day today. It is pretty cool when it rains. We are camped alongside a big smelter and we get the use of the shower baths; which we think is pretty nice.

Well, how is the ball team getting along? I suppose you are getting beat every time you play. We have a team here that can play some. We got together once and talked it over and found there was some ball players here. I play third but it was all I could do to make it.

There is no trouble here now but we look for it every day. We don't think there will be any war, just bandit raids. I think we will be here until after election anyway. They won't let us outside the guard lines so you see we don't have much fun down here. Tell Rathbone to be sure and send me the Pioneer. All for this time.

Fred Wagner.

CROP PROSPECTS ARE FINE

Increased Acreage is Noted on Montana Farms.

Helena, Mont., July 18.—G. A. Bailey, manager of the McCaull-Dinsmore Elevator company, returned from a tour of the grain fields and reports that Montana's bumper crop of 1915 will be repeated this year.

While the yield per acre will be slightly smaller the increased acreage planted will more than make up the difference, he declared.

In northern Montana the yield per acre will exceed that of 1915. In other sections some winter killing will decrease the yield.

Harvesting winter wheat has begun around Billings. The first cutting of alfalfa is about stacked. Alfalfa crops give indications of being very large.

SECURES CAVALRY HORSES

Massachusetts Guardsmen First to Be Supplied.

El Paso, Tex., July 18.—Approximately 1,600 horses have been concentrated here in the past few days to provide mounts and draft animals for national guard cavalry and artillery.

The first of the animals were issued to two troops of the First Massachusetts cavalry and the remainder will be distributed before the end of the week.

Contracts have been let for the construction of eighteen new pavilions at the army base hospital at Fort Bliss.

Raid Results in Tragedy.

Seattle, July 18.—William Bothwell, former city controller and recently a special officer on the water front, was killed and W. W. Morris and C. V. Harvey, members of the prohibition enforcement squad of the Seattle police force, were seriously injured in a raid on the bar in the Ferguson hotel here.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST SHARKS

Coast Guard Service Unable to Undertake One.

Washington, July 18.—Suggestions that a campaign of extermination against sharks along the Atlantic coast be undertaken by the coast guard service were abandoned by treasury department officials after considering a report by Captain Carden of the cutter Mohawk, saying such a campaign would be impracticable and that the only sure method of protecting bathers was the extension of the steel wire nets already in use at most resorts.

Fugitive Kills Three.

Opelousas, La., July 18.—Marion L. Swords, sheriff of St. Landry parish for sixteen years, and two negroes assisting him were shot and killed in a fight with Helaire Carriere, alleged fugitive from justice, about ten miles west of here. Carriere escaped.

CONTRACT FOR RAILROAD TO BE LET ON JULY 25

Chief Engineer Darling of the Northern Pacific and several railroad construction contractors were in Ronan Tuesday. They went over the line of the proposed new road with a view to securing data upon which to base their bids and announced while here that the contract was to be let on July 25.

This will be good news to everybody concerned as it will practically assure the completion of the road in time to handle the 1916 crop of grain. That there is every encouragement for the road to hurry construction is the fact that all over the Flathead this year there is the best prospects for the biggest crop of all kinds of small grain which has ever been raised here. This may have been one of the factors which has caused the Northern Pacific to expedite the building of the road.

President Hannaford was in Butte Monday last and while there gave out the following interview to the Miner:

"We are going to build the Dixon to Flathead railroad just as soon as our maps are approved by the United States government," said Mr. Hannaford. "This which is in reality a mere formality, must be complied with, as for a great portion of the distance we travel on an Indian Reservation. We anticipate that the government, which is always desirous of building up and settling a new country, will not hesitate to approve our plans. Consequently nothing now delays the construction of the road but the formal approval of Uncle Sam. As soon as he puts his O. K. on the map we will get busy and trains will be running from Dixon to Flathead, through a splendid agricultural land within a very short time."

DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTE

Report of the Sunday School institute held in the Methodist church in Ronan, July 14th, 1916.

The forenoon session was devoted to a prayer and song service conducted by the pastor, Rev. Tester, and the appointment of the following committees by Mrs. McAllister: Resolutions; Mrs. J. J. Maloney and Rev. Tester; nominating Sunday school superintendents of the valley. The institute in the afternoon began with a conference of the superintendents and Mrs. Geo. McAllister.

The meeting was given over to Mrs. McAllister and was as follows: "How does the institute help the individual school?" by Mrs. J. J. Maloney; "The need of the rural school" by Mrs. Kate Richardson. Mrs. McAllister gave a splendid talk on "Some helps for the primary teacher." A. Sutherland gave a talk on "The ideal Bible school," and Mrs. Hogue of St. Ignace, spoke on "The requirements of an up-to-date superintendent." Following these talks Mrs. McAllister spoke on "The advisability of the organized class in rural school," and the superintendents of Round Butte St. Ignace and Ronan each respectively gave a talk on "My school."

The following officers were then elected: President, Mr. Hoguet; vice president, Mrs. K. Richardson; secretary, Miss Alma Myers; treasurer, Mrs. H. Cader; teacher's training class A. Sutherland, adult, Mrs. Lee; secondary, Mrs. J. J. Maloney; Missionary, Mrs. Newett; temperance, Mrs. S. W. Davis.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted: Resolved:—That as an association we extend to the pastor and people of Ronan our thanks for the use of the church building to hold the sessions of the Ronan district Sunday school convention.

Resolved, That we express our appreciation to the Ronan Pioneer for the courtesy extended in publishing the report of our convention.

Resolved, That as an association we express our hearty appreciation to Mrs. Geo. A. McAllister, president of the Missoula county Sunday school association, for making possible the convention that was so helpful and inspiring to the Sunday school workers of the Ronan district.

AMERICAN GUNS SUPERIOR

Washington, July 18.—Construction of enough high power anti-air craft guns to supply all active battleships and cruisers of the active battleships and cruisers of the navy has been completed, it was announced by Secretary Daniels. The new weapons are believed by navy experts to be the longest range guns of that type in the world.

The battleships Pennsylvania and Nevada already are equipped with two each.

The new gun is a three-inch, fifty caliber weapon that will throw a shell 27,000 feet in the air at an angle of 90 degrees.

KALISPELL GETS SWEET REVENGE

The Ronan All Stars went up to Kalispell last Sunday to play a return game with that city. The same teams played a six-inning game here the Sunday before which was won by the All Stars 7 to 0, and they felt confident of again vanquishing their opponents but it seems they were either over sure or else did not play as good ball as they came home with a different story to tell. The score stood 7 to 2 in favor of Kalispell and so they stand one each.

Evidently Kalispell strengthened up during the week feeling that they were playing a stronger team than they anticipated a week before. A new man was in the pitcher's box and while the All Stars succeeded in getting 10 safe hits off his delivery the infield and outfield were playing better ball behind him and in dangerous situations succeeded in getting the pitcher out of the hole. Then too, the Kalispell boys hit a bit better and with some luck and an umpire favorable to them all of which served to give them the sweet revenge they were looking for.

Phil Hull pitched six innings and Wood finished the game, and the latter only pitched seven balls in two innings retiring the side.

There were several auto loads from Ronan who went along to see the game and they report having enjoyed the trip all except the mosquitoes.

The next game will be in Ronan between Kalispell Mercantile Co. team and the All Stars, time next Sunday afternoon.

STOP! LOOK! LISTEN!

Northwest railroads have expended thousands of dollars in the last two years installing safety signs along their crossings. This has had a remarkable effect in reducing to a minimum accidents at such places.

According to the Northern Pacific Railway's bureau of efficiency, however, automobilists should observe greater caution when approaching railway crossings. Although that road has been almost free from trains colliding into motor cars at crossings, a campaign is being waged to point out to automobile drivers the part they should play.

"When motor car owners follow the plan of stopping before they reach a crossing, or approaching it at very low speed, and then looking both ways and listening," says a recent circular, "the danger of accidents at a crossing may be practically eliminated. It is to be hoped that motorists will cooperate with the railways in putting a stop to unnecessary deaths and injuries. Caution will do this very thing."

Fined One Cent for Assault.

Richmond, Ind., July 18.—Henry U. Johnson, a former member of congress, was fined 1 cent by a city court jury that found him guilty of assaulting Frank M. Taylor, vice president of a bank here.

TWO AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Two constitutional amendments, a legislative referendum of the prohibition question, and the enactment of an initiative measure legalizing boxing, will be submitted to Montana voters at the November election.

Secretary of State A. M. Alderson will shortly send out notices to one newspaper in each county in the state to be published once a week for three months, embodying the proposed changes to the constitution.

One proposed constitutional amendment is designed to give the state board of equalization power to supervise, review, change, increase or increase assessments made by county boards of equalization; to equalize valuations between the several counties, the several classes of property and between individual taxpayers, "and to do all things necessary to secure a fair and equitable valuation of taxable property among the counties and between the different classes of property and individuals."

The second proposed amendment authorizes the legislature to exempt from taxation evidences of debt secured by mortgages of record upon real or personal property. At present mortgages held by non-residents of Montana are not taxed, while mortgages held by residents are taxed.

Besides exempting public property from taxation, the proposed amendment would also exempt other property used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies, for education or religious purposes, places for actual religious worship, hospitals and places for burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, "and institutions of pure charity may be exempt from taxation."

The prohibition measure is not a constitutional amendment, but a legislative referendum to the people.

The boxing bill was the only initiative measure to secure sufficient signatures to insure its submission.

BRIEF PARAGRAPHS OF STATE NEWS

Montana bank deposits increased \$4,000,000 between March and May and \$21,000,000 in the past year. Percentage of reserve higher than for several years.

Missoula—Local contractors get contract for new \$125,000 Northern Pacific hospital here.

Hanover—60 men employed in new plant of Hanover Gypsum Co. producing 200 tons of gypsum products per day including wall plaster, cement plasters, lime, pulverized gypsum, land plaster, gypsite plaster, plaster board, plaster tile, plaster of paris, gypsum tile and blocks and stucco.

Richland County farmers are buying many Montana grown fruit and ornamental trees.

John D. Ryan, President of the Anaconda Copper Co., will visit Montana soon. It is probable that he will time his visit so that he will be here when the new big zinc refinery at Great Falls is put into operation and the zinc concentrating plant at Anaconda is started.

Strong Sentiment in Richland county in favor of bonding for road building.

Silver Bow County planning construction of oil surface macadam roads. Montana district, including Montana, Idaho and Utah, pays \$735,027 corporation and \$225,728 individual income taxes for past year.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul has nearly completed the electrification of its line between Harlowtown, Mont., and Avery, Idaho, the first unit determined upon. The operation of trains by this method has proved satisfactory, and the expectation is that it will be extended not only to the coast, but eastward from Harlowtown to Miles City.

School land to be offered for sale in eastern Montana in August will aggregate 28,000 acres.

Number of accredited high schools in Montana has more than doubled in the past four years.

Glendive—\$16,000 contract let for grading and graveling streets.

Work now in progress.

(Continued on page two)

SENTRY FATALLY WOUNDS MEXICAN

NEW CRISIS IS THREATENED

Prominent Carranza Leaders Are Very Much Agitated Over the Incident and Strong Protest to Washington From Mexico City May Result.

Douglas, Ariz., July 18.—Private R. Tucker, Eleventh Infantry, shot and probably fatally wounded Antonio Rodriguez, a Mexican musician, while the Mexican and a companion were making their way toward the international boundary. One of them carried a rifle, according to the guard's statement.

Tucker said that he called to the men to halt, but they did not do so. He has not been arrested.

All American guards are said to have instructions to fire on any one bearing arms should they fail to halt when ordered to do so.

Rodriguez and his companion declared, however, that they were on Mexican soil when the shooting occurred. General P. Elias Galles, military commander of Sonora, sent a telegram to General Carranza which, it was said, protested in strong terms against the "desecration of Mexican soil and the liberties of Mexicans."

Adolfo de la Huerta, governor of Sonora, sent a similar protest, understood to have been couched in even stronger language, to Jesus Acuna, minister of foreign relations in the Carranza cabinet.

Ives G. Levelev, Mexican consul, telegraphed to Eliseo Arredondo, ambassador designate of the Mexican government in Washington, requesting that he protest to the state department and demand redress. Levelev also visited General T. F. Davis to urge him to investigate the cause and punish the sentry. General Davis promised to make an investigation, Levelev said.

Companion Tells Story.

According to the story of a companion of Rodriguez he and Rodriguez were unarmed. They had been in Douglas, he said, and had started for Agua Prieta. As the customs house, the usual place for crossing, was nearly half a mile distant, they decided to cross the boundary a few yards from where they were. They did so, not noticing any American soldier in that vicinity, he said.

After he had reached Mexican territory, he said in his statement to the Mexican officials, he heard a shot. He turned to see where it had been fired from and saw the American soldier throw the ejector of his rifle, then throw a cartridge into the breach of his gun.

He said he dropped to the ground, but that Rodriguez, who was near sighted and unable to see the soldier, walked on until the fifth shot fired by the soldier struck him and he fell.

The shooting was reported to General Calles, who was with Governor de la Huerta. Consul Levelev was summoned from Douglas.

"This is the sort of treatment my people are given after all I have done for Americans," Calles exclaimed. He and de la Huerta instructed the consul to proceed to the spot and investigate, which he did.

Rodriguez was found approximately 100 yards south of the border, but whether he had been carried there or had fallen where he was found has not been determined.

WILSON POSTPONES NOTIFICATION DATE

Washington, July 18.—Vance McCormick, national chairman, announced the Democratic notification ceremonies will be postponed until after congress adjourns.

The announcement came after a conference with President Wilson, Secretary McAdoo and Postmaster General Sudason.

The president, it is said, takes the view politics must wait until he has disposed of pressing public affairs and until he can give himself up unreservedly to the campaign.

Until Mr. McCormick's announcement Aug. 5 was the tentative date for the notification ceremonies.

"I find the president believes he ought not to turn to politics until the business of this congressional session is over," Mr. McCormick's statement said. "Of course, it is possible the session may last so long as to make it impracticable to wait until its close for the notification, particularly as the president feels it to be of the utmost importance that the child labor bill and the workmen's compensation bill be passed."