

# FRENCH FORCES JOIN BRITISH IN BIG SPRING DRIVE

## President Outlines New Plan for Combating the Submarine Menace

For the Active Development of Idaho

# EVENING CAPITAL NEWS

The Newspaper That Goes Home

Vol. XXXVIII

BOISE, IDAHO, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1917.

No. 89

### OPPOSITION TO DRAFT SYSTEM DEVELOPING IN THE CONGRESS

Conscription Measure to Meet Serious Obstacles but Its Friends Are Sure the President Will Have His Way.

### HOUSE TO ACT SOON ON BOND ISSUE BILL

Effort Will Be Made to Put Measure Through Tomorrow—Long Debate Expected Before Revenue Bill Is Passed.

Washington, April 12.—Threat of a serious fight over the general staff army bill grew in congress today. Majority Leader Kitchin, sounding anti-conscription sentiment, found it very strong. Friends of the selective draft system are dwindling; but most still believe President Wilson will force it through.

**ACTION ON BOND ISSUE.**  
The senate met today with practically a clean slate. The house did not meet. Tomorrow it will take up and pass—according to Majority Leader Kitchin—the \$7,000,000,000 bond issue, this country's first "big" in the world war.

Hours of debate are expected on the revenue bill. House leaders will make no effort, they said, to shut off speeches. But they promised the house will stay in session tomorrow night until the bill passes.

Several amendments to the bill are expected.

**TO REPORT ARMY BILL.**  
The house military committee will report out the general staff army bill early next week, probably with an amendment to give the volunteer system a trial before drafting the 500,000 men necessary, it was said, following a meeting of the committee today.

### THREE MEN KILLED BY ELEVATOR FALL

Akron, O., April 12.—Three men were instantly killed and nine were injured at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber company plant today when an elevator fell three stories. Twelve men and a heavy hydraulic press were on the elevator. A cable snapped.

The dead:  
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Flour, straight grades, advanced from 20 to 25 cents a sack. Today's price \$2.50 to \$2.85.

High patent flour advanced 25 to 35 cents a sack. Today's price \$3 to \$3.50.

### BULGARIA BREAKS OFF RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES

Dispatch From Sofia Tells of Severance of Diplomatic Intercourse Causes No Surprise Among Officials at Washington.

Paris, April 12.—The American minister to Bulgaria has been handed his passports and has left Sofia, according to a dispatch from the Bulgarian capital, reaching here via Zurich, Switzerland, today.

### STATE DEPARTMENT NOT YET INFORMED OF THE RUPTURE

Washington, April 12.—Bulgaria's reported action in breaking off relations with the United States was received here in official and diplomatic circles this afternoon with no surprise.

At the state department, however, it was said no word of such rupture had come. At the Bulgarian legation it was stated that no news of any kind had reached the legation from the home government "for some time."

### SHOT AND FATALLY WOUNDED BY WIFE AFTER A QUARREL

San Francisco, April 12.—Wallace C. Doremus, well-known salesman of the National Lead company, was shot down and fatally wounded by his wife early today when he returned home unexpectedly from a business trip. Mrs. Doremus and H. P. Agnar, a decorator, were taken into custody.

Mrs. Doremus told the police that she had shot her husband when she mistook him for a burglar.

According to police, Agnar had admitted he had been attentive to Mrs. Doremus during her husband's absence and that the shooting had followed a violent quarrel.

As he was going on the operating table, Doremus told the surgeons that he had been shot by his wife by mistake.

### BILL TO AUTHORIZE ROOSEVELT TO FORM A VOLUNTEER ARMY

Washington, April 12.—Representative Emerson of Ohio will introduce a bill tomorrow asking President Wilson to authorize former President Wilson to organize a "volunteer army of 100,000" to be known as the "Roosevelt volunteers."

Roosevelt's army would be subject to war department rules and would be under control of the president.

### INDIANA GOVERNOR CALLS CONFERENCE

Indianapolis, April 12.—Governor Goodrich today called a conference of leading members of the legislature to meet tomorrow at the capitol to consider plans for financing the increased food production movement, started throughout the state.

Calling of a special session of the legislature will also be discussed.

### SHIP MASTER AND OWNER CAPTURED BY A SUBMARINE

Washington, April 12.—Master Charles Willard, South Portland, Maine, was reported captured along with the owner of the schooner Marguerite, New York, which was attacked by a submarine off Sardinia, according to state department cables this afternoon.

### IDAHO WOMEN ASKED TO FOREGO LUXURIES OF DRESS AND TABLE

Nampa, April 12.—Mrs. George W. Lamson, of this city, president of the Second district of the Federation of Women's clubs of this state, today sounded the clarion call to the club women of Idaho to bear their proportional part of the burden of the war, through abandonment of expensive social functions and costly dress to maintain the styles of the day. In commenting upon the national situation and the part the women of the country should play in the struggle which now confronts the country, Mrs. Lamson said:

"I think it is up to the women of this state to perform their share in the struggle before us by sharing all entertainments, of a social nature which call for the serving of refreshments on an elaborate scale. Whatever cloth-

### DEAF BOYS TRY TO ENLIST; ANGERED WHEN REJECTED

Recruiting Officer Almost Fooled by Youthful Expert Lip Readers from Washington Institution.

### Vancouver, Wash., April 12.—

Fourteen boys who ran away from the Washington state school for the deaf are not members of the United States army today only because a recruiting sergeant, in conducting the examination, happened to walk into a dark corner of the room when asking a question. The runaways, members of the school's various athletic teams, are all expert lip readers.

Peter Cole, 18, of Aberdeen, answered all questions in a loud, clear voice. When almost ready to take the oath, the sergeant asked him a question with his mouth veiled in dense shadows.

"Sir?" queried Cole.

The sergeant straightened up with a jerk.

"Hard of hearing, sonny?" he growled.

"A little—that is—I mean no."

"And you?" asked the sergeant from the room's dark corner, turning to 18-year-old Dewey Deer, 15-pound half back, a boy able to make the 100-yard dash in 10 4-5 seconds.

"Yes sirree, I wanna enlist," replied Deer, in a peculiar nasal drawl of the deaf, misguessing the sergeant's question.

The boys were sent back to school. "It's an outrage," said one of the youths today. "Your country needs you' stores at us from every billboard. And, dammit, if my country needs me why don't she take me?"

### PLAN TO BRIDGE ATLANTIC WITH HUGE FLEET OF WOODEN SHIPS

President Wilson Approves the Scheme of Shipping Board as an Answer to the Appeal of Lloyd George.

### THOUSAND VESSELS DURING FIRST YEAR

Two Thousand More During the Second Year of the War if the U-boat Campaign Continues—Great Lane for Commerce.

Washington, April 12.—To smash Germany's U-boat blockade, the United States will virtually bridge the Atlantic.

Plans for the construction of 3000 small wooden boats—the most tremendous merchant ship-building program ever undertaken—have been completed and approved by the president. The boats will be used to transport food and supplies to entente ports.

This is America's answer to Lloyd George's appeal: "The ultimate success of the allied cause depends, in my judgment, on our solving the tonnage difficulties with which we are confronted."

### CALL FOR LUMBERMEN.

The government shipping board has sent out a call for 150,000 lumbermen and wood workers to begin the task at once.

The first thousand ships are to be completed within 18 months and immediately thereafter 2000 more will be ordered. Each vessel will be of 3000 tons with a speed of 10 knots.

It is the purpose to run them in such fashion that they will constitute a veritable pontoon bridge across the sea—one boat every three miles. The tremendous number is expected to exhaust the most valiant efforts of U-boat commanders to cut off supplies from England and France.

### TO SUPPLY THE LABOR.

President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor has promised all co-operation in supplying labor. Complete mobilization of industry in putting the scheme through has been announced.

General Goethals, who directed the construction of the Panama canal, will superintend the construction of the "jitney fleet," it was stated today.

Each ship is to be manned by a trained gun crew and equipped with anti-submarine guns and wireless.

Commencing Nov. 1, three ships a day will fall into service.

### DETAILS OF PLAN.

The plan, which President Wilson and the shipping board believe will overwhelm Prussia's scavenger boats and break the back of the blockade provides the following:

One thousand 3000-ton wooden ships to be turned out within one year beginning Nov. 1, 1917.

Standardization of design so far as practicable, to expedite construction.

Construction of 2000 more in the second year of the war, if the submarine blockade still remains effective. This would place a ship every mile from the United States to England.

The ships to cost about \$500,000 each complete—one-half the cost of a steel ship of the same tonnage.

Ships to have a normal speed of 10 knots, with extra size engines to develop 16 knots on emergency to escape attack.

Ships to be built by private shipyards under contract for their purchase when completed by the shipping board.

The board will then either resell the ships, charter them, or operate them.

At least 70 per cent of the first year's program to be built on the Pacific coast. The new vessels will be then brought through the Panama canal with lumber cargoes, for which service at present freight rates, they will earn \$40,000 apiece, more than enough to pay for the trip.

### OKLAHOMA SOIL IN GOOD CONDITION FOR PLANTING

Dallas, Tex., April 12.—The soil, already prepared for planting in northern Texas and southern Oklahoma, is today in excellent condition for food crop seeding, following the rain that fell in those sections during the night. Wheat and oats were benefited.

### THE MORAL EFFECT.

"This should be done not only that money may be saved for the struggle which may assume graver proportions than are now anticipated, but also for the tremendous moral effect such a course will have upon the country."

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### TO ENLARGE COMPANIES.

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Paris, April 12.—Frederick C. Penfield, American ambassador to Austria-Hungary, arrived here today, en route to Washington. He would not comment on the break in relations between America and Austria.

### NEW LAURELS WON BY THE CANADIANS; FURTHER GAINS BY THE BRITISH FIGHTERS

Nearly a Mile of German Trenches Stormed and More Men and Guns Taken During the Terrific Onslaught.

### GOLD, WET WEATHER HAMPERS TROOPERS

British and Germans Battle Man to Man on Bloody Slopes and the Advance of the Allied Hosts Continues Unabated.

### By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS, United Press Staff Correspondent.

With the British Armies Afraid, April 12.—Canadians earned new honors today in a storming advance on a mile front south of the Vimy ridge.

Dashing forward impetuously, they stormed and took nearly a mile of German trenches running south from the German commandant's house near the Farbus wood.

**GERMAN GUNS TAKEN.**  
It was along this line of defense that the German forces have been clinging since the first sweep forward of the Canadians cleared the top of the Vimy ridge.

Headquarters reports today showed more German guns captured between Croisilles and Roeux.

It was over ground inches deep in snow and slush, in cold, wet weather that the British and Germans battled man to man today—with the best man steadily winning.

**THE ADVANCE GOES ON.**  
The advance still continued. Stiffening resistance all along the line from Lens to St. Quentin showed that the Teutons were desperately striving to stop the encroaching wave of the British advance.

For the first time, practically, since the German armies swept forward in the early days of the war, it was man to man fighting—with only temporary earth work defenses sheltering the two sides—that is being enacted now.

Without the customary defense works, minus the elaborately constructed fortifications behind which they have fought for more than two years, the Germans appeared dazed in the new open warfare. They were battling desperately along the whole line today—but their fighting lacked coordinated effort. It failed to stop the British.

**BRITISH FORCES SUPERIOR.**  
Haig's forces, long drilled in open warfare, and not habituated to inactive trench fighting, despite their long vigil there, were plainly superior in this style of fighting. Moreover, they were backed by perfectly organized transport service and supply trains.

The British artillery superiority was also marked today. German marksmanship was bad.

**POSITION STORMED.**  
Desperate fighting was in progress today over the eastern slopes of Vimy ridge. In the face of violent resistance, British forces swarmed over a German entrenchment between the Cojeul river and Neuville Vitasse, storming the position. The corresponding and adjoining position of trenches to the south of the river was today being cleared of its Teuton defenders. Hill 90 was firmly in British hands.

### BRIDGE GOES DOWN AND FIFTY CATTLE PLUNGED INTO RIVER

Star, April 12.—The north span of the Star bridge over the Boise river collapsed this morning while Frank Dobson was driving a herd of cattle over it. With a sudden crash the bridge went down with 50 head of cattle into the river. A crowd of men hurried to the scene and helped rescue all the animals. All were gotten out.

The portion of the bridge which went down was a 100-foot span known as the old bridge. While the river can be forded at several points in this section, travel will be hindered until the bridge is rebuilt. Dobson was on his way to Nampa with the cattle and was able to continue the drive.

### UNDERWRITERS PREDICT EARLY END OF WAR.

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Forecast for Boise and vicinity, FAIR TONIGHT AND FRIDAY, COOLER TONIGHT. Highest temperature yesterday, 60; lowest temperature this morning, 39; mean temperature yesterday, 54. Total precipitation for the 24 hours ending at 6 a. m., .58 of an inch.

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