

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

## OFFER IS NOT TEMPTING TO WATER CO.

### Question of Purchase Price Fixed by Owners of Plant May Be Submitted to the Voters at Special Election

The offer which the city council authorized the auditor to make to the water company for the municipal plant does not look good to the water people. At the meeting of the council last night the reply to the offer of the city was read, and in it was a curt refusal of the company to consider the proposition.

Two weeks ago the council adopted a resolution through which it made a tentative offer of \$65,000 in bonds for the plant, which the company had previously offered to sell for \$125,000. The reply of the company is a refusal to even consider the matter. Following the receipt of the answer from Manager Clarke, the council authorized the appointment of a committee from that body to confer with the water company and get the best price at which the plant could be purchased, then submit the proposition of purchase to the voters at a special election. Previously the company had agreed to stand the expense of such an election and the calling of an election is contingent upon its being of the same disposition at this time. The committee appointed consists of Councilmen Herman, Caldwell, Davis, Burkhalter and Trimble.

During the discussion over the water question the mayor made a strong argument in favor of the municipal ownership of the plant. He pointed out several ways through which the city could make and save money through ownership, and stated that from his study of the situation he was satisfied that the plant would pay its own way out of the bonded debt that would be necessary for its purchase. He said that by combining the office of water superintendent with that of auditor the work could all be done in the one office, with little added expense for clerical work. This he said would work a saving in salaries and rent. The city was now paying for the maintenance of many fire plugs on a flat rate, and little water was used through them. Mayor McKinstry advocated the purchase of the plant if a right price could be obtained upon it, and the authority for the appointment of a conference committee followed his argument.

The certificate of the county assessor was filed with the council and read, showing that the assessed valuation of all property in the city, exclusive of public utilities, was \$2,356,285. The estimate of the public utilities, to be assessed by the state tax commission, was \$310,485, bringing the total valuation of the city up to \$2,666,770. Under the charter the maximum rate of taxation is 16 mills, the same as the levy made last year. This levy will produce \$42,668.33 for the conduct of the municipal government during the next year, as against \$47,557.65 produced by the levy for the current year. The budget upon which the council is now working must be based upon the figures supplied by the assessor.

### SERB GOVERNMENT WILL REMAIN AT NISH

London, Oct. 22.—The Serbian government will remain at Nish, the Serb legation today announced, after it had reported the government would be moved.

### GERMAN QUARTETTE SUNK BY BRITISH SUBMARINES

Copenhagen, Oct. 22.—British submarines have sunk the German steamers Plaub, Reudberg, Hernoesand and Electra.

## ZEPPELIN RAID BEATS DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Portland, Oct. 22.—"More wonderful than the greatest display of fireworks imaginable," was the way Charles Bryan, a Los Angeles medical student, just returned from England, today described a Zeppelin raid on London.

Bryan is visiting here on his way home. His family name is Bernzwiller, but Bryan said that he had it changed to his present one while in England because its Teutonic flavor aroused suspicion that he was a spy. Bryan was in the thick of the big raid six weeks ago, and in describing it said:

"A few of us were having a 'bust up' in the medical quarter, when the cries of frightened people called our attention to the heavens outside. We could plainly hear the whirr of the propeller and then looming in the sky almost directly over us appeared a Zeppelin.

"The sky was flooded with searchlights; every anti-aircraft gun in London was trained on the invaders. Shot as they would, however, it seemed impossible to get the range. Shrapnel was bursting in all directions. Think of a battle in the air over the greatest city in the world.

"It was almost an indescribable scene, a fireworks of immense proportions. The Zeppelins were visible for 15 minutes and then disappeared in the darkness."

Bryan said it took the Zeppelin visitors to make the people of London appreciate the fact that their country was really at war.

## SERBS TAKE BRACE AGAINST INVADING TEUTONS IN NORTH

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Athens, Oct. 22.—The Serbians have defeated the Austro-Germans on the northern frontier, inflicting 60,000 losses on the Teutons, according to a Nish, Serbia, message today.

Bulgarian occupation of Vrania, Veleasa and Jnaivatof was denied and the fall of Ietip and Kotzana was confirmed.

Premier Pasitch was quoted as saying that if sufficient allied help arrived soon ultimate victory is expected for the Serbs.

## HEAD OF STEEL CORPORATION SAYS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD END WAR

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 22.—The pitiless light of publicity would end the great world war.

Such was the stand today of Chairman Elbert H. Gary, of the United States Steel corporation, addressing the American Iron and Steel Institute, of which he is president.

Incidentally, he pointed to America's prosperity—a prosperity, he admitted, partially born of the war—but predicted that prolonged continuance of these conditions can not obtain after the war, particularly if the country is laid open to competition with cheap labor and impoverished conditions abroad.

The steel king took a positive stand for publicity in private business and in state, municipal and national affairs. Everything that could be should be bared to the public, provided it did not embarrass a concern in competition with another. This idea, he said, is growing. Business is, as a result, less suspected, and often more aided, by the public than formerly.

As to the question of publicity to end the war, he said:

"If the masses of the people of the different nations engaged in the ter-

## SEND MORE TROOPS TO BORDER

### Military Zone May Soon Be Proclaimed, and Mexican Raiders Summarily Dealt With After a Courtmartial

Washington, Oct. 22.—Following on the heels of Mexican border raids of the past two days, Secretary Garrison today ordered the 28th Infantry from Texas City to Brownsville and the 23rd from Jacksonville, Fla., to Texas City.

The 28th was the last garrison at Texas City. Its removal to Brownsville indicated the seriousness with which the war department regards the most recent raids in that section, where American soldiers and civilians have been killed and wounded. As reserves were necessary at Texas City the department ordered the 23rd from Jacksonville, where they had been engaged in target practice.

Secretary Garrison asked the department of justice agents to assist in stamping out the bandits and the question of establishing an army secret service is under consideration.

The government, too, has in mind the creation of a military zone for courtmartial and summary punishment of the raiders.

### GERMANS THREATEN VENGEANCE IN MITAU

London, Oct. 22.—Inhabitants of Mitau, south of Riga, have been warned that if the Germans fail to take Riga they will destroy all towns in their retreat, according to a Petrograd dispatch today.

### NEW SEAMEN'S LAW EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 4

San Francisco, Oct. 22.—Although the seamen's act will go into effect November 4, twelve days from now, none of the certified able seamen required by law can be obtained at the local inspector's offices. Officers of the Sailors Union of the Pacific fear it will not be possible for the inspector's office to issue the thousands of certificates that will be required in time for the men to go to work when the law becomes operative.

## EXECUTION OF GIRL DEPLORED BY HERMAN RIDDER

(By United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Oct. 22.—Herman Ridder, publisher of the Statz Zeitung, ardent champion of the German cause, today deplored the execution of Miss Edith Cavell by Germans in Belgium.

"It is a terrible thing," he said. "It seems too awful that such things must happen. It should not be necessary to execute a woman under any circumstances. Had her case been taken before the kaiser she would probably have been pardoned. There are times when German commanders may do things in the heat of war in which even their own people do not support them."

Oscar Strauss held it to be a shocking incident.

"It is one of the most shocking and atrocious incidents of any modern war," he declared. "It is another evidence in line with the sinking of the Lusitania that, amid the barbarities of this war, Germany has no appreciation of the world's public conscience."

U. S. OFFICIALS ARE SHOCKED AT EXECUTION

Washington, Oct. 22.—Official circles were shocked today at the execution of the English woman, Miss Edith Cavell, by German authorities at Brussels. While they made no comment for publication, officials privately deplored the incident. The administration is ready to forward any representations England may desire to make through this country.

## BORDER BANDITS MAY BE INSPIRED BY AMERICANS

Washington, Oct. 22.—Reinforcing the Rio Grande border today with additional troops was one of several steps to end terrorism of Mexican raiders there. Secretary of War Garrison sought special secret agents from the department of justice to have a full report made to President Wilson.

It was an open secret that many officials believe the banditry is perhaps inspired by Americans hostile to Carranza, who are still hoping to force American intervention in Mexico. If so, it is expected Attorney General Gregory's men will run them down.

Secret service agents on the border will be increased at once—as rapidly as the department's facilities permit, Gregory declared today.

It was charged that Americans, taking advantage of the great number of Villistas and Texas "bad men" near the Rio Grande, supplied them with encouragement in the form of funds for playing the desperate game of overthrowing Carranza by getting the United States to intervene.

The state department advised Carranza regarding the raids, but his inability to act was recognized.

### AUSTRIANS CLAIM DEFEAT OF SERBS AND SLAVS

Vienna, via Sayville, Oct. 22.—Successes for the Austrians on all fronts were claimed today. The official statement told of a battle raging with the Russians yesterday southwest of Chortorysk. Southeast of Kullioovick 1,300 prisoners were taken.

In Serbia the Austrians occupied Sarabac and General von Koevess advanced on the heights of Kolubara to the mouth of the Turija river. Another force passed the Ralyar district south of Grocka.

In the struggle with the Italians, the statement said, Italian attacks along the whole Isonzo front failed completely.

## EXECUTION OF GIRL DEPLORED BY HERMAN RIDDER

(By United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Oct. 22.—Herman Ridder, publisher of the Statz Zeitung, ardent champion of the German cause, today deplored the execution of Miss Edith Cavell by Germans in Belgium.

"It is a terrible thing," he said. "It seems too awful that such things must happen. It should not be necessary to execute a woman under any circumstances. Had her case been taken before the kaiser she would probably have been pardoned. There are times when German commanders may do things in the heat of war in which even their own people do not support them."

Oscar Strauss held it to be a shocking incident.

"It is one of the most shocking and atrocious incidents of any modern war," he declared. "It is another evidence in line with the sinking of the Lusitania that, amid the barbarities of this war, Germany has no appreciation of the world's public conscience."

### U. S. OFFICIALS ARE SHOCKED AT EXECUTION

Washington, Oct. 22.—Official circles were shocked today at the execution of the English woman, Miss Edith Cavell, by German authorities at Brussels. While they made no comment for publication, officials privately deplored the incident. The administration is ready to forward any representations England may desire to make through this country.

The efforts of Minister Brand Whitlock were generally approved and the kaiser's pardon of the other women created some satisfaction.

## SERBIANS IN DESPERATE STRAITS

### Germans, Austrians and Bulgarians Sweeping Across Country, With Allies Unable to Offer Assistance

London, Oct. 22.—With the Serbian situation, admitted by Nish to be "more and more serious," despite the "desperate, heroic" resistance of her gallant defenders, all the warring nations today are struggling for a decisive victory to influence the wavering course of Greece and Rumania.

While Paris reported "no important action" along the west front, it is known that the Germans there are seeking to bring matters to a head, though thus far they have met with no success. In the east, however, their progress in the Riga-Dvinsk region Slavs have the advantage.

About Olay the Teutons are on the offensive and a continuous cannonade was reported by the Petrograd official statement received here early today.

On the Italian front, too, the battles amid the rugged, snow-capped mountains have taken on a new ferocity.

Nish frankly admitted that the pressure of the Austro-Germans on the north and the Bulgarians on the east "is menacing seriously" the Serb army. The Saloniki line, through capture of Vrania, is cut in two places, though if allied aid can get as far as Vrania they will still be in a position to aid their Serb ally.

At Negotin the Bulgars are struggling desperately to overcome the Serbs. This place is 25 miles from the main Teuton army and the two bodies are trying to effect a junction. Austria claimed the Macva plain had been swept clear of the enemy and that the army of General Koevess and the Germans are advancing along the Morava farther toward Constantinople.

Bulgars, meantime, have reached west of Timok, which may fall soon.

The Bulgarian war office claimed that "our offensives" are proceeding with lightning-like rapidity in the valley of the Bregalnitz river, which is in possession of the Bulgars in addition to the towns of Korochna, Pajevatz, Tipkllisse and Nitravoto. The Bulgars claim the capture of vast stores of munitions.

"The liberated regions," it was stated, are receiving the conquerors with "indescribable enthusiasm."

## TEXANS THREATEN TO CROSS LINE AND "TAKE IT OUT ON THE GREASERS"

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Brownsville, Texas, Oct. 22.—One hundred citizens today announced that at the next instance of banditry along the border they intend to cross into Mexico and "take it out on the greasers."

The situation is extremely tense. Military and civil officials realize it will be difficult to restrain these and other citizens and they fear international complications. A secret mass meeting was held this afternoon to plan reprisals for the recent Omto and Ojo de Ajua raids, in which six Americans were killed and 11 wounded.

Luis de la Rosa, bandit leader, is reported to have gathered a strong force at Jiminas and to have returned to the border, awaiting the first opportunity to cross the river and repeat his recent attack on an American train. The river guard is being doubled. State Adjutant General Hutchings is in command of the

## AUSTRO-GERMANS LOSE 80,000 IN COUNTER ATTACK

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Bucharest, Oct. 22.—Pushing their way through Serbia in their drive for Constantinople, 80,000 Austro-Germans were killed or wounded in a Serb counter-attack at Trnovitzki, south of Poparevac, while the remainder were forced to retire toward Semendria, according to advices here today.

A German division, heading from Belgrade toward Leskovac, lost one-third of its strength when flanked by Serbian artillery.

The main force of invaders, however, is steadily moving south along the Belgrade-Constantinople line through the Morava valley.

### LEAVE ALLIES TO FORCE BULGARS FROM SERBIA

Paris, Oct. 22.—Bulgarians are half way across southern Serbia at Kumanovo. This is a very formidable invasion, as it strikes at territory which it is known Bulgaria wants. The other invasions are mere raids. The Serbs are hardly resisting the Bulgarians, but are reinforcing their opposition to the Austro-German invaders, apparently leaving it to the allies to drive out the Bulgars as soon as enough allies come from Saloniki. It is understood the allies approve this strategy.

### \$10,000 WORTH OF GEMS STOLEN FROM HOTEL

San Francisco, Oct. 22.—With only one slight delay, which they refused to divulge, the police today worked on one of the most mysterious and baffling robberies occurring here in recent years. Items valued at nearly \$10,000 were stolen from several suites in a hotel here Wednesday night without a single guest having been awakened.

## GREECE NOT TO BE TEMPTED BY OFFER OF CYPRUS ISLAND

Athens, Oct. 22.—Greece, according to all signs, will refuse to rise to the bait—the island of Cyprus offered—thrown out by the allies for her entry into the war.

The government journal today quotes Premier Zalmis as saying the Greek attitude toward the stirring events about her is unchanged. It is presumed that Greece will answer politely to the allies' ultimatum, asking specific definition of her attitude toward them.

## GERMANS ACTIVE ALONG WESTERN FRONT IN FRANCE

(Continued on page 4)

### BRITAIN REQUISITIONS THE STEAMER HAREWOOD

Portland, Oct. 22.—The British steamer Harewood, which sailed from Honolulu October 12 for Portland to load wheat under charter to M. H. Houser, exporter, has been requisitioned by the British admiralty and will be diverted when she reaches the mouth of the Columbia either today or tomorrow to Vancouver, B. C. Houser was advised today. The British admiralty has agreed to pay Houser for the money he will lose as a result of losing the services of the steamer, including a liberal demurrage, and will furnish him with another vessel at the earliest possible date.

It is presumed the Harewood will load lumber at Vancouver.

## EXECUTION OF GIRL SPY HORRIFIES

### Britain Is Stirred When Germany Takes Life of English Woman, and Sentiment for Enlistment Grows Rapidly

London, Oct. 22.—British rage and horror at the German execution of Miss Edith Cavell for assisting allied soldiers to flee Belgium promised today appreciation of the war sentiment, in the wake of disclosures of American Minister Brand Whitlock's efforts to prevent the execution. Enlistments were brisker. All French talk was stilled. The disclosures crystallized the determination in England to wage the war to the bitter end.

Newspapers admitted that the English woman committed the technical offense for which she was liable to death in aiding soldiers. The press denounced, however, her actual execution, in view of the fact that no act of espionage was established against her and the fact that she had worked with self denial for months in caring for wounded Germans already in her own country.

Whitlock's communication with the German governor at Brussels indicated in the British press the case against her. The case against her, it was said, was technical. She had aided soldiers to escape, but she had done so without a single guest having been awakened. The case against her, it was said, was technical. She had aided soldiers to escape, but she had done so without a single guest having been awakened.

British horror was not modified by word from Madrid that the kaiser has pardoned the other women involved in the Cavell case, including Countess de Bellville and Mile. Thullier.

Some believed the emperor had made this move because the women were French and Belgian, while he had refused mercy to the English woman inasmuch as German hate of England is keener than its feeling against any other nation.

The best informed persons, however, thought that Miss Cavell's execution was rushed because the military governor feared the kaiser would extend clemency and thus weaken the governor's authority in the court-martial.

As a result of his part in the affair, it is believed Brand Whitlock's position at Brussels will be difficult.

(Continued on page 4)