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SALEM, OREGON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1916

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STANDS—FIVE CENTS

## GERMANS LOSE STRONG POSITION AT COMBLES

### Was One of Two Great Obstacles to Allies Holding Them Back From Peronne—British and French Drive Past Place Getting It Pocketed—British Make Other Advances—Peronne Now In Danger—Germans Literally Blown Out of Fortifications

By Ed L. Keen,  
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)  
London, Sept. 26.—Combles, key-point of the whole German line from Bapaume to Peronne, has been captured by the British after 18 hours of most furious battling north of the Somme.

General Haig this afternoon announced that British troops entered Combles, overcoming German resistance. The enemy's losses, the official report said, were severe. The British victory, achieved after three weeks of desperate driving against the German center, is the most striking single achievement of the whole Somme offensive.

It removes one of the last two obstacles to an Anglo-French thrust to squeeze the Germans out of Peronne, one of the two objectives of the great allied advance.

The capture of Combles followed a day and night of most brilliant allied successes, including the capture of the village of Morval and Les Boueufs by the British, and Rancourt and Fregicourt by the French. In summing up the day's successful operations, General Haig reported 1,500 Germans were captured by the British and that more prisoners are being brought in. The work of listing large supplies of war materials also captured has not been completed.

Combles fell after thrusts by both British and French in yesterday's fighting drove a noose about the German garrison which made their escape almost impossible. For weeks, the Germans had used the town, with its wonderful system of fortifications, as a pivot point from which to swing attacks, north and south at the allies' lines. In the last month of fighting the British and French lines pressed steadily forward on both sides until the town was in a deep pocket. It was no longer available for the Germans as a pivotal point but it still held out, buttressing the German line and blocking a further allied advance.

The British not only gained this important victory but pressed forward in their drive toward Bapaume last night and early today. A strong redoubt between Les Boueufs and Guerdecourt fell before a British attack.

The French also swept forward again last night carrying Fregicourt village and later repulsing German attacks against positions won yesterday.

The official statement from the German war office this afternoon apparently admits the loss of Combles, as well as the villages of Morval and Les Boueufs, and pays tribute to the bravery of the German defenders.

### Allies All Advance.

London, Sept. 26.—Trapped by the lightning advance of both French and British wings in yesterday's great storming attack, a German force estimated from 2,000 to 3,000 has been surrounded at Combles. Their surrender is believed certain unless Teutonic counter attacks open a wide gap for their retreat.

General Haig's men made one of the most remarkable advances of the whole Somme fighting in yesterday's attack. They stormed the villages of Les Boueufs and Morval, with their intricate systems of defenses and placed their lines northeast of Combles.

The French attacking at about the same hour, completed the capture of Rancourt and pushed on to the outskirts of Fregicourt east, northeast of Combles.

The German defenders of Combles for weeks the main support of the whole German line from Bapaume to Peronne, are caught in a noose and nearly completely encircled. Allied artillery commands the narrow gap—barely a mile wide—over which a few Germans may escape under cover of darkness, but any attempt to retreat by the whole German force must prove disastrous. It is believed here that the Germans withdrew many of their heavy guns before yesterday's allied attack, realizing the hopelessness of their position.

The great attack yesterday carried the British to within easy gun range of Bapaume, one of the objectives of the Somme offensive, for the first time since the drive began. It carried the French to within striking distance of Mt. St. Quentin, whose fall will signal the immediate evacuation of Peronne by the Germans.

The artillery prelude to this sweeping advance was with perhaps one exception the most powerful since the Somme offensive began, where British gunners concentrated their fire, and one German battery after another silenced.

Whether the new British "tank" figured again in yesterday's allied victory as they did in the capture of Martinpuich, Fiers and Courcellette has not yet been made known in dispatches from press headquarters.

### French Advance Unchecked.

Paris, Sept. 26.—French troops captured the village of Fregicourt, a little more than a mile east, northeast of Combles last night, closing still further the Anglo-French noose about the German garrison of Combles.

The war office also announced today that French advance guards penetrated the Combles cemetery while others reached the southern edge of Combles, Southwest of Combles, a German trench

### WETS WON BY THREE

Dawson, Y. T., Sept. 26.—Counter petitions for recounts in the recent prohibition election in Yukon Territory are on file today and will be heard by Judge Macnulty. The election resulted in a victory for the wets by three majorities. The wets then asked for a recount in the White Horse district, where they claim they will gain enough to convert the election into a "dry" victory. The wets thereupon asked for a recount in South Dawson and Bonanza districts.

### SENTENCE DEFERRED IN BILLINGS CASE

#### Judge Dunne Postponed This Until Saturday at Defense's Request

San Francisco, Sept. 26.—Superior Judge Dunne this morning granted the petition of Attorney Maxwell McNutt to defer the sentencing of Warren K. Billings until Saturday.

McNutt asked for the stay of sentence on the ground he has discovered new evidence. He declared he will produce in court the mysterious photograph which he claims is the photograph of the man who went to the roof of the building at 721 Market street shortly before the explosion of the bomb which killed 10 people on July 23.

This is the man, McNutt claims, who was mistaken by some of the state's witnesses for Billings.

### Billings Denies Stories.

San Francisco, Sept. 26.—Facing imprisonment for the preparedness parade bomb murders, Warren K. Billings today began his publicity campaign by issuing a signed statement denying emphatically that he has confessed the crime or has offered to confess.

### TEXAS COUNTY STAYS OUT

Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 26.—This county, with a population of 100,000 remained in the "wet" column today as a result of yesterday's local election by a majority of about 801.

### WEDNESDAY GIVEN TO SHRINERS AND SALEM

#### Al Kader Temple of Portland 400 Strong Will Get Royal Reception

Fairgrounds, Salem, Ore., Sept. 26.—Fully 400 strong and upon a specially chartered train, the nobles of Al Kader Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, will make their annual pilgrimage from Portland to the Oregon State fair, at Salem, to participate in the full day of festivities arranged for their special benefit by Secretary-Manager A. H. Lea and in compliance to whom this great pilgrimage is to be made. Wednesday, September 27, has been designated at the state fair as Shriners' day, and from the time they arrive, about 11 o'clock in the morning, until their special departure at 10:15 p. m., there will be something doing every minute.

The Shriners' special will leave the Union depot, Portland, at 8:40 Wednesday morning and stops will be made at East Morrison street, Oregon City and Woodburn to pick up the wayfaring nobles. A notice sent out by Potentate W. E. G. of Al Kader Temple, commands every noble to come, "bring ladies" and "wear your fez," and, be

### SALEM WELCOMES HER SOLDIER BOYS HOME FROM BORDER

#### Reception Given Them at Armory and "Boys of '61" Were There

With plenty of music and enthusiasm and best of all a wholesome spirit of welcome the members of Company M, of the Third Oregon Infantry, were welcomed back to Salem last night with a reception and banquet at the armory. Mayor H. O. White presented the boys with the keys to the city and Rev. F. T. Porter, in behalf of the Patriotic League, and F. G. Deekobach, of the Cherrians, assured the boys that they would be accepted again as citizens of Salem with an added respect for having shown their willingness to serve their country in time of need.

### BANQUET SURRENDERED TO VIGOROUS ATTACK

The banquet tables were loaded with good things to eat that are not included in the regular army menu and the feed was doubly appreciated by the soldiers in that they had no mess kits to wash at the desert. The banquet was a most enjoyable affair and a myriad of Salem's most winsome young women to wait on the tables the soldiers all realized that while war may be inconvenient, as Sherman said, it is worth several hard campaigns just to be welcomed home again.

### NET IS TIGHTENED ON BLACKMAILERS BY ONE OF VICTIMS

#### Edward R. West Vice President of Tea and Coffee Company Talks

Chicago, Sept. 26.—Edward R. West, vice-president of the C. D. Gregg Tea and Coffee company with offices here and in New York, is the "A. R. Wesley" who was victimized for \$15,000 by the national syndicate of blackmailers, it was definitely learned today.

### SACRIFICES PRIDE FOR PROTECTION OF OTHERS

#### Tells How He Was Worked, Buda Godman Woman in the Case

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### Smiling Faces Told of Happy Hearts—A Memorable Occasion to All

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### THE FIFE AND DRUM CORPS OF THE PORTLAND G. A. R. WAS ON HAND AND THE ROLL OF DRUMS GREETED THE BOYS AS THEIR TRAIN PULLED INTO THE STATION.

### CHICAGO'S BREAD BILL UP \$6,843,000 A YEAR

Chicago, Sept. 26.—The cost of bread in Chicago for a year will jump \$6,843,000 as a result of the proposed increase in prices announced by the bakers effective Thursday. This morning the Ward Baking company, one of the largest Chicago bakeries, carried advertisements in local papers announcing a new price of six cents for the present five cent loaf, to take effect Thursday.

### PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE STANDINGS

Team	W.	L.	Pct.
Los Angeles	99	67	.596
Vernon	99	73	.576
Salt Lake	82	82	.500
Portland	79	80	.497
San Francisco	85	88	.491
Oakland	61	115	.347

### WILSON TO SPEAK OCT. 19

Chicago, Sept. 26.—President Wilson will speak in Chicago October 19, it was announced today at democratic western headquarters.

### BREAD PRICES WILL RAISE

Chicago, Sept. 26.—Bread prices throughout the country will be raised within a month, it was predicted here today following indications that the federal government would not attempt to halt the increase in Chicago.

### EXHIBITS ARE ALL IN PLACE TODAY AT THE BIG FAIR

#### Pavilion Display Surpasses Any Ever Made in the State

### HORSE SHOW 8 O'CLOCK BIG FEATURE TONIGHT

#### Shetland Ponies Attract Little Folks—Fast Ones for Tracks

The second day of the state fair opened a little cool but with increased crowds as the late exhibits are being put into place and the livestock that were delayed in arriving began filling up the stock barns to capacity. The forenoon was devoted mostly to music and the Fernwood band of Yamhill county, the Cherrybush band, and the G. A. R. Veterans' Life and Drum corps rendered concerts in the grove and in the old pavilion. The grizzled veterans with their martial music brought new strains to the customary brass bands and the pioneers who heard the same music in '91 and the younger ones who were attracted by the novelty thronged about the seven veterans who played the luring tunes of the past generation with the dash of younger days.

### COUNTY PROSECUTOR ACCUSED OF MURDER

#### State Claims Oscar McDaniels Beat His Wife to Death in Quarrel

St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 25.—When the fall term of the criminal court opened today, Special Prosecutor Bart Lockwood asked the court to tell the grand jury to hear the charge of wife murder against County Prosecutor Oscar McDaniels, arrested at his home here last night. Lockwood will ask an indictment alleging Mrs. Daniels had threatened divorce and was slain after a quarrel.

### TODAY'S BALL SCORES

Team	R.	H.	E.
St. Louis	1	8	2
New York	6	15	2
Watson, Williams and Snyder; Sallee, Koehler and McCarty.			
Chicago	1	5	1
Brooklyn	4	6	2
McCormack and Wilson; Pfeffer and Meyers.			
Pittsburgh	0	4	2
Boston	3	8	1
Evans and Schmidt; Neft and Gowdy.			
Second game—			
Pittsburgh	1	4	2
Boston	2	7	2
Jacobs and W. Wagner; Allen and Gowdy.			
Cincinnati	2	8	2
Philadelphia	3	7	1
Knetzer and Wingo; Demaree and Killifer.			

### EMPEROR ANSWERS NOTE

Washington, Sept. 26.—Emperor Franz Josef's reply to the president's personal letter urging that a Polish relief agreement be reached between the belligerents, was received at the department today. It was forwarded to Shadow Lawn with seal unbroken.

### THE WEATHER

Oregon: Tonight and Wednesday generally fair, warmer eastward, westerly winds.

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One of the saddest spectacles of the times is the little, slender, painted girl of 14 or 15. Some folks go like 60 and some like 300, f. o. b.

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(Continued on Page Three.)