

Want-ad
Night Service
to 10 p. m.
Tyler 1000

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER
Unsettled

VOL. XLVI.—NO. 266.

OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 25, 1917—TWELVE PAGES.

On Train, at Hotel,
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GERMANY TO MODIFY U-BOAT POLICY; REPORT MAYFLOWER CARRIES FRENCH PARTY TO WASHINGTON

GERMANS RESIST HAIG'S RUSH WITH ALL THEIR POWER

Teutons Making Supreme Effort to Hold Hastily Organized Position East of Arras.

BRITISH POUNDING AWAY
Head of First Salient is Thrust to Within Four Miles of Vitry.

FRENCH BIG GUNS ACTIVE

(From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.)
British Headquarters in France, April 24.—(Via London)—The resistance of the German armies appears to increase, in accordance with the nearness of the British approach to the Hindenburg positions. This is particularly true along the present front, where the threat is against the Drocourt-Queant switch line, which is depended upon by the Germans as the connecting link between their lines north of St. Quentin and south of Lille.

This is the switch toward which the Germans are falling back slowly, but surely as a result of the turning of the top of the original Hindenburg line, running from just southeast of Arras toward Queant.

Teutons Resist Desperately.
The Germans are putting forth a supreme effort to hold this vital portion of their defenses, the crumbling of which would expose Douai and Cambrai and bring into prospect another great retreat.

The British have driven two wedges into the German positions, forming sharp salients in the region of the Scarpe river and north of the Bapaume-Cambrai road. The head of the first salient has been thrust within four miles of Vitry, the most important point on the Wotan line, but the tenacity and power with which the Germans are fighting leaves the issue for a time in doubt.

German Strike Suppressed.
The little news that trickles across the German frontier indicates that the authorities have gained the upper hand in the strike situation by the drastic method of militarizing the munition industry and forcing strike leaders into the fighting ranks.

French Official Report.
Paris, April 24.—The artillery was very active last night in the vicinity of Hurbise, in the Fouton valley and near Craonne, says today's official announcement. French patrols took prisoners.

Two German attacks during the night were repulsed. In the Champagne there was grenade fighting.

German Official Report.
Berlin, April 24 (Via London)—Only on the Cambrai-Arras road did the British gain ground yesterday, says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff. The ruins of Guemappes remained in the hands of the British.

An attempt by the British to break through the German line near Arras, the statement adds, failed with tremendous losses.

England Will Be Placed on Bread Rations in Short Time

London, April 24.—England will shortly be placed on bread rations, it is understood.

It is generally conceded that the bread problem is the crux of the whole situation for it is upon bread that the working class depend.

The Weather

For Nebraska—Unsettled; showers and partial clearing west portion.

Hour	Temp.
6 a. m.	42
7 a. m.	42
8 a. m.	42
9 a. m.	42
10 a. m.	42
11 a. m.	42
12 m.	42
1 p. m.	42
2 p. m.	42
3 p. m.	42
4 p. m.	42
5 p. m.	42
6 p. m.	42
7 p. m.	42
8 p. m.	42
9 p. m.	42
10 p. m.	42
11 p. m.	42
12 m.	42

Comparative Local Record.

Year	High	Low	Wind
1917	52	32	174
1916	52	32	174
1915	52	32	174
1914	52	32	174
1913	52	32	174
1912	52	32	174
1911	52	32	174
1910	52	32	174
1909	52	32	174
1908	52	32	174
1907	52	32	174
1906	52	32	174
1905	52	32	174
1904	52	32	174
1903	52	32	174
1902	52	32	174
1901	52	32	174
1900	52	32	174

PREPARE TO MEET ALFALFA SHORTAGE

Circulars, to Be Distributed Among Farmers, Will Suggest Substitutes.

COMMERCIAL CLUB ACTS

With the alfalfa crop throughout Nebraska largely winter killed, business men in Omaha and throughout Nebraska will use mailing lists to distribute among the farmers a circular now being prepared by the College of Agriculture of the University of Nebraska, telling what may be substituted.

A meeting held at the Commercial club rooms in Omaha yesterday developed that the alfalfa crop throughout most of the state is from one-third to 90 per cent killed.

F. J. Farrington, president of the Omaha Hay exchange, presided.

Prof. Burr and Prof. Keim of the University of Nebraska spoke on the conditions the university experts have found. F. J. Farrington said on his own patch of thirty-three acres of alfalfa on the west Dodge road he found a few sprouts a few weeks ago, but now finds that even these are dead. He had expected to pasture about 200 hogs on this field this summer.

Crop in Bad Shape.
Chairman Farrington read letters from farmers and business men from all over the state, showing the condition of the alfalfa crop to be in very bad shape. These letters were from Hastings, Fairbury, Coleridge, Laurel, Genoa, Stromsburg and other towns in all sections of the state.

Prof. Burr said he would recommend that farmers seed the ground to another crop or millet and at the same time seed down other fields with alfalfa, in order that next year the alfalfa acreage could again be normal.

"My first choice would be millet," he said, "and next millet. Millet is not a very good hay, but it is much better than nothing, and it yields well. Cane is very good, and will yield exceptionally heavy. Rape and many other kinds of rough feed were mentioned.

Farmers Are Puzzled.
Prof. Burr said the farmer ordinarily knows what to do in emergencies of this kind, especially when wheat fails, for he immediately plants corn instead.

"Now, however," he said, "the alfalfa has gone back on him the farmer is puzzled." He pointed out how serious would be the situation next fall and winter, if from shortage of hay and rough feed, the farmers over the state would be forced to sell their young live stock off short.

Representatives of the Hay exchange, Grain exchange, implement men, Commercial club men, creamery men and the Live Stock exchange attended the meeting.

The bulletin, which the university people will complete within forty-eight hours for distribution, will show in tabular form the various rough feeds that can be raised, the amount of seed to be sown to the acre, the time of seeding and the crop that may be expected under normal conditions.

Chinese Waiter Can Tell How Some Folks Beat H. C. L.

Tom Jim, a Chinese waiter employed in the King Joy cafe, insisted that H. C. Polian, 2420 South Thirty-second avenue, and M. E. Smith, 3819 South Twenty-fourth street, pay for meals which they had just eaten. He was nursing a swollen eye and a badly bruised chin as he told police that the two diners objected strenuously to his suggestion that they pay for the food. The case was continued until Wednesday.

American News Writers Asked to Quit Germany

London, April 24.—The German foreign office has notified the American correspondents who have remained in Berlin that their presence in Germany is no longer desirable, according to the Exchange Telegraph correspondent at The Hague. The American newspaper men, it is added, have therefore decided to leave for Switzerland or Scandinavia.

Ship Carrying Gallic Commission Crosses War Zone With Lights Out

Ship Makes Eighteen Knots an Hour Before the Wind on First Night Out.

Democracy On the March in Germany

Amsterdam (Via London), April 24.—The General Anzeiger of Dusseldorf publishes a dispatch that at a reception to foreign journalists in Berlin "the most reassuring declarations" were given concerning the democratic character of the new orientation, as evidenced by proposed legislation. In fact, it was said, "democracy is on the march."

Regarding Germany's war aims it was declared that "the world will be astonished by the moderation of the German peace terms."

English Almost Fanatical Over Universal Service, Says General Bridges.

Washington, April 24.—Lieutenant General Bridges, a member of the British commission, declared today in a talk with newspaper correspondents that the British democracy had become "almost fanatical" over universal military service.

The volunteer system under which the empire entered the war, General Bridges said, cost the lives of the most valuable citizens and crippled industrial mobilization.

"War," said General Bridges, "now has become an immensely democratic business; needs the full effort of every member of the community. Men, women and children are equally drawn into its vortex, the women and children being forced into industrial lines, fed on half rations to supply the men at the front."

Officers Big Problem.
General Bridges talked of the difficulties which had beset England at the beginning of the war.

"The source of our greatest difficulty," he declared, "was the sending to Europe of practically our whole trained army as an expeditionary force. This robbed us of all training officers and it was only through returned wounded officers and the withdrawal of others that we were able to build the skeleton for our new forces. At the same time we allowed most of our better class youths, university men in many cases, to enter the ranks, which withdrew them from the officers' class and placed that responsibility on far less well equipped persons. The wastage of the best blood of the nation was enormous."

"It is my opinion that if it had not been for Kitchener's immense personality we should have had conscription within a few months. If Lord Roberts' proposal for universal service had been enforced we should have saved enormously, not only in men, but in industrial efficiency."

General Bridges estimated eight months as the necessary time to train a division. Individual recruits, however, may be made fit to go to the front in a short space of eleven weeks, provided they are distributed in proportions of fifty amongst 200 trained men.

"Artillery must be in great preponderance," the general said, "before an attack can be initiated. The bayonet, however, is still essential. I should estimate that the present successes on the western front are due to a British preponderance over the German artillery of at least three or four to one. There is absolutely no doubt as to the outcome of the war; the only question is as to its length."

Stock Exchange Men To Do Important Work

London, April 24.—Announcement was made today that the stock exchange will be closed Saturdays until further notice to permit members and employees to take up work of national importance.

Russia Modifies Rules for Sale of Alcoholic Drinks

Petrograd, April 24.—(Via London).—The provision government has modified the rules governing the sales of alcoholic drinks by the introduction of the following regulations:

First—The sale of alcoholic drinks containing a percentage of alcohol in excess of one and a half degrees is prohibited throughout Russia.

Second—Export to foreign countries of grape wines of every kind is permitted regardless of their percentage of alcohol.

Third—In wine-growing districts the sale of wines produced locally and not containing a percentage of alcohol in excess of twelve degrees is permitted. Sales of these wines outside of the wine-growing districts is permitted only in towns and may be prohibited by the municipal authorities.

Predicts Three More Republics in Europe

London, April 24.—At a conference of journalists representing the European neutral countries consideration was given to the effect of the Russian revolution.

One speaker expressed the belief that republics would be set up before the end of the war in Sweden, Greece and Spain.

NEUTRALS HEAR RUTHLESS DIVERS WILL BE CURBED

Norwegian Press Informed That Imperial Government Is Ready to Make Radical Changes.

SPAIN DISPATCHES NOTE

Madrid Communication Outlines Nature of Concessions Expected of Kaiser.

DRAWN BY EX-PREMIER

Christiana, April 24.—(Via London).—The Norges Handels Siofarstidene says that as a result of reports by German ministers and consuls in neutral countries to German government, the latter probably will draft new regulation governing the ruthless submarine war upon neutral shipping.

Spain, the newspaper adds, already has outlined concession it expects.

Note Received in Berlin.
Amsterdam (Via London), April 24.—Allerlei dispatch to the Cologne Gazette says the Spanish note has been received in Berlin. The note repeats the demands that men and ships be spared.

Commenting on the note the dispatch says the fact must not be overlooked that it was drawn by Count Romanones, who is no longer at the head of the Spanish government.

Go To Berlin for Conference.
Copenhagen (Via London), April 24.—The National Tidende says it learns that the German ministers in neutral states, including Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, minister to Denmark, have gone to Berlin to participate in a conference of the Bundesrat on questions connected with Germany's submarine warfare.

Furnish 100 Army Reserve Officers

At least 100 Omaha young men are expected to become officers in the first army of 500,000 men to be raised this summer.

Colonel Edwin A. Root, U. S. A., arrived in Omaha Tuesday and has opened offices in the army building. He will take charge of local preparations and conduct examinations of applicants for the reserve officers' corps and the Fort Snelling training camp.

Ten thousand officers will be needed for the first army of 500,000 men," said Colonel Root. "Two thousand five hundred of these officers will be trained at Fort Snelling during May, June and July. Several hundred of them should come from Nebraska, and at least 100 from Omaha."

Intelligent, sober, men, between the ages of 20 years, 9 months and 44 years, are eligible to attend the training camp and take examinations for commissions in the big army. They must have good character and standing in their communities, with personality, force and address suitable them to be officers, and with ability to handle men. Transportation, uniforms, equipment, subsistence and instruction will be furnished at government expense.

Germans in Lower Brazilian States Organize Revolt

Rio Janeiro, April 24.—Telegrams received here from Parana confirm reports that the Germans in southern Brazilian states are concentrating in the state of Santa Catharina.

It is believed a German insurrection in the south is imminent.

Ship Carrying Gallic Commission Crosses War Zone With Lights Out

Ship Makes Eighteen Knots an Hour Before the Wind on First Night Out.

CONVOY PRECEDES VESSEL

Washington, April 24.—The Associated Press correspondent who accompanied the party from France sends the following dispatch from the port of arrival:

As the ship bearing the French commission came into port today American warships broke out French colors from their mastsheads and American bands played the French national anthem. American and French sailors lined the rails of their respective ships. No salutes were fired.

The special train bearing the mission slipped out of Paris in the early morning observed only by a few secret service agents and railway men. The transfer from train to ship was

Joseph Jacques C. Joffre, Noted Member of French Mission



Famous Marshal of France and Former Commander-in-Chief, Who Comes to Advise U. S. Army Officers in the Art of War

NO GRAIN CORNER IN OMAHA MARKET

Heavy Demand from Millers and Housewives' Flour Panic Behind Inflated Values.

WILL NOT ADVANCE TO \$5

In spite of the erratic condition of the Omaha grain market, members of the Grain exchange assert that there is no corner in wheat, corn or oats for May delivery. They further declare there is no manipulation in cash grain or futures.

In support of their contention they say present high prices are due to these causes:

The visible supply of grain in the United States is the lowest in year. Records show—

Wheat, 30,257,000, as against 50,889,000 bushels one year ago; corn, 9,506,000, as against 23,214,000 bushels one year ago.

Ocean clearances on grain Monday aggregated 977,000 bushels, as against 835,000 one year ago.

Housewives and a good many of the men have become panic-stricken, fearing that they may not be able to buy flour in the future and are laying in supplies of ten to twenty-five sacks, whereas formerly they purchased in fifty-pound lots.

No Corner in May.
That there is no corner in May wheat, so far as Omaha transactions are concerned, they say is evidenced by the fact that while Tuesday the May option sold up to \$2.45 1/2 @ 2.51, the same option sold to \$2.52 1/2 @ \$2.54 @ 2.50 1/2 in Kansas City and \$2.41 @ 2.40 in Chicago.

While corn for May delivery was selling at \$1.37 @ 1.40 on the floor of the Omaha Grain exchange the same option sold at \$1.43 1/2 in Kansas City, \$1.43 in St. Louis, and \$1.35 @ 1.43 in Chicago.

Wheat stocks in storage in Omaha elevators are the lowest in years, being 226,000, as against 1,082,000 in the corresponding date last year.

That stocks, even with high prices prevailing, will not show any material increase until another crop is ready for market is the unanimous opinion of the grain men. They assert their survey shows that not to exceed 15 per cent of last year's wheat crop is in the hands of the farmers and not more than 30 per cent of the corn. While they don't talk famine, they assert that there must be conservation of all grain foodstuffs.

To show that the supplies in port hands are decreasing, local grain dealers produce figures showing receipts at the principal grain markets of the country today and one year ago. They are:

Wheat—Omaha, Tuesday, 11 cars, and one year ago, 66; Chicago, today, 118 carloads, and one year ago, 384; Kansas City, 71, and one year ago, 93.

Corn—Omaha, Tuesday, 24 carloads, and one year ago, 76; Chicago, Tuesday, 211 carloads and one year ago, 286; Kansas City, Tuesday, 35 carloads, and one year ago, 73.

Jardine Wants Trucks Supplied With Mattresses

"Automobile trucks should be equipped with mattresses as safety first protection for pedestrians who get in the way of these vehicles," was a suggestion offered by City Commissioner Jardine.

The commissioner's interest was aroused when the city clerk read to the council a communication from Hannah Davis of 1514 North Twenty-eighth street, asking for \$10,000 for injuries suffered when a city truck was driven over her on a downtown sidewalk.

LEGISLATURE ENDS ITS LONGEST SESSION

Capitol Fight Settled by Appropriating \$65,000 for Repairs.

GOVERNOR YET MAY VETO

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
Lincoln, April 24.—(Special Telegram)—The Nebraska legislature adjourned today at 5 o'clock. Records show the session the longest ever held in the state. It convened January 2.

It settled the fight over the new capitol building by appropriating a lump sum of \$65,000 for repairs without specifying how the money shall be used.

Sixty-nine members of the house were present today and twenty-seven in the senate.

The big claims bill was the last of the important bills to be considered.

State Treasurer George Hall got his \$335 claim for attorney's fees involved in the suit over the retention of fees by the fire commissioner's department.

The maintenance bill held back because of the appropriation for repairs for the state house, was finally agreed to by appropriating a lump sum of \$65,000 for repairs. The items had been formerly reported as \$50,000 for repairing the east wing, \$10,000 for incidental expenses and \$10,000 for the legislative chambers, but it was understood the governor would veto the item for repairs for the east wing.

The committee then put the whole sum in one item under repairs. It is rumored the governor will not approve the apportionment as it stands.

Thirty Million Eggs Held On Side-Tracks at Chicago

Chicago, April 24.—According to Herbert A. Emerson, who has been to the Pacific coast investigating food conditions for John J. Dillon, commissioner of the state of New York, there are between 30,000,000 and 36,000,000 eggs on the tracks in Chicago held by speculators to keep up high prices.

Mr. Emerson said that the Pacific coast states this year, instead of importing eggs as they have done generally, will have a surplus of 75,000 to 100,000 cases to sell.

Mr. Emerson said he had no evidence of an "egg trust," but said he is sure there is a "mighty close understanding" between the big dealers and was confident an investigation would cause a break in prices.

"The butter situation is a parallel," he said. "The Pacific coast this year will be able to ship east a surplus of 150 cars of butter, 24,000 pounds to the car. Four years ago the coast imported 200 cars."

Old Man's Quick Change Wins Liberty in Court

John Maher, 201 North Ninth street, was in court Tuesday on the charge of stealing coal. He is 70 years old and wears a long beard. In the course of several alibis, he announced that he had fought for the north in the civil war. Somebody slipped him a tip that Police Judge Madden was a southerner and Mr. Maher promptly declared that he had fought with General Lee against the Yankees.

"God bless you, my children," said the versatile veteran when court announced that he was free.

JOFFRE AND HIS PARTY ARRIVE IN CAPITAL AT NOON

Commission, Which is Conveyed by Warship, is Met Off Coast of America by Destroyers.

HEADED BY M. VIVIANI

Second Member Is Former Marshal, Who Will Advise Officials of Big Problems.

GRANDSON OF LAFAYETTE

Washington, April 24.—The French commission will arrive in Washington at noon tomorrow on board the presidential yacht Mayflower from Hampton Roads.

This communication was authorized tonight by the government.

The commission, which includes Marshal Joffre and former Premier Viviani, arrived early this morning on board a speedy steamship of the French line, which was conveyed across the Atlantic.

The vessels were met off the coast by American torpedo boat destroyers and escorted into port.

The naval and military attaches of the French embassy at Washington and American naval and military officers, together with a representative of the State department, immediately boarded the French vessel and extended a welcome to American shores.

Later, the State department issued this further statement:

"The Department of State is advised that the French mission will reach Washington tomorrow morning. The precise time and place of arrival will be announced later."

Viviani Heads Party.
At the head of the mission is Rene Viviani, minister of justice and vice president of the council of ministers, who embodies the highest type of French democracy. He is a progressive in every sense, belonging to the independent socialist party, which includes such men as Poincare, Briand and Millerand. As minister of labor in the Clemenceau cabinet he passed the workers' pension law through Parliament.

Other members of the party are: Marshal Joseph Jacques Cesaire Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French armies until last December, now military adviser of the government; Vice Admiral P. L. A. Chocheprat, dean of French admirals and an expert on submarine problems; Marquis Pierre de Chambrun, member of the Chamber of Deputies and a student of international affairs; M. Simon, inspector of finance; M. Hovelacque, inspector general of public instruction, and Surgeon Major Dreyfus.

Viviani was born at Sidi-Bel-Abbes, in Algeria, November 8, 1862, and was admitted to practice law before the court of appeals at Paris in 1887. His socialistic tendencies early manifested themselves and he became counsel of the railway workmen and employees. Elected to the Chamber of Deputies in 1893 and again in 1898, and re-elected in 1906, he has maintained his membership ever since.

On June 14, 1914, Viviani succeeded Gaston Berryer as president of the council of ministers and minister of foreign affairs. In that dual capacity he accompanied President Poincare on a special occasion to Russia and only four days after their return to Paris war was declared on France by Germany. It was primarily because Viviani was a member of President Poincare's cabinet when the war broke out that he has been retained.

The French people felt that to permit him to retire might be construed as evidence of their disapproval of France's entry into the war. Besides, there was the personal popularity of the man himself.

Joffre's Distinguished Career.
Marshal Joffre is the only man in France since the close of the Franco-Prussian war in 1870 who has been authorized to bear the illustrious title of marshal of France, and this distinction was conferred on him by unanimous action of the French chamber in recognition of his splendid services as a military leader in what probably was the most critical moment in French history. His officers and soldiers, however, scarcely know him by his distinguished title; to them he has been "Our Joffre" or "Grandpa" since he led them to victory on the Marne and finally turned the tide of German invasion.

Joffre was commander-in-chief of the French army at the beginning of the war and he remained in that honor until December last, when he gave place to General Nivelle, to become marshal and military adviser of the government.

Will Aid U. S. War Department.

In responding to the call of active duty his services are placed at the disposal of the American people, whom he comes to advise in the best way of organizing, disciplining, equipping and perhaps transporting to Europe the greatest army which the country has ever called into being.

The marshal was born in 1852 at Rivesaltes in the Pyrenees of parents in the middle station of life. At 17

(Continued on Page Two, Column One.)