

# LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER.

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## HILGARD SCENE OF MURDER

### John Chesser Kills A Man by the Name of Webster Then Kills Himself

Last evening coroner James O Henry received word to immediately visit the logging camp No. 4 about 13 miles up the river from Hilgard operated by Messrs Edmund & Langley that as a result of a quarrel two men were killed.

Mr Henry took with him Wm Grant and H Kirtley and two others and left this morning for the camp at 2 o'clock. As the distance is about 25 miles from this city and being his intention to bring the bodies back with him after holding the examination. It will necessarily be late this evening before he will return and the actual facts can be obtained. There are many rumors about but no one has been in the city who was there at the time the tragedy occurred.

Hilgard being nearer the scene we received a phone message from here which gives the following account:

James Chesser who is foreman of the camp became involved in a dispute over a small money matter and was shot and instantly killed while working in the same camp as the name of Webster.

After the shooting, Chesser went out in the timber a short distance and another shot was heard. A number of the men went to the place from which the shot was heard and found Chesser breathing his last and he died in a few seconds after the parties found him, having taken his own life.

There are several men from up the river in the city who know Chesser well. He came here about three years

ago from Michigan and took up a timber claim on Catherine creek above Union which he afterwards disposed of and went to work in the logging camps for the Grande Ronde Lumber Co and for the past two years had been foreman of one of the driving crews. He is about 35 years of age unmarried and has no relatives in this section. He was a good steady workman unless the influence of liquor being chased by those who knew him as a periodical drinker during which times he was very excitable.

Little at this hour can be found out regarding Webster, aside from the fact that he was a single man about 30 years of age.

There are several reports to the effect that there is a woman mixed up in the difficulty, that both men were paying attention to a young woman who is assisting in the cooking. Some of the reports going so far that Chesser first fired at the young woman then shot Webster and then killed himself.

#### LATER REPORT

About noon a man arrived in Peoria from the camp and corrected the report we received from Hilgard that foreman Chesser and Webster had a quarrel standing over Webster's time and there is nothing to the report with reference to the young lady.

#### Discuss Fair Exhibit

Members of the Pendleton Commercial Association, the county court and Dr A L Roy, of the Oregon Information Bureau, met at 4 o'clock for the purpose of discussing an appropriation for a Umatilla county exhibit at the Lewis and Clark fair. An attempt will be made to secure an appropriation from the county for this purpose.—East Oregonian

#### Ranger Burned Out

The office of the Long Creek Ranger was burned last Monday night, completely destroying the building and contents. A blacksmith shop on one side and an undertaking establishment on the other side were also burned. This is the same office (with the same proprietor, Charles E. Coe,) that was dynamited last year. Messrs Clark and Kuhn, of Pendleton, were in Long Creek the day following the fire, which is best described as being undoubtedly of incendiary origin.

## THEN AND NOW

### George H. Himes, One of Oregon's Foremost Pioneers notes change of 50 Years

A representative of the Oregon Historical Society, Mr George H Himes, assistant secretary, arrived in La Grande last evening, on his way westward from Baker City, where he has been for three or four days gathering historical data. Mr Himes observes a vast change in this eastern Oregon country as compared with what he remembers when first passing through this region a little more than fifty one years ago. Then a wilderness, only peopled by wild Indians; now a happy, prosperous, energetic and contented people, with evidences abounding on every hand of the best type of American citizenship. The changes for the better in La Grande since Mr Himes was here four years ago have been very marked, and he considers that this city has entered upon an era of prosperity and growth such as the residents here can scarcely conceive of. Not only that but he believes the entire state is on the eve of a radical change for the better in every respect. The people of the whole state should unite, and he believes they will, in a forward movement for "Greater Oregon." The people of the eastern side of the Rocky mountains are inquiring about "the Oregon country"—the original Oregon territory—bounded on the west by the Pacific ocean, Rocky mountains on the east, 42nd parallel on the south and the 49th on the north, as never before. Without disparaging any other part of United States, he contends that no fairer portion of the national domain exists, or can contribute, to a larger extent, to the welfare of the human race, than our own Oregon; and the Grande Ronde is the peer of the best.

The work of the Historical Society, of which Mr Himes is the active field worker, should be better known to the citizens of the state. Its business is to discover the sources of every phase of human endeavor and record the same in a connected and coherent form for the benefit of the present and future generations. Thus the historical work will become of transcendent importance as a factor in the proper education of the people.

Mr Himes extends a most cordial and earnest invitation to every citizen of this community to visit the rooms of the Society in the city hall, Portland, whenever they have occasion to visit that city, with the assurance that they will find much to interest them.

The average number of visitors per month since the historical rooms were opened to the public four years ago last December has been not less than two thousand, and of these fully one third have been thirty five to forty states outside Oregon. This knowledge about all parts of Oregon is being disseminated to some degree throughout the entire country.

## OSTEOPATHY WITH- OUT VARIATIONS

In the early days of osteopathy, some of those who were weak in the faith, but honest at heart, were fearful of the future of the science unless it was supported and strengthened by adjuncts and side issues, such as hydrotherapy, electricity, etc. But their fears were groundless, as osteopathy kept right on growing without them and has now reached the stage in its development where it keeps on growing in a line of them.

## O R & N IMPROVEMENTS

It transpires on good authority that the reconstruction plans of the O R & N Company begun two years ago by President Mohler and now being continued by General Manager E E Calvin, have been so enlarged as to include change of line near Coyote, where a cutoff will be built which will reduce the mileage very materially, take out curves, and enable the management to make a great saving in time; this cut-off will extend beyond Umatilla and to a point near Echo.

Another set of curves will be cut out just this side of Hood River and the only obstructing grade out of The Dalles will be reduced. Ballasting of the lines is proceeding with vigor on the division east of here, and new rail will be put in the line where they have not yet been laid. It is Mr Calvin's intention to make the main line between Huntington and Portland as solid as the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad.

Most of the track is now in as good a condition as an Eastern trunk line. As fast as the ballasting is put in it is lined up evenly so that it presents the same handsome appearance as an Eastern roadbed. With better track comes better time for freight and passenger trains.

### Farmers Statement

La Grande, Oregon, Oct 29 1904  
Editor Observer:  
Dear Sir;

In response to your request that I give you some facts and figures as to the amount that can be produced on an acre of land in one vicinity will say this has been an off year in most all kinds of crops, yet I harvested over 20 tons of alfalfa hay from 3 acres or 6 2/3 tons per acre. From one acre of onions I harvested 430 sacks 100 bush or 43 000. A P Davis who lives just across the street from us has just finished harvesting his carrot crop of two acres which yielded 50 tons or 25 tons per acre we have just begun digging our potatoes so cannot say what the yield will be we have just dug one hill containing one hundred and ten potatoes not counting the least ones.

Yours  
John W McAllister.

A C Cleaver Engineer Brown and Mr C E Jennings of the Eastern Oregon Development Co, better known as the Electric Railroad which proposes to encircle the valley are at the Foley House. The gentlemen have nothing new to the public at this time but their general appearance cannot but impress anyone but what everything is coming their way.

## BETTER THAN DEFEAT

### Gen Stoessel Bids Em- peror Goodbye and Says Port Arthur will Be his Grave

(Special to the Observer)

Shanghai, Oct. 29.—A private letter from Port Arthur, dated October 21, has been received here today which says:

"General Stoessel wired the emperor and court recently, 'I now bid you all good bye forever. Port Arthur is my grave.'"

General Stoessel has imbued the garrison of the beleaguered fortress with the spirit that to count a glorious death is preferable to capitulation. Japanese shells are inflicting great damage on the Russian fleet and fortifications and the arsenal with its contents of ammunition and small arms has been destroyed. Preparations are being made for the last deadly struggle in close quarters. The water supply is cut off and wells are being sunk. Only tinneed meats are left and the soldiers hold gala feasts on the horses killed by shells. Field and naval hospitals are crowded and hygienic conditions are becoming desperate. The bombardment at times is so incessant that it is impossible to bury the dead to any depth. Over half the original garrison is dead, wounded or sick. The new town has been practically destroyed by the high angle fire and the besiegers are pressing closer daily. It is hard to say how long we can hold out. When the end comes there will be a desperate fight and a surprise.

Thousands of the enemy will perish as everything is mined."

### Artesian Well

Mr. Thomas McConnell reports that the parties who are sinking an artesian well on his land about seven miles east of this city have released the tools that were left in the well last spring when they suspended operations at a depth of 50 feet and are now sinking deeper. They have 250 feet of casing but hope to strike a permanent flow before attaining a depth of 750 feet. However, Mr. McConnell is determined to know whether it is practical or possible to obtain artesian water in this valley.

## NO SUCH SNAKES HERE

J E Jones has received a letter from his mother, who resides in Lucas county, Iowa, containing news of a singular death dealing reptile which has startled and terrified the people of that county. It is found in cabbage, and is about 17 inches long, with a body as fine as No. 8 sewing thread.

When the snake or worm is chopped up with the cabbage and eaten in soup, or otherwise, it means certain and instant death to the victim. Two people died suddenly at Columbus from this cause, and the frightened populace is throwing hundreds of barrels of manure away. One of the worms is exhibited at the office of the Union, published at Albion, Iowa.—Weston Leader.

## Ex-GOVERNOR NASH DEAD

Columbus, Oct. 29.—Ex-Governor Nash dropped dead in his bath room at 11 o'clock this morning. He had a trouble of long standing was the cause of his death. The ex-governor has declined rapidly since he retired from the executive office last January. He was a widower and lived with his step daughter.

## A Store With A Record.

business has increased FIVE FOLD. In other words our business has made a great deal more rapid increase than the town has. There are dozen of reasons for this all of which you will perceive if you begin buying drug store goods of us. In the first place we had a thorough training for pharmacy. In the second place we had exceptional opportunities for learning the practical side of pharmacy in a successful drug store of the highest standing. In the third place we have kept our eyes open and attended to business until we know the demands of the people of this town.

We have been doing business in this town for 5 years. In that time the town has nearly doubled in population. During the same time our

A. T. HILL,  
Prescription Druggist La Grande, Ore.

## Heavy Team Harness

Is our specialty. We know how to make good harness and we make good harness. Call and see the kind we recommend for logging.

ROES—The finest assortment of winter robes in the county. We carry everything which should be found in a first class harness store.

E. CHRISTOFFERSON

Harness and Saddles  
La Grande, Ore.



## When Your Boy Needs Clothes

You think too much of your boy and his appearance to say "anything will do;" you think too much of your pocket book to waste money on cheap clothing. In the TWENTIETH CENTURY Clothing, which we offer for your close inspection there is nothing slighted but the price. We do not offer you something, but we will convince you that you can get more value for your money than in any other make of boys clothing.

**\$1.50** Boys two piece suits, ages from 8 to 14 at \$1.50. They are values, you will say so if you will come in and see them.

Boys Norfolk suits, belt effect 3 to 12 years at 2 25 3 00, 3 50, 4 00, 5 00 and 6 00. You can't afford to to buy elsewhere till you see our line of boys, youths and men's clothing.

We also have M. Born & Co's line of made to measure samples. We have had fifteen years experience in taking measures and handling tailor made agency business and guarantee a fit. Let us show you our samples. We do not charge express on suits made to measure.

The La Grande Cash Store.