

# LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER.

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## WILLAMETTE RIVER CANAL AND LOCKS

Report of Engineers to Effect that New Locks Will Not Interfere with Manufacturing Interests

Washington, Dec. 13.—The secretary of war transmitted to congress the report of the board of engineers relative to the Willamette river improvements. It is to the effect that the acquisition of a canal and locks for the construction of a new canal and locks for the purpose of supplying power electricity to factories will not interfere with manufacturing enterprises.

other business  
A report was also transmitted from the department of justice on the legal features of constructing the canal and locks. It states that the damage to private individuals would be only the value of the lands taken and that the amount of the damages could readily be determined by condemnation proceedings.

The proposed diversion wall to separate navigation from the power canal also says will not interfere with

This it is believed will make possible a disposition of the case satisfactory to all concerned.

## FOR SEA LEVEL PANAMA CANAL

With the return to Washington of the members of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce a new and radical change in the plans for building the Panama Canal has become a topic of serious discussion. This change contemplates the construction of a sea level waterway in place of the lock and dam canal authorized by Congress.

The members of the committee after a personal inspection of the canal route are all impressed with the sea level project, and in this Senator Kittredge, of South Dakota, who accompanied them, does not differ from them.

While no one knows how much more the sea level canal will cost than a lock and dam canal, a rough estimate that something like \$100,000,000 additional will be required has been made.

## PIONEER TO HAVE OPERATION

J. J. Failing, who was thrown from a carriage several months ago and sustained a fracture of the left thigh bone is undergoing an operation at St. Anthony's hospital this afternoon for the amputation of the leg. Drs. Smith, Cole, Henderson, Ringo and Dick are in attendance. The condition of the patient and his extreme age make the operation a very dangerous one, and hope for his recovery is not very strong.

The patient is nearly 80 years of age. He is a pioneer of Pendleton. Soon after the accident last spring he was taken to Portland for treatment and was in a hospital there until a month ago, when he was brought home.—E. O.

## BIDS TO BE OPENED

Committee for Building Portage Road asks for Bids.

Portland, Dec. 13.—Official notice will be published tomorrow asking for bids for building the portage road. A meeting of the executive committee of the Open River association, at which President J. C. Smith, Secretary W. J. Murriner, Henry Hahn and other members were present, passed a resolution committing the association to this course and the state portage board is in entire accord with the action taken.

Sealed bids will be asked for within the next 10 days for grading, constructing and equipping the road. The length of the road is to be about eight and a half miles, extending from a point near Soufert's fishery to the big eddy below the rapids in the Columbia river at Celilo. The Open River executive committee has received assurances that there will be no trouble in raising all the money that may be needed to push the project through to completion. Work of raising the necessary amount in excess of the \$152,000 remaining of the state appropriation is going forward. When the time arrives for closing final contracts the committee will be ready to assume its share of the financial responsibilities.

## Killed Two Men

Los Angeles, Dec. 13.—John McClure, aged 60 years, in a dispute over a 25 cent halter this morning, killed J. Shea and S. Psodicoff, employees of a livery stable. He shot the latter and when the former grabbed him a desperate conflict ensued. Shea was stabbed 10 times with a dirk. The murderer gave himself up to a policeman.

## LAND FRAUD CASES

Plea of Former Jeopardy Entered by Attorney for Defendants

Portland, Dec. 12.—On the plea of a prior trial for the same offense, the attorneys for defendants in the land fraud cases are making an effort this afternoon in the United States district court to prevent the government from bringing to trial the case set for tomorrow. The plea is being argued before Judge Bellinger.

The defendants in the case to be tried tomorrow are S. A. D. Puter, Horace G. McKinlay, Emma L. Watson, Marie L. Ware and Guy Huff. The plea is made in behalf of the first four only of the five defendants, Huff not having been a party to the former trial. Judge O'Day contends that the conspiracy charged in the second indictment, which is the basis of the case set for tomorrow, is the same conspiracy for which they were recently tried, and that they cannot be placed in jeopardy a second time for the same offense.

The government's attorneys insist that there is no merit in the plea and that the frauds covered by the second indictment constitute a separate and distinct conspiracy.

In the hope of obtaining additional information which would have been of great value both in this and in subsequent cases, the government's attorneys subpoenaed Senator Mitchell and Congressman Hermann as witnesses, but both have refused to come. Both of them addressed telegrams to Judge Bellinger in which they stated that owing to the pressure of public business at Washington of great importance to this state, they would be unable to respond to the subpoenas.

## TAKES SHORT ROUTE

Commits Suicids by the Use of a Revolver.

Portland, Dec. 13.—Placing the muzzle of a revolver in his mouth, Marion C. Olsen, a hack driver, in the employ of the United Carriage company, at 3 o'clock this morning sent a bullet into his brain. He fell dead on the sidewalk in front of the Federal building on Morrison street.

Patrolman Fones heard the report of the revolver and hurried to the spot and found Olsen lying in a pool of blood. Coroner Finley was notified and removed the body to the morgue.

Olsen had been in the employ of the carriage company for years and was popular not only among his associates but with those whom on account of his avocation he met frequently. He was a law-abiding man and was not given to the use of intoxicants to excess, though he had been drinking freely for the last week on account of despondency. He had a number of troubles to which he referred a few minutes before ending his life.

## DROWN NEAR THEIR HOME

Billings, Mont., Dec. 13.—Two little girls Ruby and Bernice Warren aged 8 and 9 years daughters of Richard Warren a rancher who resides six miles east of Billings were drowned last night in a slough near the family residence. The children were skating on the slough and when together their combined weight it is supposed caused the ice to break, and they were participated into the icy waters.

A man passing by stopped at the house and told Mrs. Warren he had heard children screaming back of the house. The mother went to the door and called. Receiving no answer she went to the bank of the slough and there saw a portion of the dresses of the little girls floating on the water where the ice had broken through. The bodies were recovered and efforts made to revive the victims.

## Good Roads Association

The Oregon Good Roads association meets in Salem today, and promises to be a meeting of great interest and ultimate good to the people of Oregon. Gov. Chamberlain will be present and deliver an address on "Oregon and Its Roads." All sides and phases of the question will be debated and discussed by men of prominence in connection with such affairs, among whom will be Dr. James Withycombe, Prof. P. L. Campbell, Judge L. R. Webster, J. E. Magers, Prof. J. M. Hyde, and T. T. Geer.

## Mrs Chadwick Indicted

Cleveland, Dec. 13.—Two indictments on two counts each were returned by the county grand jury this afternoon against Mrs. Chadwick. She is charged with forging the name of Andrew Carnegie on a \$500,000 and \$250,000 note held by the Oberlin bank. The penalty is from five to 20 years on each indictment.

## Dowie Pays Debt

Chicago, Dec. 13.—John Alexander Dowie today liquidated his debt on the Zion City industries, making the final payment of \$140,000.

## ENTIRE FLEET LOST

Russian Fleet at Port Arthur Destroyed and City Bombarded.

Tokio, Dec. 13.—The following report was received today from the commander of the Japanese naval land battery:

"Four Russian battleships, two cruisers, one gunboat and one torpedo ship, are lying in Port Arthur harbor completely disabled. No further necessity of bombarding the Russian naval force, and we are now engaged in shelling the town of Port Arthur, which is being heavily damaged."

## SECRETARY HAY'S VOICE FOR PEACE

Portland, Or., Dec. 13.—John Hay, Secretary of state, acknowledging receipt of a copy of resolutions adopted by the Portland chamber of Commerce favoring ratification of arbitration treaties between the United States and Great Britain, Germany, France, Italy and Austria, writes:

"The department is always glad to receive evidence of the growing tendency of the people of the world to seek for and welcome any practical means of extending the way of peace and averting the arbitrament of war in the settlement of difficulties between nations."

## For the Holiday Forehanded

We wish to speak of our Holiday Line this early because many will appreciate the hint. Our goods are all here. They are ready for inspection. The line is by far the finest we have ever shown. Too many things to specify here, we don't want to specify just yet, we want you to see the goods while the line is unbroken. You know the advantage of early choosing. Prompt buyers always avoid the rush and get choicest picking. Prices are as low as they can be and the very article you would most prefer may not wait.

## See us about Books

We have provided for you. We have the books suitable for many gifts. We have the newest and most popular publications, as well as choice editions of standard works. Books not in stock will be pleased to order for you.

## Shibby's Cut Glass

Don't buy cut glass unless "Shibby" is out in the glass, then you know you have the best.

THE NEWLIN DRUG CO  
LA GRANDE OREGON

16 SECOND HAND HEATERS  
75c to \$5.00  
Some are but slightly used.

Three fine coal burners at a bargain,  
Fine Guitar, new, only \$7.50  
Eight Winchester rifles \$2.50 to \$9.00  
Iron Beds 1.00 to 12.50  
New Chairs .80  
New Chiffonier 8.50  
New baby buggy and child bed at wholesale cost.

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We carry Stove Repairs.

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Loy's Candy Parlors,  
The Finest Place in Eastern Oregon.