

# LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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## EVERY-THING AFLAME

### Cricket Flat Below Elgin a Mass of Flames.

[Observer Special]

Elgin, Aug 25.—A fire started this afternoon one mile below this place on Cricket flat and with a strong wind blowing is spreading northward towards Wallown bridge. Owing to the dryness of the flat both the timber and the grain fields are on fire. Every available man in this city and from the adjacent country has been called out and are fighting with all their might to stay the flames.

The powder house belonging to the Elgin Forwarding company, which stands on the top of the hill, is in imminent danger and efforts are being made to keep the flames from reaching it. Everything movable is being taken out of the fire zone and the residents at the flat are working like demons to save what they can.

The origin of the fire is not known although it is likely that it is started from embers of some of the numerous small fires that have been burning for several days. The fields and woods are as dry as tinder as there has not been a rain for weeks. The existence of the wind makes the fire doubly dangerous and reinforcements will be sought from every section to assist in saving the property in the path of the fire.

### For an Aerial Race

By Scripps News Association  
New York, Aug 25.—Leo Stevens, of the Baldwin Airship company, and Roy Knabenshue have arranged for an airship race over this city within the next few weeks time.

## FIND TRACE OF MURDERER

Scripps News Association  
Chicago, Aug 25.—Inspector Hunt, in charge of the detectives seeking the murderer of Mrs F E Miss of Hyde Park, declared this afternoon that he is on the track of the criminal and that the name of a prominent citizen of Hyde Park will be involved. He said the unearthing of the crime will create a great sensation.

### Steamship Seized.

Scripps News Association  
Washington, Aug 25.—It is said that the department has been notified by the consul general at Yokohama that the steamship Australia, owned by the Spreckles of San Francisco has been seized by the Japanese. No reason or any details of the seizure were given.

### Big Tule Fire

A fire, which for a time threatened to burn the buildings at Hot Lake, caught from sparks from a passing engine and burned over a large area of tules and grass. A number of section men were taken from this city out on a switch engine and after hard fighting the fire was gotten under control.

The report was current on the streets last night that the hotel was on fire but that proved without foundation.

### Purchase Shop

Paul Rohr and Clint Brooks, both of whom have been employed by the former firm of Cook & Thomas, have purchased the butcher shop of the late J. Harris on north Fir street and will open up for business on Monday morning. Both young men are well known in the city and will no doubt receive a large patronage.

### Water Works Complete

Athens, Or., Aug 25.—The new gravity water system at Athens has been completed and water turned into the pipes. The cost of construction was about \$16,000. The supply is brought from springs three miles from the city, and it is said will be sufficient for all demands for a long time to come. Contractor Miller of Colfax installed the system.

## MANY REPORTS ON PEACE QUESTION

### Seem to be no Nearer Settlement Than at First and All May be for Naught

## CONFERENCES EVERYWHERE

Scripps News Association

Portsmouth, Aug 25.—A hitch of such gravity has occurred in the peace negotiations that the proposed meeting to have taken place Saturday may be postponed. There are various views in regard to what has transpired. Some say the negotiations will continue despite what is apparently an adamant position taken by both nations. Other high diplomats declare that the settlement is farther off than ever. Jorastovich announced this morning that it has not been definitely settled that the meeting would take place Saturday. "But," he added: "Unless the Japanese recede from their position there will be a meeting Saturday and that will be the last one. There is always a possibility of mediation by the powers or some move by the president. Sato thinks differently saying that the meeting will be held as scheduled and the others will follow."

"But Japan," Sato said, "has said the last word about Sakhalin." The envoys are in constant communication with their governments. Last night Sato and Komura went to Manchester and today are guests of that city. They will visit the factories there today.

### TAKIHARA REMAINS

Portsmouth, Aug 25.—Practically all of Komura's suite accompanied him to Manchester. At the last minute Takihara decided not to go. It is believed that important peace developments detained him. Enroute to the station Komura's automobile broke down. The train was held for him.

### RUSSIA MAY MODIFY

Portsmouth, Aug 25.—Witte this afternoon had received no definite instructions from St Petersburg but admitted that there is a probability that Russia will modify her position on the question of reimbursing Japan.

### ENTERTAINED WELL

Manchester, Aug 25.—Komura's party while here were the guests of Herman Shaw. When they visited the cotton mills they were escorted by Governor McLane and other officials. They will return to Portsmouth to night.

### LONDON GERMAIN

London, Aug 25.—The diplomats of this city think that peace is assured.

### Capture Robber

By Scripps News Association  
Chicago Aug 25.—The police this morning captured a man who had just robbed and shot at Mrs R M Lowenstein a few minutes before. It was in the same manner Mrs F E Miss was murdered last Tuesday. The description of the man captured tallies with that of the Miss murderer. The man captured claims to have been a deputy sheriff during the strike.

### Haas Surrenders

Scripps News Association  
New York, Aug 25.—Moses Haas, who was accused of irregularities in connection with the cotton scandal in the statistical department, surrendered this afternoon and will stand investigation.

### Chicago Next Place

Scripps News Association  
Buffalo, Aug 25.—Chicago was selected for the next annual convention of the order of Foresters in the convention today.

Scripps News Association

Oyster Bay, Aug 25.—Kaneko returned from Sagamore Hill in good humor and upon being asked if it would be peace or war, declared emphatically "A deadlock I should say. Japan will make no more concessions. The war has cost her nine hundred million dollars to date. A few papers say that we have offered to make peace for six hundred millions. We will make peace if Russia wants it with justice to Japan and honor to Russia." Kaneko said he did not bring any communication from the government at Tokio and sarcastically told the newspaper men that they had the power to make peace or war.

### "LIKE WEATHER"

Oyster Bay, Aug 25.—Kaneko visited the President this morning and inquired of him what the outlook for peace was. The President replied, "Like the weather," as he glanced up at the clouds. "What do you think of Lamadorff's statement that Russia will not pay nor cede territory?" asked Kaneko. "I think he is making a mistake but that seems to be an official guess and we will have to swallow it," replied the President. The conference lasted an hour.

St. Petersburg, Aug 25.—In regard to the statement published in America yesterday attaching to Lamadorff the saying that Russia will not pay in demerit or cede territory, is emphatically denied by him. The correspondent says no such statement was issued.

### CONFERENCE IN JAPAN

Tokio, Aug 25.—A long conference was held this afternoon between Premier Katsuma, secretary general of China, and Marquis Ito. The latter declared that the conference had a bearing on the Portsmouth conference.

## Germans Go To Mexico

By Scripps News Association  
Los Angeles Aug 25.—Twenty-five German families leave here next week for Mexico where a colony will be established at Tia Juana Encarnada August Heck, the father of the project owns 1500 acres of the very best sugar beet land and will give five acres to every householder. The Mexican government promises half of the necessary funds to build a sugar beet factory and a handsome bounty for every pound of sugar produced.

## Soldiers Are Discharged

Scripps News Association  
Salt Lake Aug 25.—As a result of internal dissension in the first battery field artillery of Utah, general orders were issued today by the adjutant general discharging 19 enlisted men from good service for violating the 22d article of war. The resignation of two officers was forced for the same reason.

## Colorado Cloudburst

Scripps News Association  
Denver Aug 25.—The latest reports of the cloudburst at Delagua canyon, are that 16 people lost their lives and 18 houses were swept away. All communication is cut off.

### MOSTLY FOREIGNERS

Denver Aug 25.—The Trinidad coroner was notified that five bodies had been recovered from the flood and that all are mostly foreigners. Joseph Vitky, his wife and children are among the known drowned. Communication will be restored by tonight.

## FALSE FEVER ALARM

### Boat Stopped to Get Wood--Is Quarantined.

[Scripps News Association]

St. Louis, Aug 25.—The United States soldiers stationed at the Jefferson barracks, this morning captured the steamer Fva Lms which was said to be carrying yellow fever refugees. The crew and passengers were quarantined eleven miles below the city.

### A FALSE ALARM

St. Louis Aug 25.—The Eva Alms was released after close inspection. The craft started to a tow boat up the river, when it ran short of coal and had to tie up to the bank and cut wood. Reports spread from the nearest village that they were fever refugees and no town would allow them to land and no one would go near enough to speak to the officers or crew. Only six passengers were aboard and they all had health certificates.

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E. POLACK, Prop.

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