

# La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME V

LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1906.

NUMBER 124

## TRIED FOR WITCHCRAFT IN GERMANY

(Scripps News Association)  
Kaiserslautern, March 30.—A trial for witchcraft which just came to a conclusion in the Upper Palatinate illustrates the depths of ignorance and superstition in which large districts of Southern Germany are still sunk. A farm laborer named Hirmer was employed by a woman named Koelbi to look after her horse. Hirmer, however, neglected his duties, the horse became sick, and to excuse himself Hirmer asserted that the animal had been bewitched. Every morning he found it bathed in sweat, and with its mane and tail plaited by unearthly hands. He advised Fray Koelbi to secure the services of a neighboring witch doctor, a certain Hartwig. At dead of night Hartwig entered the stable, fixed a crucifix, with two burning candles, at the horse's head, wrote some mysterious letters on the wall with "consecrated chalk" drew a magic circle around himself, opened his book and began incantations in some unknown jargon. He shivered with the violence of his emotions, and after three quarters of an hour revealed that the witch who had "possessed" the horse was a certain Frau Schaumberger. At the trial the judge at first was not inclined to convict Hartwig, as he regarded the witch doctor as perfectly sincere, but on reflection he condemned him to four week's imprisonment as an impostor.

### HARVARD-YALE DEBATE

(Scripps News Association)  
New Haven, Conn., March 30.—The annual intercollegiate debate between teams of Harvard and Yale will take place here this evening. The subject of the debate will be as follows: "Resolved, that it would be for the interest of New York City to own its own street railway system, the term street railway being taken to mean elevated, subway and surface lines."

### STRIKE INEVITABLE

(Scripps News Association)  
San Francisco, March 30.—President Mapon, of the local official carmen's union are in executive session today preparing their formal proposition to be submitted to the traction company. Arbitration is to be suggested. It is not believed that the company will accept and a strike seems to be inevitable.

Washington, Mar. 30.—The President received a telegram from President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers and Robbins who represents the Operators, declaring that at least fifty percent of the operators are willing to sign the wage scale demanded by the miners. This is taken to mean that the mine operators believe that there is no cause for President Roosevelt to interfere.

The convention this afternoon adopted a resolution under which there will be no strike anywhere except where the local mine operators refuse to sign the 1905 scale.

Mitchell wired Baer saying inasmuch as there will be no agreement after April 1, that he had ordered all anthracite miners, except the men at the pumps to preserve the property, to quit work. He told Baer that he was now awaiting a response to the suggestion of a joint meeting next Tuesday.

Mitchell said the tonnage represented by the operators who were willing to compromise was not only in the central districts but also in the southwest.

### IOWA OPERATORS WILLING

Des Moines, March 30.—The operators of the mine workers in Iowa this afternoon agreed in a meeting that they were willing to sign the agreement if the 1905 scale was adopted by the Indianapolis convention. Mitchell made a long speech discussing at length on the resolution to sign the individual scale. He said he had telegrams from operators whose interests voted against a settlement saying if the Pittsburg Coal Company continues to operate at the advance that they would do so and expressed regard for those whose judgement differs from his.

### GARFIELD DENIES IT

(Scripps News Association)  
Washington Mar 30.—Commissioner J. A. Garfield and other officials deny absolutely the story which emanated from San Francisco, that the department inspected California so as to exclude all but Standard Oil.

## AT THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING LAST EVENING

### MAYOR STODDARD ISSUES A FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE CITY

Pursuant to a special call by the mayor, the city council met last evening and took up the matter of the proposition made by the Ladies' Park Association, which was in effect that if the city would fence the land which was purchased for park purposes several years ago by the ladies and deeded to the city, conduct water to the ground and have the city engineer lay it off suitable for a park, they would seed it and set it out to trees, stating they had sufficient money on hand for the purpose. The matter was referred to the Ways and Means committee who were also instructed to secure a deed from the O. R. & N. Company in fee simple to the property now occupied by the city jail. The present deed contains a reversion clause whereby when the property ceases to be used by the city it reverts back.

The proposition made by the Grande Ronde Electric Company to furnish the city water and light, which was published in full Wednesday evening, was referred to the Water and Street committees to investigate and report.

### THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The following resolution was passed with reference to the mayor's first message:  
"Resolved: By the city council of the city of La Grande on this the 29th day of March, 1906, that the annual message of the mayor as read to the council at the meeting of March 19, 1906, be and the same is hereby accepted and ordered placed on file, and be it  
"Further Resolved: That each and every subject treated upon by the mayor's message be referred to the proper committees with power to investigate and report to the council as to what may be done under the different propositions contained in the message."

Reference to be made to committees as follows:  
Judiciary committee—Charter and ordinances. Rules and conduct of business. Franchises and bonuses.  
Fire, insurance, etc.—Fire and police. Civic improvements. Pound master.  
Health, sewer and water—Sewer and water. Health and morals. Hitching posts and watering troughs.  
Streets and alleys committee—Streets and alleys. Side walks. City parks and street lights.  
Finance committee—Filing system and records. Books of account. Finance and indebtedness.  
Ways and means committee—Warrants against the general fund. Sources of revenue. Taxation.

Mayor Stoddard has made an exhaustive research of the city finances and read the following message, which brought forth quite a general discussion regarding the same and as a basis of future guidance the city treasurer and recorder were instructed to submit an approximate statement of the revenues to be derived during the present year, the evident idea being to keep within the receipts.

### FINANCIAL MESSAGE

To the Common Council of the City of La Grande:—

At the time that I submitted to the council my annual message I had not had the time nor opportunity to inquire into the history and conditions of the finances of the city, nor as to the expenses or losses of maintaining and operating the water works.

Through the courtesy of the treasurer and recorder and the valuable assistance of these officers, and having access to the city books and records I have been enabled to prepare statements of receipts and expenditures for a period covering some fourteen years past.  
I find that during the three years 1892-3-4 the city expended money received from the issuing of bonds to construct the water works in the sum of \$60,000, and in warrants on the general fund something like \$42,000. The hard times came on in the meantime so that the revenues were hardly sufficient to pay running expenses without paying interest on the bonds or reducing the outstanding warrants. It took 7 years to finally pay out the heavy issuance of warrants that were issued during the three years mentioned, in the meantime the council (that is—Continued on page 4)

### WHEAT AND PASTURES DEVASTATED

(Scripps News Association)  
Lodi, Cal., Mar 30.—The Mokelumne levee near Sacramento, on the San Joaquin border, broke during the night. Thousands of acres of wheat fields are flooded and probably destroyed. Pasture lands are flooded. The washout has cut a deep gully a quarter of a mile long. Stock grazing on the pastures are seriously threatened.

### FIGHT ON TRAIN

Two laborers, Harry Swan and Gust Nelson, were arraigned in the justice of the peace court last night on a charge of committing a disturbance on the Elgin train last evening. The prisoners with others were having impromptu bouts on the train and the two men in question were so active that some damage was done to the furnishings of the car. When the train arrived at Island City, the fighters concluded to leave the scene of action and quietly slipped from the car. Immediately upon the train's arrival at La Grande the police was notified and Chief Rayburn and Night Officer Waldon drove to Island City where they apprehended the would-be pugilists and brought them before Justice of the Peace Hough. A fine of ten dollars each was imposed but as the prisoners were unable to pay the costs, they were lodged in jail.

### GRAIN MARKETS

Chicago, March 30.—Wheat opened at 77 closed 77½; corn opened at 44½ closed at 44½; oats opened at 50 closed at 50½.

### INQUEST TODAY

(Scripps News Association)  
Stockton, March 30.—The coroner's inquest which was set for this morning developed a good part of the case wherein Mrs. Emma Le Doux is accused of the murder of Albert McVicar and placed his body in a trunk. The report of F. E. Ray, a local chemist who analyzed the contents of all the bottles found in the valise of Mrs. Le Doux, which is now in the hands of Southworth and determines positively that the woman had a two ounce bottle of cyanide of potassium less than half full of the deadly fluid. The report from the chemist from San Francisco who analyzed the murdered man's stomach shows that the tissues are saturated with the same poison and furnished the connecting link in the chain of evidence which the coroner relies upon to show the cause of death.

### SETTLING FOOTBALL REFORM CODE

(Scripps News Association)  
New York, Mar. 30.—The American Intercollegiate Football Rules Committee is holding another session at the Murray Hill Hotel today and this is believed to be the final meeting, in which the new football code will be finally adopted. The work was practically completed after the last meeting, but it was necessary for the representatives of the various universities taking part in the deliberations to report to their institutions, before a definite and final settlement could be reached.

### MISSIONARY MEETING

(Scripps News Association)  
Newark, N. J., Mar. 30.—The annual spring meeting of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Newark Presbytery opened here this morning at the South Park Presbyterian Church. The delegates were welcomed by the Rev. Dr. Lyman Whitney Allen, of the South Park Church. Several prominent speakers will address the meeting. There will be a conference for young people.

### INTERFERE WITH EXECUTION

(Scripps News Association)  
Baltimore, March 30.—This morning disorder prevails at Towson, the county seat of Baltimore county, where the authorities are endeavoring to hang a negro who murdered an aged tollgate keeper named Reinhard. The excited mob tore down the barricade about the jail yard. The trees and house tops are filled with people. The police are unable to cope with the crowds which are so dense that the sheriff and his deputies are unable to execute the prisoner.

## TWENTY DAYS IN CAVE RUINS

(Scripps News Association)  
Lenz, France, March 30.—Thirteen miners have lived twenty days in the mine that caved in, the 10th of March. Exploring parties have searched continually, and it was only this morning that the entombed men received light and air. With one exception the men are well, but would soon have died because of starvation and want of air.

When the explosion took place on the tenth, the miners found refuge in a stable where mules were kept. The men lived for some days on lunches that their comrades had brought down with them the day of the accident. Later it became necessary for them to eat the grain and drink the water that was originally intended for the stock.

A late dispatch states that five more miners have been rescued alive.

### STUDENT CONFERENCE

(Scripps News Association)  
Santa Cruz, Mar. 30.—The annual students conference of the Young Women's Association of the Pacific slope, opens tonight at Capitola, the well known summer resort near this city. The 309 delegates are in charge of Miss Bertha Conde, the national secretary.

### WILL THEY APPEAL TO PRESIDENT

(Scripps News Association)  
Indianapolis, Mar. 30.—The question of sending an appeal to the President from the operators, was considered this morning, and filed for future reference. The question of signing the scale in individual districts, as asked by Operator A. L. Robbins, was taken up and discussed.

### TO RECALL TOWNMEN

(Scripps News Association)  
Los Angeles, Mar. 30.—A movement was started this morning to recall all nine members of the city council and elect non partisan members in their places. This agitation is the result of the council voting to give away a railroad right of way to a local contractor for an unknown company.



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