

La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME VI

LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1907

NUMBER 55

THE GRANDE RONDE RIVER THE HIGHEST TODAY SINCE 'NINETY FOUR

POWER HOUSE AND DAM AT ORA DELL THREATENED

Instructions wired to the local Western Union Telegraph office state that the Coos Bay country is a twisted net of fallen wires. Official of that company agree that three days at least will be required to get the wires in working order. Rains and floods are cause. Late last evening services were resumed out of this city and since five o'clock last evening Portland was reached by relaying to Spokane, Seattle and back to Portland. All telegraphic messages are accepted subject to delay.

TRAIN SERVICE

There is no evidence of a Portland train arriving in this city until Thursday. The stub from Umatilla which has grown to be an old story, failed to put in an appearance this morning, and at nine o'clock tonight is the first train scheduled from the west. The west bound trains, too, are hampered by heavy snows. This morning about four o'clock, last night's five arrived, and today's one, was marked up at four thirty. Passengers are stalled along the O. R. & N. Freight trains are likewise tied up. Freight brakemen on the La Grande-Umatilla run who left this city over a week ago are still at the other terminal, and it is not known when they will return.

GRANDE RONDE HIGH

A telephone message from Perry reports that the water in the Grande Ronde river is this afternoon higher than it has been any time since 1894. While the Grande Ronde Lumber Company is not particularly alarmed as to the safety of its mill and lumber at Perry, yet there remains the fact that should the large quantity of water now dammed at Perry, break loose, Oro Dell will suffer. Late this afternoon the water was on the rise, and from present indications, the dam at Perry will

have to be opened to allow a larger quantity of water to pass thru. The reason for this is that several bridges above the dam are on the verge of being washed out. It is very likely that by tomorrow morning, the dam will have been dynamited. Much ice is also blocked by the dam. As yet, however, it has not assumed a dangerous system in piling up. At Oro Dell, the ice jam is more dangerous. The only thing that will save destruction at that place is for the ice to melt and break away gradually, as it has been doing this afternoon. Manager Housh has had a crew of men at this point of the river all day to, if possible, avert destruction to the power house and dam.

Great volumes of water have been pouring over the dams at Perry and Oro Dell since yesterday.

Katherine creek is not affected by the thaw. The ice has not broken and Union is not alarmed about high water.

DISAVOW WAR INTENTIONS

(Scripps News Association)
Washington, Feb. 5.—A Chicago paper has wired to the Japanese minister of foreign affairs asking for the attitude of the Japanese in the present situation. The minister referred the paper to the Japanese ambassador at Washington and ordered Aoki to convey to the American people for the Japanese their disavowal of all intentions toward war and are firmly of the belief that the differences are susceptible of pacific treatment.

QUAKE NEAR VIENNA

(Scripps News Association)
Vienna, Feb. 5.—Prof. Belar at Ljubljana says that the seismograph recorded an earthquake last Sunday which lasted ninety minutes.

INSANITY SPECIALIST IS MUDDLED BY JEROME

(Scripps News Association)

New York, Feb. 5.—Dr. C. H. Wiley of Pittsburg was the first witness called this morning in the Thaw case. Josiah Thaw, a brother of the prisoner, was the only member of the family present when court opened. The defendant entered hurriedly and sat down, precipitately, and wrote on a pad for several minutes. The Pittsburg doctor testified that he was an insanity specialist of the Bixmont asylum in Pennsylvania.

"What happened in 1905, in connection with the prisoner?" asked Gleason.

"In nineteen five I was a passenger on a street car when Thaw entered and without apparent reason, yanked the blind off the window. It was in the evening and the conductor had raised the shade."

"Was the act a rational one?"

"I should say not," replied the witness.

Attorney Gleason framed a hypothetical question embodying Thaw's actions previous to the shooting and the manner of the remarks after the shooting, and later asked the witness if in his opinion a man who could commit such an act was sane or insane.

"In my opinion—" Jerome objected and a battle of words was on, the doctors finally answering, "A man who acted as Thaw did after the shooting, is undoubtedly insane."

"If you knew that hereditary insanity existed in the family, would you acknowledge it an aid in this connection?"

"Think I would," said the expert. Jerome then began the cross examination. He asked:

"You do not know what the laws of the state provide in excuse for crime enacted by an insane man?"

"I cannot say that I do." District Attorney Jerome then forced the witness to admit that he had formed an opinion on hypothetical question, from what he had been told of the facts in the case and what he had observed on the car in Pittsburg in 1905, and from these

conclusions was answering the defense.

"Now, as an expert," began Jerome.

Wiley interrupted "I do not know that I am an expert. I have had some experience with insanity cases and I am considered an expert."

"What do you believe you are?"

"I have considerable knowledge of such cases."

"Do you mean to tell me you came here and on mere facts known to you in this case, you testify as an expert and give answer to that hypothetical question?"

"Yes," admitted the witness.

The so-called specialist was a mere tool in the hands of Jerome, and when he had done with him, Wiley admitted he did not know what he really is.

The court ruled that all witnesses should be kept from the court room when not being examined.

Pittsburg, Feb. 5.—Friends of Harry Thaw in this city are not surprised at the ultimatum of Thaw's attorneys in regard to the insanity plea. They freely comment on his peculiarities. His acquaintances always thought Thaw "queer" and called him "Crazy Harry". The insanity is on the father's side. One sister of his being in an asylum, and another was occasionally so, before she died.

DEFENSE PRESENTS CASE

New York, Feb. 5.—Scores of people tried to get thru the police lines late last evening to listen to Attorney Gleason present his case to the jury. None were permitted. Thaw's attorney spoke in a low tone and said:

"I want you," addressing the jury, "to understand that the defendant stands on no other law than the statute. It has never been the case before that so many men entered the jury box with opinions formed. The question is can you lay those opinions aside, and weigh the evidence as it is developed. The defendant killed Stanford White. He believed that it was an act of providence; that he was guided by the same power. The defendant killed White, but did not know the act was wrong, because he had been suffering from mental unsoundness. We will show to you, mental unsoundness in the family. There will be witnesses on

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GREATEST FLOODS IN MANY YEARS THREATEN PORTLAND

(Scripps News Association)

Portland, Feb. 5.—Portland is threatened with the greatest flood in many years. The Willamette rose three feet last night the water is at 16 or 5 1/2 feet above danger line, with the water rising rapidly. The weather bureau predicts that it will reach nineteen feet by tomorrow, and twenty-one by Friday. The lowlands about the city are flooded and lower decks submerged. Basements along water front are filled with water. Floods have torn loose the public bath house and sailed it down the river. All streams in the state are out of their banks or rising rapidly. Many bridges on the O. R. & N. have been carried away and that company's tracks in this city are completely covered. The Southern Pacific is blocked by slides in many places.

Scripps News Association—delayed.

Portland, Feb. 4.—Deep snow in Eastern Oregon is causing a heavy loss of stock. Many flocks are threatened with entire destruction, because food is exhausted.

Portland is again a cake of glory ice, the rain freezing as it falls. Up river points report the greatest floods in years are pending in the Willamette country. Heavy rains are falling over the Willamette valley.

Lewiston, Idaho, Feb. 5.—From two to three feet of snow cover the northern portion of Idaho. Cattle are reported dying by the hundreds.

BLIZZARD IN THE EAST

New York, Feb. 5.—While the western coast is suffering by floods caused by melting snow and rains, the eastern cities are experiencing much cold weather. New York City is in the grasp of a blizzard, with a gale blowing. The central portion of the city is cut off from the rest and the sufferings of yesterday will be increased by the two feet of snow which fell last night.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—Heavy snow has blocked traffic and interferes with communications.

Goodrich, N. D., Feb. 5.—An unknown woman and five children were frozen to death last night. Blizzards and gales are prevalent.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—The heavy storms extend from the Atlantic to Nebraska, the greatest intensity being in the mid-Atlantic and New England states. Trains are delayed several hours in all parts of Wisconsin and Minnesota. California trains are five and six hours late.

Pendleton, Feb. 4.—It is reported that 1500 sheep belonging to A. Smyth & Son, were drowned in the Willow creek corral in Morrow county, in the high water of this week.

Dan Smythe, who has been at Walla Walla attending the stockmen's meeting, received the news by telephone from his

father, A. Smythe at Arlington, yesterday. It was reported at first that 2000 sheep had been drowned but later messages from Arlington placed the number actually dead at 1500.

The circumstances of the loss are not known as the wires are now down. Other losses are thought to have been sustained in that county as many of the sheep ranches and corrals are in the canyons and would be in danger in case of unusually high water.

On the W. & C. R., not a train has been run since the slides commenced last week. It was stated in Pendleton yesterday afternoon, that service would probably be resumed Wednesday or Thursday. Most of the trouble on that line is north of Helix and crews of men are now working on the repair.

TO SUCCEED SENATOR ALGER

(Scripps News Association)
Lansing, Mich., Feb. 5.—The Michigan legislature reassembled today after a two weeks' recess out of respect to the memory of Senator Alger. The first business of the legislature will be the election of a United States senator for the unexpired portion of Senator Alger's term, which will end March 4, 1907. The choice will probably fall to William Alden Smith, who already has been elected for the full term beginning March 4.

UNCOVER GRAFT IN SCHOOLS

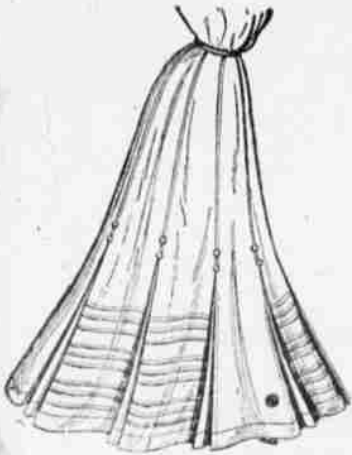
(Scripps News Association)
Albany, N. Y., Feb. 5.—A specific charge of grafting in the board of education in New York city, was made in the state senate today by a resolution introduced to provide for an investigation.

TO INVESTIGATE N. P.

(Scripps News Association)
Washington, Feb. 5.—Senator Heyburn offered a resolution in the senate this afternoon calling for the appointment of five senators to investigate the reorganization of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, with a view of having congress repeal their charter.

A PIPE-DREAM

Wednesday's Democrat contained a pipe-dream, in regard to the probability of the removal of division headquarters of the O. R. & N. from La Grande to Baker. After the completion of the big brick roundhouse and other buildings which are now under construction at La Grande at a cost of thousands of dollars, no doubt the first thing the O. R. & N. will do will be to abandon them and establish their division point, machine shops, etc., at Baker City.—Haines Record.



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POWERS BEFORE THE COURT AGAIN

(Scripps News Association)

Georgetown, Ky., Feb. 5.—Knocked about like a rudderless ship on a storm-swept sea, Caleb Powers, Kentucky's most noted prisoner, was called into court today to again stand trial for alleged complicity in the assassination of Governor William Goebel, seven years ago. Owing to the crowded docket the trial will probably be deferred for several months, when a special term of court will be convened to try the case.

Powers has been tried for the crime charged against him just three times. Twice juries voted to send him to the penitentiary for life, and twice the verdict was reversed by the court of appeals. The next jury condemned him to die on the scaffold. Again the court of appeals came to his rescue and set the finding of the lower court aside, and remanded him for a new trial.

When he was arrested he did not have a dollar and public sentiment was against him; but when the legislature appropriated \$100,000 to prosecute Powers and those indicted with him, his friends went to work to raise funds to assist him. It has been said that every prominent Republican in the United States has contributed to the fund for his defense, and among them are mentioned the names of President Roosevelt, the late Senators Quay and Hanna and Secretary Taft.

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