

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## WAR CLOUDS SEEM TO BE GATHERING OVER UNITED STATES AND JAPAN

### NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS HAVE BECOME SERIOUS

#### JAPAN REFUSES STATEMENT

BOTH NATIONS ARE MAKING PREPARATIONS.

United States Has Placed Mines in All Pacific Coast Harbors, and Has Ordered Additional Supplies at Mare Island—We Are as Near Ready as We Well Could Be.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Negotiations between the United States and Japan have reached a serious stage. While it is but yet an eventuality, largely because of Japan's unpreparedness, it is known that the friendly relations existing between the United States and Japan are strained almost to the breaking point.

Ambassador O'Brien has been for the last six months attempting to secure some definite statement in relation to the restriction of coolie immigration and up to this time no satisfactory assurance from Japan has been given. Hayashi joins issue and makes a counter demand that the government will give its guarantee that no Japanese exclusion bill is passed by the United States. This last representation on the part of the Japanese

government was received by the state department a few days ago by cable and cost our government several thousand dollars in government tolls. Secretary Root is now preparing a reply.

Japan will be informed that our government cannot give assurance that no exclusion bill will be passed. Root, however, will try to avoid precipitating matters while our fleet is so far from its western base.

**Situation Most Serious.**  
Portland, Jan. 11.—In this evening's Journal will appear an interview with an unnamed officer in the American navy, who, it is stated is of high rank, who declares that the situation between the United States and Japan is of a most serious nature.

"The people as a whole do not realize how serious a position the two countries are in," he says. The United States is making every preparation for an armed conflict in the very near future. Fortifications at Point Loma have been placed on a war footing. The bay at San Francisco and Puget sound have been mined and the work of completely mining the mouth of the Columbia river is almost over and is only awaiting the arrival of the mines. The electric wiring was finished recently.

"We will see within the next 10 years an army of 5,000,000 men in China, drilled and instructed by Japanese, and when the time comes it will oust the whites from that country."

This note of warning was sounded by Associate Justice Harlan, of the

United States supreme court at the annual dinner of the Navy League. The speech has created a stir at the capital and is being generally discussed. Justice Harlan predicted a great war between the yellow and white races, and urged the United States to make preparations for it. In reference to the navy, Harlan said:

"I want to see the navy grow to such an extent that no nation on earth could consider for one moment entering into a contest with us."

#### THAW JURY IS SECURED

ALL SEEM SATISFIED WITH THE JURYMEN.

Later Developments Show That at Least One of the Jurymen is Not Satisfactory to Prosecution—Jerome Will Not Discuss Matter, But is Evidently Not Pleased With Situation.

New York, Jan. 11.—The last juror for the second Thaw trial has been secured and the trial will proceed at once.

New York, Jan. 11.—"What do I think of the jury? Why it is a hundred per cent better than the first one. I am truly delighted with it."

So said Evelyn Thaw in commenting on the quick work performed in securing the jury in the second Thaw trial. Both men seemed pleased with the 12 men cut out for the jury.

"It is one of the best I have seen in my whole legal career," said District Attorney Jerome this morning.

**Another Name.**

Harry Thaw is suffering from stuporous melancholia, according to the report of alienists of the defense after a conference today. "Stuporous melancholia" will succeed the "brainstorm" and "dementia Americana" in the second trial of Thaw.

It is said that Jerome may ask that one of the jurors sworn in yesterday afternoon be discharged for cause.

Jerome refuses to discuss the subject. It is rumored that the man is reported to have said that he would never vote for conviction.

#### KILLS WIFE AND SUICIDES

FIGHT WITH BUTCHER KNIFE AND HUSBAND'S RAZOR.

Couple Had Been Drinking and Quarreled—Infant Child Found With the Bodies, Smearcd With Mother's Blood—Both Received More Than a Dozen Wounds.

Oakland, Jan. 11.—In a fight this morning between Pietro Sorocco and his wife, both were killed. The wife was armed with a large butcher knife and the husband with a razor. The battle was a most awful affair, and both received more than a dozen wounds, before the man succeeded in cutting his wife's throat. As soon as he had accomplished her murder he committed suicide. The quarrel which resulted in her death, occurred after a drinking bout in which they both participated. Their baby was found by neighbors with the bodies of its parents, smeared in the mother's blood.

#### HOLY WAR IMMINENT

PRIESTS WILL NOT STAND FOR THE NEW SULTAN.

Situation in Morocco Again Assuming a Threatening Aspect, as Germany Declares That She Will Interfere Unless Peace is Speedily Restored by France—Mehal Hafid Proclaims Himself Sultan of Morocco.

Paris, Jan. 11.—Government dispatches confirm the report that Mehul Hafid had been proclaimed sultan of Morocco at Fez. The priests declare they will proclaim a holy war against Mehul, if he attempts to take the throne. The situation in Morocco is again assuming a threatening aspect, as Germany declares she will interfere unless peace is speedily restored by France and Spain. If Germany does interfere, all the work of the Algeiras conference will be undone.

**Provisions Ordered.**

To make certain that the Pacific fleet would not be delayed in re-provisioning when they reach San Francisco, the navy department today ordered that 1500 tons of provisions be sent to Mare Island. The department is expecting word at any time that the fleet has arrived at Rio de Janeiro.

#### RUEF REFUSES TO TESTIFY

THE EX-BOSS DEMANDS ABSOLUTE IMMUNITY.

Will Be Tried on All His Indictments—Prosecution Refuses to Grant Immunity—Ruef May Be Able to Work Hardship Upon Prosecution—Schmitz Wants His Bail Cut Down to \$200,000—Drew Makes Eloquent Plea for Schmitz.

San Francisco, Jan. 11.—Attorney Drew for ex-Mayor Schmitz, made an appeal for bail for Schmitz this morning. It was postponed until Monday. Opposition is expected. Drew also asked District Attorney Cook to have the mayor's bail reduced from \$355,000 to an even \$200,000. Cook stated he would consult Langdon in this regard.

Ruef, it is said, will have to stand trial on all his indictments. He refused to testify for the prosecution yesterday unless the prosecution granted him full immunity. This they refused to do. Without Ruef the prosecution will have great difficulty in connecting up many of the defendants with the alleged crimes.

Added interest was given the Ruef case today by the report that the breach between Henry Ach and Abe Ruef was again healed and that Ach will take charge of Ruef's legal matters again. Ach conducted Ruef's five-months fight on the indictments for extortion and was in charge of his case until a few moments before Ruef entered his plea of guilty. At that time Ach was very angry with Ruef, and it was not until the appellate court handed down its decision that the two men met again.

**AN IMPORTANT BULLETIN.**  
Different Systems of Summer Fallowing and Dry Farming Discussed.

The United States department of agriculture issued a bulletin that should be in the hands of every wheat grower in the inland empire. In gathering material for the bulletin, the author, Mr. Byron Hunter, made a study of farm methods of tillage throughout the country to ascertain just what is being done by the best farmers in different parts of the country. The bulletin discusses the methods and merits of some five or six systems of summer fallowing that are practiced in eastern Washington and eastern Oregon.

The L. D. S. and high school boys' basketball teams played a game this afternoon in the Commercial club rooms, resulting in a score of 11 to 17 in favor of the high school boys.

#### CRITICISES F. J. HENEY

CONGRESSMAN D. MCKINLEY OF CALIFORNIA, SPEAKS.

McKinley is of the Opinion That Francis J. Heney Has Done the State of California an Irreparable Harm in Breaking Down the Laws of the State and Securing Convictions on Probable Moral Guilt.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Congressman Duncan McKinley of California, took occasion to severely criticize Special Prosecutor Francis J. Heney, for the part he had played in the San Francisco graft prosecutions today, while discussing the decision of the appellate court on the Schmitz case. He said:

"I felt all the time that Heney was rushing Schmitz to conviction on the wave of public sentiment, and not because Schmitz had committed a crime in this particular case. I believe Heney has done an almost irreparable harm to the cause of justice in California, in breaking down the laws of the state and securing convictions on probable moral guilt of the prisoners, instead of convictions for guilt according to the technicalities of the law."

**BUSY PRUNING.**

Orchardists About Freewater and Walla Walla Will Soon Spray.

Pruning of fruit trees in the different orchards about Freewater is now going on, and many of the growers have men engaged in pruning the trees at this time. At the Blalock fruit farm, a few miles from here, about 20 men are engaged. This orchard contains about 1400 acres, much of which is in bearing fruit trees. As soon as the pruning is done in the different orchards, spraying will begin, and the growers will be busy until budding time.

**House Wants to Know.**

Washington, D. C., Jan. 11.—The house today adopted the Gill resolution demanding that the secretary of the navy produce all correspondence and everything in its possession relating to the assignment of Stokes as commander of the hospital ship Relief and the resignation of Rear Admiral Brownson. This is the first step looking toward a congressional investigation of the Brownson controversy.

**Tracey Elected.**

Vallejo, Cal., Jan. 11.—George Tracey was elected president of the State Federation of Labor of this state today.

### GREAT SPECIAL IN LADIES SUITS AND COATS FOR SATURDAY

\$12.00 to \$15.00 VALUES IN LADIES SUITS \$4.25

10 Ladies Suits in Black Grey and Novelty Mixtures in fitted Jacket, Box Coat, and Long fitted Coat styles, in cloths of Serge, Cheviot and Novelty Suitings at the special price for Saturday \$4.25

\$6.50 to \$10.00 VALUES LADIES BLACK COATS

In 50 inch lengths in black Thibet Cloth and Kersey, trimmed in velvet and braid, satin bound seams every one of them this season's coats from the best makers. Choose one Saturday at the special price \$2.98, \$3.68, \$3.98, \$4.98

### ALL MISSES AND CHILDRENS BEAR SKIN COATS AT HALF PRICE

\$1.25, \$1.50 Men's Gold and Silver Dress Shirts 73c

20c, 25c Men's Fancy Hose in Grey Black and Tan, pair 14c

\$1.25 American Lady Corsets, good assortment in Girdle and full length effects, choice 50c

\$1.25 Blk Satine Petticoats, special this sale 88c

NOTICE Our January Sale will be Continued for One more week. Special Bargains for Every Day—Lines from Every Department at Additional Reductions of Prices Already Heavily Cut. It will Pay You to Come Don't Miss It. NOTICE

TELEPHONE Pacific States BLACK 1301



TELEPHONE Independent BLUE 32

### WE SINCERELY THANK

Our many customers for the liberal patronage bestowed upon us, which has enabled us to make this the foremost drug store in this section of the country. All can rest assured that our gratitude will be further shown by giving the most scrupulous care and conscientious attention to every detail of our business.

### IF YOU

Are not yet one of our customers let this be your invitation to become one. Get the habit of coming here with your prescriptions and for your drug wants; you will never care to change

### HILL'S DRUG STORE

La Grande Oregon