

La Grande Evening Observer

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JAPS BELIEVED TO BE DRILLING AT WEATHERBY

WOODEN GUNS AND SWORDS FOUND IN OUTFIT CARS.

Outfit Car Containing 30 Idle Japanese Railroad Employees, Reaches La Grande and by Accident the Contents of the Pocket Under the Car is Found to Contain Wooden Guns and Swords—Plans and Maps Also Found—Theory is That During the Month of Idleness at Weatherby the Menu Were Drilling in Army Tactics.

That Japanese employes of the O. R. & N. spent one entire month in the region of Weatherby, near Huntington, doing nothing but drill exercise according to the Japanese army tactics, seems certain, according to developments that have been made in this city since yesterday noon.

The conditions, facts and rumors added to each other make a plausible story to the effect that a band of 30 Japanese spent one month near Weatherby, living in a Southern Pacific outfit car and doing absolutely nothing in the way of manual labor. The gang was laid off from track repair work along the Weatherby district about a month ago and until yesterday the car has been there, the railroad officials knowing nothing of what its occupants were doing, except that they were not drawing their pay.

Yesterday the car was brought to La Grande, and it is still here. Accidentally, white men had occasion to peruse the contents of the pocket which this car, like many outfit cars carry, under the floor. In this pocket, or cellar, as it were, the men were astonished to find wooden guns, swords, plans and maps. Large drawings, the nature of which are not known, are hung in neat rolls, sus-

pended from the top of the pocket. A varied assortment of furniture and the like take up the space, but the wooden guns and swords are filled in vacant corners.

Japs Show Displeasure.

Yesterday afternoon when two men went to the outfit car, which has now been standing on the tracks in the yards for two days, they opened the pocket and immediately brought down upon them the wrath of the Japs who have been idling away the long hours of the day in reading and sleeping.

With considerable vehemence the Japs rushed to the group of men who were examining the contents of the pocket, and roughly slammed the door, maintaining in broken English that there were no tools there. This remark followed an explanatory statement from the white men that they were looking for some lost tools.

The men went away and today ad-

(Continued on page 4.)

NEW TIMBER FOR ATTORNEY

MCNARY OF SALEM NOW GIVEN THOUGHT.

Judge Burnett of Salem Will Not Accept Nomination to Federal District Attorneyship, But the Oregon Delegation Has Still Another Man Who is Likely to Be Satisfactory to President Roosevelt and Prosecutor Heney—McNary Prominent in Marion County.

Portland, Feb. 14.—Judge George H. Burnett of Salem, will not allow his name to be used in connection with an appointment for United States district attorney for Oregon, an Oregon delegation at Washington is said to have turned to John H. McNary, in their efforts to find a man who is agreeable to both President Roosevelt and Prosecutor Heney. McNary's home is at Salem and he has been district attorney of Marion county for several years.

BIG STRIKE ON D. & R. G. LIKELY

COMPANY ISSUES ORDERS THAT OPEN SHOP IS DUE.

Denver & Rio Grande Company Has Issued Orders Which Become Effective on March 14, That All Shops on the System Will Be Run on Open Shop Basis—Unions Will Seek New Contracts, But if Foiled, Will Precipitate General Strike.

Denver, Feb. 14.—All shopmen, engineers, conductors and brakemen on the Denver & Rio Grande system may go on a strike which might involve all the Gould lines, on March 14. On that date the following order is effective and which has aroused intense feeling among the men. The notice reads: "Becoming effective March 14, the rules and regulations governing employment of men in the department of mechanics, boiler makers and helpers, will be abolished on the Denver & Rio Grande."

Meetings of union men have been held to discuss the order all over the state. Committees have been appointed to attempt to get new contracts between the unions and the road, but if they cannot be secured, a huge strike may be precipitated, as the men will not stand for the open shop.

Ex-Senator Improved.

Baltimore, Feb. 14.—Former Senator John L. Wilson of Seattle, and editor of the Post-Intelligencer, has left the hospital here where he underwent an operation for appendicitis, for Atlantic City. He has regained his health.

Wisconsin Wants Bryan.

Milwaukee, Feb. 14.—The Wisconsin democratic convention today declared for William J. Bryan for its presidential nominee.

The various houses that handle seed are receiving their consignments.

NIGHT COPS MAKE CLEVER CAPTURE

NEWLIN DRUG STORE AND BERRY'S ROBBED.

Newlin Drug Store Till Looted of About \$9 and Berry's Clothing Store Robbed of Complete Outfit of Togs—Robber is Careless and Clever Work of Night Officers Places Him Out of Harm's Way—Now in Jail Awaiting Trial.

As clever a trick as has been turned in this city by the police for many a day was accomplished last night in the arrest of Mac Hackler for the burglary of two of our business houses within a short time after he had accomplished his work. Hackler, who bears all of the trade marks of a confirmed criminal, forced an entrance through the rear window of Newlin's drug store, where he tapped the money till and broke into a gum vending machine, containing between \$8 and \$10 in dimes and nickels, also helping himself to a few knives and a fancy pipe. From the Newlin drug store he then broke a rear window in J. M. Berry's clothing store and by the way the goods were disturbed, he took his time and fitted himself in the latest. When arrested early this morning, before daylight, he was found wearing a suit of underwear, a nice black shirt, new hat, tie and one of the best suits that his limited time would permit him to select.

He made his exit unnoticed and had reached the depot about 3:45, when Officer Pepper noticed him wearing a new suit with the tags still on. The officer looked him over carefully, and a little later met Officer McLachlen and told him of the possibility that "things might not be just regular, and the two then went back to the depot to make an investigation, but their man was gone. The officers then began to investigate and within a few moments ascertained that Berry's store had been broken into and they commenced an active search for their man, and located him within less than an hour. He was placed in the city jail and J. M. Berry was notified and immediately recognized the stolen goods as his, by the cost marks still on the clothing, his name in both the hat and necktie. Hackler soon saw there was no chance for escape and he owned up to it all and was taken before Justice Hough, where he entered a plea of guilty to the charge and was remanded to the county jail, to appear before the circuit court.

Hackler is a native of Prussia and has been in this country quite a while. He claims to be a member of the order of the Modern Woodmen of America, holding his membership at Missoula, Mont., also a member of the Sailor's union at San Francisco. He bears many marks, showing conclusively that he has served before the mast.

During the light famine the officers have been extraordinarily vigilant and they are to be commended for capturing the first attempt and in securing the evidence that leaves no question of doubt but what they have the right man.

BELIEVED TO HAVE SUICIDED

RUMOR TO THAT EFFECT CURRENT IN BAKER.

Because, as Later Became Known, Harvey K. Brown of Baker City, Was in Financial Difficulties, and Wires and Bolts Similar to Those Found at His Gate Were Later Found in His Cellar, it is Believed the Ex-Sheriff Committed Suicide.

Baker City, Feb. 14.—A rumor that has spread widely over the country during the past few hours is that Harvey K. Brown, blown to atoms at his gate last fall, was a suicide and

not a victim of an assassin's bomb.

The story is causing much comment. The chief reason for belief in the suicide theory are the facts that he was in financial difficulty at the time of his death, and that the bolts and wire used in the bomb are the same as those found in his cellar. He had about \$10,000 in life insurance at the time of his death.

Dentist Fights Robbers.

Spokane, Wash., Feb. 14.—Beating off three hold-up men with his fists and saving a street car from being looted, was the daring feat of Dr. W. H. Cummings, a dentist here last night. The men attempted to board a car, each with drawn revolver in his hand. Cummings held the first man's gun in his hand while he beat him and the other two off with blows in the face. He was shot through the leg in the scuffle which ensued.

LEARN STRENGTH OF PASSPORTS

PACIFIC MERCHANT VESSELS CAREFULLY LISTED.

Steps Such as Were Taken Prior to the Spanish-American War Have Been Taken on the Pacific Coast by Government Agents—Learning the Strength of the Merchant Vessels as Transports—No Bearing on Japanese War Cloud, Says Admiral.

San Francisco, Feb. 14.—For the first time since the days preceding the Spanish-American war, agents of the government are actively engaged in examining the large merchant vessels trading on the Pacific coast, with a view of ascertaining their value as transports in case the government needs their services suddenly. For some weeks Rear Admiral Henry Glass has been engaged in the examination of vessels on the Pacific coast. A complete list of vessels that could be used, have been forwarded to Washington, D. C.

Glass declares that his movements have no special significance in relation to the Japanese situation. Nevertheless, they are regarded so here.

CHANGE FLAG ALIGNMENT.

Roosevelt Sees Chance of Improvement in "Old Glory."

Washington, Feb. 14.—Having "artistically" fixed the gold coins by eliminating "In God We Trust," President Roosevelt is now considering a plan to rearrange the flag by a new alignment of the stars. The plan is presented by Dr. A. M. Martin of Bloomville, O., and the president says he approves of it.

Forty Miners Entombed.

Durban, Natal, Feb. 14.—Forty-two men have been entombed in a mine as the result of an explosion. The mine is located at Glencoe. It is believed all have perished.

OREGON CITY EMBEZZLER

SCHOOL TREASURER IS EMBEZZLER AND FORGER.

Following Charge of Embezzlement Against an Oregon City Business Man and School Board Member, Comes One of Forgery—Submitted a Bond, But This is Forged—Fell From Pole Accidentally It is Claimed But Suicide is Given as Motive.

Oregon City, Feb. 14.—Otto Olsen, who was arrested last night charged with embezzling \$4500 belonging to the Willamette school district, was discovered today to be also a forger. The bond, submitted by him to cover the default, was today pronounced a forgery. A week ago Olsen fell 14 feet from a telephone pole, striking his head, and he is still in bed as a result of this fall.

It is now believed that he was attempting to commit suicide when he fell, and that the supposed accident was really the result of a carefully thought-out scheme for self-destruction. Besides being the treasurer for the Willamette school district, he is the financial agent for the Methodist church and local superintendent of the Portland General Electric company. He came into possession of the \$4500 school funds through appropriations to pay up on the district's bonded indebtedness, which he failed to do.

IMMUNITY PROOFS READ.

Abe Ruef's Parents Swear They Asked Their Son to Confess.

San Francisco, Feb. 14.—Abraham Ruef sat in the court room today, and with tears streaming down his face listened to his attorneys read affidavits of his two old parents who told how they had influenced their son to confess to the graft prosecution upon Prosecutor Heney and District Attorney Langdon's assurance that he would gain complete immunity if he did so.

Following their affidavits, others were read from Ruef's attorneys and a copy of the immunity contract attached.

Probe Harriman Lines.

San Francisco, Feb. 14.—Rebate inquiries against the Southern Pacific, the Santa Fe and the Salt Lake routes will be commenced here tomorrow by the California railroad commission, and later will be continued in Los Angeles.

The constitution of California has a provision forbidding any rebating by the railroads, and it is under this that the investigation is to be conducted. Rebating is a serious offense in California. The state constitution provides for a fine up to \$20,000 for each and every case proved. Furthermore, it is provided that the officials guilty of the act may be imprisoned.

TIMELY SPECIAL SALE of Beverly Skirts—this week

This sale embraces every Beverly Skirt in our stock—in Black Voile, Black Panama, and all novelties in every conceivable color—in the new stripes, plaids and checks, also a good assortment in light colored dress skirts, all at REDUCED PRICES this week.

\$30.00 Skirts	\$20.00	\$20.00 Skirts	\$13.34
27.50 Skirts	17.34	18.50 Skirts	12.34
25.00 Skirts	16.67	17.50 Skirts	11.67
22.50 Skirts	15.00	15.00 Skirts	10.00

ALL SKIRTS AT REDUCED PRICES THIS WEEK



THE PAPILLON MODEL WAIST

::: SEE CUT :::

The only really new waist novelty produced for several months, made from daintiest of sheer materials with many pretty conceits in dainty laces and insertions

\$4.50 up

The Fair DEPARTMENT STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON

VALENTINES

Splendid Assortment All 1908 Styles All Prices

HILL'S DRUG STORE

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