La Grande Evening Observer

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COMPLETE TIE-UP OF O. R. & N. TRAIN SERVICE

POSSIBLE THAT TRAINS WILL START TONIGHT.

Results of Hard Rains and Sudden Thaw Make Themselves Visible in Two Places on the O. R. & N.—Wyatt Washout Cripples West End Service and Huron-Meacham Trouble Ends Service Over the Mountain.—Hundreds in La Grande Now Awaiting Resumption of Traffic—La Grande is Terminus—No Probability That Matters Will Be Improved This Week.

Traffic on the O. R. & N. is in a tangled and congested condition, similar to the one which existed here two years ago next May, and though many predict it will require a week's time to get things straightened out, O. R. & N. officials say that it is possible—but not probably—that the trains will be run over the mountains some time tonight.

The rainstorms and sudden thaw, which are general all over Oregon, have two well-centered spots where the results are especially evident. These two places are at Wyatt, near The Dalles, and a stretch of track 15 miles long on the west side of the Blue mountains. The tracks are in a very bad condition.

For a distance of 15 miles, commencing at Huron, the tracks are washed out, covered with landslides, and bridges are undermined at frequent intervals. Extra gangs of Japanese from all over the eastern Oregon division are on the scene and extrordinary efforts are being made to clear the right of way. One extra train of five outfit cars picked up at Elgin yesterday morning was sent to Huron last night. Conductor Stacy is there with a train, and is looking after the provision supply, which is needed to keep the men at work. Meacham is called upon to supply the food.

It is hard to learn the exact state of affairs. From the dispatcher's office it was learned that unless more slides occur, and if the rains cease, the congested condition in La Grande will be relieved this evening about 10 o'clock but it is impossible to name the hour that trains will move west again.

A stretch of track 500 feet long is washed out on the mountain side below Meacham. Another piece of track 600 feet long is covered with six feet of mud today. Still a third place is dangerous to traffic because the abutment to a bridge is weak. Mountain streams are continually menacing the safety of roadbed. All these facts give ground for the belief that present conditions will exist for perhaps a week to come.

While the railroad officials give out the information that it is possible to get trains west tonight, still preparations which they are making today demonstrate that they have but little hope for the fulfillment of their own statements. As stated, it is possible but not probable that things will ease up tonight.

Trouble at Wyatt.

The eastbound train due here yesterday morning never got beyond Wyatt, and there it is that the west end of the O. R. & N. traffic is crippled. A bridge is washed out and a huge landslide covers a large piece of roadbed. Spokane traffic to Portland over the O. R. & N. is crippled as well. Hence, all mail is piling up at Wyatt as it is in this city.

Company Feeds Tourists.

Every stranded passenger and tourist in La Grande was given an order this morning, on instructions from General Passenger Agent McMurray which entitles the holder to eat at any restaurant, hotel or private residence at the expense of the O. R. & N. Of course, these orders hold only during such time as the trains are not moving.

Rebates will be provided for those who spent money for living expenses yesterday and last night, prior to the issuance of the orders for meals.

Trains Turned.

La Grande has been a terminus since yesterday morning. The first train to go east from La Grande was yesterday morning's No. 1, which went east as a stub No. 2 last evening, on time. Last evening's No. 5 was turned this morning and sent east as No. 6, two hours late. This morning's No. 1 will leave for the east on No. 2's time this evening. As each train comes in from the east a portion of the coaches are left in the yards, and a shorter train sent back. This affords ample waiting room for the stranded passengers, who spent much of their time in the coaches, using them as headquarters, making it impossible for them to lose the first train for the west when traffic is resumed.

Mail Piled High.

The baggage room is rapidly filling with mail pouches and baggage. All mail for points west is stored here, and naturally, accumulates rapidly as trains from the east arrive regularly. It will require extra accommodations to handle the congested mail when service is resumed.

BOLD ROBBERY ON SPOKANE TRAIN

LONE ROBBER MAKES OFF WITH BIG PHAE.

Lonely Robber Hoodwinks Three Mail Clerks and With Perfect Calmness Carries Off Sack Full of Money and Valuables—Poses as Postoffice Inspector and Soon Has Clerks in His Control—Rides for Hours Sorting Mail—All Clues Lost.

Spokane, March 16.—Impersonating an inspector of the railway mails, a lone robber entered a mail car at Bonner's ferry, Idaho, on the Great Northern, and held up two mail clerks, tied one to a chair, locked the other in a clothes closet and then rifled the mail sacks for the next three hours in perfect security.

He did not leave the car until it reached the city limits of Spokane when he dropped off the car with a small sack full of coin and valuables. The mail clerks were W. Nysteum and Benjamin Sumpf. They were released when the train reached the depot, and the robbery discovered.

The thief worked with perfect calmness, smoking a cigar and handling bundles of letters with great expertness. Several times he loosened the bonds on Stumpf's wrists and eased the condition of Nysteum's confine in the closet in order that the prisoners might be more comfortable. He entered the car at Bonner's Ferry at 4 o'clock this morning and said his name was C. W. Bennett, the inspector. He asked the clerks to see if there was any mail for him, and as they did so he covered them with a revolver. When the robbery was discovered in Spokane, bloodhounds were put on the train, but after a few blocks it was lost at the street car tracks.

HORNBECK SENTENCED.

Must Support His Wife or Serve a Year in County Jail.

Judge Crawford this morning refused to issue a certificate of probable cause for an appeal in the case of the State vs. L. W. Hornbeck, who was convicted by a jury on the charge of non-support of his wife and child without cause, and sentenced him to the county jail for 12 months and to do work on the county roads or to furnish the court with a $500 bond that he would deposit with the court every month of the period covered by his sentence, $30 for the support of his family. It is presumed that Hornbeck will take the latter course. Judge Crawford in passing sentence gave the defendant a scathing lecture and in turning him over to the sheriff gave him special instructions to the effect that he wanted the sentence carefully executed on his part.

ARC LIGHTS ON THIS EVENING

MORGAN LAKE FILLING WITH WATER RAPIDLY.

No Longer Any Doubt But That the Electric Company Will Be Able to Supply Electricity This Spring—The Cove Plant Now Generating Current Morgan Lake Has Water Enough to Last Two Months in Case of Sudden Freeze—All Lights on Tonight.

"If it should freeze tonight and remain freezing cold for a period of 60 days," said Manager Fred Housh this morning, "the Grand Ronde Electric company will be in position to supply electric light without fail."

This announcement follows the partial illumination of the city last Saturday night and the widening of the lighted area last night. One of the most pleasing sights that has greeted citizens of La Grande in many weeks was the sight afforded last Saturday night when incandescent lights in the downtown business houses were switched on, temporarily paralyzing business. While generally expected, the sudden advent of electric light was too much for the average business man who has battled with coal oil lamps during the extended light famine, and many were the shouts of joy from otherwise dignified people.

Full Service Tonight.

Tonight every arc light in the city will be turned on, and all electrically lighted residences of the city will likewise be supplied with "chained lightning."

Here to Stay.

The lights are not to be spasmodic. The Cove plant is fully capable of generating sufficient light to meet demands in this city, but in the event that a sudden freeze should paralyze that plant, Morgan lake can be put in service again. In 11 hours the lake filled to a depth of three feet Saturday night, and the company officials maintain that this is enough water to meet all demands for a period of 60 days.

There has been a general shifting of motive arrangement throughout the city today. Those who met conditions by resorting to water power and gasoline engines, have discarded such methods and are again using electricity. A few have been reticent in making the chances, but positive assurance from the light company of permanent light and power has allayed all fear of a repetition of the unfortunate occurrence.

START DRIVE TODAY.

Mountain Log Drive From Hilgard to Perry is Started.

Taking Advantage of the high water, the Grande Ronde Lumber company at Perry is preparing to start its annual drive of logs from Hilgard to the Perry mill, and a crew of 50 men commenced the undertaking today. This affords a spectacular sight. Some of the logs that have been dipped there during the winter, broke loose Saturday and these have filled the nooks. For this reason, the officials predict that it will require about two days to get the drive to Perry. There is much excitement attending these drives and many people from La Grande will doubtlessly go to Perry to meet the drive before it has reached its destination.

Railroad Men Meeting.

Chicago, March 16.—Railroad officials are gathering in Chicago today from all parts of the United States, Canada and Mexico, for the annual convention of the American Railway and Maintenance of Way association. The session will open tomorrow in the Auditorium hotel and will continue through three days.

To Honor St. Patrick.

New York, March 16.—Final preparations have been completed by the United Irish-American societies for an elaborate celebration of St. Patrick's day tomorrow. Irishmen generally will observe a holiday and there will be numerous parades, banquets and meetings.

JUDGE HAILEY DEAD AT PORTLAND

HIS MOTHER IN LA GRANDE UNABLE TO REACH BIER.

Son of La Grande, for Long Prominent in Oregon as a Jurist, Died at Portland at Midnight Last Night—His Mother Detained Here, Unable to Reach Portland in Time for the Funeral—Held Many Places of Public Trust in Oregon.

Detained here while O. R. & N. tracks are being cleared and unable, no doubt, to reach Portland in time to view for the last time the earthly remains of her son, is the sad state of affairs with Mrs. John Hailey of Boise, who is today a guest with the Slater family in La Grande.

Mrs. Hailey was called to Portland by an urgent message stating that her son Judge Hailey, who has been critically ill in Portland for many weeks, was dying. Since her departure from Boise, her son has died and though the funeral is set for Wednesday afternoon, the stranded mother will to all appearances not be able to attend it. She will remain in La Grande as a guest of her many friends until traffic is resumed.

Judge Hailey died at midnight last night. His death followed a long and serious illness during which he suffered an operation for intestinal complications. His father, John Hailey, sr., was at his bedside when death overtook the jurist.

Born in La Grande.

Judge Thomas G. Hailey was born in La Grande July 13, 1865. The same year his parents moved to Boise where the future judge grew to manhood. Later in his life he rapidly rose to places of distinction. In Pendleton where he made his home for several years, he was at one time district attorney and later mayor of that city.

During his residence in Pendleton he formed a partnership with Stephen A. Lowell, in the law firm of Hailey & Lowell, and was later appointed by Governor Chamberlain to fill a vacancy in the Oregon supreme court, left by Judge Wolverton, who was elevated to the federal bench. After his term expired as justice of the supreme court, he became a member of the law firm of Chamberlain Thomas & Hailey, the former being the present governor of Oregon.

Judge Hailey has a host of intimate acquaintances and friends in La Grande. The Slater family especially, were warm friends of the entire Hailey family.

Mr. Hailey is survived by a wife and two daughters, Elizabeth and Genevieve, aged 10 and 7 respectively; a brother, John Hailey, jr. United States commissioner, who resides at Pendleton; a sister, now in the Philippines, and his aged father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. John Hailey, sr.

MANY STRANDED HERE.

All Hotels Full to Overflowing With Stranded Travelers.

All hotels of the city have been taxed since yesterday morning to accommodate the stranded passengers and tourists, notwithstanding that many of the commercial men last evening on stub No. 2 for Spokane via Butte. Among those who were not able to secure standard sleeping car accommodations and who went to the Foley house, are:

Frank Main and wife, Spokane; G. A. McDonald, Chicago; George A. Stockder, Portland; A. W. Wright, N. Y.; C. B. Keeler, Boise; W. R. Davis, Portland; Merril Nibley, Salt Lake; J. V. Chesney, Seattle; E. F. Rockfallow, N. Y.; J. Hanshall and wife, Kansas City; E. Cohen, Omaha; W. F. Sergent, San Francisco; T. W. Clark, Oregon City; W. E. Clark, Omaha; C. M. Hollingsworth, Portland; H. E. Curry, Baker City; Adwin Ashbough, Seattle; H. E. Van Ness, Tacoma; W. C. Webster, Spokane.

Those Registered Sommer House.

B. A. Rupp, Blackfoot, Idaho; Colon R. Eberhard, Joseph; Dr. H. A. Tripper and wife, Walla Walla; John Koch, Walla Walla; Mrs. A. Beel, Baker City; H. N. Swish, Portland; Fred H. Falls, Portland; G. W. Custer, Chicago; S. Mars, St. Joe, Mo.; James Foot; J. H. Marcum, Francis Reilly, N. Y.; M. McEntire, N. Y.; Thomas McEntire, N. Y.; Richard H. Rew, J. T. Currans, Pleasant Valley; A. M. Kennedy, M. J. Duffey, Cove.

McCourt's Nomination Favorable.

Washington, March 16.—John McCourt's nomination to the federal district attorneyship of Oregon was favorably reported today by the judiciary committee and it will undoubtedly be confirmed.

International Battle.

Boston, March 16.—Another international battle will be pulled off here on March 25, when Matty Baldwin and Spike Robson of England will face one another in a contest that should be one of the most interesting seen in Beantown for many months. The Armory Athletic association is in charge of the bout. Jim Bonner, the rugged Pennsylvania fighter, and Tommy quill, of Pawtucket, R. I., have also been matched to fight 12 rounds before the same club.

FLEET STARTS TARGET PRACTICE

EXPECT NEW MARKS BY EXPERT GUNNERS.

Battleship Fleet Under Admiral Evans Has Opened its Extended Target Practice Near Magdalena Bay—Superstructures Cleared for Action and Everything in Readiness for Monster Shooting-Fest—Practices Starts With Approach of Daylight.

Magdalena Bay, March 16.—(Via United wireless and United Press leased wires, by special correspondent. —A puff of white smoke, a flying shell and an angry growl from one of the battleship's big guns shattered the death-like silence of the sleeping hills that cluster about the calm waters of the land-locked bay, and marked the opening of target practice by Evans' fleet today.

Early this morning the first of Uncle Sam's floating fortresses swung out of the bay and headed for the ranges. In a moment three grim fighters detached themselves from the squadron and moved slowly toward the open sea, where for the next few days gunners of each battleship will strive to surpass the wonderful records already established by "dead shots" of the Pacific fleet. Preliminary to actual practice came the work of cleaning away the superstructure on each battleship and the putting of each vessel in fighting trim. All was in readiness and by daylight tugs were out in open sea putting up targets which soon were to be torn into shreds. The conditions for accurate shooting are propritious and new marks will probably be hung up.

PALMER SPUR TRACKS GONE

PALMER MILL NOT IN OPERATION TODAY.

Although Impossible to Get Logs From the Palmer Camps for Several Days at Least, it is Not Thought the Mill Will Suffer for Want of Logs, as it Has Five Days' Supply on Hand—Expect to Repair Damage Before Then—Buildings Theratened.

Though the Palmer spur is washed out and a bridge on the O. R. & N. near the Looking Glass junction is gone, and it is impossible to get logs from the George Palmer lumber camps to the mill, it is more than likely that the mill in this city will resume operations after this evening and perhaps keep in action until the damages are repaired.

The rains of Saturday night washed away considerable track on the spur and carried away one of the small bridges. But as there are logs enough in the pond to keep the wheels turning for a period of about five days, it is not believed the mill will be kept idle from this source. The customary Sunday trip after logs was not made yesterday, and thus the supply is considerably less than it generally is on Monday morning. Just how long it will take to repair damages on the interior, is not known but some say one week. Others who are in position to know predict that three or four days will remedy the trouble. In the latter event, the mill will be kept running with the supply on hand while repairs are meing made.

Mill Shut Down Today.

The Palmer mill is not running today. This is not on account of log shortage, but because of the high water. The officials expect to resume work tomorrow, if possible.

Property Threatened.

The oil house, the pump house and the stables at the Palmer mill were seriously threatened during the Grande Ronde river's rampage yesterday. A slight break was discovered, but was held in check by a crew of men, thus frustrating serious damage. Had the waters worked themselves through this break, serious damage would have been done to the buildings mentioned.

At John D.'s University.

Chicago, March 16.—Andrew Sloan Draper, commissioner of education of New York, will deliver the oration at the 87th convocation of the University of Chicago tomorrow. His subject will be "The Limits of Academis Freedom."

Alley Creepers Win.

The Blue Mountain baseball team went down to defeat at the hands of the Alley Creepers last Saturday afternoon to the tune of 12 to 8. The batteries were: B. M. A. A.—Williams, Grady and Pickler. Alley Creepers—Meyers and Ralston.

Prescriptions

There is no more vital question to be considered in the family than that of the compoundieg of the doctor's prescription. There should be no half way methods regarding prescriptions. We use pure drugs, compounded just "according to the doctor's orders."

HILL'S DRUG STORE

La Grande Oregon