

La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME VIII.

LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1908.

NUMBER 32.

WILL RUN PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF PROPOSED IRRIGATION DITCH

DEFY RULES OF GOVERNMENT

OKLAHOMA FLOOD RIVERS ARE SLOWLY RECEDING.

Realizing That Delay Means Destruction of Much Valuable Property, Citizens of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Take Bits in Their Own Teeth—Will Cut Government Levee to Save the Property—Number of Known Dead in Oklahoma is Eight.

Pine Bluff, Ark., Dec. 1.—Following a mass meeting at which it was decided to defy the government, citizens of this place are preparing to cut the government levee on the north side of the Arkansas river. The river has been caving in for weeks. Several warehouses are carried away and reports of flood waters up the river have convinced the citizens that unless the levee is cut a \$300,000 court house, the Jefferson hotel worth a quarter million dollars, will be destroyed.

Flood Waters Receding.
Guthrie, Okla., Dec. 1.—The floods which were raging in this section are receding today. The rivers are within their banks in most places. It is believed most of the dangerous time is passed. The number of dead is known to be eight. Property damage is estimated at \$1,000,000.

Grocers in Session.
Mansfield, O., Dec. 1.—Legislation beneficial to the trade will be demanded from the next Ohio legislature by the grocers and butchers of the state, who are meeting here today.

CASE TO THE JURY

BAKER CITY BANKER'S FATE WITH JURORS.

Accused of Making False Affidavits in Land Cases, Baker City Banker Now Awaits Verdict—Another Perjury Case on Trial.

Portland, Dec. 1.—The case of J. P. Parker, former vice-president of the First National Bank at Baker City, Ore., accused of making false affidavits in connection with a land deal, went to the jury today. The trial of Louis Kohlhaugen of Roseburg, accused of perjury in swearing falsely to get possession of land near Grants Pass, was opened today.

TWO VESSELS LOST

Dover, Eng., Dec. 1.—Two vessels are reported to have collided in a dense fog in West Bay this morning, and to have gone down with all aboard. So far little boats are unable to find a sign of the wreck.

RECOVER MORE BODIES.

Eleven Bodies Recovered Today Making Total to Date of 135.
Marlana, Pa., Dec. 1.—The death list at the wrecked mine of the Pittsburgh-Buffalo Coal company today numbers 135. Work of the rescuers is difficult. Eleven bodies were recovered today.

Much Snow in Northwest.
Spokane, Dec. 1.—Snow, varying in depth from one-half to three inches, mantles the inland empire, and covers the mountains of northern Idaho and central Washington two feet. Cattle have been driven from the hills near Walla Walla for grazing on the lowlands.

LETHARGY OF BOOMERS LOST

TEN THOUSAND ACRES HAVE BEEN SUBSCRIBED.

Vastly Different Hue Tinges Irrigation Horizon This Morning—Run Preliminary Survey to Ascertain Exact Route of Ditch and Laterals—McKennon is Chairman of Committee—Another Meeting December 15—Big Meeting in a Month.

With the avowed intention of running a preliminary survey from Meadow Brook canyon, up the Grande Ronde river, down the river to its entrance into the Grande Ronde valley, and following the proposed course of the main channel of the gigantic irrigation scheme now being fostered and establishing the probable route of the laterals, that the land owners may better be apprised of the exact course, the Commercial club is today scurrying about for competent civil engineers to do this work right away—immediately. There is policy in this movement. When the preliminaries have been run, John Smith will know how near his farm is to be from the main channel or principal lateral, and Mr. Jones will have similar information. The sudden spurt of interest and determination expresses another highly laudable fact—lethargy has been discarded for the unanimous decision to push the work until Union county's greatest boon stands secured.

Reorganize Committee.
When the soliciting committee of nine was originally appointed, it was under instructions to go after subscribers, but it had no real head. Subcommittees were working haphazardly. Now there is a pivot to the work. J. D. McKennon was last evening appointed chairman of the committee of nine, which has been the recipient of criticism for not displaying more ginger in the appeal for subscribers to the 20,000 acres required. In some respects the criticism has been warranted, though the most sanguine boomers were rather pleasantly astonished to hear from the committee's report last evening that approximately 10,000 acres have already been subscribed. But the last half invariably is the more difficult to secure. With this encouraging information to enliven interest, the board appointed the chairman and gained assurance from the men of the committee that personal matters of deep importance to the members had been attended to, and that from now on, such men as

(Continued on page 8.)

BIGGY MYSTERY STILL UNSOLVED

ANOTHER PICTURE IN PANORAMA OF CRIMES.

Theory of Suicide Keeps Growing Today—No Solution to Biggy Disappearance—Slipped From Boat While It Was Recrossing the Bay—His Engineer Exonerated—Was Hounded by Newspapers—Chief Appeared Greatly Alarmed.

San Francisco, Dec. 1.—Developments are today increasing the support of the theory that Chief of Police Biggy, who mysteriously disappeared from a launch in the bay last night, while returning to San Francisco, jumped into the water with suicidal intent while smarting under the bitter criticism, fearing investigation of his official conduct in connection with the circumstances surrounding the assassin, Morris Haas.

Ever since the attempt to assassinate Prosecutor Hone, the police department was in a state of unrest. Biggy was severely criticized following the

(Continued on page 8.)

GOVERNMENT VIOLATES SAFETY APPLIANCE LAW

WASHINGTON COMMISSIONER UNABLE TO REMEDY FAULT.

Both the State of Washington and the Government to Blame for Violations of Its Own Laws—Neither Hand Nor Power Brakes on Flat Cars at Navy Yard.

Tacoma, Dec. 1.—State Railroad Commissioner Parley today announced that as a result of his investigation at the Puget Sound navy yard, he is satisfied the state and government are violating in a flagrant manner, the safety appliance laws under which it collected during the last few years, thousands of dollars in fines from the railroads. Parley says he cannot interfere because the alleged defective cars are operated on government property. He says the flat cars at the navy yards have no power or hand brakes, and have to rely solely on the locomotive brakes. This is contrary to federal

OFFICER RELEASED AND REARRESTED

J. B. Officer, charged with larceny by bailer, for disposing or attempting to move a phonograph which he had purchased on a lease from the Davis-Jordan company, was released this morning by Justice Stewart, who after taking the matter under advisement, decided that under the contract the phonograph was equivalent to a sale, therefore Officer was at liberty to do as he pleased with the property.

Arrested on Another Charge.
No sooner had the order of the court been given than Constable McFaulk placed him under arrest again, the charge this time being the larceny of a watch and chain from Alice Clover. As we have been informed, the story runs about like this: It seems that several weeks before he severed his connection as deliveryman for Cherry's New Laundry, he called at the house of the prosecuting witness, who keeps a house in the red-

light district, to deliver some laundry. She asked him to remain a moment while she gathered some other laundry. After Officer's departure she missed her watch and chain. The watch contained the engraved name of "Alice," as did also the fob to the chain. She immediately notified the police, she thinking Officer was the guilty party, but no clue was ever discovered until Sheriff Childers went back to Arkansas, when he secured the watch in possession of Officer. The name in both places had been filed out. Officer claims that he found the watch in a bundle of clothing and he kept it watching the papers for some one to advertise for it. He was arraigned this forenoon before Judge Henry and the preliminary examination was set for tomorrow morning at 9:30. In default of \$500 bonds Officer is in jail.

METCALF HAS QUIT

TRUMAN NEWBERRY IS BONA FIDE NAVY SECRETARY.

Resigned Secretary Was Considerably a Figurehead—Roosevelt Ignored Him in Many Instances—Newberry Competent.

Washington, Dec. 1.—Another change in the Roosevelt cabinet took place today when Victor H. Metcalf of California, formally relinquished the portfolio of secretary of the navy, and was succeeded by Truman H. Newberry of Michigan, who had been assistant secretary in name, but secretary in fact, since November, 1905. Secretary Metcalf has been a stickler for his prerogatives, but has found himself on repeated occasions practically ignored by the president in important matters affecting naval policy and the conduct of his department.

Lack of health and the sense of isolation and estrangement between himself and President Roosevelt prompted Mr. Metcalf's resignation. He has been ill for a year, and during the last two months he has scarcely been able to sit at his desk. Just before election he had to cancel an engagement to speak in West Virginia. Since that time he has been able to be at the department parts of only two days. Mr. Metcalf left Washington in the middle of last April, going to his home in California with a hope that he could regain his health. He remained there until September. He believed himself improved when he came back to Washington.

Uniform Bill of Lading.
Chicago, Dec. 1.—Following similar action on the part of eastern roads, the western railroads today adopted the uniform bill of lading. Shippers who refuse to accept the innovation are informed that 10 per cent will be added to their freight charges.

Texas Masons.
Waco, Texas, Dec. 1.—Texas Grand Lodge of Masonic fraternities convened in Waco today, with a large attendance of delegates. One of the new matters coming up at this session will be the report of the committee on revision of the Masonic laws. This committee, for the Grand Lodge is headed by W. S. Fly of San Antonio as chairman.

Archbold Ready for Kellogg.
New York, Dec. 1.—John D. Archbold resumed the stand in today's hearing in the government suit to dissolve the Standard Oil company. He appeared worried. Morris Rosenthal, the Standard's \$1000-a-day lawyer, asked his last direct questions.

Kellogg, for the government, is preparing for a cross-examination. Law, which demands all trains be equipped with enough power to enable the engineer to control the speed of his train without being necessary to set hand brakes.

BAR OPIUM FROM COAST PORTS

SWEEPING ORDER MEANS DRUG FAMINE SHORTLY.

Startling Order Issued After Understanding With President and International Commission—An Enormous Amount of Drugs Used in Pacific States by Chinese, Mostly—\$900 Pounds of Opium, 35,000 Ounces of Morphine in a Year.

San Francisco, Dec. 1.—Opium was today barred from all the Pacific coast ports by an order issued by Collector of the Port Stratton, after receiving a secret message from Dr. Wiley, the government's chief food inspector.

Wiley said he had arrived at an understanding with President Roosevelt and the members of the international opium commission. The order will have a widespread effect, particularly among the Chinese of the larger western cities. Statistics show that during the last year, prior to August, \$900 pounds of opium and 35,000 ounces of morphine had been sold through California dealers. An opium famine on the Pacific coast is certain.

MYSTERY SURROUNDS ROOT'S RESIGNATION

EXPOSURE OF ALLEGED CORRUPTION IS PROMISED.

State Bar of Washington is Examining Resignation of Supreme Judge Root—Important Witness is Called—Leading Figures in Affair Are Prominent Men.

Spokane, Dec. 1.—The state bar commission is today examining L. C. Gilman, western general counsel of the Great Northern road, in the investigation following the resignation of Supreme Justice Milo Root. J. J. Lavin, secretary to M. J. Gordon, a former Great Northern counsel, is the next witness. Gordon is reported to have threatened to expose the corruption involving J. J. Hill and Root, if prosecuted. The deepest secrecy concerning the examination is maintained. The Gordon shortage is now reported at \$200,000. Gordon was once a member of the Washington supreme court.

ARRIVED

Our Full Line of New Dolls, Toys and novelty Xmas goods Will be on Display Tomorrow

FAIR STORE
"Satisfaction or Your Money Back"

WAYS OF CURING PAIN

First: Drug it away; Second: Coax it away by the application of heat. Heat relieves almost any pain, and when it will answer it is the better remedy. Every home should contain a

HOT WATER BOTTLE

Heat can then be applied anywhere, at any time and in the most effective manner. If the bottle be wrapped in a woolen cloth it will remain hot for hours. There are few things a home can contain that will be more useful than this modern convenience. Those we have are made of the highest quality of Para Rubber, will last for years and cost but little

Newlin Drug Co.
La Grande, Ore.