

# La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME VIII LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1908. NUMBER 66.

## WILL TAKE OVER TRUST BANK

ONLY TWO BANKS IN LA GRANDE IN SHORT TIME.

United States National Bank Will Absorb and Take Over the Eastern Oregon Trust—Means a Complete Relaxation of Real Estate Business Here—Cover to Affiliate With La Grande National—New Bank to Open as Soon as Possible.

Within the next 60 days the United States National bank will take over and absorb the Eastern Oregon Trust & Savings bank of this city, and from that time on there will be but two banking institutions in this city, each a distinct institution and entirely free from relationship with the other.

The process of taking over the flourishing little bank will merely be for the new institution to assume assets and pay liabilities of the disappearing bank. The transaction will follow the opening of the new bank early in January—the first week, if possible. But there is a great mass of preliminary work to do before the new bank can open its doors, and it may be that it will require a week of January to make the preparations.

**Drop Real Estate Business.**  
Hereafter, or as soon as the transfer is made, neither bank of this city will loan money on real estate, a line of business now being profitably conducted by the Eastern Oregon Trust. National institutions are forbidden this privilege.

**Cleaver to Stay Here.**  
George L. Cleaver, cashier of the bank that is soon to become part and parcel of the new bank, will reaffiliate himself with the La Grande National bank as soon as all business relative to the pending transaction has been wiped out.

## "DOPE" ATHLETES ONE MEMBER OF SIX-DAY RACE ALMOST KILLED.

Genial Six-Day Race at New York is Nerve Wracking—Give Athletes Dope.

New York, Dec. 10.—The nerve-wrecking six-day bicycle race at Madison Square Garden has reached the "stimulant" stage today, when several riders were given powerful stimulants to keep them on their wheels. Seven teams are left in the race. One is on the verge of collapse. Gordon Walker or Sydney, a member of the Australian team, fell from his wheel and was perhaps fatally injured.

## APPEARS RUEF JURY IS UNABLE TO AGREE

RUMORS OF BRIBERY FREELY SPREAD AT COURT HOUSE.

Great Crowds Await Decision of Jury in Ruef Case—Prosecution Expected Quick "Guilty" Decision—Every Hour Aids Ruef's Chances of Disagreement.

San Francisco, Dec. 10.—Unverified rumors are current this morning that the Ruef jury stands nine to three, or ten to two, a majority favoring conviction. Ruef is pale, but confident. He passed the court room all morning.

Every hour the jury is out is considered as favorable to Ruef. The prosecution expected a quick verdict of guilty. When the jury asked that evidence be read last night it was apparent they were divided. Many think a disagreement will be the result.

Reports from the jury room indicate that the deliberations are far

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## GREAT BLOWOUT OF ONTARIO GAS

CITIZENS ASSEMBLED IN GREAT ECSTASY OF JOY.

Underground Explosion Hurts Rocks and Dirt High in the Air—Well Had Been Flowing With Gas for Several Days—Drilling Stopped—Population of Ontario Gathers to Witness Strange Freak of Nature—Explosion 115 Feet Underground.

Baker City, Dec. 10.—A special to the Democrat last night from Vale, says:

The strongest indications of any yet disclosed of the presence under the ground here of large quantities of oil came this afternoon in a series of blow-outs and the resultant effects in the well which is being driven by the Ontario Oil & Gas Co. composed of Ontario citizens, which is operating at the south end of the town in the original townsite.

The first blow-out was heard about 5 o'clock and several others followed at intervals of about one hour. The noise aroused the whole town and citizens came out in large numbers. They were on the scene in time to see a veritable geyser of water and stones and mud a distance of 110 feet above the top of the derrick. The explosions occurred 115 feet under the ground.

Several days ago the company struck a gas flow which lasted for about 40 hours, until this morning, when it was stopped to permit operations to continue. After drilling about 70 feet further a new and larger supply of gas was encountered, resulting in the blow-out. It is believed the drill has encountered the very heart of the supply. Citizens are jubilant over today's developments.

David R. Eccles, manager of the Pastime theater, left this morning for Vale, on business matters.

## ARRESTS FOLLOW A CONFESSION

GRANT LINCOLN AND WM. SPILLMAN ARRESTED TODAY.

Confession of Charles Roland Leads to Prosecution of Depot Street Pool Room Proprietor and His Employee—Roland Arrested While Drunk and Today Confesses to Officers—Trial Will Come With Arrest of Both Men—Seems Clear Case.

Warrants are out for the arrest of Grant Lincoln and William Spillman, charged with selling whisky to one Charles Roland. It seems that yesterday evening Charles Roland, who resides in South La Grande, came down town and proceeded to get "properly loaded." He was discovered in this condition by Officer Faulk, who took him in charge and turned him over to Chief of Police Walden. The chief had a quiet little talk which resulted in Roland telling where he secured the liquor and when District Attorney Ivanhoe was made acquainted with the facts the above mentioned warrants were issued.

The case will be heard in Justice Stewart's court and as soon as the arrests are made the case will come to trial. Grant Lincoln is the proprietor of a soft drink establishment and cigar store on Depot street. The officers believe that they have a complete case.

This afternoon Constable Faulk arrested Lincoln and also Ralph Atkinson. Judge Stewart issued a search warrant and placed it in the hands of Constable Faulk, who proceeded to give the Lincoln place of business a thorough looking over. He found a quart bottle of whisky behind the bar. He also found Ralph Atkinson tending bar there, and as his warrant gave him authority to arrest anyone who seemed to be in possession of the place he arrested the above mentioned bartender. The trial will most likely be held this evening. Spillman at the time of going to press has not been arrested.

**SCHMITZ AT LIBERTY.**  
District Attorney's Office Treats Former Mayor Kindly.

San Francisco, Dec. 10.—Former Mayor Schmitz, indicted for various felonies, is at liberty today through the kindness of the district attorney's office. When Schmitz appeared in court yesterday with his attorney and former bondsman, William Dunge, he was not prepared to offer a new bondsman. The deputy district attorney made no objection to a continuance until Saturday, although it is stipulated that Schmitz was to have a new bondsman yesterday.

**CANNON IS ANTAGONISTIC**

IMPROVEMENT OF RIVERS AND HARBORS DOUBTFUL Affirms He Will Not Permit \$100,000,000 Bond Appropriation to Pass. He Says.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Speaker Cannon today threw cold water on the rivers and harbors congress by threatening to oppose the organization's plans, insisting that "Talk is cheap, but action is another thing." There is no hope of getting the necessary appropriation without the speaker's assistance.

"I agree that the rivers and harbors should be sufficiently improved," said Cannon, "but let us be practical. If the rivers and harbors commission reports a bill providing for the issuance of \$100,000,000 worth of bonds to meet the expense of the improvement of water ways, I will not vote for it."

## DAVIS ACQUITTED FAMOUS DEATH PACT CASE COMES TO AN END.

Omaha Society Scandal Ends in Acquittal of Accused—Took 19 Ballots First.

Omaha, Dec. 10.—Charles E. Davis was today acquitted of the charge of murder in connection with the famous triple death pact. He was accused of killing Dr. Frederick Rustin under an agreement by which he and Mrs. Abel Rice were to commit suicide as soon as Rustin was dead. It was learned today that one juror held out for manslaughter and that 19 ballots were taken before a verdict was reached. Davis thanked each juror.

## FULL PROGRAM OF FARMERS INSTITUTE

SEVERAL UNION COUNTY MEN ON LONG PROGRAM.

First Announcement of the Complete Program for Farmers' Institute at Island City December 17—Large Crowd Anticipated for Instructive Session.

The full program for the coming Farmers' Institute at Island City December 17, has been announced. Portions of it are already before the public, but today local committees having the affair in charge, prepared the complete schedule of events. The institute will prove itself of great value to the farmers and it is believed that the attendance will be extremely large. The program is given herewith:

10 a. m.—Quartet and chorus, "The Farmer Feeds Them All."  
"Horticulture Outlook in the Grande Ronde Valley," Prof. C. I. Lewis.  
Discussion.  
Song.  
"Hog Industry in the Grande Ronde Valley," by R. E. Reynolds.  
Discussion.  
Song.  
"Dry Farming," Prof. H. D. Seuder.

Recitation—"Free Silver and Gold Standard," W. Roy Gekeler.  
"Chemistry of the Soil," Prof. C. E. Bradley.

Solo—"Daddy's Little Tom Boy Girl," Kate Gekeler.  
"Why Not a Scientific Farmers' Association in Union County?" E. D. Jasper.

Evening Session.  
7:30—  
Song—"Wild Bird."  
Talk on "General Agriculture," by Dr. James Withycombe.  
Recitation—"The Nature Faker's Puzzle," by Etha Huffman.  
Solo—"Mandaley," by Alex Robertson.

An illustrated stereopticon lecture on "Breeds and Types of Livestock; the Agricultural College and its Work."

## PRESIDENT IN GREAT DILEMMA

WILEY-SULPHURED FRUIT INCIDENT IS INTERNATIONAL

Either Way That President Roosevelt Turns, He Will Bring Down Wrath of Someone—Freedom of Speech on One Side, and Pure Food Laws on the Other—French Wine Makers Await Outcome—Scientist is Determined to Act.

Washington, Dec. 10.—By his announcement that whether he is dismissed from service, or would ignore the president's request to refrain from discussing the sulphured fruits until after a referee had passed upon the merits of the question, Dr. Wiley, chief chemist of the department of agriculture, has placed President Roosevelt in the peculiar position of declaring against pure food and freedom of speech, if the president heeds the demand of western fruit men and insists that Wiley keep out of the controversy. On the other hand, if the president does not order Wiley to keep silent, the fruit men will criticize Roosevelt for not giving them a "square deal." Two weeks ago the French government, through the embassy here, informed the United States government, that in view of Wiley's statements, California sulphured fruits must be barred from France. France was notified that French wines contain sulphur and that the United States would retaliate by barring these wines. Then Dr. Wiley sent a note apologizing, saying the sulphured wines were not injurious.

Representative Needham of California will use this correspondence against Wiley.

**Oregon Dairymen.**

Salem, Ore., Dec. 10.—One of the most important industries of the state is under discussion at today's meeting of the Oregon Dairymen's association, which has brought hundreds of delegates to this city. It is stated that the value of dairy products in Oregon last year was over \$17,000,000.

**WALLOWA BOY DEAD.**

McLoughlin Boy of Wallowa Died of Ptomaine Poisoning.

Elliensburg, Wash., Dec. 10.—Keith McLoughlin, aged 10, who lived at Wallowa, Ore., died at the home of friends here yesterday after eating his supper at a Chinese restaurant. It is supposed to be a case of ptomaine poisoning.

The remains passed through La Grande this morning en route to Wallowa, where the little boy's parents live.

J. A. Thronson is in from Imbler today. He and his family are now occupying their splendid new ranch home there.

## NOW ON DISPLAY

### \$10,000 Holiday Stock

The Grandest Display of Christmas Goods ever in the city. We will not go into detail as to what all we carry but you will find Fancy Goods, Toys, Dishes and Wearing Apparel

## Buy Early

By buying early you will save those worrisome days just before Christmas then you will save the pleasures of the occasion, also buying is easy when our stock is complete.

# THE FAIR STORE

La Grande, Oregon.

## Important Holiday Facts

First: You save money on everything purchased here, at a time when such saving is apt to be appreciated. Second: You find an unusual assortment of those goods which make practical, sensible gifts. Third: You get quality. Whatever it is, large or small, it is worthy and contains real value for every cent of cost.

Fine Perfumes, Imported and Domestic, in packages of all sizes and in bulk. Toilet articles, Brushes, Mirrors, Combs, etc. singly and in combinations.

Latest goods direct from the maker. Pocket Books and Purses in fancy leathers especially suited for gift purposes. Better see first whether we have not what will answer best. If so you can buy yourself a gift with what you save.

## Newlin Drug Co.

La Grande, Ore.