

La Grande Evening Observer

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PRODUCE GOODS SAY THE HOUSE

EVERY NORTHWEST SOLOX AMONG THE "AYE" ELEMENT.

Congress Demands of President Roosevelt to Produce the Evidence on Which He Based His Assertion That Congressmen Feared Investigation—Northwest, to a Man, Stand With the Majority—Believed President Will Produce Everything.

Washington, Dec. 17.—A select committee of the house, appointed to outline action in connection with the president's alleged insult to congress, today agreed upon a report calling upon the president to submit to congress the information on which he based his insinuation that members of congress were afraid of being investigated by the secret service. It is believed the president has the matter ready to submit. The whole matter may be aired.

Every Pacific northwest congressman voted "aye" on the only division vote called for in connection with the quarrel between congress and the president. The resolution calls for the president to supply the house with evidence whereon he based the allegation that congressmen feared being investigated.

Bourne in Limelight.
Washington, Dec. 17.—Senator Jonathan Bourne of Oregon, today introduced a bill providing for an increase in the president's salary from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and that of the vice-president from \$12,000 to \$25,000. He says the salaries are inadequate to permit the maintenance of the official establishment by any one except wealthy president and vice-presidents.

BANK IS A WINNER KNOWLES FINALLY HELD.

Booth vs. Farmers & Traders' National Bank is Settled at Last—Long Litigation.

The supreme court on Tuesday rendered a decision reversing the decision of Circuit Judge Cleland of Portland, and affirming the decision of J. W. Knowles, referee in the case of S. S. Booth vs. the Farmers & Traders' National bank.

This case was tried some time ago by consent of the parties before J. W. Knowles, as referee. After taking the testimony, Mr. Knowles made his findings to the effect that the bank was entitled to judgment against Booth for about the sum of \$250. Upon application Judge Cleland of Portland, before whom the case was pending, modified the findings of the referee and allowed Booth judgment for a small amount against the bank, and his costs. Upon appeal to the supreme court the referee was affirmed and Judge Cleland reversed and judgment has been ordered entered against Booth for the amount found due by Referee Knowles.

Sardine Crop is Short.

Portland, Me., Dec. 17.—That delectable dainty, the American sardine, which isn't really a sardine at all, may become decidedly scarce in the near future, owing to the shortage of the crop along the Maine coast, where nearly all the domestic sardines are packed. The "combine" which is alleged to be in practical control of the business, and which was recently the subject of an official investigation because of alleged trust-like proclivities, produced this season 22 per cent less than was anticipated, and the independent packers also report a shortage.

The advance sale to "Little Johnny Jones" tonight, is sufficient to warrant the assertion that this will be the best attended attraction in the opera house this season.

GOVERNMENT AID HENRY IS REPORT

PROSECUTOR DENIES THE TIMES' ASSERTION.

"Is All Rot About Government Sending Me," is Statement of Henry Covering Charges in Los Angeles Times—Belief in Washington Said to Be That Government is Paying for the Graft Prosecution in San Francisco—May Lay Facts Bare.

Los Angeles, Dec. 17.—"There is a distinct belief here that Francis J. Henry is paid from the secret service funds of the government for prosecuting graft in San Francisco," said Harry Carr, Washington correspondent for the Los Angeles Times, in an article printed here. "As a sequence the Aldrich resolution introduced in the senate the secret service system may be investigated and many dark mysteries be laid bare. The big question before the senate was whether the president of the United States has a right to use government money to send special prosecutors into California on a purely local city fight."

Henry Denies It.

Prosecutor Henry emphatically denied today that Roosevelt had anything to do with the San Francisco graft prosecution. Referring to the article in the Los Angeles Times, he said: "It is absolute rot. Any talk of government control over me is false."

Cosgrove Will Recover.

Paso Robles, Dec. 17.—It is believed today that Cosgrove will recover from his attack of Bright's disease and that he will be able to take the oath of office on January 11. He is on a liquid diet and has stopped the hot baths.

C. J. SCRIBER IS HEAVILY INVOLVED

LIABILITIES ARE GIVEN AS \$26,557.00.

Son of Bank Defaulter in Bankruptcy Because He Must Pay Bills That Should Have Been Paid by Others—His Assets Are Given as \$2200. But of This Amount Sixteen Hundred Dollars Are Claimed to Be Exempt Under the Law—Signed Notes.

Portland, Dec. 17.—The bankruptcy petition of Clare J. Scriber of La Grande, son of J. W. Scriber, arrested some time ago on a charge of forgery in connection with the failure of the Farmers & Traders' National bank, was filed in the United States district court here. The liabilities are \$26,557. Of this amount the petitioner claims that \$24,330 are in the form of bills and notes which ought to be paid by other persons.

In most instances young Scriber went on the notes of his father.

Assets Small.
The assets amount to \$2200 in property of which \$1600 are claimed to be exempt under the law.

Tariff Hearing Soon Over.

Washington, Dec. 17.—With its session today, the committee on ways and means of the house, which is in charge of tariff revision, is nearing the end of its hearings and next week it will begin the preparation of a tariff measure. The hearings, which have been in progress since November 10, will come to an end tomorrow or Saturday and then the members of the committee will begin the summing up of the facts and figures which have been hurled like an avalanche at their defenseless heads by the hundreds of witnesses who have appeared before them.

It is the intention of the committee to go to work immediately on a tariff bill as soon as the hearings close, and have it ready for presentation to the house the opening day of the special session of the 61st congress, which will be early in March. This is on the assumption that the present committee will remain unchanged in its membership in the next congress. All the members of the committee in the 60th congress have been returned by their constituencies, except Mr. Watson of Indiana, who made an unsuccessful run for governor of his state. His place in the committee is filled by Mr. Crumpacker.

Many thousands of printed pages will make up the record of the testimony of the hundreds of witnesses who have come before the committee, seeking medicine for their business ills in tariff revision, or advocating a "let well enough alone" policy. Practically every witness has been the representative of a special interest, and has come to plead either for higher duties or a continuance of the Dingley rates.

Aged Indian Divorced.

Coeur d'Alene, Dec. 16.—An interesting divorce suit was instituted this afternoon in the district court through Attorneys Black & Wernette, by Agatha Rickman, aged 67, a Coeur d'Alene Indian, against Alfred Rickman, her husband, aged 28, a full-blooded white man, the grounds being alleged deception. The complaint states that the couple were married several years ago at Farmington, Wash., according to the white man's custom or law; that the defendant promised to take good care of his elderly wife, especially in her declining years; that he would farm her land and be a good husband. She alleges that they have never lived together as husband and wife; that her young white husband left her at once, since which time she knows nothing of his whereabouts, and that he married her to get her land. She asks the marriage to be annulled.

Guilty of Manslaughter.

Portland, Dec. 17.—Dr. G. B. Whitney, accused of killing of Mabel Wirtz, his fiancée, by giving her poison, was found guilty of manslaughter today and will be sentenced next week.

WAR IS DECLARED OFFICIAL DISPATCHES ARE RECEIVED AT WASHINGTON.

Minister of Foreign Affairs at Caracas Wires to Holland Government of Its Action.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Venezuela has declared war against Holland, according to advices received by the state department from Paxton Hibben, secretary of the American legation at Bogota, Colombia. The message says the Colombian minister of foreign affairs received the following telegram from Caracas under date of the 14th: "In view of the blockade established and the capture by blockading vessels of Venezuelan vessels, the head of the government of Venezuela, after assuming the ordinary powers for defense of the country, has declared a state of war."

Idaho Will Help.

Lewiston, Idaho, Dec. 15.—The state of Idaho will be asked to aid in the open river work by appropriating \$20,000 this winter for improvement on the upper Snake river above Lewiston. It is confidently expected that this bill will be passed, so that the appropriation will be available, because of the attitude of the sister states in making appropriations for this work.

Two years ago Oregon appropriated \$75,000 for improvement work on the Columbia and the Washington legislature appropriated \$65,000 for work on the Snake river between Riparia and its mouth.

The Idaho legislature appropriated \$25,000 for improvement work on the upper Snake two years ago, but for some reason it was never available. Local legislators-elect have been approached on the question of voting an appropriation and they are generally understood to favor the proposition.

INSTITUTE IS IN SESSION TODAY

LOCAL MEN TAKE ACTIVE PART IN EXTENSIVE PROGRAM

Farmers' Institute Conducted Today Under Favorable Circumstances—Many From Corvallis School of Agriculture in Attendance—Every Address and Paper Full of Value to the Attending Farmer—Experts Give Instructive Addresses.

Grange Hall, Dec. 17.—(Special.)—With Dr. Withycombe, of the Agricultural college at Corvallis; Prof. H. D. Scudder, professor of agronomy at O. A. C.; C. I. Lewis, of the horticultural chair at the same college, and C. E. Bradley, instructor in chemistry at the Corvallis institution—besides a number of local people taking active part—the Farmers' institute opened here this morning at 10 o'clock with a splendid attendance. The Corvallis professors, each an expert in his life study, devoted some time to their respective discourses and addresses. Grande Ronde's young farmers did themselves and their community proud with scholarly papers. Among these were Ralph Reynolds and Ed Jasper, who both appeared on the program.

The noon affair was no less important than the others for then the all-day session relaxed long enough for all to enjoy the products of the local kitchens.

The evening session will be replete with good things, and to all appearances it too will be carried out in toto. The number of farmers in attendance reflects the deep interest taken in the institute, and others of a similar nature will no doubt be arranged for during the winter months.

ONE HALF REQUIRED AMOUNT RAISED 10,000 ACRES YET TO BE SECURED

J. D. McKennon, chairman of the special irrigation committee for the La Grande Commercial club, has collected the lists of acreage secured by the several sub-committees, with the exception of the Mt. Glenn list, which several days ago was known to contain 1000 acres. The total now secured is, in round numbers, 10,500 acres. The committees are working very hard and have secured by far the greatest success in the district south of Grande Ronde river. While a number of very liberal subscriptions have been secured from the Sandridge, the committee is, to say the least, much discouraged. However, the past few days has developed more interest and after the farmers in that district talk it over among themselves and investigate the advantage water will be to their land the next few weeks it is hoped will see a much stronger sentiment than now exists. The committee spent a half day out there last week and were so successful they thought they would have no more trouble in securing the 10,000 acres on the north side of the river, than they had on the south side.

There has been considerable active work done the last few days that not only has brought immediate results, but it is thought will result in acreage to come later.

It would be money well spent if the farmers of the valley would appoint a committee to visit two or three sections nearby that have been using water only a few years, and note how water adds to the general prosperity and how the lands become so valuable that it soon becomes subdivided.

We practically now have one-half of the required acreage to begin the greatest project that was ever attempted in Grande Ronde valley.

It matters not where you may go in this great northwest, the advantages of irrigation are being proved. Who would even dare suggest that the Wil-

lamette valley would have several irrigation projects 10 years ago. The result has been that good land in the Willamette that can be irrigated is worth double the value of similar land situated where irrigation is not possible. Some may possibly doubt the statement, but a few years hence it will be demonstrated that the best land today on the Sandridge lying under ditch will be selling for \$150 per acre. Many of our readers will remember what was once that barren dry waste land lying between North Powder and Baker City. Today hundreds of stacks of hay can be seen from the car windows. Water has made a solid settlement of prosperous farmers. Water will do equal wonders in Grande Ronde.

There are few irrigated districts where the holdings exceed 100 acres. What a transition would take place in this valley if there was a house on every 160 acres. It would more than double our rural population. The time has now arrived when we must meet the actual conditions. It will be seen by the list published herewith, that only one-half of the required acreage is secured. We must also recognize the fact that the first half is always the easiest half to secure, for this reason it behooves one and all to give this matter right of way; talk it up, agitate it; get people to thinking and investigating. If this can be done the merits of the project will carry it to a successful termination. If we cannot get the land owners to consider it thoughtfully and personally investigate what there is in it for them, we will never raise the required amount. There should be and doubtless will be mass meetings held in the valley. Anything to make the people think. Thinking people make few mistakes. A drive through May Park, Fruitdale, Union, Cove and other localities that

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Bargains in Ready-made Goods
Prices Cut in Two. Last of the seasons ready made goods must be closed out regardless of cost. Our stock is being reduced very rapidly

Ladies' Suits

We have only a few ladies' suits left to be closed out at ridiculously low prices.
1 \$15 black Serge goes at\$4.95
1 \$12.50 black Serge goes at\$2.35
1 \$25.00 black Cheviot goes at\$9.85
1 \$18.50 black Cheviot goes at\$9.85
1 \$47.50 brown stripe goes at\$28.55

Millinery

All ladies' Trimmed Hats Half Price.
\$10.00 Hats, to close, at\$5.00
\$8.50 Hats, to close, at\$4.25
\$6.50 Hats, to close, at\$3.25
\$4.00 Hats, to close, at\$2.00
\$2.00 Hats, to close, at\$1.00

Ladies' Waists

\$8.50 wool and silk Waist, reduced to\$4.35
\$6.50 all-wool and silk Waists, reduced to\$2.95
Wash Waists, lot 1, reduced to95c
Wash Waists, lot reduced to\$1.95

Misses' Coats

Our stock of Misses' Coats is very large and we have decided to make prices that will move them.
Lot 1—Children's Coats, values to \$3.50, at\$1.00
Lot 2—Misses' Coats, values to \$6.50, ages to 14 years\$2.85
Lot 3—Misses' Coats, values to \$8.50, ages to 14 years\$4.85

Ladies' Skirts

You know our reputation on the famous "Beverly Skirts." To buy these at the prices we are offering them is surely an inducement.
Skirts, in value to \$5.00, to close \$1.95
Skirts, in value to \$8.50, to close \$4.85
Skirts, in value to \$12.50, to close at\$7.65

Ladies' Coats

Lot 1—Ladies' Coats, values to \$10.50\$2.50
Lot 2—Ladies' Coats, values to \$15.00\$4.85
This is a reminder. If you want a coat, decide quickly.

THE FAIR STORE
La Grande, Oregon.