

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## NEW LIGHT ON PANAMA DEAL

**CHROMWELL AND TAFT ARE BOTH EXONERATED.**

Consulting Engineer Ward Takes the Bit in His Mouth and Turns Spotlight From Administration—Challenges Rainey of Illinois to Show a Better Development Scheme for Panama—Would Throw All Blame on Himself—He Responsible.

New York, Jan. 28.—A new turn in the controversy between President Roosevelt and certain eastern newspapers over the alleged libeling of the Roosevelt administration in connection with the purchase of the Panama canal property, was given today, when Randolph G. Ward, the consulting engineer, assumed full responsibility for the engineering operations in the canal zone. In a statement to the United Press, Ward exonerated William Nelson Cromwell, the rich attorney who represented the French Panama Canal company, during the purchase negotiations, and Charles P. Taft, brother of the president-elect, from complicity in the Panama railroad project. Ward says he alone is responsible for the enterprise.

**Challenges Rainey.** Ward challenges Representative H. T. Rainey of Illinois, to suggest a more fairer and effectual way for developing territory. Rainey recently attacked the administration, and Senator Lodge in the house, in connection with the pending controversy.

**\$219,000 for Headlights.** Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 28.—For its alleged failure to comply with the law requiring all locomotives to be equipped with electric headlights, the Iron Mountain railroad is being sued by the state for penalties aggregating \$219,000.

## CARRIE ON STAGE

**SALOON SMASHER CARRIE ON LONDON STAGE A WEEK.**

Famous Catch-as-Catch-Can Saloon Smasher Makes Her Appearance in Vaudeville in London This Week.

London, Jan. 28.—Carrie Nation, the champion catch-as-catch-can saloon smasher of America, has broken into vaudeville and is appearing this week at the Paragon and Canterbury theaters. Carrie is not doing a Salome stunt of a Spring dance. Her "turn" consists of a characteristic lecture on the evils of booze and "baccy," after which she passes among the audience selling miniature hatchets and pamphlets at a sixpence a throw. She is proving a great attraction in vaudeville and the houses where she is playing alternately are always crowded. After completing her engagement in London, Carrie is booked for Cardiff, Wales, where she has signed up for a lengthy engagement of 100 pounds a week and her "keep."

## CUBAN FLAG IS UNFURLED TODAY

**"ISLAND" NOW A FREE AND INDEPENDENT NATION.**

Governor Magoon Leaves Cuba Tomorrow to Report His Stewardship—Ends Uncle Sam's Guardianship—Lasting Through Several Years—Gomez Takes Oath.

Havana, Jan. 28.—This afternoon the flag of "Cuba Libre" floats once more over a free and independent nation—floats proudly from the palace wherein President Jose Miguel Gomez and Vice-President Alfredo Zayas took

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## BOGUS MONEY MAKERS CAUGHT

**REFINED AND EDUCATED COUPLE CAUGHT RED-HANDED**

Young Man and Woman Living as Man and Wife Arrested After Desperate Struggle Last Night in 'Frisco—Girl Scratched the Detective—Raid Made on Home in Heart of the City—Two Sacks of Quarters and Half Dollars Found.

San Francisco, Jan. 28.—Robert Bradley, refined and educated, is accused of making counterfeit half and quarter dollars, and is in jail today after a desperate struggle with three secret service men in which Josie Livingston, living with Bradley as his wife, scratched Detective McMahon. The evidence is two sacks of half dollars and quarters of excellent workmanship.

Bradley and the girl first rented a bungalow on Ocean highway, where the counterfeiting plant was set up. Agents followed Bradley to the public library, where he studied metallurgy. He was trailed to where he bought the supplies. When the couple moved to the heart of the city, the agents decided to make a raid.

When they broke into the home last night Bradley seized a revolver, but had no chance to use it. In her rage the Livingston woman flew at the officers, scratching Agent McMahon. When she saw Bradley, she stopped fighting and began to weep. The couple will be arraigned tomorrow.

**Mixed Train Ditched.** Albany, Ore., Jan. 28.—A mixed train on the C. & E. road, running between Albany and Detroit, was wrecked late yesterday afternoon at Shelburn. Six cars were smashed. A passenger car remained on the track. No one was injured.

## MANY BILLS ARE INTRODUCED

**SHEEPMEN OF THE STATE ESPECIALLY ACTIVE.**

Eastern Oregon Insane Asylum to Be Located by the Commission—Great Variety of Bills in Both the Senate and House—Some Passed of Interest to Eastern Oregon Principally—Assessment Muddle Remedied by Passage of Bill.

Salem, Jan. 28.—Various measures are pending in the legislature affecting the sheep industry, and will be ably supported by sheepmen throughout Oregon. This was evidenced by the presence here of many sheepmen, officials of the Sheepowners' association, and the bureau of animal industry. They are jealously guarding the appropriation of the \$12,000 carried in the Slusher bill of 1907, for the Oregon board of sheep commissioners. They are making a fight for the passage of a scalp bounty bill, providing a contingent appropriation of \$40,000 to put the lid on undesirable animals of the state. Dr. S. W. McClure, chief of inspectors of Oregon, Idaho and Washington, appeared yesterday before the ways and means committee of the house and explained what was done under the provisions of the Slusher bill.

**Lumbermen "Knock" Cruiser Bill.** Agents representing big timber interests of the state are working hard to induce the senate committee to kill the timber cruiser bill, which has passed the house, and is now before the senate.

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## MARRY ON TRIAL

**MATRIMONIAL EXPERIMENT NOT DECIDED SUCCESS.**

Novel Wedding Agreement Will Have Novel Ending—Married Five Years, But Will Separate.

San Francisco, Jan. 25.—A. W. Robins, a local restaurateur, and his wife, will next Saturday celebrate their wooden wedding after having been married five years, and will then separate.

The couple signed an agreement for a trial marriage, inserting a clause that if the trial was successful, a mutual lease would be continued in force after the expiration of five years. According to Robins, it is not to be renewed, although neither is aggrieved at the other.

## JAP QUESTION KEEPS WIRES HOT

**CALIFORNIA ANXIOUS TO ELECT SENATORS.**

President Requests Chief Promoter of Anti-Alien Bill to Desist for a While at Least—Executive Sends Letter to Governor Gillette, Concerning the Matter.

Sacramento, Jan. 25.—President Roosevelt is keeping the wires between the White House and Sacramento buzzing with messages relating to the anti-Japanese situation in the legislature. Early today Assemblyman A. M. Drew of Fresno, the author of the anti-alien bill prohibiting Japs from owning land in California, received a message from the president asking him to delay action on the measure until after the arrival of a letter on the Japanese question which Roosevelt mailed to Governor Gillette.

**Popular Choice Bill.** Senator Anthony Ciminetti today introduced in the legislature a bill enabling the people of California to express by ballot their preference for the office of United States senator. It is practically the same as the law now in force in Oregon.

## MEN BRANDED AS GREAT COWARDS

**FLORIDA-REPUBLIC SEA DISASTER NEVER EXPLAINED.**

Exact Number of Dead Will Never Be Known, Says Pacific Coast Woman, Who Was on Wreck—Men Were Having Maniacs—Threw Women Out of the Way to Gain Life Boats First—Relates Shameful Story of Scenes Following Accident.

Pittsburg, Jan. 28.—Mrs. C. A. Severance, wife of the attorney for the interstate commission, and well known on the coast, declares the exact number of killed in the collision of the Republic and Florida off Nantucket, Mass., will never be told. She said two men died in her arms. She said: "I am sure many more died than the officials admit. I saw not a few dead under the blankets."

**Reports Exaggerated.** "While it is generally reported that everybody on the Republic behaved bravely, I must say the reports are greatly exaggerated. Some of the men were craven cowards. One of these, whom I understand to be a prominent New York financier and clubman, said he thought he ought to be taken off the Republic first. He was heard to say that 'My life is worth more than 100 women.' A young man named Phelps—a mere boy, who was made special officer by the captain—held a man back at the point of a pistol. My maid found one man crying as if his heart would break, begging a woman for her life preserver. The woman gave it to him. Two other men were knocked down to prevent them rushing into the boats before the women. Another man who almost jumped into the boat on the heads of the women and children, is now being written up as a brave man. I wish I could meet him face to face for a few minutes."

**Scarlet Fever.** The little daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Hunlock is ill with scarlet fever, and as a consequence the red flag decorates the front gate. The little one is not dangerously ill, but has a well defined case of scarlet fever.

## STUD POKER AND BOOZE TROUBLES

**LOCAL OPTION PROSECUTION PRECIPITATED AT JOSEPH.**

Deputy District Attorney Eberhard Creates Sensation at Joseph Yesterday Afternoon—Public Highly Interested in Outcome of the Cases.

Enterprise, Ore., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—One of the biggest surprises amounting to little short of a local sensation was commenced here this week when Deputy Prosecuting Attorney C. R. Eberhard filed a complaint against E. B. Wheat, a jeweler, charging him with conducting a stud poker game, and at the same time it became whispered about that such a game had been running for some time. The arrest of such a prominent man brought great criticism on the young prosecuting officer, but through the suspense caused by the temporary failure to get his witnesses, he maintained a complete silence, until the preliminary hearing, which was held Wednesday.

The evidence showed that the prosecution's witness had gambled all night recently, in Wheat's place, and it is stated that he lost considerable money. Justice Smith held Wheat to answer the charge before the grand jury at the next term of court. At the same time a charge of violating the local option law was filed against another citizen, who swore that in the game he bought liquor and became intoxicated, and at the conclusion of the preliminary in this case, the justice, to the surprise of every one present, dismissed him. The prosecutor smiled and the developments to follow are awaited with interest by the public. It is understood that the case was unearched by Deputy Eberhard alone, and after the large crowd of prominent citizens heard the evidence the support of a large portion of the town was thrown back of the efforts to enforce the law that had been so energetically manifested.

## WASHINGTON RACE TRACK BILL JOLTED

Olympia, Jan. 28.—The Hanson race track bill which passed the house yesterday met its first check in the senate today when the progressive members lost their fight to have it referred to the public morals committee. Senator Graves of Spokane, in repeated and reiterated defiance to the pulpit and press, led the fight to have the bill sent to the judiciary committee. He argued that the matter contained in the Hanson bill was covered entirely and better in the code about to be presented by the prosecuting attorney. It is expected the bill will be passed by the senate this afternoon, and immediately signed by Cosgrove. This afternoon there was a hot fight over the eight-hour law for women.

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