

# La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME VIII

LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1909.

NUMBER 290.

## G. R. E. CO. SOLD

### WILL BE PROPERTY OF LARGE SYNDICATE

#### Quarter Million Represented In Deal To Close October First

#### PRESIDENT PIERCE TO RETIRE TO FARM

#### BIG DEAL PENDING FOR MONTHS FINALLY COMES TO A HEAD—BIG EASTERN CAPITALISTS FORM PERSONNEL OF NEW OWNERS—TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO OCCUR OCTOBER FIRST.

Investments representing a large sum of eastern capital will be consummated October 1st, when the Grande Ronde Electric company's entire plant will be sold to the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company, a syndicate backed almost entirely by eastern money. The transaction completes a deal which has been pending for months, and it also is the connecting link which completes a chain of light and power plants covering an immense territory commencing at Olive Lake and terminating in Union county. This enormous stretch of territory is already netted with high power lines, hundreds of miles in fact. This last fact became a reality last year when the Grande Ronde Electric company built a 30-mile line over the mountains to Rock creek connecting with the Olive Lake plant.

The price paid, according to the record, is nominal, but it is understood on good authority, that the sum involved approximates a quarter of a million dollars.

Frank A. Harmon, who is general manager of the western office, is in the city today, but his headquarters will be at Baker City. This leaves the local office in the hands of Charles Gore, who will probably remain as superintendent of this the extreme west office of the syndicate, under the direct management of Harmon. Miss Gulling, it is understood will continue in the office here as head bookkeeper.

The Eastern Oregon Light & Power company is the result of the consolidation of the Fremont Power Co., Ba-

ker Light & Power Co., and Grande Ronde Electric Co. It is made up of the owners of the Fremont company of which Wm. Ray Nye, president; and A. B. Schnalder, treasurer; are the principal officers of the Nye, Schneider, Fowler Grain company of Fremont, Nebraska, one of the largest handlers of grain, live stock and lumber in the United States.

Associated with these gentlemen are the Fidelity Trust Co., Marshall-Isley Co., and other financial institutions of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

It will be recalled that J. M. Puchner and Mr. Atwood, representing the Milwaukee interests, recently were guests of the Commercial club at one of its banquets and at that time expressed themselves as being delighted at the evidence of prosperity and progressiveness apparent in La Grande and the Grande Ronde valley.

Walter M. Pierce, president-manager of the disappearing concern, will devote his time entirely to his extensive farm interests and Hot Lake project. He is firmly cemented to Union county and can't leave it, as to him, it is a highly satisfactory community.

La Grande and the territory served by the Grande Ronde Electric company will be this consolidation have not only the former resources formerly had but will also have available the power of all of the other plants in the organization by means of the connecting transmission line heading from Rock Creek near Haines to Union.

## MINERS FACE SERIOUS TURN

BUTTE, Sept. 25.—The Western Federation of Miners is threatened one of the greatest crises in its career. President Moyer and Secretary M.H.S. are here backing up the men. Two thousand smeltermen at Anaconda last night, resolved in demanding the engineers settle their differences at once so that smelters won't be closed, throwing them out of work

for three months. The company is unwilling to take part in the controversy and declares the engineers can work no matter to what Union they belong.

Committee of Miners visited the company to ask to discharge the engineers in bad Union standing. It is believed the company refused this request.

## AURORA BOREALIS IN THE SOUTH

OMAHA, Sept. 25.—Wire communication throughout the middle west is interrupted today by Aurora Borealis. The Northern atmosphere is surcharged with static electricity which has interfered with all wire circuits and made wire service difficult. Telegraph and telephone companies first felt the effects at 6:45 this morning, between Des Moines and Chicago.

Later the trouble seemed to be moving eastward. This natural phenomena

is not uncommon in Canada, and is often felt in Minnesota, but seldom so far south as Chicago.

Anniversary Observed. Tomorrow the Central church will have special services. The congregation will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the restoration movement. The church will be decorated and be made to appear beautiful for the occasion. Special song service

will be rendered by the choir. The singers have been meeting this week in preparation for the day. Miss Little of South La Grande will render a solo entitled "Come unto Me." Subject of his morning sermon is "Where the Scriptures Speak, We Speak. Where the Scriptures are Silent We are Silent," and the evening, "A Generation of Bible Students."

#### NEW MINISTER HERE.

E. W. Canfield Will Occupy His Pulpit Tomorrow In This City. E. W. Canfield arrived last evening and will assume his duties as pastor of the M. E. church, south in this city at once. His first appearance in the local pulpit to which he has been assigned at the recent conference, will be tomorrow when he preaches on the subject, "Workers with God." He will preach again in the evening. Mr. Canfield comes from Baker City to this charge.

#### LOCAL CASES SET.

Supreme Court Will Hear Union and Wallowa Suits Next Month. News has reached La Grande that the three local cases have been set for hearing before the Supreme Court, in Salem, on the 6th and 7th of next month. The cases are Ex-Sheriff Blakeley of Wallowa county vs. Peter O'Sullivan, involving the old question of the location of personal property for assessment, and the State vs. McDonald and the Barnes vs. Long, two escheat cases appealed from Union county.

All Recovering. SEATTLE, Sept. 25.—All injured in yesterday's wreck are recovering today.

## UNION PEOPLE WANT ONE DAY

### TUESDAY TURNED OVER TO THE UNION PEOPLE.

#### Special Train From Union And Cove On Tuesday of Fair Week.

Citizens of Union have demanded that they be given a day of their own during the fair, and Publicity Manager Currey has taken steps to do so. The day to be Union Day is Tuesday, and an excursion train will be run from Cove and Union on that day. The Unionites are highly excited over the fair and will be here in great numbers.

#### Ambassador Hill Coming Home.

BERLIN, Sept. 25.—Ambassador and Mrs. David J. Hill left for Bremen today, where they embark on the North German Lloyd liner George Washington for New York. The George Washington was launched under Dr. Hill's auspices last November. The State Department has granted the Ambassador leave, permitting him and his wife to remain in the United States six weeks. It is Mr. Hill's first trip home in two years and he goes on private business.

#### FEW ROOMS LISTED.

#### Citizens Are Lethargic In Listing Available Rooms Fair Week.

The fair's information bureau at the Logan-Sherwood Realty company is not in receipt of any tangible quantity of available rooms for visitors during the fair. This matter should be attended to at once.

## TWO MILLION SEE FESTIVAL

### HUDSON-FULTON JUBILEE

#### GREATEST NAVAL PAGEANT

Admiral Dewey's Reception is Out-classed by Grand Spectacle Today on The Hudson in Honor of The Memories of Hudson And Fulton—"Halfmoon" And "Clermont" Participate in Hoopster Parade on The Hudson This Morning.

NEW YORK, Sept. 25.—From battery to Bronx, "one side" of the Hudson river and from Staten Island to Fort George on the other, nearly 2,000,000 persons were gathered today to witness the greatest pageant of the Western Hemisphere. A tribute never before exceeded is being paid to the memories of Henry Hudson and Robert Fulton.

Eighty huge warships, many great ocean liners and hundreds of small craft were in the naval parade. Even the historical welcome to Admiral Dewey was surpassed.

Besides the warships leading the nation's feature naval parade, there was a reproduction of Hudson's vessel "Half Moon", and also a reproduction of Fulton's "Clermont." The latter was able to make seven knots an hour at its best. On shore, the feature was the unfurling of rainbow flags of all nations while the Trinity Chimes retained "Glory to God in the Highest; Peace on Earth and Good Will Toward Men."

Tomorrow there will be religious observances.

## SENSATION IN DIVORCE HEARING

### MRS. HENRY STOOP ALLEGES MANY CRUELITIES.

#### Husband Responds With Denials And Many Counter Charges.

With frequent bursts of weeping Mrs. Flora Stoop, plaintiff in the divorce suit now on at the court house, told her story to the court. It was a tale of unusual abuse and brutality which if substantiated in the mind of the court will secure for her a divorce and other concessions prayed for.

That Henry Stoop, her husband, beat the little children with a horse whip and when she intervened to protect the little ones he hit her with a stick of stove-wood, wounding her so she suffered for weeks; that he built for her a cabin in a remote part of Gordon canyon above Elgin, where she was forced to live alone while the storms and rain beat through the roof and large cracks in the house; and that her children suffered from pneumonia because they had no clothing to keep them warm, were among the allegations testified to by Mrs. Stoop.

One of the most sensational charges brought against Henry Stoop by his wife is that at one time he stole six sacks of wheat and six sacks of barley from Charles Hahn. When she remonstrated she said he cut her and told her, if she told it would be the worst day in her life.

To these charges Henry Stoop, under direction of his attorney, L. Denham, declared all the allegations of the complaint were false and were brought at the instigation of meddling relatives, who have "had it in" for him ever since he took the girl

and ran away to Idaho to marry her. At the time of the wedding Mrs. Stoop was Flora Woodell, and being too young to be married without her parents' consent she eloped.

Stoop declared on the stand that Joseph Woodell, the woman's father, employed him to work all summer and "skinned" him out of his wages and that deal made it hard for him to catch up in his finances. After that he said the Woodells tried every other way to break up his family.

In answer to the charges of desertion last February, he says his wife knew he was going and consented to his effort to earn more money.

#### Hill Gets Into Frisco.

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 25.—James J. Hill today made good his promise to deliver through passenger business by combined rail and water lines, from Eastern points to San Francisco in competition with the Harriman lines, when the final arrangements were completed for the sailing of the Elder from this city for San Francisco next Tuesday, carrying the first through passengers to California. The gives Mr. Hill access to territory regarded as exclusively under the control of Harriman interests and reprisals are likely.

#### Some More Mixed Pickles.

The laughable comedy "Mixed Pickles" will be given its last performance at the Pastime theatre tonight. The play has been drawing full houses, and giving the best satisfaction, and will no doubt, close with a bumper house tonight.

Tomorrow night the popular stock company will be seen in the exciting story of the west "Golden Giant Mine" with Miss Lucile Tucker as "Bess" and Mr. George RoRuth as "Jack Mason." Mr. Russell Harrison will play "Alec" and the large supporting cast will be strong.

Ed Thomas, convalescent from injuries received in Coeur d'Alene wreck is now able to walk about his residence yard. His recovery is speedy.

## COAST LEAGUE TO STAY THUS

### EWING ISSUES EDICT TO THAT EFFECT TODAY.

#### Also Opposes Portland Club in Northwest League.

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Sept. 25.—The Pacific Coast League will continue next year as a six-club organization the same as this year, according to President Cal Ewing. If it is considered necessary to add two clubs they will be Seattle and Spokane, but that is hardly probable. Ewing said he was decidedly opposed to allowing the Northwestern league to maintain a club in Portland next year.

#### Preserving Game.

In order to preserve what game there is left on Lower Powder river farmers of that section have signed an agreement to keep out all hunters for a period of two years. The area embraced in this agreement extends from Miles to Keating. This was formerly the abode of prairie chicken, quail and grouse, but of late years so many from Baker City have used this as their ground that the game is almost extinct.

The farmers believe if they keep hunters out for two years the game will return and it will be in a measure something like it was formerly. This agreement applies to everyone, and no one can go to Lower Powder expecting to hunt because he is a friend of one of the farmers, for the rules will be strictly observed.

City Attorney J. F. Baker is home from Baker City. He attended the fair while there.

## ANSWER FILED TO OBJECTIONS

### O. R. & N. ANSWERS

#### COMPLAINT BY LA GRANDE

All Eastern Merchants Form Coalition With Railroad Companies In Fighting The Request For Change of Rates to Inland Towns—Attorney Oliver Will Leave at Once For Spokane to Attend The Rate Hearing Tuesday.

That Spokane and the Inland Empire cities are to have not only the railroads, but all the beneficiaries of the railroads to fight in the rate hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission in the Falls City next week was the statement of Attorney Turner Oliver this morning after receiving news that the Merchants' association of New York had been permitted to intervene in the case.

The statement filed by the New York merchants make practically the same allegations as do the railroad companies, defendants in the case. It is not difficult to see why this should be, said Attorney Oliver, for New York is greatly favored by the freight rates. Goods can be shipped from New York to Portland as cheaply as from Chicago to Portland.

Another important document received by Attorney Oliver is the answer of the railroad companies to the complaint filed by La Grande. The answer denies practically every allegation made in the complaint. Attorney Oliver and Expert Witness Gaines, representing the La Grande Commercial club will leave for Spokane tomorrow or early Monday morning. They have their plan of evidence in hands and will go before the hearing that they may have time to look into the other lines of evidence being filed.

Among the railroads to be represented by counsel and high officials are the Harriman lines, Denver and Rio Grande, Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, Chicago and Northwestern, Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, and Missouri Pacific.

#### Number Seven Late.

Yesterday's No. 7, due here at 9:25, was delayed on the extreme east end of the Union Pacific during the middle of the week and did not arrive in this city until 7 o'clock last evening. No. 7 today was late, due more to the excess coal train than anything else.

LINCOLN, Neb., Sept. 25.—The Nebraska Supreme Court today upheld the constitutionality of the Sibley law, reducing express rates 25 per cent on intra-state business.

## SERIOUS RIOTS DURING STRIKE

### ONE MAN FATALLY HURT IN RIOT AT OMAHA.

#### Street Car Strike Growing Serious—More Officers Needed.

OMAHA, Sept. 25.—Extra officers have been sworn in by the chief of police to prevent a continuation of the riots which have marked the progress of the street car strike for the past three days.

While the authorities are attempting to disperse a mob last night, Patrolman Frank Rooney, was struck on the head with a rock, and is dying today.