

La Grande Evening Observer

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CHIEFS GOING TO ELGIN

ALEXANDER AND GOODRICH COMPLETE PRELIMINARY SURVEY INTO ELGIN.

RAILROAD PROGRESS CONTINUES

All Activities are Now Completed up to the Point Where the Backers Shall Say the Word to Proceed With Permanent Right of Way Survey—Elgin People Donate Large Piece of Right of Way—Crews Return Soon.

George Alexander and Mr. Goodrich, the commanders-in-chief of preliminary surveys across the Blue mountains from Milton to Cove and La Grande on which will be constructed a Hill railroad from Walla Walla, came out from Elgin this afternoon and leave this evening for the east, Mr. Alexander going to Poston and Mr. Goodrich to Chicago. They carried with them all the field notes and maps compiled during the month or more in which a crew of surveyors has been traversing the proposed definite routes through the mountains from Elgin, and after meeting again in the east and conferring with the financiers behind the survey, the reports will be acted on. If accepted, which they no doubt will be, a permanent survey crew will be in Grand Ronde valley within a month to run the permanent line.

Elgin Donates Right of Way.
At a mass meeting of Elgin citizens held last night, about seven miles of right of way were donated to the railroad builders. The donation includes free right of way from the base line about 2 1/2 miles south of Elgin to the base line of the Wenaha forest reserve. This will bring the railroad into Elgin from the west end but where the depot sites are to be placed neither has not been decided on or is not announced. Neither is it made known where the line will cross the O. R. & N. right of way.

Last Saturday the corps of surveyors in charge of Engineers Alexander and Goodrich completed the preliminary survey for the new railroad from Walla Walla to Elgin. The survey crosses the summit of the Blue mountains at the head of the Umattilla, the highest point of elevation being 5000 feet. From there the line connects with the survey on the other side. The party and outfit were brought to town Sunday and the supplies stored in one of the rooms of the Sommer brick on Main street, where the work of making maps and plans was completed today.

In speaking of the completion of the survey Mr. Alexander stated that the grade secured was highly satisfactory, and will not exceed 2 1/2 per cent. When the grade is located this will be somewhat reduced. It is a practical route in every way and no stubborn barriers will be encountered in the construction work.

The Elgin Recorder says in this connection:

From the fact that a comparatively easy mountain grade can be secured and the route is practical in every way there can be no doubt but what word will be given to commence the work, and it is thought that construction work will be commenced as soon as the work of locating the permanent grade is started.

It is thought that but little trouble will be encountered in securing right of way, as the farms through which the line passes will be benefited more than they are damaged. There may be one or two exceptions. One thing is sure, however, the completion of the road will bring a raise in property of at least 25 per cent.

Town Is Destroyed.

Port Limon, May 14.—The town of Santiago was destroyed by an earthquake yesterday. A score of people were killed.

Another Auto Accident.
Brighton Beach, Or., May 14.—Taking the curve on a high speed W. Endicott and Machinist McGruder were thrown from an auto near the grandstand today and seriously injured. The accident occurred in the thirteenth hour of the 24-hour race being held here.

Talked Hunting.
Berlin, May 14.—Roosevelt today lunched with Joseph Grew, first assistant secretary of the American Embassy who is a big hunter. Both talked hunting and nothing else.

DRAWS TAFT IN QUARREL

STENOGRAPHER KERBY OFFERS TO PRODUCE NOTE BOOK CONTAINING DICTATION.

MADE CHARGES OF WHITEWASHING

Stenographer Claims Taft Was Trying to Shield Ballinger All of the Way Through—Famous Glavis' Matter Is Brought Up to Light Once More—General Shakeup Over Statements Made.

San Francisco, May 14.—A Washington special to a San Francisco daily paper quotes Frederick M. Kerby, a stenographer in the interior department under Ballinger, as saying that the Lawler memorandum "about which has been so much discussion, was a letter evidently intended as a basis for the letter by President Taft exonerating Ballinger and answering Glavis' charges. The letter was taken to Taft when Lawler was assistant attorney general for the interior department, went to Taft's summer home at Beverly to consult with Taft. Shortly before this trip, before this interest including Ballinger, Kerby said Lawler dictated the letter which obviously was being written for Taft's signature, reviewing the Glavis charges and exonerating the secretary.

"As I said," quotes Kerby, "the letter was dictated in Ballinger's office by Lawler. Probably half a dozen drafts had been made before the final one. Lawler reviewed every fresh draft and corrected it and had it rewritten for two days. Massy, another stenographer, and myself, did nothing but help rush this work. Lawler frequently consulted F. C. Kinney, assistant to Ballinger. In the afternoon of the second a consultation was held between Ballinger, Lawler, Finney, Commissioner Dennett of the land office, Field Chief Schwartz and I think Secretary Pierce, private secretary to Carey. They discussed the draft in detail and if my memory is correct Ballinger read the letter aloud and general criticism of the letter exonerating Ballinger of the Glavis charges were made. We all understood from the form of the letter that it was the basis of Taft's letter covering the Glavis charges.

"Now it is my belief that Taft himself added a part of this letter of September 13, the section which takes up the general conversation of natural resources, the so-called whitewashing part. Lawler closed his final draft with 'And thereby authorize you to dismiss from the government service, Louis R. Glavis.'

"In the president's letter, before he remarks on conservation, comes a clause authorizing Ballinger to dismiss Glavis which Ballinger had previously requested. Certain portions of Taft's letter I can identify as being the substance of Lawler's thoughts. In general, President Taft softened Lawler's draft."

Kerby was formerly a stenographer employed by Secretary Garfield. He ended his statement by declaring that he has possession of his original note books containing Lawler's dictation which he can produce should he be called before the congressional committee.

MANY FANS ACCOMPANY TEAM TO COVE TODAY

Cove, Or., May 14.—(Special.)—Result of events this afternoon follows: 100 yd. dash, disqualified. 50 yd. dash—Carpy, first; Walters, second; Myers, third. High hurdle—Pearre, first; Roberts, second; Heindrichs, third. Pole vault—Millering, first; Walters, second; Roberts, third. 2:20 hurdles—Carpy, first; Richards, second; Cove, third. La Grande got 22 points and Cove 14. La Grande sent the largest team in its history against Cove this afternoon, but so many of the entries are new men that but little is expected of them. The veterans who went to Walla Walla will no doubt be the principal point winners, but valuable experience will be dished out to the younger men who next year will be the nucleus of La Grande's cinder path athletes.

It was a very uncertain aggregation that left La Grande this morning at 8:30 in a carryall to participate in this meet. Cove not only has several strong men but has many who are third and even second point contenders and where La Grande will undoubtedly take the first place, it will often be found true that Cove has followed up with a second and third totally but one less when the event's count.

A half dozen carriages formed a caravan of fans, and rooting will be as warm as the contests themselves. The list of entries follows: 50 yards—Meyers and Carpy. 100 yards—Carpy and V. Bolton. 220 yards—Carpy, Virgil and Cecil Bolton. 440 yards—Pearre Irwin and Reynolds. 880 yards—Pearre Irwin and Lottes. Mile—Green, Rice and Lottes.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

IN SOCIETY

On the eve of balmy June when the world is supposed to be in tune, social La Grande is supposed to look forward to numerous society wedding but in the interim, is contenting itself with various parties, which have characterized the dying week. There were several of them and augmented by the regular club events, there has been a busy week indeed to those who lean toward things social. The week was especially important to the Lyle Tuesday Musicales.

At the election of the Tuesday Musicales Club officers, the following ladies were elected for the next year: President, Mrs. T. J. Scroggin; vice president, Mrs. Hattie R. McDonald; secretary, Mrs. L. F. Dunn, treasurer, Mrs. E. Polack; librarian, Mrs. M. Anthony; chorus director, Mrs. G. R. Carlock.

Mrs. H. T. Shelley, Thursday afternoon, entertained an afternoon sewing club which at present has not been supplied with a cognomen. Refreshments were served. Those present were Mesdames Y. U. Walnut, Jess Paul, Bert W. Hutchinson, F. Bay; Ben W. Noyes, A. W. Nelson, and Miss Ethel McKennon, who was a special guest for the occasion.

One of the most delightful occasions of the week was the surprise party given by a group of ladies and gentlemen last Wednesday evening to Mrs. H. A. Bridges and Mrs. E. H. Bates, who are staying at the home of their son and daughter, Mrs. Frank Bridges at the W. L. Brenholts home. The occasion was the birthday anniversary of both ladies, and friends bought in numerous bouquets of flowers and refreshments, all aiding in making a delightful evening. Those present were, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lilly, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. French and mother, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Cleaver, Mrs. T. J. Scroggin and Mrs. G. A. Carlock.

Mrs. Cora Scott Harding was hostess Thursday night at a very pleasant reception given to Edward Rapin who will soon return to the east. Miss Bertah Kelly acted as assistant to the hostess and toothsome refreshments added to the social features of the evening. Those in attendance were: Misses Kathleen Thomas, Etta Owens, Nina Tuckey, Lulu Dawson, Bertah Kelly; Mesdames Lella Thomas, Emma Harding, Cora Harding Scott; Messrs. Edward Rapin, Harry Zurbrick, Charlie Harding, Ben Zurbrick, Edward Harding, Wilbur Zurbrick and Wayman Harding Scott.

In spite of the rain Tuesday afternoon, a fair sized audience assembled

at the Lyle Musicale's club parlors and listened to a very interesting program rendered by the following ladies: Mrs. C. Scriber presented the "Life of Liszt" in a very able manner. Mrs. R. Newlin read a very instructive paper on "Liszt as a composer and writer." Mrs. C. H. Upton also gave a short sketch of this great composer. The musical numbers were each of them a gem and consequently met with hearty applause. They were as follows: Piano solo—"Faust" (Gounod) Miss Collier. Vocal solo—"Serenadea Juanita," Miss Little. Inst. solo—"Ammeer" (Liszt) Mrs. Birnie. Vocal solo, "O, wert thou in the cold blast," Mesdames Scroggin and Bridges.

During the business hour the musicale decided to devote one day to the Chautauqua and Mrs. E. C. Moore was appointed at the head of a committee of thee to confer with the Chautauqua management and she is to give reports regarding the plans at the next meeting. Mrs. Birnie, Mrs. Polack and Mrs. A. L. Richardson were appointed to lay plans for next year's study.

The Decum club, comprising a group of card devotees, has disbanded for the summer months and will not meet again until next fall.

The next and last meeting of the Tuesday Musical club this season will be held May 24 and is officers' day. A reception will be tendered the new officers by the retiring force and every member is requested to bring one guest to this meeting. A short business session will precede the social hour. Musical and other numbers as well as dainty refreshments will help to make the afternoon a pleasant one.

Miss Ethel Gulling will entertain the LeJaunesse club next week.

Mrs. A. T. Hill last Thursday evening gave a dinner party in honor of her daughter Alice's birthday anniversary. Those present were Misses Helen Currey, Iniz Knowles, Serena Roban, Grace Pickens, Nellie Pfkens, Ethel Wright, Jeanette Smith and Marie Bolton.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Scroggin and Mr. and Mrs. France Wilhelm last evening entertained the Kaffee Klatch at the home of the former, corner Washington and Fourth. Ray W. Logan won the gentleman's prize and Mrs. Chester P. Newlin the ladies'. The Scroggin home was very tastily decorated with carnations, roses and lilies, making extremely pretty the fashionable home.

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Lost Boy Found.
Portland, May 13.—Kenneth, the 2 year old son of Tracy Wood was found today after it was believed he had been kidnapped. The child was lost at Kusa Wednesday by the mother and found only a few inches from a creek by a woman who heard faint cries today. The child crawled the distance. He was so starved he could not move.

Gets Eight Months and Fine.
Pittsburg, May 14.—A. A. Vilsack, formerly cashier of the German National bank, today was sentenced to eight months in jail and fined \$5000.

AUXILIARY TO CLUB MAYBE

RICHARDSON ADDRESSES BUSINESS MEN LAST NIGHT.

Give Plain Heart-to-Heart Talk to La Grande Business Men.

Surrounding banquet tables last evening a number of the business men of La Grande listened attentively to a plain, common sense talk from Tom Richardson, the publicity man for Portland and the state of Oregon.

Mr. Richardson did not attempt to deliver any oratory but he talked from his heart telling those present plain facts and showing where the Grande Ronde valley can be greatly benefited by concerted action.

He urged all to combine in one great effort to stamp out all clanishness, overcome local differences to the end that things of importance might be accomplished.

Mr. Richardson deplored the low price of lands here. He said without doubt the people do not look the present situation squarely in the face or they would organize and put the Grande Ronde valley foremost.

Explaining the fruit supply and what good fruit land meant to the owner he insisted that local fruit-growers visit Hood River where the highest priced apples in the world are raised.

He told of the wonderful central Oregon country and how people are flocking to that new region, but he did not overlook the fact that fully three fourths of the people who enter the new country will not be satisfied and will drift to other parts of the state.

"It is then," said the well posted speaker, "that the Grande Ronde valley wants to get busy. Men who want to live in communities already organized can be attached to La Grande and this valley. But you can't do it unless you get in the game. The whole universe is talking Oregon. She is in the lime light, now get busy and get your share of the new people."

Local speakers followed Mr. Richardson and the meeting resulted in a harmonious desire to start the ball rolling for La Grande and the Grande Ronde in a way that it has never been started before.

A suggestion that a ladies' auxiliary be formed to the Commercial club met with decided success and the proposition for a delegation from La Grande to visit outside territory was also well received.

Berlin, May 13.—That Roosevelt intends to apply himself to the study of social conditions upon his return to the United States was indicated today when he visited the model tenements for the poor and the Old People's home as a substitute for other features of his entertainment here. He made copious notes and announced his intention of making similar studies in England, if his voice improved.

Earthquake Recorded.
Washington, May 14.—Early today the government seismograph recorded an earthquake shock of 48 minutes duration. Location of the quake was not ascertained.

NELLIE VINACK WINS POINT

ONE OF FEW WHO HAS BEEN ABLE TO CARRY EVEN A PART OF CLAIMS.

LOCAL OFFICE MODIFIED SLIGHTLY

Mrs. Vinacke Will Secure a Part of the Claim on Which She Filed in North 4, 41—Squatter Brussell Retains Valuable Tract However—Law Seldom Invoked Is Quoted as Basis for Giving Mrs. Vinacke Rights.

By a decision of the commissioner of the general land office received this morning at the local office, the decision of Register Bramwell and Receiver Eberhard in the famous contest in the township 4 north, range 41 E., between Mrs. Nellie V. Vinacke, of this city, and Harvey R. Bursell, of Wal-lowa, Oregon, was modified to the extent that Mrs. Vinacke secures that part of her timber claim which conflicts with the lands claimed by Bursell, as a homesteader claiming under a "squatter's right." In all other respects the local officers were affirmed.

Old Rule Invoked.
The commissioner invoked a rule that where one settles upon a legal subdivision of a technical quarter section of land, and has made no improvements nor performed any act of settlement outside of that quarter section, his settlement rights do not attach outside that quarter section. As Bursell had posted a notice claiming part of the Vinacke claim, in another quarter section from that where his cabin is situated, and had not performed any acts of settlement on the part in conflict with the timber claim, it was held equitable to allow Mrs. Vinacke's timber claim in full. As to the remainder of the conflicts, Bursell wins out over every other claimant, and has been confirmed in a right to a very valuable tract of land.

Appeal to the secretary of the interior is available to Bursell against Vinacke, and against Bursell by all other interested parties.

ELGIN BURIES HATCHET

COMING TO LA GRANDE TOMORROW WITH BIG DELEGATION.

Barnes Announces His Lineup for Tomorrow Contest in This City.

With the hatchet buried and intent only on making an interesting baseball season in the inter-county league, Elgin will come to La Grande tomorrow with a large delegation of fans to play the first game of the season here. Elgin has not yet got its permanent lineup but has enough to give La Grande a merry chase tomorrow. The people of Elgin have decided to drop all malice and will endeavor to do their part in promoting an amicable relation between the two towns. However, the team is coming to win if possible.

Manager Barnes today announced his lineup for Elgin as follows: C. Hallgarth, c; Auburn, p; Patten, 2b; Christiansen, 3b; Crum, ss; Townner, left field; Russell, center field; Breshars, right field.

Hyde Jury Not Agreed.
Kansas City, May 14.—The Hyde jury today reported a disagreement. Hyde slept well last night. Mrs. Hyde is with her husband in jail to comfort him. The judge ordered the jury back and said he would hold them until Tuesday.