

La Grande Evening Observer

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LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON.

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TWENTY-TWO DIE IN A VIRGINIA MINE HORROR

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION COMES SUD- DENLY—TWENTY-THREE ARE ENTOMBED.

TWO KILLED IN WASHINGTON

Men in Lower Levels of Virginian Mine Killed Outright—Rescue Parties on Their Way to Save Those Caught on Upper Levels—Mine Horror in Washington State Miner Results in Death to Two and Injuries to Many.

Bristol, Tenn., Dec. 14.—It is reported this afternoon that the 26 entombed miners are dead. Five bodies have been recovered.

Bluefields, W. Va., Dec. 14.—Twenty-two miners were killed and twenty-three more are entombed in the Green mine at Tacoma, Virginia, according to a report this afternoon. A terrific explosion occurred. The men reported to be killed outright in the lower levels. Rescue parties are being rushed to the scene. Reports on the number of dead is not confirmed.

Ravensdale, Wash., Dec. 14.—Two miners were killed and two fatally injured in an explosion of the mines here yesterday. The dead, Ivan Gale, L. Maurish; dying, John Ash, Andrew Johnson. Four other men were rescued. The mine is the property of the Northwestern Improvement company.

CLUB HOLDS MEETING.

Active Organization Plans to Have Its Own Quarters in Short Time. The Lambda Phi Alpha club met Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. Harley Richardson. Important business was transacted and the club hopes to be in new quarters before the next regular meeting.

City Wage Earner Improves.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Earnings of the average city worker has remained stationary in the last decade while the purchasing power of the farmer increased over fifty per cent, a gain of twelve per cent in the cost of necessities according to the statement contained in the annual report of Victor Olmstead, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, yesterday.

Lynch Re-elected President.

New York, Dec. 13.—There was little opposition shown for the re-election of Lynch as president when the national league directors met yesterday afternoon to select officers and draw up the schedule of games for next season.

NATRON CUT-OFF MEANS MUCH

KRUTSCHNITT FINDS OREGON HAS GROWN RAPIDLY.

Many Improvements to be Made on the Harriman Systems Immediately

With the completion of the Klamath-Natron cutoff on the Southern Pacific, the running time for passenger service between Portland and San Francisco will be reduced to 22 hours, announced Julius Kruttschnitt, director of operation and maintenance of the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific systems, who arrived in Portland last night says the Portland Oregonian.

Mr. Kruttschnitt went over a part of the route during the past few days

and said that he expected the work to be completed before the end of the present fiscal year, June 30.

Mr. Kruttschnitt also announced that the North Coast will be built from Spokane to the Snake river, affording a physical connection with the O. R. & N. line near Ayer, and shortening the distance between Portland and Spokane to such an extent that it will be less than that of the North Bank road.

Merger is Discussed.

In discussing the organization of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company, for the completion of which it had been announced he came to Portland, he declared that the merger had no particular significance other than to permit a simplification of the management following the consolidation with the North Coast.

"The same men will direct the affairs of the new company and I see no reason for changes in the officers," he said.

He added that so far as he knows he is not likely to be elected president of the new corporation, but acknowledged that he would be.

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FIGHTING STILL FOLLOWED IN MEXICO

LARGE NUMBER KILLED IN ACTION WITH REGULARS.

Rebels Repulsed After Bloody Battle Lasting for Two Days.

Mexico City, Dec. 14.—Dispatches made public today by the war department today say that seventy rebels were killed and 150 wounded, fourteen troops killed and fifty wounded as the result of a two days' battle near Guerrero. Three hundred insurgents opposed 500 government troops under General Navarro. The rebels were driven from the trenches, thrice before they retired and the government recaptured Guerrero.

Reyes in Good Graces Again.

Washington, Dec. 13.—General Reyes, who was practically banished because his name was mentioned in connection with the vice presidency a little more than a year ago, is to return to his own country. Reports here from authentic sources says Diaz has summoned him back and decided to make him an understudy for president. Reyes is reported returning now from Europe.

Fighting Continues in Mexico.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 13.—A battle twenty miles from Pedernales, in the state of Chihuahua, which began Sunday is still being continued with heavy loss on both sides. Trains are moving northward on the Mexican-Northwestern railroad filled with women and children, refugees, from the fighting zone.

Stabbing at Adams.

Adams, Ore., Dec. 13.—Considerable excitement has been aroused in Adams over a stabbing affair which occurred Sunday evening in which Joe McBean, a well known young man of the town was severely cut in the arm. Louis Lacourse, another well known young man, was the assailant in the affair which, it is said, arose over a young lady with whom both were infatuated. At the time of the quarrel the two men had been drinking heavily and hot words soon led to an exchange of blows. Lacourse drew a knife and struck his rival in the fleshy part of the right arm, inflicting a wound several inches long and severing the main artery so that the wounded man almost bled to death before medical aid could be summoned.

Lacourse went to his home after the affair and the officers made no attempt to arrest him until today when a warrant was gotten out and they are now looking for him.

PARKER FOUND GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER BUT WILL ASK FOR NEW TRIAL

Appeals for a new trial, based principally, it is said from authentic sources, on the evidence of a woman from Burns who did not testify in the case just ended, but who will be here with evidence which the defense considers very important and relevant—will be made to Judge Knowles within the next ten days. Parker was found guilty of manslaughter this morning after twelve hours deliberation and the case so far as immediate matters are concerned, is over. But the appeal for the new trial brings to light evidence of a different sort.

Woman to Impeach Testimony.

A lady by the name of Robbs is coming today from the interior of Oregon. She brings with her a gun which in the minds of the defense will have an important bearing on the case in hand, and it is presumed that when the appeal for a retrial is made, the exact evidence which she will take the stand and introduce, will be made known.

Its Nature Whispered About.

It is rumored today in La Grande that the nature of her testimony will have to do with the impeachment of the testimony of Tilden Booth, an officer from Elgin. So far as can be learned, she will say that the gun

which Mr. Booth testified to was the property of Mr. Biggs, was not the weapon at all but that she has had it in her possession and can identify it. Then too, Mr. Biggs says he has a manner of identifying his weapon.

Parker's Neck Spared.

By the verdict reached, Parker's neck is spared. The verdict of manslaughter, if allowed to stand when the supreme court takes final action—which it will if the retrial is denied—means that Parker might take a penitentiary sentence of from five to twenty years. But he will not hang for the crime.

JURY OUT TWELVE HOURS.

Verdict of Manslaughter Returned Against Parker This Morning.

Just twelve hours after the case was given to it, the jury in the Parker case returned a verdict of manslaughter this morning. The verdict was reported at just 6 o'clock. Parker took the verdict with the same degree of indifference that has marked his mein during the entire trial. He left this morning for Elgin, his bonds having been reduced two thirds, leaving it now at \$10,000. Parker had little to say over the verdict, pinning faith to further developments to bring him safely out of the difficulty.

FIR STREET RESTAURANT FOUND TO BE A BROTHEL

Tendencies toward making a North Fir street restaurant into a brothel were nipped last night, when four young people were arrested in a raid on the Crystal restaurant, an establishment operated by a Greek. The victims of the raid by the police are now in the city jail and await further dispensation of their cases. The youngsters caught by the raid following a careful investigation and scrutiny of the establishment, are two boys aged nineteen and twenty—both well known in La Grande—and two girls aged sixteen years each. One of the girls has worked in various restaurants of the city and apparently has drifted away from her parents' care. Her mother showed little alarm today when informed of her daughters' arrest. The parents live on a farm near the city. The other girl, whose home is near the brick yard, where her widowed mother resides and too, like the parents of the other girl, have grown negligent over the care of her daughter. Both girls, it is said, have travelled the rosy path the past summer, with little or no attention or restrictions from the parents.

Place Under Suspicion.

While the Greek stoutly denies he has had any knowledge of the practices going on in the rooming apartments above his restaurant, it is barely possible that he knowingly maintained a brothel there. On the surface of things it is plausible to say he was unaware of the practices. The stairway to the rooming house leads up from the outside and he seldom if ever knows when his roomers come and go.

The place has been under suspicion for some time, the officers following out a clue that just such practices were carried on there. The investigation lead to the raid last night when the arrests of the four young people was made.

If it is found that the place has been conducted as an illicit rooming house at the instigation of the proprietor, immediate steps will be taken to punish the Greeks. Due to the fact that there is a possible chance of the proprietor being in ignorance of what has been discovered by the police, prosecution against him will be delayed until a careful analysis of the place and conditions have been made.

CADY TRIED AND FOUND GUILTY IN SIX HOURS TIME TODAY

Securing a jury, presenting the case of the state and of the defense, and returning a verdict all in one day, is the unusual speed displayed by the circuit court today. Thomas Cady, accused of sodomy, was placed on trial this morning at nine o'clock. The jury was picked up and by 2:30

o'clock the entire trial had been concluded, the verdict of guilty being found in short order. The crime of sodomy is punishable with several years in the penitentiary.

With the conclusion of this case, it is likely that the court will take a recess until Monday. The jurors have

been excused until that time but they may be recalled for tomorrow morning if Attorney Slater finds he can try the boys charged with stealing a bicycle at that time.

Demurrage Law Explained.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Railroads have a right to impose such demurrage charges on private cars as they see fit, according to a decision today of the interstate commerce commission. The finding was given in the case brought by Proctor and Gamble, soap manufacturers of Cincinnati, against the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroads. The manufacturers objected because the railroad assessed them for not unloading their private cars on their own tracks.

The railroads argued that the cars were used as a favor to the owners and insisted as soon as they were taken by the roads for transportation of goods they ceased to be private and were hauled subject to sales conditions, and that the Interstate Commerce Commission held that the railroads were not forced to haul private cars and therefore could impose such conditions as they saw fit.

OLYMPIA HANGS IN DANGER ON ROCK

QUESTION OF SALVAGE DOUBTED BY OWNERS.

Evidently No Chance to Save the Wrecked Vessel Hanging on Rocks.

Victoria, Dec. 14.—It is undetermined yet whether an effort will be made to salvage the wrecked steamer Olympia from the Bilght reef. The Alaska Steamship company which owns the vessel has received a cable from Captain Daniels at Valdez stating that number one, two and three holds are filled with water and the vessel is fast on the rocks, exposed to the breakers and winds. She will probably go to pieces unless work is begun soon.

CARNEGIE "COMES THROUGH"

Presents Ten Millions to World's Peace Foundation Movement.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Andrew Carnegie today donated \$10,000,000 in five per cent bonds to the new peace foundation and the income derived from the donation will be used to effect international peace. President Taft is made honorary president, and Senator Root active president. The foundation will make a perpetual disposition annually of half a million for the purpose of peace. Should the aim finally prove successful the fund will then be devoted to the abolition of the "next most degrading of evils."

WILLIAM COMPTON HURT

Falls Between Two Flat Cars at Palmer Junction and is Badly Injured.

William Compton was brought in from Palmer's camp on the Looking Glass this afternoon suffering with a broken leg. Doctor Mollitor was called to the hospital where he was taken and found both bones of one leg broken. The accident occurred when Mr. Compton went to board the train, his foot slipping and throwing him under the cars.

House Spends Money Freely.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The house of representatives is spending \$100,000 every minute, was stated by mathematicians here today. It is calculated that the first seven working days of the present session of the house appropriated \$191,000,000.

Conservatives Gain One.

London, Oct. 14.—Returns from scattered constituencies this evening showed a gain of one seat for the conservatives. The standing is now: Conservatives 251, Laborites 258, Nationalists 62, and O'Brienites 8.

COAL LAND BRIEF READY FOR ITS FILING

PINCHOT IN WASHINGTON, REMARKS ON FINDINGS OF BALLINGER INVESTIGATION.

MATTER UP TO CONGRESS

Brief Whist Instigated Ballinger Investigation is Now Filed With Congress—Did the Eastest Thing Possible by Gress—Pinchot Declares Committee Finding for Ballinger—NOW AWAITS Congress' Action.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The brief in the Cunningham Alaska coal lands case, which brought in the Ballinger investigation, has been completed by Gifford Pinchot and will soon be submitted to the President. Pinchot arrived here today to attend the session of the National Conservation association. Pinchot declared a majority report of the Ballinger committee supported the policies that Ballinger opposed and justified Pinchot's ideas.

He said the report excited no interest as it was known from the beginning what the tenor of the report would be. He said they did the easy thing by deciding for the man high in office and cited the Lorimer whitewashing as an example. He said interest now centers on what action congress takes regarding the same.

Le Blanc Grl Freed.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 14.—Hattie LeBlanc, aged 17 years, was acquitted today of the murder of Clarence Glover. The courtroom crowd cheered.

Murder Suspects Arrested.

Kansas City, Kan., Dec. 14.—Samuel Bailey, formerly employed on the Barnhart farm and a woman claiming to be his wife, were arrested today as suspects in the Olathe murder case in which Mrs. Barnhart, her son and two farm hands were beaten to death.

EVANS MEETS DEATH.

News Comes From Halley, Idaho, That Ray T. Evans Was Found Dead.

Mayor F. L. Meyers received a telegram this morning from the County coroner at Halley, Idaho, stating that a man named Ray T. Evans, was found dead there last night, and asked if he knew of the man having any relatives in this part of the country. The man was formerly employed at Kamela as a wood cutter.

There are no details in connection with the telegram. It is not known whether the man was killed, or died a natural death, or if he committed suicide. Little is known of him here, at least little could be ascertained this afternoon.

BOWERMAN TO COME SOON

WILL INSPECT UNION AND BAKER SITES.

Pendleton Sites Not to be Looked In- to Until Dec. 21.

Jay Bowerman is coming to Union and Baker City this week according to advices from Salem. He will inspect the proffered sites for the Eastern Oregon asylum at these two towns and then return to Condon where he has legal matters needing his attention. About December 20 he will return to Pendleton and make the inspection at that point. This leads to the belief that the selection will not be made until late in the month if at all this year.