

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## HUGE COMBINE CREATED BY LUMBERMEN

THOUSANDS OF BILLION FEET IS CONTROLLED AND HELD IN RESERVE FOR SHORTAGE.

## OIL COMBINE A PIGMY

So Monumental is Timber Trust Just Discovered and Announced, that the Standard Oil Trust is a Pigmy in Comparison—Four-fifths of Standing Timber Owned Privately—Danger to the Resources.

Washington, Feb. 14.—Producing startling statistics, Commissioner of Corporations Herbert K. Smith, sent a special report to congress today asserting a lumber trust is being organized which will make the Standard Oil combine look like a pigmy. Smith declared four-fifths of the timber of the standing timber in the entire country is privately owned. Three of these holdings he says are Weyerhaeuser Timber company, Southern Pacific and Northern Pacific. This comprises 236,900,000,000 feet or 11 per cent of the entire private owned timber in the country. Most of this is in the northwest. He said the danger of such concentrating power was serious.

The combine if running uncontrolled would result in complete control of the timber industry in the future. Holders Not Cutting. He said the largest holders are not cutting but reserving the timber for incalculable profits when other timber is gone. He said many of these big interests are protesting against conservation because "They say it ties up the natural resources while they themselves deliberately tie up far lands for their private gain, after the timber has been cut."

National League in Session. New York, Feb. 14.—With reports from all of the baseball clubs in the circuit present the schedule meeting of the National League began at the Hotel Breslin today. While no serious controversy is expected over the adoption of the schedule this year, it is likely that the club owners and managers will continue their session over tomorrow, as several matters of a more or less important nature will come up for discussion. It is understood that no serious objection will be made to the adoption of the proposed 154-game schedule.

Measles in Alaska. Nome, Feb. 14.—A serious epidemic of measles among the Eskimos and white children has broken out in this section.

## NEW METHOD OF WARFARE

### MILITANT VOTE SEEKERS HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH MUCH

By Refusing to Give Enumerators Facts, They See Much Effect

London, Feb. 14.—A boycott against the enumerators when the census is taken in April is the latest plan of militant suffragettes to compel Premier Asquith to promise a suffrage bill at this parliamentary session. Mrs. Despard of the Woman's Freedom club announced this step today.

"We will prove whether there can be people without women and we will request every woman householder throughout the country to refuse information to census takers."

### CANNON'S LAST STATE DINNER



Washington, Feb. 14.—Speaker Joseph G. Cannon tonight, probably for the last time, will be the guest of honor at a congressional dinner given by President and Mrs. Taft at the White House. The custom of giving the speaker a dinner was inaugurated by President Taft.

## SIX DROWN OFF COLUMBIA

### LIFE SAVING CREW SEARCH FOR DROWNED BODIES

Only One Man Saved When Schooner Is Capsized by Big Wave.

Astoria, Feb. 14.—Members of the Point Adams saving station are today patrolling the beach searching for bodies of six members of the gasoline schooner Oshkosh who were drowned when a big wave overturned the boat three miles off Columbia river jetty. The boat's course, out was for Umpqua river from Tillamook. Geo. Ray, the engineer at Hammond is reported practically recovered from his grueling fight with the waves when the boat capsized and he is the only survivor.

When the craft went over he caught hold of the engine room and hung to the machinery until the gale beached the boat and he walked out of his prison after three hours' struggling with the waves.

### Taft Feeds Boy Scouts.

Washington, D. C. Feb. 14.—President Taft who is the honorary president of the Boy Scouts of America, gave evidence of his interest in the movement by receiving the delegation at the White House this afternoon. There are many leaders of this organization here today in attendance on the first meeting of their national council. The boys, clad in regulation khaki suits, marched in procession from the New Willard Hotel to the White House where they were received in the East room by the president and several members of his official cabinet.

### Bench Show in Winnipeg.

Winnipeg, Man. Feb. 14.—With an entry list larger than ever before the annual bench show of the Western Canada Kennel Club opened in Winnipeg today. The show also contains a greater variety of breeds than any previous year in the history of the exhibit. The benches contain exhibits from many sections of Canada and the United States, even from points as far away as Toronto, Montreal, and Buffalo.

### Morton's Successor Named.

New York, Feb. 14.—Former Judge Millam Day, vice president of the Equitable Life Insurance company is to succeed Paul Morton, lately deceased, as president. The election will be held Thursday.

### Hammond is Commissioned.

Washington, Feb. 14.—John Hammond will represent the United States at the coronation of King George in London. He has just accepted the appointment as special ambassador for the United States for the occasion.

## WHIPPING POST MAGAZINES IN BILL PASSED OVER VETO IS BELIEF

BUCHANAN INSTRUMENTAL IN HAVING GOVERNOR REBUKED FOR HIS VETO.

## SENATE NAGS RECIPROCITY LAW CALLED AN INJUSTICE

Buchanan Affirms Governor is Too Free With His Meddling Fingers and That This Will Serve as a Lesson to let the House Bills Alone—Multnomah County to Have One More Circuit Judge Thinks Senate.

Salem, Feb. 14.—Oregon's legislature struck back at Governor West today by passing Buchanan's bill abolishing the whipping post for wife beaters over the governor's head. West vetoed it a few days ago. Buchanan accused the governor of meddling with legislative affairs and warned him to keep his hands off. "We can do our own thinking without his interference and I think this action will serve as a warning that he is not the whole thing," said Buchanan.

Oregon Opposes Reciprocity. The Senator Fouts resolution calling on President Taft to withdraw the Canadian reciprocity agreement from congress, passed the senate today after a debate. It was feared it would affect the lumber industry in Oregon. Collin's bill allowing Multnomah county one additional circuit judge passed the house this morning with 18 dissenting votes.

### GRAFT CLEANING STARTS

Orders for Grand Jury Investigation at Seattle are Issued.

Seattle, Feb. 14.—Judge Main today granted a request to Prosecuting Attorney Murphey for the grand jury investigation of charges that a vice syndicate had been operating in Seattle under police protection. The jury will be called Friday to hear the evidence secured by Detective Wm. Burns, the famous exposé of the Ruff-Schmittz graft ring in San Francisco. Burns worked secretly for three months and says he secured evidence involving prominent men.

### Florida D. A. R.

Dayton, Fla. Feb. 14.—Splendid entertainment has been provided for the many delegates who have come to Dayton for the annual meeting of the Florida division of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Today was given over to the reception of the visitors. The regular session of the congress will begin tomorrow and will continue until Friday.

### Illinois Anti-Saloon Rally.

Springfield, Ill. Feb. 14.—With Governor Stubbs of Kansas, heading the list of speakers the temperance forces of Illinois rallied in Springfield today for a mass convention under the auspices of the Illinois Anti-Saloon League. The chief purpose of the gathering is to further the purpose of a state wide county option bill before the legislature, which is now in session.

## REORGANIZE COMMERCIAL CLUB ON A PERMANENT BASIS TONIGHT

Final decision on the line of procedure to be adopted by the Commercial club in its reorganization will be taken tonight at a postponed meeting of the club members and directors. A half dozen propositions have been given careful consideration by the club members and which one of the lot is to be chosen remains for the night to divulge. Big propositions, one of them looking toward an electric gridle road

S. P. FULLINWIDER.  
Lieutenant Commander on Board the Big Battleship Connecticut.



## 12 HORSES ARE WORTH \$2825

### FLOYD McKENNON OF ALICE SELLS ENTIRE HERD

Buyer Anxious to Pick up Entire String and Sale is Consummated.

Obtaining the fancy price of \$2,825 for a string of twelve farm horses is the latest bit of news from the local horse world. The trick was turned by Floyd McKennon of Alice and considering that it was not one or two span that drew the good average price but a neat dozen animals, the price received is unusually remunerative. The buyer of this string is J. T. Erby who had need for just such a bunch of horses as Mr. McKennon owned.

Mr. McKennon has restocked his ranch with purchases from the Wade stock of horses at Lostine.

### Former State Senator on Trial.

New York, Feb. 14.—F. J. Gardner the former member of the New York state senate who was indicted last fall on the charge of bribery growing out of the efforts to defeat the Anti-Race Track Betting bill at Albany, was placed on trial in the Supreme Court here today. Gardner, who was a senator from Brooklyn was indicted on the testimony of Assistant District Attorney Robert H. Elder of Kings county, who swore that Otto G. Foeiker, while a state senator, was approached by Gardner and offered a sum of money if he would vote against the bill.

### Walla Walla Conductor Shot.

Walla Walla, Feb. 14.—Shot twice through the breast by a man trying to break into the dining car, Conductor D. J. Reeder of Portland is in a local hospital in a serious condition. Reeder was aroused by the sound of breaking glass and investigated. He was shot at Lewiston junction but was rushed here. The man escaped.

### County Seat Eight Bloody One.

Oklahoma City, Feb. 14.—The militia is being held in readiness to rush to Mountain Peak and Snyder, rival towns for the county seat. Bloodshed is imminent.

### Relief Army Halted.

El Paso, Feb. 14.—Advance of General Navarro with Federal troops to the relief of Juarez is reported to have been stopped by troops under General Orozco near Cadalaria.

## LAME DUCKS TO HAVE COMPANY AFTER MARCH

AFFAIRS OF STATE POINT TO MAKE POLITICAL DECISIONS AFTER MARCH.

## WILSON'S DAYS NUMBERED

Henry Lane Wilson of Spokane Seems First to Receive Executioners' Axe and Other Heads Now Holding Office Will be Dropped Into Waste Basket Soon—Make Appointments After Senate Adjourns.

Washington, Feb. 14 (Special).—"Lame Duck" members of congress are not the only persons whose official heads will fall into the executioner's basket on March 4 next, or soon thereafter. With the approach of the end of the session, the rumblings portending a disturbance in the state department grow louder.

The upheaval is expected to center in the diplomatic bureau. Diplomats, demotions and transfers will be the manifestations. It is believed of the workings of the inner machinery.

The clouds seem to be gathering thickest about the head of Henry L. Wilson, of Spokane, Wash., ambassador to Mexico. Wilson was promoted to his present post from the legation at Brussels, largely through the efforts of his brother, who is a well known newspaper owner in Washington state.

It is asserted that Mr. Wilson has been most unfortunate in the effect that his work has produced upon Secretary Knox. It is admitted that this position has been a trying one, owing to the revolutionary and anti-American disturbances in Mexico which have been growing more serious since last summer. Yet, the fact remains that his work has been pronounced unsatisfactory. Whether he will be dismissed or merely transferred is a matter yet undecided; the latter alternative is said to be likely.

Since the resignation of Oscar Straus as ambassador to Turkey, the department has been searching for his successor. No one has been chosen as yet, and it is now expected that transfers will be made to fill the vacancy. Ambassador Rockhill at St. Petersburg is named as the most likely candidate.

That two, and possibly three of the posts in South America will have new incumbents this spring is considered certain. Little is known however, of the changes contemplated in the Latin-American countries.

Consideration of the candidates for the various posts to be affected by the shake-up has been deliberately deferred by President Taft and Secretary

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## DARING THUG IN PORTLAND

### JEWELRY CLERK SANDBAGGED IN DAYLIGHT

Afternoon Crowds on Washington Street Swallow the Desperado.

Portland, Feb. 14.—Sandbagging James Gilbert, a clerk in the Diamond Palace jewelry store on Washington street this afternoon, when Gilbert had turned to get another tray of diamonds, a well dressed desperado rushed back and looted the safe of \$1,000, brushed the diamonds into his pocket, and got lost in the crowd before Gilbert recovered and notified the police. A half dozen detectives are on the trail.