

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## DIAZ DYING AND UNITED STATES RUSHES VAST ARMY AND SHIPS TO BORDER

Washington, March 7.—A great naval and military demonstration involving 20,000 troops, and four armored cruisers has been ordered by the United States government today to be made immediately on the Mexican frontier. Though officials refuse to discuss the possibilities of the troops being sent across the international line, it is known the state department has been considering the possibilities for several days. As the state department practically admits its support of President Diaz and American capitalists have investments aggregating \$100,000,000, largely concessions, it is believed here that the demonstration is directed against the Mexican rebels.

The action followed the return of ambassador Wilson from Mexico, and coincident with the cabinet meeting attended by General Wood, who later announced that the sudden dispatch of one-fourth of the army to the border was merely a war game. This is not credited here.

General Wood announced that the joint maneuvers will be held immediately at San Antonio, Galveston and San Diego. He said the maneuvers were for the purpose of trying out the military organizations and its equipment. He would not comment on the Mexican situation.

**Boise Troops Called.**  
Denver, March 7.—Among the troops to go south are the famous colored regiment here and several troops from Boise.

Washington, March 7.—President Diaz lies on his death bed, being kept alive only by the use of strong heart stimulants, according to authentic reports today. The messages were received from secret agents. "Should Diaz die, as he may at any moment, only American rule can save Mexico from Diaz's own soldiers," says the message. This may hold the keynote to the hasty mobilization of a vast army of American soldiers on the border.

**Many Soldiers on Way.**  
Washington, March 7.—Secret military information was today received by the war department, ordering mobilization of six thousand troops along the Mexican border. The eleventh cav-

alry, at Eglinthope, Ga., the seventh infantry from Fort McPherson, Atlanta, are already en route to the south and preparing to start Texasward. Others will be rushed borderward today, tonight and tomorrow if the rumors of disorders along the frontier continue.

Secretary of War Dickenson has officially asserted that the troops are asserting for the purpose of maneuvers, but it is rumored that the American troops will be sent into Mexico and Dickenson does not deny this yet such may become the intuition of the government.

**Americans Appeal for Help.**  
The state department has been receiving frenzied appeals for help from Americans in the Imperial valley, in California, for protection against the Mexican brigands who have been purloining food, money and clothing and with no protection offered for themselves the Mexican troops nor the insurgents.

**Headed for Mexico, No Doubt.**  
There continues, this afternoon, to be a constant well-founded rumor in army circles that the troops being rushed from Fort Meyer especially have been ordered to proceed to Texas towns where they will set to some town along the Mexican border and that they will eventually be sent into Mexican territory.

**Fifteenth Called to Arms.**  
Salt Lake, March 7.—The fifteenth infantry is under rush orders to go to the Mexican frontier and has taken its departure at noon today.

Orders have been issued for 700 marines at Philadelphia to prepare to board the Prairie for Guantanamo, Cuba, the government naval base which is within easy striking distance of San Antonio where it is expected that General Wood and Secretary Dickenson will inspect the warriors.

Washington, Mar. 7.—American armored cruisers Washington, Tennessee, Montana, West Virginia, Rhode Island and Kansas are being held under orders today to sail for the Texas coast. Secretary of the Navy Meyer said the purpose was to show the south what sort of warships Uncle Sam maintains.



Above: Captain T. B. Griffin with the Rhode Island and to the Right C. J. Badger in Command of the Kansas. These Two Ships Are Among Those Detailed for Service in Big War Game, and Will See Real and Active Service if President Diaz Dies as is Likely.

## DISTRICT ORGANIZATION MUST BE FORMED IN EASTERN OREGON TO BENEFIT BY UNION

To become a part and parcel of the monumental fruitgrowers' union organized at Walla Walla last week, it will become necessary for La Grande and Grande Ronde apple growers to perfect a district organization immediately, that this section of the state may realize the benefits accruing to the union, for without a district organization, the community does not become eligible to participate in the union. By district is meant the entire eastern half of the state almost—at least everything as far west as Hood River. While the plans for handling the fruit judiciously have been well prepared, it is absolutely necessary that the vast district represented in the union, nearly a half-dozen states in all, be subdivided into districts and the districts in local unions. There is already one local union in this valley but it is not eligible to the benefits and privileges of the big union until it has first amalgamated with a district which has its own officers.

To do this then, will be the aim of local promoters of better apple shipping facilities. Sherwood Williams, holding the secretaryship of the by-laws committee and the differences committee as well, has returned from the Walla-Walla meeting loaded with facts and information and he has been an encyclopedia to local fruit men since his return. There is a great deal of interest manifest in the project, but the formation of a district, geographically described by the committees at Walla Walla must first be perfected.

Really there is little interest in the proposition outside of Grande Ronde valley. Umatilla, Baker, Wallawa, Malheur and the other Eastern Oregon counties have little to do with commercial orchards, so that what may be done this spring will no doubt have to be engineered by Grande Ronde valley people. That here is dire necessity of extreme haste in completing such an organization is the opinion of Mr. Williams.

Of course it is conceded that it will take months to right every detail in connection with the union and it is for this reason principally that the district be organized at once. It is the plan of the promoters of the big central association that the summer

be spent in settling differences so that when the marketing time arrives the scheme will have pretty well attained plausible working plans. A year or more will be required to perfect it, of course, for when hundreds of local and district unions attempt to maintain a central selling agency from orchards scattered all over Oregon, Washington, northern California, Montana and Idaho, it can be seen that the scheme is monumental in its boundaries.

Local apple men express the belief that the district organization will be perfected quickly and that the first year of the big association's existence will be beneficiary to Grande Ronde.

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**Long Jaunt for Roosevelt.**  
New York, March 7.—Theodore Roosevelt has packed his trunk and completed other arrangements in anticipation of his start on the longest trip he has taken since his return to this country from his famous trip to Africa. He will be gone six weeks or longer and will travel over many states. His first stop will be at Atlanta, where he will address the members of the Southern Commercial Congress next Friday. From Atlanta he will strike out for the west and expects to reach San Francisco late in the month. After delivering a series of lectures at the University of California he will visit Portland, Spokane and other cities of the Pacific Northwest.

**Congressmen to Visit Panama.**  
New York, March 7.—A number of the members of congress and their wives were included in a large party of tourists sailing from this city today for Panama. After viewing the canal work and other sights on the Isthmus the party will return home by way of Porto Rico and Cuba.

**Ohio Retail Shoe Dealers.**  
Columbus, Ohio, March 7.—The Ohio Retail Shoe Dealers' Association began its second annual convention in this city today. The attendance includes nearly 200 prominent representatives of the trade from all parts of the state. The sessions will continue over tomorrow and Thursday.

## BALLINGER RESIGNS AND A PINCHOT MAN SLATED FOR HIS PORTFOLIO

Washington, March 7.—After two years of stormy politics and a regime marked by senatorial investigation and mudslinging and counter attacks, Richard A. Ballinger today resigned as secretary of the interior. He first resigned on January 19 but on President Taft's request postponed it until the adjournment of congress. Yesterday he wrote his second formal letter of resignation which was accepted by President Taft today. This action followed announcement that the next congress would impeach him.

**Fisher Will Succeed Him.**  
It is announced that Walter L. Fisher of Chicago will be his successor. Pinchot, the original instigator of troubles against Ballinger, will see his policies enacted, in a measure, for in Fisher, if that appointment is made will be found a Pinchot conservationist. His alleged appointment is regarded as an attempt to placate the progressive element and restore peace in the conservation war. Fisher is president of the National Conservation association which was organized in opposition to Ballinger's public land policies.

Ballinger says he will return to Seattle, his home town.  
Walter Fisher, secretary of the interior to be, is a lawyer and a member of many clubs and reform associations.

For the last six months he has been sitting as a member of Taft's special commission investigating the financial condition of American railroads.

In acceptance to Ballinger, President Taft roasted the much and praised Ballinger. He said:

"I do not hesitate to let you know that I think you have been an object of unscrupulous conspiracies, one of the worst in history. I deem it my duty to stand by you to the end and to say that those who attacked you were unscrupulous conspirators."

To Eastern Oregon, the retirement of Ballinger and his policies and the probable inauguration of the Pinchot theories will come as a debatable question of right and wrong. Both theories have firm adherents in this section of the state and on account of the fact that the land office is located here, the probable switch in policies to be incurred by the change will be manifested in many ways. Even the brief announcement of Ballinger's retirement today has set politicians agog wondering where and when the first effect of the new policy will show itself, especially in the matter of power sites.

## RUEF REALLY IN EVERETT LIGHTS PRISON ABANDONED

TAKEN FROM HIS HOME IN A TAXI THIS AFTERNOON.

Carries Five Suit Cases Filled With Books and Clothes.

San Francisco, March 7.—Abe Ruef's long fight for freedom ended this afternoon when he was taken to San Quentin for a term of 14 years. His stay of execution expired this afternoon.

Ruef was taken away in a taxicab which placed him aboard the ferry boat and after landing again the trip was completed in an automobile. He carried five suit cases containing books and clothes. He will have two suits of stripes at the penitentiary.

**Navy League in Session.**

Los Angeles, March 7.—The Navy League of the United States, which has for its object the awakening of public interest and co-operation in all matters tending to improve and develop the naval forces of the United States, began its annual convention in this city today with many delegates in attendance. The convention will direct special attention to the needs of the Pacific coast and the naval problems which will arise on the completion of the Panama canal.

BECAUSE TOWN IS DRY MANY DEPARTMENTS ERASED.

Smaller Police Force, No Health Officer and All Street Lights Go.

Everett, Wash., March 7.—Because the city must get along without \$70,000 usually received from liquor licenses, because the town has just gone dry, the city council announced today that there will be no street lights, no health officer and there will be a big reduction in the police force. The council will also prune expenses along other lines.

All this they say is because there is no law to permit the taxes covering these expenses.

**To Probe Alaska Coal Land Frauds.**

Chicago, March 7.—Evidence of alleged frauds in connection with the coal land entries in the Matanuska and Vook Inlet fields in Alaska, is expected to be laid before the federal grand jury which convened here today. Agents of the United States land office have been investigating the alleged illegal entries for more than a year and have summoned a number of business men of Alaska to testify before the grand jury.

## HOBBLE SKIRT IS WEDDING GOWN

COUNCIL, IDAHO, MAIDEN ATTACHED IN EXTREME SKIRT.

Local Parsonage Scene of Wedding Class as Hobble Skirt's Debut.

Hobble skirts as wedding gowns made their debut in La Grande yesterday when Dora Hart, of Council, Idaho, was married to Arthur W. De Walt of Emmitt, Idaho, Rev. J. D. Gillilan performing the ceremony at the Methodist parsonage here. Now, it may be as well to understand, the gown was not a near-hobble, or something akin to the fad now being crowded into oblivion by the Harem skirt—or trousers—but was a dyed-in-the-wool affair that left no doubt as to its reality. Incidental to being the first time marriage gowns have been patterned after the extreme in the hobble line in this city, it was also the first time that the doctor who officiated had been called upon to tie the matrimonial knot in front of the last year's craze.

There were no friends to witness the ceremony and no formality either and for this reason all the more the peculiar and big-city attire made distinctive appearances.

The hobble skirt disappeared soon after the wedding had been solemnized, leaving the impression that it had been prepared for the special and auspicious occasion.

Where the couple went after the ceremony is not recorded.

**Plumbers Meet in Rochester.**

Rochester, N. Y., March 7.—The New York State Association of Master Plumbers, which has a membership of nearly 1500, met in Rochester today for its twenty-third annual session. The program of the initial session this morning included a speech of welcome by Mayor Edgerton and the annual address of President Frederick E. Fladd. The convention will conclude its business tomorrow.

## IDAHO SUSPECTS RELEASED

CHARGES AGAINST THEM DENIED BY GOOD EVIDENCE.

Haines Authorities Will Now Bend Their Hunt to the Westward.

Haines, March 7.—(Special)—Men arrested in Idaho Sunday as suspects in the Haines murder case have been released, following conclusive evidence of their innocence of the charges preferred against them.

While this has been done it is said that the work will go westward again and that clues now held at Haines will be taken up at once, and will lead the searchers westward.

The evidence produced by the men arrested in Idaho points Saturday and Sunday was so conclusive that there is no possible chance for their guilt and they have been given their liberty.

The "hour-talent" theory advanced some few days ago, is adhered to by relatives of the dead man, according to the following in the Herald last night:

Fully two minutes elapsed after the masked man pulled the gun on Ed before the shooting occurred, during which time Ed turned around and secured a spoon for a patron to stir some beef tea. The bandit kept the gun on Ed all the time and did not believe he was in any danger.

Another suspicious incident is the complete disappearance of the two men without leaving a trace. The tracks east of Haines were found to have been made before the crime occurred, so the men could not have escaped that way. It would have been possible for the men to leave the saloon and join the crowd later without arousing suspicion.

Mr. McCullough is sparing neither trouble nor expense to find the perpetrators of the deed, and will run them to earth if possible.

Harvey McCullough, father of the

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