

Lia Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME NO. 16

LA GRANDE UNION COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1912.

NUMBER 134

VAST AREA IN SOUTH FLOODED

KENTUCKY TOWNS ARE RUINED AND MANY HOMELESS

TOWN OF NEW MADRID SAID TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED

Huge Levees Protecting Vast Areas of Country Near the Breaking Point and Extreme Alarm Felt—Loss of Lives Is Sure to Follow the Breaking of St. Francis Levee Near Town of Memphis.

LIVES REPORTED LOST.

Memphis, April 2.—Unconfirmed reports are current that New Madrid is inundated by the flood. Confirmation is impossible and that many persons were killed as communication is not yet restored.

Hickman, Ky., April 2.—Two thousands persons are homeless as a result of the breaking of the Mississippi river levee flooding the town with from two to eight feet of water. There are not enough tents to shelter the homeless, and general suffering prevails. Food is scarce and sickness is feared, but there had been no deaths so far this morning.

Militia Is Asked for.

Jefferson City, Mo., April 2.—New Madrid is flooded by the rapidly rising Mississippi river, and the governor has been requested to order the state militia to protect the town. The inhabitants are unable to cope with the situation.

All Records Smashed.

Cairo, Ills., April 2.—With the Mississippi at 53 1-3, the water now is three inches above all previous records. All trains are stalled, and nearly every able bodied man is working to prevent a collapse of the levees.

Memphis in Great Danger.

Memphis, Tenn., April 2.—The crest of the flood which wrought such havoc in the Mississippi valley is expected within the next 48 hours. The river here has risen one foot since last night and it is feared that the St. Francis levee, protecting an enormous territory, will break, probably causing loss of life, and much property damage. The northern section of Memphis is flooded with one foot of water.

Government Aid Urged.

Washington, April 2.—President Taft sent a special message to congress asking for an appropriation of \$500,000 to fight the floods raging along the Mississippi river, the fund to be placed at the disposal of the army engineers to prevent bursting of the levees.

Taft said: "These levees contribute to the safety of the adjoining agricultural lands, and settlements and are also a part of the great governmental projects, the maintenance of navigation of the lower water of the Mississippi. I urgently recommend immediate appropriation to prevent further loss."

Hammond Split by River.

Hammond, Ind., April 2.—Hundreds of thousands of acres are inundated here and hundreds of citizens are now fighting the floods caused by the bursting of the Kankakee river dyke forming a new river bed through a portion of Hammond. The damage exceeds \$1,000,000. The ice gorges in the Calumet river are being dynamited but the relieving of the jam failed to check the rising water, which are now threatening Hammond.

Coast Cities Boomed.

San Francisco, April 2.—The congress of festivals, delegates from all leading Pacific coast cities opened their initial session in the St. Francis hotel here today. The congress aims to form a permanent organization for the exploitation of the Pacific coast states.

SEIDEL IN DANGER.

All Parties Combine to Oust Socialists in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee, April 2.—Clear weather is prevailing and the early vote in the municipal election is the heaviest in the history of the city. Republicans, democrats and other parties combined are behind Dr. G. A. Badin, for the mayoralty and claim to defeat Emil Seidel, the socialist, by 15,000 votes. There is a bitter feeling in the opposing factions.

The presidential primaries are also being held throughout Wisconsin today. La Follette is regarded as an easy winner of the republican endorsement.

Supporters of Woodrow Wilson claim he is leading Champ Clark in the state primary. A heavy republican vote is being cast.

Medford Builds Railroad.

Medford, Ore., April 2.—At a mass meeting last night, a committee was appointed to raise \$75,000 to begin the building of a railroad from here to the Blue Ledge mining district. Already \$30,000 has been raised. The Southern Pacific will complete a survey as its part of the contribution.

KNABE MURDER CLEARED.

Erstwhile Sailor Confesses to Killing Dr. Helen Knabe.

Portsmouth, N. H., April 2.—The mystery of the murder of Dr. Helen Knabe may be cleared up through a confession today to the police of Seth Nichols, a former sailor in the American navy. He said that he with a man named Knight, who paid him \$1,500, killed the woman. He said he went to her apartments to get her. He forced an entrance and he stabbed her. The police are skeptical about the former sailor's story, and are investigating it. The murder happened some months ago with no tangible clue.

South's Education Meet.

Nashville, Tenn., Apr. 2.—The 18th annual meeting of the "Conference for Education in the south" will assemble in Nashville tomorrow for a three days' session. This organization which was formed at Capon Springs in 1898, is one of the most unique in the south. Its underlying idea is to interest laymen in education as a civic responsibility. Within its membership are business men, professional men, college men, and, in fact, men of nearly every walk of life. Affiliated with it are several organizations of educators, which hold their meetings at the same time and place.

Among the prominent persons who have prepared addresses or papers for the present conference are: President Robert C. Ogden of New York, Secretary of the Interior Walter L. Fisher, Congressman Martin W. Littleton of New York, St. Clair McKelway of Brooklyn, President David F. Houston of Washington university, President S. C. Mitchell of the University of South Carolina, Senator Joseph W. Bailey of Texas, President Charles W. Dabney of the University of Cincinnati, Bishop Thomas F. Gallor of Tennessee, and Jacob M. Dickinson, former secretary of war.

Jews Observe the Passover.

New York, April 2.—The one million Jews of Greater New York, in common with their brethren the world over, today celebrated the Feast of the Passover, or Pesach. It is the spring festival of the Jews, and in ancient times was the first of the three great pilgrim feasts, when the people of Israel gathered from the remotest sections of the Holy Land and went up to Jerusalem to offer their thanks in the temple. The festival was ordained to commemorate the redemption of the children of Israel from their bondage in the land of Egypt, where they had been held as slaves more than 400 years.

During the eight days of the celebration the place of bread in every Jewish household is taken by a specially prepared and baked cake known as "Matsos," consisting of flour and water only, without any leavening ingredient. It is estimated that more than 100,000 barrels of flour are used in New York alone making the "Matsos" for the annual festival.

ENGLISH MINERS WON'T ACCEPT SOCIAL STATUS THEME TONIGHT

TERRIBLE SUFFERING IS TO BE PROLONGED IN BRITAIN

SOLDIERS READY TO PREVENT BLOOD SHED

Miners Will Not Vote to Accept Government Minimum Wage Bill if the Present Indications Point Correctly—Hundreds of Thousands of Suffering People Will Not Get Aid—Riots Assured.

London, April 2.—Continued suffering of hundreds of thousands of persons in England, Scotland and Wales promises today to be indefinitely prolonged by a continuation of the strike of the coal miners. Early predictions that the miners would accept the government minimum wage bill were shattered today by the announcement that close balloting would show the men had voted not to return to work. Reports issued at noon showed the miners are opposed to returning to work under the terms proposed by J. R. MacDonald, leader of the Conservatives-Laborites. The vote at that hour was 106,252 against resuming work, and 101,474 in favor of resuming work. Officials view the situation with alarm, and are prepared to rush soldiers to the mines to protect strike-breakers from violence. One leading official said:

"We expect trouble, and we are going to be prepared for it. We may have riots but they will be promptly suppressed."

At 6 o'clock tonight it was announced at headquarters that the miners' federation vote on the question of accepting the government minimum wage bill, reducing work, stood: for resumption, 123,000; against resumption 135,000.

GOETHALS ANGERS GERMANS.

Audience With Kaiser Results in Bad Feeling in Berlin.

Berlin, April 2.—The German press is bitter against Colonel Goethals, the Panama engineer, because, after visiting the kaiser here, he made the statement that the kaiser said the Panama canal ought to be fortified strongly. The German papers say: "We hope the disagreeable incidents with the Americans for whom entre at court is sought, will have the effect of preventing such creatures in the future advertising themselves by their indiscretions, and other legendary assertions."

Americans at Berlin reply that Col. Goethals did not seek an audience with the kaiser, but delayed his departure from the city so that he might accept the kaiser's invitation.

POLICE BURN PAPERS.

I. W. W. Fail in Attempt to Dispose of 'Frisco Papers.

San Diego, April 2.—Efforts of the I. W. W. to sell a San Francisco evening paper telling of the free speech fight, were blocked by the police today. As fast as the newsboys appeared on the streets, they were taken to the police station and the papers taken from them and burned; then the boys were released. Hundreds of papers were destroyed, and but a few sold.

Son Wounds Father in Jealousy.

San Bernardino, Cal., April 2.—Seeing his wife in the embrace of a stranger Oscar Johnson dashed into his home here and dealt the supposed intruder a blow on the head with a club. Stopping over him, he recognized his father whom he had not seen for 15 years. The elder Johnson arrived from the east while his son was absent. He is in a critical condition, suffering from a severe skull fracture.

MASS MEETING OF MEN AND BOYS CALLED FOR TONIGHT

ACTION OUTGROWTH OF A NOON-HOUR LUNCHEON TODAY

Men and Religion Forward Movement Will End Tonight With What Is Hoped to Be a Mass Meeting—Social Conditions of La Grande Is the Chief Topic—Noon Hour Luncheon Hears Reports.

Men and boys over 15 years of age will meet tonight in the Baptist church to ferret out some avenue whereby the social conditions of La Grande will be bettered—the meeting being directly the outgrowth of the Men and Religion Forward movement, coming to a close tonight. A noon-hour luncheon with discussions and speeches relative to the social status in La Grande brought the matter to a focus resulting in a resolution being adopted calling for a meeting tonight in the Baptist church of every man and boy over 15 years of age. Women will not be permitted to attend and matters holding the attention of the social committee of the Men and Religion Forward movement will be up for discussion. Spades will be called spades and without mincing of words, the committee aims to present to the body a plan of action of action which has for its aim the betterment of social conditions.

Houses of prostitution and the inclination of young men and boys to frequent them because there are no facilities of entertainment were subjects of discussion at the noon hour which held the attention of the guests. Dr. J. W. Loughlin presided and prefaced the principal speech delivered by Mr. Gibson of Walla Walla with a hasty word picture of conditions here as he saw them. The Men and Religion Forward movement ends tonight with the mass meeting, plans being changed somewhat to conform with them. Last night a very pleasing series of meetings were held by the five departments and later a general meeting was held whereat about 50 young boys were present and sat in a body. This delegation of boys was there as the result of a meeting held yesterday in the hotel quarters of Fred Whitman, and other members of the Walla Walla team when plans for a Y. M. C. A. were discussed and general interest in a Federated Boys' club focused. It is believed that a boys' club will be formed in Eastern Oregon with La Grande as the moving and central figure.

Boys Father Y. M. C. A.

As another consequence of the meeting of the boys yesterday a petition is being circulated among the boys of high school age today asking the business men and citizens to do something toward providing Y. M. C. A. facilities. The signatures are growing in number every hour and the young men have taken the initiative and it is not surprising if they will accomplish what the men have not yet rounded out. The noon luncheon today also heard from the Y. M. C. A. when the committee named yesterday reported that the matter of leasing the skating rink was under consideration and the same committee will meet in a day or two and make further reports on the all-absorbing topic. The skating rink plan is proving to be a costly one.

The last luncheon was marked by the transaction of considerable business. The men extended a vote of thanks to the ladies who served such splendid lunches both yesterday and today. The decision to hold the mass meeting tonight, the furtherance of boys' interest in the Y. M. C. A., and various other topics came up under the head of business.

In conformity with the mass meeting announcements there will be but two institutes tonight; one on Bible

study led by Prof. Coleman at the Christian church and Boys' work led by John Rudd in the basement of the Baptist church.

JOSEPH ELECTION HELD.

Opposition to Old Council Results in Its Downfall.

Joseph, Ore., April 2.—(Special) —The annual city election held here yesterday resulted in a defeat for the old city council and the election of the amalgamated opposition, composed of both "wets" and "drys" and known as "good government" and "McCully forces." The "drys" were dissatisfied with the general policy of the council and certain of the "wets" were disgruntled over the disposition of the two licenses granted by the council at the time of the test proceedings in the "home rule" cases and another element of the "wets" took revenge for the revoking of a soft drink license. The parties engaged in litigation with the city over the old water system also took advantage of the opportunity presented by the divided opposition and assisted in bringing about the total downfall of the present council. Recent removal by the council of a marshal for alleged discourtesy toward a councilman was also a factor.

The council consists of six members and four were to be elected. The first four named were successful, the votes standing: Wesley Duncan, 79; E. O. Makin, 78; Nathan Tryon, 73; M. C. Brooke, 79; John Baker, 60; W. L. Mulkey, 61; D. Baughman, 52; A. J. Richardson, 59.

Rev. J. W. Miller, pastor of the Methodist church, Attorney A. W. Schupp and J. B. Streeter led their forces to victory after a most exciting contest. So close was the contest considered in the morning that the victorious side telephoned to La Grande to secure an order for the holding of the morning outgoing train until possible outgoing passengers could have an opportunity to vote.

ABERDEEN STRIKE OVER.

Haywood Coming to Aid I. W. W.'s but Worst Is Thought to Be Over.

Aberdeen, April 2.—It is comparatively quiet today. The announcement was made by the strikers that William D. Haywood, leader of the I. W. W., now in the east, is coming to Gray's Harbor to aid the strikers. The I. W. W. hall is closed and the mills are operating. The backbone of the strike is apparently broken. The same conditions exist at Hoquiam, and also at Raymond.

Tacoma, April 2.—The strike of the lumber men in Grays' Harbor is believed to be settled. Foreigners who originally started the trouble, are to be replaced by Americans. The mill owners are now seeking 6000 in Tacoma.

England's Budget Out.

London, April 2.—No reduction of the estimated expenditures is shown by the annual budget issued in the house of commons by David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer. The budget also carries no increased taxation. The entire surplus of the British treasury is \$32,750,000. He retained a strengthened treasury balance. Lloyd George estimates the coal strike caused a reduction of \$2,000,000 in the government funds and will cause a reduction of \$4,000,000 in the next year by the reducing of the consumption of tea, tobacco, liquor and sugar.

Coast League Begins Season.

San Francisco, Cal., April 2.—The Pacific Coast Baseball league started the season of 1912 today. Vernon appearing at Sacramento for the initial contest, Portland playing at Los Angeles, and Oakland in San Francisco. The schedule provides for a season of 112 games, with October 27 as the closing date.

Outlook Now Hopeful.

Washington, April 2.—The state department declares the outlook in Mexico is now more favorable. This is due, it is believed, to the announcement that President Madero will raise an army of 60,000 men to crush the rebellion headed by General Orozco.

FEDERAL ARMY GAINS POWER

WHILE EIXCO CITY IS IS ARMED ARMY AINS POINT

REV. LOSE STRONGHOLDS: FEDERALS ARE CONFIDENT

Torreón Will not Be Attacked at Once as Federal Forces Gain a Decisive Hold on That City—Volunteers Come to Aid of Foreigners in Mexico City—Madero Is Confident That Everyone Is Safe.

Mexico City, April 2.—All communication is severed today to Mexico City and Cuernavaca as the result of rebel attacks on the city of Puebla. The government has announced it is not safe to run trains through the disturbed district. The government garrison here has been increased to 4,500 men. President Madero says this will be an ample force to protect all foreign residents in the city in case of rioting. It is reported that 50,000 volunteers have offered their services to the government from Vera Cruz. By actual count only seven congressmen yesterday applauded Madero's call for good Mexicans to rally to the aid of the government.

El Paso, April 2.—General Pascual Orozco commander in chief of the rebel force, has temporarily abandoned his plan to attack Torreón and Mexico City, according to advices here today. It is reported that the federals have turned the tables on the rebels. General Orozco is retreating from the combined forces of Generals Aubert and Villas with a combined total number of 2,100 fighting men.

Federals Reach Torreón.

Laredo, Texas, April 2.—American refugees here from Torreón say that General Tellez, with 1,600 federals, 12 modern cannons, 10 machine guns and plenty of ammunition, has reached Torreón, and is fortifying the city. Generals Aubert, Villa, and Urbina, with their combined forces, are attacking General Orozco's lines of communication to the north.

Deane's Hearing Held.

Los Angeles, April 2.—The hearing on the extradition proceedings in the case of Charles Deane, the alleged bank robber, was resumed before United States Commissioner Van Dyke today. C. V. Hatter, head of the Los Angeles Pinkerton agency, was a witness. Deane's extradition is sought by the Canadian government in connection with charges of complicity in the recent robbery of a New Westminster, B. C., branch of the Bank of Montreal. More than \$250,000 were stolen.

CLANCY TO GO EAST.

He and Trivett Will Not Resist Extraditions—Tried in Indiana.

San Francisco, April 2.—Attorneys for the defense of Olaf A. Trivett and P. A. Clancy, labor leaders, charged with illegal transportation of dynamite conceded all ground on which they resisted extradition to Indiana. A stipulation was entered into by both sides that the Los Angeles indictments be eliminated. The trial will be held on the Indiana indictments.

Unlimited Joy for the Fans.

Chicago, Ill., April 2.—The unpremeditated cry of "play ball" in the far west today ushers in the 1912 season of professional baseball games and before the diamonds are abandoned next fall something like 20,000 scheduled contests will have been won and lost. The American Association will be the next to get under way, starting on April 10, one day earlier than the national and American leagues, the Cotton States and the Southern leagues. The Texas League will begin its season April 12, the Northwestern league April 16, the International league April 18.