

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## HOUSE PASSES MEASURE THAT QUIETS STRIKE

ERDMAN ACT AMENDMENT BY  
NEWLANDS FAVORED IN  
COMMITTEE.

## STRIKE BREWS IN WEST

Mediation and Arbitration Can Be Carried On by Disgruntled Conductors and Trainmen and Managers After Today—Believed Strike Will Be Averted by Passage of Amendment.

Newlands Amendment Prevails.  
Washington, July 15.—By a unanimous vote the house adopted the Newlands amendment to the Erdman act late today. The senate unanimously concurred and the amendment now goes to the president for his signature this evening.

Washington, July 15.—Danger of a strike on eastern railroads by trainmen and conductors will be avoided by an agreement between the majority and minority leaders of the house to suspend other business to pass the amendment to the Erdman arbitration act authorizing a federal mediation commission to settle such labor disputes. The house judiciary committee met early and prepared a report favorable to the Newlands amendment with minor changes. The measure will be passed and signed by the president before night.

Strike in West Likely.  
San Francisco, July 15.—Starting with a dispute involving employees of the Transbay Electric lines operated by the Southern Pacific, a general strike of conductors, brakemen and yardmen of the Southern Pacific is threatened. Unless the officials allow the employees of suburban electric lines to work on the same basis as employees of steam roads more than 5000 will probably strike, affecting lines in the territory extending to El Paso on the south, Ogden on the east and Portland on the north. The strike vote is being taken, following two weeks of fruitless negotiations.

The trouble started when the Southern Pacific posted a notice that Transbay lines would be operated by an independent company although remaining in control of the Southern Pacific.

Delegations of trainmen and conductors called on President Calvin to ascertain if they would be classed as street car or railroad men and what their status would be concerning pay and working hours and seniority. Calvin's explanation was not satisfactory. Heads of the two organizations ordered a strike vote which followed shortly after the conference with Calvin. The railroad employees declare their determination to get satisfactory settlement.

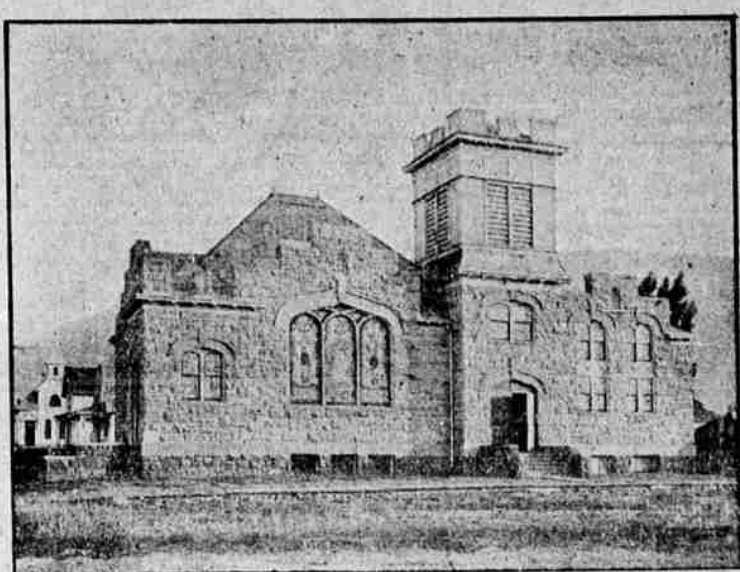
## "EMPTY" GUN KILLS HUSBAND

WIFE FLOURISHES WEAPON IN  
FUN—KILLS.

Guests at House Party Assert Shooting Was Accidental However.

Alameda, Cal., July 15.—W. F. Tilton, a government storekeeper at San Francisco, was accidentally killed early today by his wife at a house party. The wife, not knowing the revolver was loaded, flourished it and it discharged. She was arrested although the guests assert it was accidental. The police are investigating.

## Delegates To Institute Gather Here



The Methodist church in Joseph where the big Epworth League institute will be held this week.

Delegates from the local Epworth League of the Methodist church leave on the Wednesday morning train for the big Eastern Oregon Epworth League institute to be held this year at Joseph, Oregon. A splendid program is announced for this gathering and the local people anticipate a good time.

A committee from the local league is planning a pleasant surprise for the delegates coming from the cities east of here. They will be met at the station by a small battery of automobiles and during the time between the arrival of No. 17 and the departure of the Joseph train they will be taken over the city on a joy ride.

J. H. Keeney, the local O. W. R. & N. Co. agent, has notified the district president that a special car will be at the service of the delegates from this place to Joseph. This car will be filled by the time it reaches the seat of the convention by other delegates living in towns on the branch line.

La Grande delegates are going prepared with an invitation for this gathering to come to La Grande for the 1914 institute.

## BENGE TRIAL PROVES BRIEF

SIMPLE ASSAULT ADMITTED BY  
DEFENSE.

Paranoia of Temporary Sort, Held Responsible for Act.

At 3:30 the jury had found Bengé guilty as charged but recommended complete mercy of the court.

Motives prompted by the assault at Island City July 2, in which his shoulder was twice pierced by bullets fired at him by Pete Beattie, and fanned into an insane frenzy by temporary paranoia, led Perry Bengé to halt a party of automobilists the same day and without success caused pursuit of his assaulter shortly after the shooting if the defense as outlined today are the actual facts in the case. The trial came to issue this morning.

What the State Claims.

District Attorney Ivanhoe outlined to the jury that what the state will attempt to prove. The state hopes to prove that on July 2 after Bengé had been shot by Pete Beattie, he had started northward from Island City and soon met V. D. Barnes, of Elgin, who was hauling some traveling salesmen. He is said by the state to have ordered the auto driver to stop his machine and when they halted, ordered all but the driver to get out, and instructing the driver to turn the machine around and take him (Bengé) to a point farther up the road where he hoped to "get" Beattie, who had done the shooting at Island City. It is alleged there was some hesitation and that the rifle which Bengé carried was shot off (the defense claims accidentally), and that the bullet struck the ground near the automobile, so close in fact that gravel and sand bounded into the auto striking some of the occupants. It is then claimed that all but the driver dismounted after the shot had been fired, and that Bengé got in and went "after Beattie." The state told the jury further how Mr. Halley had been overtaken by the automobile and that the auto was deserted by Bengé near the Zurbick place and allowed to return, and that Bengé eventually came back to La Grande without further trouble with Beattie. Assault with a dangerous weapon was the verdict the state urged upon the jury to return.

Defense Outlines Case.

George T. Cochran of the law firm of Cochran & Eberhard, which is defending the prisoner, told the jury that the defendant was now ready to plead guilty to charge of simple assault but denied having made an assault with a dangerous weapon. He recited how just before that hour when the automobile was met, Bengé had been shot, and smarting under the pain he had become angry—crazy mad in fact—and was out to get revenge. Without a common school education and a common day laborer, the defendant, the attorney recited, was

## HARD STORMS NEAR CHICAGO

OHIO, INDIANA AND ILLINOIS  
SUFFER.

Many Fires Started and Sudden Downpour Swells Many Rivers.

Chicago, July 15.—Severe electrical storms throughout Illinois, Indiana and Ohio early today caused injury to a score of persons and started a number of fires. The heavy rain in Indiana caused a sudden rush of waters and considerable property was damaged, in northern Indiana cities. The storm was followed by a downpour in Ohio.

Clear Today; so 40 Days.

Washington, July 15.—Although being scientists—they scorned the superstitions, some of Uncle Sam's best weather sharps curiously enough had marked down today's brand of weather for reference during the next two score days.

This is St. Swithin's day. Ancient English legends have it that if it rains today there will be forty days of rain to follow, and that if it remains clear, there will follow forty days of clear weather. There was a St. Swithin all right, back in the days of long ago and the legend is older than the hills. That seems to be as far as it goes, for one of the ruthless lunatic weather bureau sharps today looked up the date for the same day for twenty years back, and had this to say:

"St. Swithin falls in a month in which more rain falls here in Washington than during any other period of the year. Nevertheless, the records show that, taking the average for twenty years, of the forty days which follow July 15, the greater part were rainy when St. Swithin's day was a fine old day. There never have been forty consecutive days of rain or clear weather following St. Swithin's day as far as I can learn."

Powder Mill Explodes.

Wilmington, Del., July 15.—Two rolling mills of the Dupont Powder company near here were blown up by an explosion of a thousand pounds of powder. No casualties are reported.

prompted by that human law, revenge, and when he ordered the machine to halt, he was crazy mad and looked the part. The gun was discharged accidentally Bengé will affirm on the stand, and he will deny according to the recital to the jury, that he pointed the gun at anyone of that he struck anyone, or made any move that could be interpreted to be assault with a dangerous weapon.

The defense rested without presentation of testimony after the state had introduced some half dozen witnesses beginning with H. A. Vincent, a Boise drummer, who was among those in the automobile when Bengé halted it. The state had finished by the noon hour.

## CAMINETTI'S CASE SET FOR TRIAL AUG. 5TH

WESTERN FUEL CASES TO BE  
HEARD AUGUST 25, DE-  
CLARES JUDGE.

## EARLY TRIAL IS ASKED FOR

Judge Van Fleet Will Not Preside at the Trial But Has Not Named the Judge Who Will Be Named for That Occasion—Objection to Acting District Attorney Filed Today.

San Francisco, July 15.—The Diggins-Caminetti white slave case, which with postponement of that and the Western Fuel cases caused the sensational resignation of District Attorney McNabb when he filed charges against Attorney General McReynolds that startled the country, was today set for trial on August 5. The Western Fuel cases were set by Judge Van Fleet for August 25.

Special Prosecutor Sullivan, appearing for the government, declared:

"The government desires these cases to be set for the earliest possible time."

"Van Fleet stated he was about to leave for Eureka to open a term there, and in August would arrive at the earliest date which could be set for the Caminetti trial. Van Fleet stated he would not try the cases, but had not decided who will be presiding judge."

HAYDEN OBJECTED TO.

Prospective Prosecutor Is a Friend of  
Accused Slave.

Washington, July 15.—Acting on the request of a number of California democrats, Senator Ashurst of Arizona today protested to Attorney General McReynolds against the selection of Thomas Hayden of San Francisco as special prosecutor in the Caminetti case. He asserted Californians complained of Hayden's inexperience and that he is a friend of Caminetti. Ashurst explained he protested because there was no democratic senator from California.

Grain Fields Ripening Fast.

Helix, Ore., July 15.—(Special)—Though up to last Friday there had been for some time a lack of ripening weather and the wheat was still very green throughout this section, there has been since that time a number of hot days and during the past week the fields have begun to take on the golden color of harvest time.

Last Sunday was the hottest day the mercury on that day going to near the 100 mark and since then the sun has shone warm enough that the wheat has turned more yellow each day. Harvest will this year be considerable later than the average on account of the general coolness of the season and there are not many who expect to cut any grain before the first of August. Prospects around Helix are for a better yield than last year. The season so far has been ideal for the forming of good heads on the

## BRYAN AND HIS GRAPE JUICE HABIT AGAIN IN LIMELIGHT

Washington, July 15.—Stung by criticism of his recent declaration he was forced to lecture to augment his salary, Secretary of State Bryan promised to issue a statement today explaining what he meant. He will deny he is a champion of high salaries for government officials and explain that he meant by saying his salary was insufficient because he was compelled to maintain his position here and also keep up his home in Lincoln.

"I didn't intend to find fault with the present government salaries," said Bryan. "Later in the day I'll make a statement making everything clear. The statement will not discuss the high cost of living."

"Cut out the grape juice and stick

## GREAT PREPARATION GOING

Cove, Ore., July 15.—(Special)—Great preparations are being made for the third annual cherry fair which is to be held in Cove July 23. There has been one new candidate for Cherry Queen since last week's publication, Miss Ada Houx. Miss Lucy Comstock is now in the lead for the Cherry Queen and R. J. Allen for Cherry King. The annual cherry fair dance, which is given by the Cherry Fair association will be held in the Maccabee hall next Wednesday, July 16.

## SMITH'S BODY FOUND ALONE

NECK AND ONE ARM OF MAZAMA  
BROKEN.

Body of Missing Woman on Mt. St. Helens Is Still Missing.

Woodland, Wash., July 15.—The body of C. B. Smith, of Portland, who with his wife were lost in a storm while descending Mt. St. Helens July sixth, were found last night in a lava bed with the neck and left arm broken.

Search is continued for the body of his wife. The Smiths became separated from their companions, Miss Verdy Monroe, and Randolph Moore by a howling gale.

Search for the bodies has been going on for days under the hardest sort of circumstances. That he met his death by stumbling over a cliff and that his wife plodded on alone to meet death later, is the belief expressed by those who found the body.

wheat and if the ever-dreaded hot winds do not come right away the grain will be too well ripened for them to do any damage in case they should show up.

K. P. Lodge Meets.

Fargo, N. D., July 15.—With two hundred delegates from all over the state in attendance and prominent speakers from several eastern districts expected to be on hand to take part in the program, the Grand Lodge of the North Dakota Knights of Pythias opened a two days' annual session here today. The two days' program includes an elaborate series of entertainments.

Miss McShain Rests Well.

Although she spent a somewhat feverish night, Miss Flora McShain, the Starkey school teacher accidentally shot by her sister while at her home near Starkey, is pronounced today to have no indication in her temperature of pending trouble, and that under present conditions her recovery will continue to be rapid.

Ship's Crew Injured.

Boston, July 15.—An ordinary seaman was scalded to death, and the chief electrician of the battleship Nebraska, was badly injured about the shoulders and arms by the explosion of a steam valve in the dynamo room. The seaman succumbed shortly after removal to the marine hospital.

Inez Mulholland to Marry.

London, July 15.—Announcement is made of the marriage Friday of Inez Mulholland, the New York suffragist leader to Eugene Boissewein, of Amsterdam. The honeymooning will take place in Holland.

## TOM JOHNSON DEFEATED BY MULHALL ARMY

CONFESSOR TELLS SENATE HOW  
MANUFACTURERS WORK-  
ED IN OHIO.

## HIGHER UPS RELIED UPON

Secretary of Manufacturers Writes to Mulhall Telling How Senators Congressmen and "Higher-ups Too" Were Behind the Manufacturers on the Tariff Question.

Washington, July 15.—The senate insidious committee resumed its investigations today with Martin Mulhall on the stand for the third consecutive day. Senator Reed examined the witness. Mulhall identified a number of letters and telegrams, most of which have been published. Mulhall swore that in 1907 he went to Cleveland under instructions to the manufacturers to defeat Mayor Tom Johnson, and did so.

In August, 1904, Secretary Schwedman, of the Manufacturers wrote Mulhall: "Some large things are becoming real. Every indication is that in our tariff campaign we have with us a majority of the republican leading congressmen and senators and those higher than that, too. To a small degree this is a fact also in regard to labor issues, and some other propositions advocated by the National Association of Manufacturers."

YOUNG GIRL SUICIDES.

"Unable to Adjust Myself to the Scheme of Life," Writes Girl.

Denver, July 15.—Leaving behind her pathetic letters to her mother, and grandparent, Bertha Wilcox, aged 23, sent a revolver bullet through her brain. The body was found at a lonely spot at Golden, near here. A letter to her mother said:

"As my existence seems quite useless I find myself unable to adjust my existence to the scheme of life and intend to free myself by my own hand. I cannot imagine where I shall live hence forth, but I cannot imagine a more wretched mental torture than I have already endured. I am too deficient in essential and elements of humanity, and power and force may be a useful factor."

Want a Postmaster.

The United States civil service commission announces that on August 9 an examination will be held as a result of which it is expected to make certification to fill a contemplated vacancy in the position of fourth class postmaster at Pleasant Valley, and other vacancies at they may occur at that office, unless it shall be decided in the interests of the service to fill the vacancy by reinstatement. The compensation of the postmaster at this office was \$258 for the last fiscal year.

## GREEKS SAID TO BE CRUEL

ENTIRE POPULATION OF PRAVISHATA MASSACRED.

Bulgarians Say Greeks Show no Mercy to Captured Prisoners.

London, July 15.—Charges of inhumanity by Greek troops were today voiced in dispatches from Bulgaria officials at Pravishata. It is asserted the Greeks massacred practically the entire Bulgarian and Turkish population.

Combined Greek and Serbian forces continued to advance the Greek commander predicting the next big engagement is to occur on Bulgarian territory.