

La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME XIII. LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1913. NUMBER 43

REPORT OF PEACE HAS ODD ASPECT

WILSON AFFIRMS PEACE NEAR,
YET LIND IS LEAVING
MEXICO CITY.

MESSAGE IS UNDELIVERED

Word at Washington is That Lind is
to Remain for Twenty-four Hours
Longer and That Huerta Will Bow
to Mediation for Peace—If Huerta
Does Not Give In, Trouble Ahead.

Mexico City, Aug. 26.—Emissary
Lind left today for Vera Cruz, but it
is believed that he intends to return
here, in view of Huerta's request for
a delay. This will probably necessitate
further conferences between Huerta,
Lind and Foreign Minister Gombou.

Washington, Aug. 26.—The govern-
ment officials didn't attempt to ex-
plain Lind's departure from Mexico
City, but said that they were sure he
would return. No direct word had
been received here from Lind.

Washington, Aug. 26.—Peace is near
in Mexico. This is the latest advice
received from Mexico City and indi-
cates Huerta is wavering and will
probably accept America's mediation
plan within 24 hours. The president
has acquiesced to Huerta's request for
further delay, with the proviso that
the Mexican message will be read to
congress in 24 hours unless peace pro-
posals are forwarded.

It is officially stated that the ad-
ministration will fulfill Emissary
Lind's latest suggestions if they are
acceptable to Huerta. Huerta will not
be asked to resign. President Wilson
only asks the assurance that he will
retire after his successor has been
chosen at a genuine election.

The postponement of the president's
message practically amounts to an ul-
timate giving Huerta 24 hours in
which to decide. The administration
learned that the request for more time
came direct from Huerta. Advice says
that Emissary Lind and Charge d'Aff-
airs O'Shaughnessy, Huerta and For-
eign Minister Gombou are conferring
at the palace and it is generally be-
lieved that the outcome will be the
acceptance of Lind's proposals, slight-
ly modified. Lind has postponed his
departure indefinitely.

Lind to Remain.
Emissary Lind was prepared to go

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THAW DECIDES TO REMAIN

Jerome's Statement Scares Fugitive Into Changing Plans

Sherbrooke, Aug. 26.—"Harry Thaw
is headed straight for Mattewan, he
may fight but the end is certain. What
is the difference of a few months de-
lay?"

This is the statement of former
District Attorney Jerome of New

JOHN PURROY MITCHEL
Collector of Port is Candidate
For Mayor of New York.



Photo by American Press Association

WM. HOLBROOK DIES SUDDENLY

LEAVES HIS POST OF DUTY
FEELING INDISPOSED.

After illness of a Few Hours Only,
Man Falls Dead.

William Holbrook, living at 708
Third street, was seized with illness
while at his post in the round house
yesterday noon; hurried home to rest
and felt slightly better, and at 3:00
o'clock while seated in a rocking chair
on the front porch suddenly threw up
his hands, slid to the floor, dead. His
health up to yesterday had been good.
The sudden death has been a severe
shock to the family, consisting of a
wife and several children. At present,
funeral arrangements call for burial
tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from
the home with Rev. R. E. Close offi-
ciating. The deceased was a promi-
nent member of the Baptist church,
his children and widow have the deepest
sympathy of their many friends
and acquaintances.

Fuel Cases Postponed.

San Francisco, Aug. 26.—Federal
Judge Dooling formally postponed the
cases against officials of the Western
Fuel company which is charged with
having defrauded the government out
of millions by short weighing until
September 13. The case was original-
ly set for August 26. The indictment
was returned about four months ago.

York, who sent Thaw to the asylum.
Alarmed at Jerome's prediction,
Thaw summoned his attorneys. While
waiting their arrival he muttered, as
he paced the cell. Upon their arrival
he said, "Gentlemen I am not going to
Vermont, I intend to remain in Cana-
da."

MINISTERS AND LAYMEN CONGREGATE

OVER FIFTY ARRIVE DAY BE-
FORE CONFERENCE OPENS
FOR ACTUAL BUSINESS.

PHILADELPHIAN IS HERE

Board of Examiners Hear a Dozen
Candidates for Deacon and Elder-
ship Today Assignment to Quarters
Made—Reception This Evening—
Formal Opening Held Tomorrow.

TABLOID OF IMMEDIATE AR- RANGEMENTS AT CON- FERENCE.

- Registrations at Y. M. C. A.
- headquarters, corner Depot and
Adams.
- Main portion of visitors today
entertained at restaurants and
homes but tomorrow will take
breakfast at homes, lunches and
dinners in basement of new Meth-
odist church.
- Day sessions of conference in
old Methodist church, eight ses-
sions in high school auditorium.
- Examining board in session
forenoon and afternoon today.
- Reception this evening, to
which public is invited.
- Communion services tomorrow
morning and election of perma-
nent secretary, formally opens
the conference.

Preachers, educators, officials of
foreign and home missions, district
superintendents, laymen and preach-
ers' wives are flocking to La Grande
today from the south half of Idaho
and Eastern Oregon, east of La
Grande more especially—but also from
the extreme east, south and west of
the United States, to attend the open-
ing of the annual conference of the
Methodist church in this city tomorrow
morning.

Fifty were registered at headquar-
ters in the Y. M. C. A. office quarters
at noon today and the main bulk is
coming tonight, with stragglers drop-
ping in tomorrow morning and even-
ing. Assignment of headquarters
during the week occupied most of the
day, though a few of the ministers
were actively engaged on the exami-
ning board, which held sessions this
morning and this afternoon again. Dr.
A. W. Howarth, chairman of the board
of examiners, called that board to-
gether this morning and again this
afternoon. About a dozen will take
the examinations for deacons and
elders, the deacons' order being ob-
tainable at the end of a two years'
course and the elders' order at the end
of the four. The applicants who pass
will be ordained into the deacon and
eldership on Sunday afternoon.

Among the prominent church and
church work dignitaries who will par-
ticipate in the program, who have al-
ready reached the city, are Dr. Forbes
of Philadelphia, a secretary of the
Home Mission and Church Extension
society, and Dr. Fulkerson represent-
ing the Home missions board.

Bishop Luccock, the presiding offi-
cer will arrive tomorrow morning.

Following is the program of the
conference:

- Tuesday, August 25.
- 9:00—Meeting of board of exam-
iners.
- 9:45 a. m.—Examination of under-

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Where Will the Money Come From?

The city council contemplates letting a contract soon
for building a new concrete reservoir. This is only one
item that is contemplated in the way of further improve-
ment. The subway appears to be the only pending ex-
penditure that is necessary. It amounts to \$3800.

The Evening Observer is not a block in the path of
progress, but we purpose here and now registering our
protest in behalf of the tax paying people of La Grande
against the further expenditure of large sums of money
by this or any other council until there is a balance sheet
struck of the city's finances and the general public in-
formed as to the unhealthy financial condition that now
exists.

Where does the council expect to get the money for
these improvements?

Is the city treasury in the eyes of some councilmen a
cow that gives a never-ending stream of milk?

On June 30th the general fund warrant indebtedness
of La Grande was \$87,800, which was \$37,737 in excess
of the legal limitation. Since that time it has doubtless
increased.

Where is this blind-man's-buff game going to end?
When is day of settlement to come?

Does the council expect to keep the credit of the city
intact with these enormous warrant issues contrary to
the law?

And a city without credit is worse than Goldsmith's
deserted village—keep that in mind. In fact a city with-
out credit is very much the same as an individual with-
out credit.

Do we need the new reservoir? In a sense, yes; but we
can get along without it. It is admitted that its construc-
tion means better fire protection. At the Palmer Lum-
ber company's plant connection has been made with the
city water mains and with one turn of a valve the mas-
sive pumps of the lumber company begin pumping wa-
ter directly into the city's water system. This is about
as good fire protection as can be had. And those pumps
are steamed up day and night—always ready for service.

Speaking of the city's financial
matter. Do you know Mr. Taxpayer,
that interest on improvement bonds
has been met for some time past by
the uncollected interest on some \$25,-
000 improvement bonds held by the
city, and that a large number of in-
terest coupons must be met Septem-
ber 1st? While it seems that neither
the water nor general funds have yet
been called upon to meet interest on
improvement bonds in districts
where the property owners have neg-
lected to pay interest under the Ban-
croft plan, there remains the fact that
something must be done at once, or the
interest question will be a serious one
to solve. Ordinarily the interest on
the improvement bonds purchased as
an investment for Beaver creek sink-
ing fund moneys, will take care of
uncollected interest but September
will see a dilemma where that remedy
is insufficient. Interest must be met
and it now appears that the only so-
lution possible, is to draw on either
the general or water or some fund
other than the one which should be
drawn on, to meet the interest. Im-
provement funds have frequently been
overdrawn for a brief period at a
time. The method used in paying in-
terest on improvement bonds held by
others than the city, has been to put
interest accruing from all improve-
ment bonds into one fund and
the city has not collected from it
itself the Beaver creek investment inter-
est with the result that the "pot fund"
could meet its obligations partially.

Had the city collected the Beaver
creek interest when due the interest
fund would be badly wrecked. In the
end, the city must pay this interest,
but under present arrangement it can-
not do so until the property holders
are made to pay up all delinquent in-
terest. The end of the present ar-
rangement is already at hand.

This is contrary to good business
methods in a shoe shining parlor, much
less in a city the size of La Grande.
The intricate book-keeping required
to take off from other funds certain
amounts and pay interest coupons

HILGARD MAN DIES IN CREEK

REMAINS FOUND AFTER ELAPSE
OF 48 HOURS.

Aged Citizen of Hilgard Dies While
Dipping Water From Creek.

After having laid face downward in
a pool of water six inches deep for a
period of probably 48 hours, the re-
mains of Harry French, aged 86 years,
was found by neighbors at Hilgard.
The old gentleman, who lived alone on
the banks of Five Points creek, had
probably been seized with apoplexy
while in the act of dipping up a bucket
of water from the creek, as has been
his custom. He has been very feeble
of late and had suffered several minor
attacks of apoplexy. It is not be-
lieved that he drowned as was first
thought, because the remains showed
but little indication of drowning.

Mrs. Della Stacey, a step daughter,
lives in this city.

necessitating the crediting of these re-
spective funds thus taken from when
the interest is collected from the dif-
ferent improvement districts is ter-
rific.

Stop it. Get down to real business
for a while and quit spending money.
Let us pay some of our debts be-
fore contracting others.

The La Grande public has been pa-
tient. It has borne the burden with-
out much murmur. When paving con-
tracts on three big streets were let a
year in advance of the work, the peo-
ple did not rebel. When incompe-
tency appeared in some of the public
work, there was only a murmur. But
now that the credit of this city is at
stake the people are alive to the sit-
uation and we do not believe they will
stand it.

INDICTMENTS FILED AGAINST ARMSTRONG

HEAD OF PORTLAND SCHOOL IN-
DICTED ON TWO COUNTS
BY GRAND JURY.

BRIBERY AMONG CHARGES

Old Trouble in Portland School Cir-
cles in Which Superintendent Arm-
strong is Involved, Takes Shape of
Indictments Returned by the Grand
Jury Today—Sum Involved \$20.

Portland, Aug. 26.—Charging mal-
feasance in office and the accepting of
bribes, two indictments were returned
this morning by the grand jury
against County Superintendent of
Schools A. P. Armstrong for alleged
irregularities while he was a member
of the civil service commission under
Mayor Rushlight's administration.
The indictments charge Armstrong
with accepting \$20 from C. E. Kling-
ensmith to give him a higher rating in
the examination to become a patrol-
man. Armstrong stated that he
would not resign until all hopes of vin-
dication were gone. He was elected
school superintendent at the last elec-
tion.

These charges were preferred some
time ago but it is only now that they
have been put into the form of a
formal indictment.

Fights Municipal Car Line.

San Francisco, Aug. 26.—A special
election to ratify an issue of \$3,500,-
000 worth of bonds to extend the
Geary Street Municipal railway is in
progress here today. The United rail-
roads, a close corporation, is fighting
the bond issue which is backed by the
newspapers and the public generally
because of the success of the road
since its establishment. The Geary
road, the first municipally owned rail-
way in the United States, has made
more than \$61,000 in the six months
it has been running, despite a con-
stant fight against it by the United
railroads. It is believed the bond issue
will carry, Mayor Rolph having made
a hard fight for it.

McLaughlin Wins Again.

Newport, Aug. 26.—Maurice E. Mc-
Laughlin retained the National Tennis
championship title today by defeat-
ing Norris R. Williams in three out of
four sets.

Former Druggist Returns.

J. Frank Evans, formerly a drug-
gist of this city, now located at Cam-
bridge, Idaho, is in the city a few
days. While here he will be employed
in the Silverthorn drug store.

BLIGHT TALK AT FRUITDALE
Demonstrations and lectures on
fire blight will be given by the
O. A. C. experts who are in the
valley, at a free lecture tomorrow
afternoon at the hall in Fruit-
dale. The experts are to appear
there at the behest of several
Fruitdale fruitmen who are anx-
ious to see and hear something
about blight. It is generally ad-
mitted that the experts can bring
the best message to be had on the
matter and for this reason they
are coming there tomorrow af-
ternoon. All Fruitdale orchard-
ists are urged to be present. The
lecture starts at 2:30 o'clock.