

La Grande Evening Observer

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WILSON TURNS DOWN APPEALS FOR SUFFRAGE

DETERMINED WOMEN REACH EXECUTIVE BUT FAIL IN THEIR PURPOSE.

DENIAL FIRM BUT KIND

Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. McCormick Lead Big Delegation of Women to White House Only to Be Told That President Would Not Send Special Message to Congress in the Suffrage Matter.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Facing a big delegation of suffragettes today, President Wilson, kindly but firmly, refused to send a special message to congress urging women to be franchised. He declined also to incorporate such recommendations in his regular message. Until congress requests it, he answered, he couldn't recommend the creation of a special house committee to investigate the suffrage question.

The suffrage session was picturesque. The committee marched, in the face of an icy wind, to the White House, determined to force the president to speak. The president stood in front of his desk when he received the committee. He appeared drawn as the result of his recent illness, but shook hands cordially with Diana Howard Shaw and Mrs. Medill McCormick. He smiled at other women in the delegation. He was so diplomatic in his refusals that the leaders went away satisfied that they obtained some aid to the cause.

Amateurs Show Fine Signs.
Members of the Mutual Improvement association are getting in shape for basketball. Several of the old team have been taking regular practice at the Mormon amusement hall and if rumor is correct they are out for the city championship this winter. They have some very agile performers and it is likely that they will try to duplicate their performance of three years ago when they bested every team in the city.

REPAIRING CITY JAIL
Thorough Cleaning up of Office, and Apartments Going on.
Chief of Police Avant is cleaning up the police offices today with the help of prisoners. Lockers are renovated and cleaned, the main office is to have linoleum, and furthermore the office is to be equipped with a blotter to record arrests from day to day. The matter of making more sanitary the cells proper, is also under consideration but no final action has been taken.

Vivisectionists Scored.
Washington, Dec. 8.—The horrors of vivisection and the cruelty of the ruthless slaughter of birds and game animals, were vividly portrayed here today by speakers at the opening sessions of the annual convention of the International Anti-Vivisection and Animal Protection society. Speakers declared that vivisection as now practiced even in the most advanced laboratories of rich philanthropic institutions is a "blot on twentieth century civilization." Special mention was made of the prosecutions brought by members of the anti-vivisection society of Philadelphia. Secretary of State Bryan, Senators Gallinger and Myers, and prominent leaders of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Audubon Society were scheduled to speak during the three days convention. It was announced today that resolutions will be put through demanding federal legislation prohibiting vivisection and making the game laws more strict.

Volunteers To Be Pruned

MEMBERSHIP ITSELF WILL CONSIDER BEST PLAN.

SAVING IS AIMED AT

Fire Department, Volunteer Branch, May Be Cut to 12 Men.

Reorganization of the volunteer fire department is to come within a few days. At the next meeting of the volunteer association, Manager Lafky is going to present the department members with the entire situation as at stands at present and the firemen themselves will largely determine what the outcome shall be. At present there are between 10 and 18 men at every fire, each drawing \$1.00 per fire. In some cases a large number of men are needed, but the big majority of fires could be handled, it is felt, by a much smaller number, and if this can be arranged, a substantial saving will be realized to the city.

The annual budget is in process of construction this week. The fire department must be included, and while nothing has been officially done, it is a good guess to place the number of volunteers under the new arrangement at a dozen or so. As a rule 10 to 12 men could handle any fire that comes along.

There are various matters to be considered in the question of eliminating the volunteers such as exemption and the like, and all these matters will come in for consideration when the conference is held at the next meeting.

TOTAL TAX LEVY IN LA GRANDE AMOUNTS TO 42.9 MILLS

STORM-BOUND TRAIN ARRIVES

MAIL CLERKS ON DUTY SINCE WEDNESDAY.

Cheyenne, Pocatello and Green River Delays Are Long.

No. 9 passed through the city this morning, the first mail train since Friday. It was hung up in the snow two and one-half miles east of the town of Cheyenne, Wyoming, where a heavy wind kept filling the track with snow as fast as a crew could get it off. At Green River the mail crew was held up 36 hours and 24 at Pocatello. E. R. Hughes of the mail clerk force stated that they had been well cared for and that the people of the two cities mentioned had shown them every kind of courtesy. They have been on continuous duty since Wednesday. Mail is getting very heavy for this time of the year which indicates that most people are doing their shopping early. This train came in this morning with Conductor Ben Carney in command.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE HELD.
High Official of L. D. S. Church Attends Services Yesterday.

Rulin S. Wells, of the seven presidents of the seventies of the L. D. S. church, participated in the quarterly conference of the L. D. S. church here yesterday. The stake at large sent delegates and members to the conferences. Other officials of the church from Salt Lake could not attend on account of unexpected barriers and Mr. Wells came alone.

Cement Manufacturers Meet.
New York, Dec. 8.—With representatives present from all sections of the country the annual convention of the American Portland Cement Manufacturers' association, opened here today to run through December 11.

PASSENGERS ON BURNING SHIP RESCUED THROUGH A WIRELESS CALL FOR HELP

Identity Of The Burning Vessel Not Definitely Established

Baltimore, Dec. 8.—Wireless dispatches received here state that the steamer Quermor, bound for Liverpool, rescued 197 passengers from a steamer 500 miles from Diamond Shoals. The Quermor, with other vessels caught a wireless call for assistance at 2:30 this morning, and reached the burning vessel two hours later. The first report says the vessel was the Mallory liner, the Rio Grande. Officials of the company denied that the Rio Grande carried passengers. According to the wireless messages, the passengers were lowered into life boats and were transferred to the Quermor without excitement or injury to anyone.

THREE GRAND OFFICERS IN CITY

Three high officials of the Knights of Pythias are in La Grande today and will attend the local lodge this evening. The lodge will entertain this evening the grand chancellor, Frank S. Grant of Albany, Grand Keeper of the Records and Seals, L. R. Stinson, and Supreme Representative, Gus C. Moser, of Portland. Mr. Moser attended the Elks' memorial yesterday and remained over today to be present at the Knights' session this evening.

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THE TAX LEVY.			
Indigent soldiers	.028	\$	558.69
Road fund	1.5		29,929.73
Call warrants	.752		15,004.77
School fund	2.14		42,699.74
Library fund	.028		558.69
High School fund	.452		9,018.82
General fund	3.2		63,850.08
State fund	4.3		85,798.55
Total for county	12.4		\$247,419.07
La Grande school levy	12.00		
La Grande city levy	18.5		

Total levy to La Grande property .42.9

After nearly a week's delay the

county court today fixed the tax levy. The total levy is 12.4 mills and brings the levy for the county to city and schools in La Grande—to 42.9 mills.

The tremendous state tax of \$85,000 helps materially to keep the taxes up. The levy is not particularly higher than two years ago but the assessed valuation is higher, and had not the big state tax come in the taxes would have been no higher than they have been in the past. The last special election added \$100,000 to the state tax and of that amount, Union county must pay its share.

The figures on which to base the tax arrived Saturday afternoon and at the first opportunity the county court fixed the levy, doing so this morning.

HANS SCHMIDT GOES TO TRIAL

New York, Dec. 8.—After several postponements, the Rev. Father Hans Schmidt, Roman Catholic priest, who confessed to murdering Anna Aumeuller today went to trial before Judge Warren W. Foster. Father Schmidt's crime was one of the most sensational in New York's criminal history. Only by clever detective work was Detective Inspector Faurot able to arrest Schmidt in one of the parish homes of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church where he was an assistant priest. A woman's torso was found tied in a pillow slip on the Jersey side of the Hudson on September 5. A faint leaf-shaped mark on one shoulder afforded scant hope that the victim's identity would ever be unearthed. A few days later the lower part of the torso from the waist to the thighs was found in a similar pillow slip which bore the trade mark of the Robinson-Rogers Co., and the number 89. The company had made but twelve of these pillow slips. They had been sold to a retailer named Sachs, who furnished the police with the names of those to whom he had sold them. One of the purchasers was found to have also bought two pillows, a chair, bedsprings and a white enameled bed, which had been moved to a four-room apartment at

68 Bradhurst Avenue, which had been leased in the name of Hans Schmidt. In the meantime an autopsy showed that the woman had been subjected to a criminal operation and the motive of the crime was thereby known. For five days and nights the Bradhurst avenue apartment was watched and then the police broke into it.

There was no doubt the crime had been committed there, for the place was smeared with blood. Besides the furniture, there was a packet of letters addressed to Anna Aumeuller, and a photograph of Hans Schmidt among them. In the bath room also were a butcher knife and a large carpenter's saw. In the letters were contained the addresses of three of the places the girl had worked and one of these was St. Joseph's Rectory. The police went to the other places first. Father Schmidt met them at the door of the last place. He attempted suicide and then commanded by God to consummate his "love sacrifice in blood." At his first hearing he threw his rosary in the face of his attorney. His defense, according to his attorneys will be insanity. The terrible features of the murder was that the girl's body was cut to pieces while she was still alive.

Onions Jump To New Mark

GREAT SCARCITY DRIVES DEALERS TO RECORD.

NO CROP LOCALLY

Five Dollars Per Cwt. Will Probably Be the Price Hereafter.

Onions have skyrocketed to what is generally believed to be record height when La Grande wholesalers today announced an increase of almost 100 per cent. While the retail figure is not definitely made known, the price demanded by wholesalers indicates that \$5.00 per cwt. will be the retail price. There is scarcely an onion in Union county—if there is, growers have been holding them back and now that the price has shot to a record point, a few scattering sacks may come in. Last year onions were raised by a great many ranchers and gardeners but the market was so unsatisfactory that farmers and gardeners generally didn't grow any this season. Wholesalers are now obtaining onions from Walla Walla. The

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Reservations Sold.

Lawton, Okla., Dec. 8.—Remnants of the Iowa, Comanche, Apache and Wichita reservations in Oklahoma, comprising 36,675 acres, were sold at public auction here today by the general land office officials.

STARVATION FACES LOPEZ

CRIMINAL IS STILL IN MINE IS THE BELIEF.

On Account of Heavy Expense, the Smudging Process is Discarded.

Salt Lake, Dec. 6.—Still believing Lopez, the sextuple murder is hiding in the Apex mine but convinced the Mexican survived the attempts to choke him out, Sheriff Smith this afternoon ordered every entrance to the mine sealed up again and the prisoner left to starve. The smudging process will not be re-attempted on account of the heavy expense.

JUDGE KNOWLES OUT.

Transacts Official Matters at the Court House After Long Illness.

After a protracted confinement to his rooms for three weeks following an accident wherein his knee was badly gashed with a hatchet, Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles got to his offices today. He spent a portion of the day in his official chambers attending to some naturalization matters and is so much confident of complete recovery the next few days that he has called the postponed Wallowa county term of court for next Monday.

ued until the body was disposed of. Then he carried the bed clothing to a nearby lot and burned them. All his confession was corroborated and the priest declared he had been commanded by God to consummate his "love sacrifice in blood." At his first hearing he threw his rosary in the face of his attorney. His defense, according to his attorneys will be insanity. The terrible features of the murder was that the girl's body was cut to pieces while she was still alive.

SMALLPOX IS LATEST SOURCE OF TEXAS GRIEF

SPECIAL TRAINS RUSHED TO MAROONED WITH FOOD AND PROVISIONS.

SMALLPOX BREAKING OUT

Estimates of Deaths Run From One Hundred to One Thousand—Thousands Marooned in Upper Stories of Homes in One Town Alone—Situation Serious—Organization of Relief on.

Fort Worth, Dec. 8.—Many organizations of Texas are raising funds and supplies for flood sufferers. Trains have been rushed to Hearne, Bryant and other towns where refugees are reported starving and without shelter or clothing. Smallpox has broken out in some places.

Receding waters have left most of the flood districts unsanitary in condition. It is learned definitely that 100 lives were lost and that the death list is increasing hourly is also a fact. Some estimates place the death list as high as a thousand.

The commercial club at Bryan estimates the deaths in that section alone at more than a thousand persons at 500 and more than thousand persons are marooned in upper stories around Wellborn.

"DETERMINATION" IS NAME.

La Grande Team Adopts Slogan in a Plan to Avenge Defeat.

Tonight a series of bowling matches to develop a team to be known as "Determination" and to defeat Pendleton, before the season is over, will be started on the Club alleys. Merrill Stoddard and H. T. Love will captain the teams tonight and Desserick, Crowe, Scott and Patton will bowl for Stoddard while Kay, Kohl and Caylor will bowl for Love. Games start at 8 and bowlers should be on hand at 7:45.

Iowa Man Returns.

L. M. Moss of Ottumwa, Iowa, who has been the guest of his nephew, Mr. James Moss of Alicel, and his cousin Rev. James Moore of the Willamette valley, left today for his home in Iowa. He states that in all his travels he had not seen a valley the equal of the Grande Ronde.

SUSTAIN "DRY" RULING.

Portland Jurist Upholds Webb-Kenyon Act Regarding Shipments.

Portland, Dec. 8.—Federal Judge Bean today upheld the constitutionality of the Webb-Kenyon act prohibiting the shipment of liquor from a state into dry territory of another.

Budget Work Chief Duty.

For the present the city budget is taking most of Manager Lafky's time and his lieutenants are hurrying estimates through, that the whole budget may be ready by Wednesday evening. The main office, that of the recorder, manager, city judge, and affiliated offices, shows an estimate of approximately \$34,000, and there are the street engineer and fire department, as well as others, to be heard from. Interest moneys are included in the \$34,000 estimated.

Returns to Arkansas.

E. Belimont, who has been making La Grande his home for the past four years left this morning for Bradford, Arkansas where he will make his future home. He was for some time connected with the Perry lumber camp.