

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- PRINTS THE NEWS THE DAY IT HAPPENS

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REPUBLICANS WILL ASK FOR SQUARER DEAL

LAW COMMITTEE SAY CHANGE
CANNOT BE MADE.—HILLES
CLAIMS RIGHT TO CONVENE.

MAY HOLD CONVENTION

Hilles Has Taken the Stand That It
Would Not Be the Right Thing to
Insist on Victory—Says Principles
Are the Thing to Fight for.

Washington, Dec. 16.—At a special meeting of the Republican national committee, Chairman Hilles today appointed a special committee to consider the advisability of holding a special convention, and to consider a change of representation at the national conventions without ratifying the report of the law committee which was presented by Chairman Warren. It denied the right of the committee to change the basis of representation, but sustained the authority to call a special convention.

Hilles has taken the attitude that it would be wrong for the Republicans to harp on the idea of victory laying stress on the fact that if victory is to come it is to come through the principles for which the foster fathers of the party have stood and others fought for. He is not in favor of the idea promulgated recently by the president who spoke of electing president by the direct primary.

THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A SWIFT RUN.

Early Morning Fire Results in Loss
of Sprouting Plant and Furniture.

The fire department made a speedy run early this morning in response to a telephone call, in the territory of Box 14. When the firefighters arrived they discovered that the home of H. L. Conley at 2108 Oak street was ablaze. The run was made at 2:05 A. M. A lamp used for the purpose of artificially sprouting grain is said to have been the cause of the blaze.

Practically everything in the kitchen was ruined and other parts of the house are damaged by the smoke. The fire had not gained much headway owing to the speedy arrival of the department and hence only the chemicals were put to use. The property is owned by W. B. Grandy of this city and carried no insurance.

The men of the department are of the opinion that the new turnout suits more than paid for themselves last night. They are made by the American La France people, are water proof and made in such a way that no wind can pierce them.

FIREMEN MEET TONIGHT.

To Discuss Re-Arrangement of Volunteer Department, Purpose.

To take up the matter of re-arrangement and rehabilitation of the volunteer fire department with the expense in view of reducing the expense at small fires where a large number of volunteers attend, the fire department and Manager Lafky meet tonight. The department members and the city manager will go over the question with a view of arriving at the best solution of the problem.

DYNAMITER PLEADS GUILTY.

International Secretary Pleads "Not Guilty" to Similar Charge.

Indianapolis, Dec. 16.—George Davis a former member of the United Ironworkers, pleaded guilty in the federal court to the charge of illegally transporting dynamite. Harry Jones, secretary treasurer of the International association pleaded not guilty to a similar charge.

Lane Is Asked To Start Work

NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED IS
CONSTANTLY GROWING.

UNREST IS GROWING

Umatilla Project Would Put Many to
Work.

Portland, Dec. 16.—In the hope of securing work for some of the hundreds of men out of employment throughout the state, particularly in Portland, Governor West wired an appeal to Secretary of the Interior Lane urging him to begin work on the West Umatilla irrigation project at once. As the plan involves the construction of a canal 10 miles long it is urged that employment might be given men during the winter months. No answer has been received from the secretary of the interior as yet but it is hoped he will accede to the request of the governor and commence work at once.

The bread line at all of the charitable institutions is increasing in length and if nothing is done in the way of securing employment for many really in earnest for work it is feared trouble will brew.

PARCEL POST IS GROWING

CHRISTMAS PARCELS BRINGS
TOTAL TO 10 BAGS A DAY.

Postmaster Bragg Commends Shippers
For Accepting Suggestions.

Yesterday's mail brought in seven bags of parcel matter, and the office sends out not less than ten a day. With the new rates this will be probably doubled. Mr. Bragg says that many people have kindly taken to the suggestion to send parcels early and that much of the Xmas sending of parcels has been done. This will enable people to send parcels and have them arrive in time to their destination because in the volume of business and rush many parcels are mis-sent and do not arrive in time for the holidays. By sending early patrons of the department insure prompt delivery. The posters which were recently displayed in the office has had the effect of inducing senders to properly wrap and address their packages, all of which insures better results.

In speaking of the parcel post business at this time of the year, Postmaster E. E. Bragg declares that the volume has increased with wonderful rapidity in the last two months and that the increase was constant and steady. The new ruling which will make it possible to send parcels weighing 20 pounds to all zones and 50-pound parcels within the second zone, or a distance of 150 miles, has had a marked effect on the business and the government will soon be compelled to make further arrangements to handle the great increase.

In addition to this, books will be admitted which will make a vast difference in favor of the parcels post. Another bit of information which will please the public is this, that rates in zones four, five and six will be reduced. The ruling making a 20-lb. limit for all zones and 50 for the first and second will not go into effect until next March. The papers have set the date at the 16th of March but the postmaster has had no official notification of this ruling and is not certain just when it will take effect.

FEDERAL GUARANTEE URGED.

Bristow Would Have Uncle Sam Protect Investors.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Senator Bristow today defended the provision for the federal guarantee of bank deposits, when the debate on the currency measure was resumed in the senate this morning. It is expected the currency bill will pass some time during the latter part of this week.

PANAMA CANAL IS NOW OPEN FOR TRAFFIC FROM END TO END

Colonel Goethals Would Remain In Charge Of Canal Zone

Panama, Dec. 16.—The Panama canal is now practically open from end to end. The dredges have removed enough of the dirt caused by slides to allow the passage of medium sized vessels. All locks and gates are reported working in the best of order. The report that Colonel Goethals would like to be governor of the canal zone has been confirmed by men who are near to the benevolent despot of the Panama canal zone. It is thought nothing better could be done than put this great engineer in charge of the work that has been the product of his mighty brain.

MANY DEATHS IS TOLL OF EXPLOSION IN COLORADO MINE

Glenwood Springs, Col., Dec. 16.—A heavy explosion occurred this noon in the Vulcan mine at New Castle and it is feared the loss of life is heavy. New Castle is 10 miles from here. Persons were taken to the hospital. Persons who were standing near the entrance to the mine on the surface, were violently thrown to the ground. The mine normally employs 40 men but it is said that at the time of the explosion there were 42 at work. Mine superintendent Neerdink left the mine just a few minutes before the explosion occurred. He immediately organized a helmet crew and entered the workings. Rescuers remained below 30 minutes and are reported to have said that they had found several bodies. No attempt has been made to remove the bodies from the mine and the belief is current that all of the men perished instantly.

Lady Swallows Chicken Bone. A small bone swallowed by Mrs. C. P. Fer last Thursday evening is still lodged somewhere in the throat. Several X-ray photographs of her throat have been taken and physicians are just now awaiting developments before resorting to extreme measures. This afternoon her condition was not much improved but it is hoped the obstruction will be removed without any serious consequences.

First Boat Goes Through Great Gatun Locks In Panama Canal

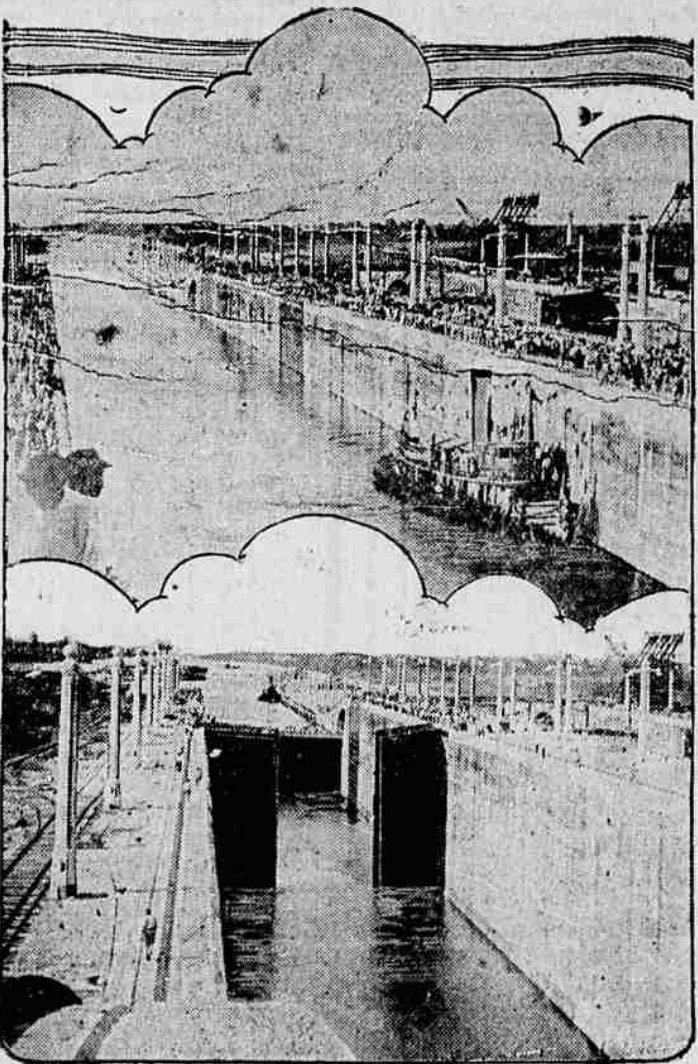


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THE greatest locks on the Panama canal are the Gatun lifts, connecting the Atlantic ocean entrance with Gatun lake. The locks are now in working order and are giving entire satisfaction, according to early reports. The first boat to pass through them was the tug Gatun, used in Panama canal work. The top picture shows the tug in the first lock, having entered from Colon harbor through Limon bay. The tug made the ascent through the three locks to the lake in two hours, but the triple lift could have been accomplished in an hour and a half if an attempt to make time had been made. Crowds of officials, tourists and workmen lined the top of the lock walls and cheered as the tug went from lock to lock, each of which is 1,000 feet long. The total rise from the Atlantic sea level to Gatun lake, which is the highest point in the Panama canal, is eighty-five feet. The bottom picture shows two of the emergency gates open. These gates can be used in the case of short ships, thus dividing the 1,000 foot chamber into smaller sections so that so much water need not be used. They can also be used in case of accident.

Child Drinks Corrosive Lime

TIMELY AID OF PHYSICIAN
SAVES LIFE OF LITTLE TOT.

MISTAKE NEAR FATAL

Stomach Is Pumped and Child Is
Better This Evening.

But for the prompt intervention of a physician the little girl of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Glass of South La Grande would be no more. By mistake she drank about three grains of corrosive sublimate of lime and was immediately taken dangerously ill. Dr. Dora Underwood was hurriedly called in. She pumped the stomach of the little tot before the deadly drug had a chance to take much effect. The child is reported better.

MOB LYNCHES A MURDERER

IRATE CITIZENS TAKE LAW
INTO OWN HANDS.

Sheriff and Deputies Give Way to
Force of Citizens.

Williston, N. D., Dec. 16.—Overpowering the sheriff and his deputies, a mob last night broke into the jail here and lynched Frank Culbertson, held for the murder of three members of the Dillon family. Great excitement prevailed in the city and men feared to interfere with the enraged mob after they had gained possession of the alleged murderer.

EARLY FIRE CLAIMS VICTIMS.

Mother and Two Grown Children Die
in Holocaust in Eastern Fire.

New York, Dec. 16.—Three persons were killed and a score were injured in an apartment fire on the west side this morning. The fire occurred in early part of the morning and many persons rushed to the streets in their sleeping garments. A cold wind was blowing from the East river and it is feared many will contract colds as the result of the exposure. The dead are Mrs. Mary McManus and her grown children, Thomas and Mary.

President Remains Indoors.

Washington, Dec. 16.—President Wilson worked leisurely today, signing a number of commissions and reading official documents. He did not go to the executive offices but stayed in the upper apartments of the White House on the advice of his physician, who suggested that he remain in an even temperature until his cold entirely disappears.

The president stayed indoors against his own wishes.

Dr. Grayson said tonight the president probably would be kept indoors for another day or two. Engagements with cabinet officers are scheduled for tomorrow, but these are tentative and if the president does see any of the department chiefs it will be in his study on the upper floor of the White House.

The president had the Hetch-Hetchy bill before him today and is awaiting a report from Secretary Lane before signing it.

HANS SCHMIDT ON TRIAL.

New York, Dec. 16.—The state rested in the case of the state of New York vs. Hans Schmidt, the ex-priest who is on trial for the killing of Anna Aumuller. Schmidt sat with bowed head as Attorney Olcott started outlining the defense case.

INCENDIARY ARRESTED.

Cincinnati, Dec. 16.—Fred Neyer, a man of 40 who recently asked officials of the Salvation army for shelter and was refused, was today arrested as a suspect in connection with the death list that resulted from the destruction of the Salvation army shelter.

HUERTA ENJOYS VICTORY IN HIS BOOZY FASHION

MEXICO CITY IS ELATED OVER
APPARENT SUCCESS OF
FEDERAL ARMS.

FRENCHMEN PAY VISIT

Dictator Has Been on a Spree Since
the Cessation of Hostilities—French-
men, After Waiting 30 Minutes,
Leave in Disgust.

Mexico City, Dec. 16.—Mexico City is celebrating the victory of the federal troops in keeping away the rebels from Tampico. It has also become known that the grizzly old dictator has been celebrating the event in his own style by hanging tenaciously to his champagne since the cessation of hostilities.

Accompanied by a uniformed staff, the French minister, Lefevre and Admiral Becoux, commander of the French fleet of warships in Mexican waters, went to the palace yesterday to pay their formal respects to the dictator. But this worthy could not be found. After waiting 30 minutes they left. Later they managed to see him for a short while, but it was obvious that it would have been better if they had waited a while longer, for when he appeared he had not worn off the effects of his many drinks.

CARRANZA AND VILLA MUST PROTECT FOREIGNERS.

Washington Holds Rebel Commanders
Responsible for Foreigners.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Secretary Bryan has put it up to Carranza in most definite terms that he will in all respects be held definitely responsible for the safety of foreigners and their property lying in the zone now occupied by the rebels. The condition in Chihuahua city is especially referred to. Carranza was given plainly to understand that the administration will look to him and Villa to keep order in that city. If Villa cannot be made to obey, it is said that Carranza would probably lose all chances of American support when Huerta is driven from office.

Administration officers are plainly nervous and cannot figure out just where the trouble is going to leave the United States.

TRAIN WRECK IS FATAL.

Thirty Lives Snuffed out in Instant of
Terrific Crash near Vienna.

Vienna, Dec. 16.—Thirty persons are reported killed and thirty-five seriously wounded as the result of a wreck near the city of Darnow.

An express train collided with a work train carrying 800 men. The cause of the wreck has not been determined, but all Germany is mourning over this great sacrifice of human life.

Baker County Judge Dies.

Baker, Dec. 16.—County Judge Peter Basche, of Baker county, died at St. Elizabeth's hospital yesterday morning as the result of an operation for a tumor of the intestines. He was 74 years old and came to this vicinity 50 years ago. He organized the Basche-Sage Hardware company, and made and gave away a fortune. During the early mining days it is said there was hardly a mine in the district in which he was not financially interested, and that he never turned down a prospector, extending credit to almost every one desiring it. He was elected county judge two years ago. Excepting slight pains, he was apparently in good health up to the time of the operation. Last Thursday night he arose at midnight to perform a marriage ceremony. He leaves a wife and three children.