

La Grande Evening Observer

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Mayor of North Powder Has Not Been Instructed to Cleanup his Municipality; Criticizes Governor

Mayor Lambert claims his town as clean as any and resents recent publicity

People of North Powder are resenting the insinuation that North Powder is in need of the governor's broom and the militia to help local authorities execute the law. The mayor, E. A. Lambert called up the Observer this morning and requested this paper to state for himself and the people of North Powder that neither he nor anyone else in authority had received any communication from the governor to the effect that North Powder was to be cleaned up, or needed it. "You may say for me," said he, "that the one who pretends to be the head of the state has sent no communication to me or anyone else. I consider it a gross imposition to insinuate that we are so morally bad as to need the offices of the governor to clean us up. I want to

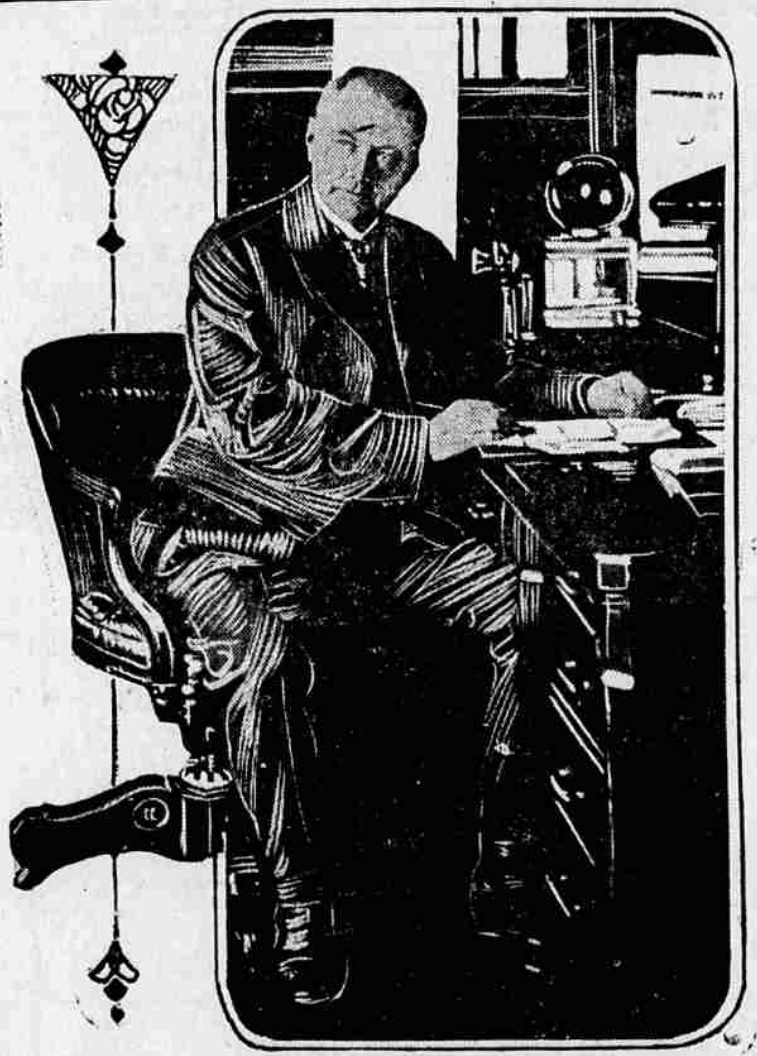
protest that we have received no information from the governor to this effect and, what is more, that North Powder, an integral part of Union county is, to my personal knowledge, in all respects moral and decent. There is no place in Union county that is better. In the last two weeks we have had no man for breakfast, and to insinuate that North Powder is of the same stripe as Copperfield is alleged to be, is a gross insult to the people of this community. You may say for me that I agree with Sheriff Hug, that when Union county needs cleaning up we are eminently capable and of a mind to do it ourselves. Say for me, on behalf of the officials of this community that we are not in receipt of any communication to this effect."

AMERICAN ENVOYS QUARREL

Vera Cruz, Jan. 9.—That Lind brought instructions to Pass Christian censuring Charge d'Affaires O'Shoughnessy for his friendly, personal relations with President Huerta, is the prevalent and persistent belief concerning the inside story of this visit. There is a persistent rumor that Lind and O'Shoughnessy did not get along well in Mexico, and some reports had it that Lind went

to Pass Christian to demand the resignation of O'Shoughnessy. Neither would reveal the nature of the interview, but it is understood that O'Shoughnessy will visit the American warships before returning to Mexico. In view of the absolute secrecy of the whole affair no great weight can be given the report and it is well to await further developments.

He Wants Government to Own Telephone and Telegraph Lines.



Postmaster General Burleson has caused a decided sensation by coming out in favor of government ownership of telephone and telegraph companies. Discussing the proposition the postmaster general says, "The successful operation of the parcel post has demonstrated the capacity of the government to conduct the public utilities which fail properly within the postal provision of the constitution."

POSTAL CLERKS GIVEN PRAISE

POSTMASTER GENERAL COMMENDS ALL EMPLOYEES.

Post Office Bulletin Issued for Benefit of the Department.

Postmaster E. E. Bragg of this city, is in receipt of a paper called the Daily Bulletin, in which the postmaster general commends the employees of the postoffice department, including those on mail cars, for the expeditious manner in which they handled the mail during the Christmas holidays. Following is the text of the letter:

Office of the Postmaster General, Washington, D. C., Jan. 1, 1914.

To the officers and employees of the Postal Service:

The splendid manner in which every employee of the postal service, in the department and in the field, acquitted himself in handling the enormous quantity of mail during the recent holiday season is not only a source of deep gratification to me, but a pride to every American citizen. Although the parcel post more than doubled the usual volume of Christmas mail, the task of handling this mail proved not so much a test of the capacity of the postal service as an opportunity for the employees to demonstrate their ability to meet all emergencies. The result is a substantial evidence of the energy, resourcefulness, efficiency, and loyalty of every employee, wherever his post of duty, from the highest to the most conspicuous. This achievement assures me that all emergencies of the future will be promptly and effectively met.

I extend to you my very best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster General.

In speaking of the business during the holidays, Mr. Bragg commended the local men for their loyalty to the department and said that on no days was there a delay, and that all of them stood by to handle the great volume of business. On the Monday preceding Christmas this office sent out 75 bags of parcel matter. During the whole of the holiday season these shipments amounted to over 700 sacks of outgoing mail and about 500 of incoming bags. The advice given out by the department and the assistance lent by the Observer to spread it through the county, assisted in inducing people to do their shopping and sending earlier than usual. This factor aided greatly in avoiding the congestion. The public generally shopped earlier than usual and storekeepers did not experience the rush that has characterized Christmas shopping in the previous years.

The Bulletin referred to above also contains valuable information relating to the establishment of every new postoffice or the discontinuation of them, gives mail schedules, changes in service and is all told one of the biggest helps to the department. This information used to come once a month in bound volume.

Bring Wiltse Back to Baker.

Constable Walter Palmer returned yesterday from La Grande with F. W. Wiltse, arrested a few days ago on a forgery charge. The check he is alleged to have forged was written in Union county but cashed in Baker

county, Wiltse getting the money at the Womack store in Haines. Wiltse has been in the local courts before, having been found guilty and sent to the penitentiary for a short term for the theft of a horse and buggy at Haines, which he tried to dispose of here. He is alleged to have written a check payable to himself on the Powder Valley State bank of North Powder, signing the name of his father-in-law, J. J. James.—Baker Democrat.

ALCOHOL PLANT BURNS

Million Dollar Loss Occasioned by a Spectacular Blaze.

New Orleans, Jan. 9.—Fire destroyed the International Distilling and the United States Industrial Alcohol companies' plants today. The loss is estimated at a million dollars. The fire was exceedingly dangerous and highly spectacular as tank after tank of alcohol exploded, hurling the spirits high in the air. Firemen were powerless to save either plant and concentrated their effort to prevent the flames from spreading.

COVE AWAITS RICHARDSON

Big Crowd Will Be Assembled for the Afternoon Booster Meeting.

Cove, Jan. 9.—(Special.—Christ M. Stackland has received word from Tom Richardson, the popular booster patriarch of Portland that he will be in Cove on January 15 and the meeting has been set for 3 o'clock. A big meeting is promised as the attendance will be marked by the presence of a greater portion of the population. Women, as is true in Union and La Grande where Mr. Richardson will also speak, are especially invited to be present.

Chinook at Ladd Canyon.

Ladd Canyon, Or., Jan. 9.—(Special.)—Ladd Canyon has been having rainy weather with chinook winds for several days, until today, it is a little colder.

PORTLAND MEN PLANNING TRIP

THEATRE PARTY STAGED IN ORPHEUM SHORTLY.

Any La Grander In Portland Then, Welcomed to Big Function.

At a meeting of 400 merchants of Portland recently, the matter of the annual meeting of the Oregon Retail Merchants' association came up when the subject of the La Grande theatre party staged for the 28th of this month at the Orpheum theatre, were discussed. In a letter to the secretary of the merchants' association, Charles Albert Small of this city, they requested that he inform them of the coming delegates or representatives of La Grande, informing him that they would reserve boxes and loges for them at the theatre and would in other respects make them guests of the association. If any citizen with a good command of oratory and rhetoric and with a good repertoire of humor and business knowledge is contemplating a trip to Portland at that time he will favor the secretary by informing him of the fact. La Grande is sure to be represented on that day and will no doubt be able to make the welkin ring for the Grande Ronde valley.

German Service Sunday.

A German service will be held at the Lutheran church Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. These services are being held on the second Sunday of each month and are much appreciated.

THE DALLES MAYOR AT WAR WITH COUNCILMEN AND HAS CALLED FOR MILITARY AID

Salem, Jan. 9.—Because the city council of The Dalles last night refused to accept any one of the nine men proposed by the mayor for chief of police and, instead returned Ralph Gibbons whom he had removed from the police force, Mayor J. E. Anderson appealed to the governor for state assistance, declaring that he feared bloodshed and rioting, unless the governor sent assistance by next Saturday night. They mayor stated that, if the governor assured him of

assistance, he would issue a proclamation closing all saloons, until there would be sufficient police protection. Governor West assured Mayor Anderson that he would back him up in seeing that the laws were enforced and asked him for the names of three men whom he could name as special agents. Anderson claims that government employees on the Celilo canal threatened trouble. The police force has been demoralized for months.

GOVERNOR THINKS STRIKE WILL WEAR ITSELF OUT

Houghton, Mich., Jan. 9.—Saying that the Michigan copper strike must wear itself out, Governor Farris announced that he would return to Lansing, Michigan, this afternoon. In a subsequent interview he added that subsequent events might cause a sudden termination of the conflict. This impression was the result of an investigation personally conducted by the chief executive of the state. He has a plan by which he expects to end the strike by a forced settlement. Mayor remained heavily guarded, deputy sheriffs being detailed to accompany him during his stay.

ODD ILLNESS Baffles Many VILLA BRINGS REBEL FORCES

MRS. CHARLES GORE IN COMATOSE STATE. FALL OF OJINAGA CERTAIN IS THE CLAIM.

Revives for a Few Hours and Returns to Unconscious Condition. Twenty-five Hundred Men, Food and Ammunition Supplied Siegers.

Mrs. Charles Gore of this city, wife of Charles Gore superintendent of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company, has been unconscious for 40 hours. Yesterday she came out of the comatose condition for about two hours but again lapsed into unconsciousness, in which she still remains. The case has baffled four physicians. About a week ago she was taken with violent headaches and suffered untold agony for some seven days, at the end of which she was stricken with the malady which holds her bound. She is about 22 years of age and has been slightly ailing for some time.

Naval Boatswain Drowns. Portsmouth, Va., Jan. 9.—Boatswain Cornelius Olsen was drowned and three sailors are missing as the result of the capsizing of a launch of the battleship Wyoming near Norfolk navy yards. Details of the accident have been received by wireless from Admiral Badger in command of the Atlantic fleet. It read: "Cornelius Olsen, boatswain's mate, first class, was drowned by the capsizing of a boat. The body has been recovered. Three others are missing; will send the names and particulars when all the facts have been ascertained. Boat capsized while wheelbarrows were being taken from the Wyoming to the Protus."

Mission Band Will Meet. The mission band of the Presbyterian church will meet at the home of Miss Evelyn Underwood tomorrow afternoon, Jan. 10, at 2 o'clock. All members are requested to be present.

Old Time Debt Paid. Eaton, Colo., Jan. 9.—If Diogenes should visit a certain town in South Dakota, today he could put down his lantern and search for an honest man. This is the view of Hrs. H. Schwartz of this place who has just received a check for \$58.75 in payment of a debt owed to her husband for 38 years. The husband is long since dead and Mrs. Schwartz had long forgotten about the debt. The check came from a South Dakota town, which Mrs. Schwartz refuses to name and with it a letter stating the debtor had been unable to meet the obligation until the present year.