

La Grande Evening Observer

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GOMPERS SAID TO BE MIGHTY BOOZE FIGHTER

McDONALD MAKES A HEAVY CHARGE AGAINST HEAD OF LABOR UNIONS.

"BUNCH OF REACTIONARY FOSSILIZED BOOZERS"

"You're An Unmitigated Liar," From Head of Mine Executives Brings Things to Near Fist Battle—Rumors Persistent That Detectives Are Stirring Strife.

Indianapolis, Jan. 30.—There was a clash between Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Duncan McDonald, in the Illinois session of the mine workers' convention. "I just want to say to the delegates of this convention," said McDonald, in his speech, "that Gompers has no right to sit here, for he is nothing more than a confirmed booze fighter." Gompers leaped to his feet, white with rage, and advanced upon McDonald. Shaking his fist in his face, he said, "McDonald is an unmitigated liar and he knows it." Other men kept them apart.

McDonald declared that all of the executives in the American Federation of Labor were hard drinkers. "They are a bunch of reactionary, fossilized booze fighters," said he as he sat down. The convention sat with open mouths during the crimination and recrimination and many men feared an open battle.

There is a rumor that the convention is packed with detectives, hired by the mine owners and other employers for the purpose of stirring up strife. There seems to be some truth in the assertion for the session is one of the stormiest in the history of the convention. It is impossible to tell who is a bona fide delegate, and for this reason some startling things are likely to develop from this meeting.

There is some rumor to the effect that this row between Gompers and McDonald has been staged by the detectives.

CHILDREN AND MOTHER HELPED

LADIES AID PROVES BOON TO EIGHT CHILDREN.

Father Ill and Unable to Work—Supplies Still Coming.

This morning a destitute mother and eight children called at the office of J. D. Lynch and availed themselves of the charity of the Ladies Aid society. They came to the city some time ago from Boise and have not been able to keep the wolf from the door. The husband has been ill and not able to provide for his charges. They were completely fitted out with clothing and sent away happy. There is a fair quantity of clothing still at the office and anyone in need may have same by callink at the office of Mr. Lynch, in room 2, Foley build-

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Forty-Nine Drown When Liner Sinks Like Lead Off Coast Of Delaware

Passenger Boat, Rammed By Merchant Craft, Split In Two And Sinks In Two Minutes—Eighty-five Are Rescued In Their Night Clothes

Norfolk, Jan. 30.—Eighty-five passengers out of 134 passengers and seamen who put to sea here last night on the ill-fated Monroe, landed at Norfolk this afternoon. The other 49 perished—without a doubt—when the Monroe went down like lead. The rescued included 30 passengers, 50 members of the crew. Not one of the group saved had all their clothes on. Women wore nightdresses when they arrived here and the men were mostly clad in pajamas. Most of the survivors are ill and some of them will die from the shock and exposure they underwent. So sudden was the sinking of the ship that there was no warning.

New York, Jan. 30.—Forty-seven

persons are unaccounted for this morning following the loss at 1:45 A. M. of the old Dominion steamship Monroe, in a collision off the southern coast of Delaware with the merchants' liner Nantucket, from Boston. As the Monroe carried a full complement of lifeboats and rafts it was hoped this morning that a few would be picked up alive but it is feared many went down with the boat. The Nantucket, according to wireless, had her bow badly crumpled in the crash, and though taking water, it was understood early in the day, she had picked up 86 of the boat's company including Captain Johnson.

The liner Hamilton is standing by, and the revenue cutter Onondaga and several other ocean going tugs are

on their way to the scene to assist.

The collision occurred in a dense fog. The Monroe left Norfolk for New York at 7 o'clock last evening and carried a crew of 79, and 45 first cabin passengers, with some in the steerage. The Nantucket rammed the Monroe at a point 25 miles south of Hogg Islands. The Nantucket was making half time, but cut the Monroe nearly in two, and she sank in two minutes. The Monroe was 344 feet long.

Officers Give Out Report.

Norfolk, Jan. 30.—The officers of the old Dominion line placed the number of saved from the Monroe at 86 and missing 47. Of the saved, 31 are thought to be passengers and 55 of the crew. Of the missing 23 are passengers, and 24 of the crew.

TAX PENALTIES MADE CLEARER

ATTORNEY GENERAL LAYS DOWN THE LAW.

Penalty Question As Legal Adviser Sees It, Made Clear By Him.

Oregon's tax law muddle has been clarified considerable by a letter from the attorney general. Oregon papers published the report that the attorney general had ruled there would be no penalty on unpaid taxes up to September 1, if half were paid prior to April 1. The facts are that the report was in error, Portland papers having mislead and smaller papers copying the erroneous article from them.

The clear-cut decision from the attorney general seems to set at rest all reports on this score, and County Collector Frawley has requested that all papers of Union county copy the following letter from the attorney general:

Dear sir:—

Replying to yours of the 4th instant relative to the construction to be given Section 3682 of Lord's Oregon Laws, as amended by Chapter 184, Laws of 1913, pages 334 and 335, beg to say that the construction this office has given upon said section is as follows:

First: All taxes are due April 1. Second: If not paid April 1, all that remains unpaid bears interest or penalty at one percent a month for five months, to-wit: until September 1; that is, if paid within 30 days after April 1, one percent; if paid after thirty days, and within sixty, two percent, and so on, one percent being assessed each month for delay.

Then, September 1, all unpaid taxes become delinquent, and the one percent a month is added to the delinquent amount September 1. If not paid September 1, then on that day ten percent penalty is added to the amount computed before. In other words, the original tax and fifteen percent would be due at that time, and then that full amount draws in-

PORTLAND CLAIMS FOR BANK HEARD

Portland, Jan. 30.—President A. L. Mills, of the First National Bank, and president of the clearing house association was the principal speaker at the regional bank hearing before McAdoo and Houston. At the conclusion of the address setting forth the claims of Portland to the regional bank, in answer to the question put by McAdoo, how Portland would overcome the currency acts requirements

for a capitalization of four million, when the northwest can present only two and one-half millions of capital, Mills replied, "I believe that provision is almost insupportable. If we show that we are so situated as to need a reserve bank, the government should help us."

Mills showed by letters that most of the banking of the states of Washington, Idaho, Western Montana and Oregon is done in Portland.

STABBING AFFAIR NEAR PERRY

Perry, Jan. 30.—(Special.)—A stabbing affray took place this afternoon about one and a half miles from here between P. D. Hamilton and S. B. Porter. Mr. Porter had been working for Hamilton, and the two became involved in a quarrel. This resulted in a fight. It was reported that

Hamilton was getting the worse of the fight and consequently stabbed his antagonist in the right side, with a pocket knife. Mr. Butler, of the Grande Ronde Lumber company, assisted by other men who saw the affray, separated the men and brought Porter to this place, where he remained until taken to La Grande in a taxi.

BUSINESS MEN IN SESSION

Informal Meeting Discusses City Accounting System In Vogue.

Several prominent businessmen and tax payers met last evening with Manager Lafky and the City Commission to informally discuss the accounting system and to devise a better and more expeditious method. The changes that will be required by the budget system and a general curtailment of unnecessary detail, or addition of detail, as might be found expedient, were discussed at some length.

Joseph Girl Improves.

Grace Caviness, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Caviness of Joseph, who has been critically ill at the Grande Ronde hospital, is reported to be past the crisis. Her father is in the city.

Interest at twelve percent per annum until paid.

Yours very truly,
A. M. CRAWFORD,
Attorney General.

Going East On Business.

W. R. Kivette leaves in the morning for an extended trip on business through the middle western states, principally Wisconsin, to look after his lumbering market. After spending several days in the larger cities of that section, he goes to North Carolina to meet his wife and son who have been wintering there and the family will return here about the first of March.

CHARLTON CASE POSTPONED MAY DEVELOP MUCH

CASE OF WIFE MURDERER HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO START INVESTIGATION.

SEXUALLY ABNORMAL IS HUSBAND'S STATEMENT

Dual Nature Also Will Be Investigated By Judges In Effort to Determine Guilt of Seemingly Brutal Murderer—Charlton Has Sentiment of Court and Onlookers.

Como, Italy, Jan. 29.—The trial of

Porter Charlton, an American, for the murder of his wife, has been ordered postponed until June. It is understood the postponement is due to the court's belief in Charlton's statement that his wife was sexually abnormal and possessed a dual nature. Sensational revelations are expected from an investigation by the judges. Sentiment is with Charlton.

The murder was discovered two years ago and after lengthy extradition proceedings, Charlton was delivered to the Italian authorities for prosecution.

The dead body of his wife, badly mangled and mutilated, was discovered in a sack near one of the famous watering places of Italy, and created the profoundest impression throughout all Europe and America. They were prominent in society and were well known generally.

AUTO DIRECTORS CALLED

Important Meeting Set For Monday Evening In This City.

Assuming that the automobile men of the county are not infringing on their rights by presuming to suggest on what roads and how the auto tax funds turned over to the county road fund from the state taxes on auto licenses shall be spent, the directors of the Union County Motor club meet at the Commercial club next Monday evening to discuss this subject.

It will be an important meeting in many respects and the road money will be discussed at length. The directors will agree on some recommendation to be made to the court in the expenditure of the \$500 or so received from auto taxes. The directors who have been called to meet are:

J. B. Thorsen, Elgin; R. Hutchinson, Union; Fred Kiddle, Island City; Hugh McCall, Cove; F. L. Meyers, A. V. Andrews, P. A. Foley, F. D. Haisten, M. K. Hall of La Grande, and J. M. Choate of Summerville.

TWO-CENT FARE INJUNCTION IN MISSOURI COMES TO END

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 30.—Federal Judge McPherson dismissed the injunction which restrained the state of Missouri from putting into effect a two-cent passenger rate, and which injunction also prevented Attorney

General Barker from suing for \$24,000,000 overcharges made by the road during the process of litigation.

It is understood Barker will begin suit immediately in the state courts to recover the overcharge.

DUN PREDICTS GOOD BUSINESS IN NORTHWEST

LA GRANDE AND UNION COUNTY ESPECIALLY HAVE BRIGHT FUTURE.

REAL ESTATE MUST BE READJUSTED THOROUGHLY

Trade Review Points to Faults and Virtues of the Northwest and Her Conditions—Generally This Year Has Been no Different Than Any Other—Postal Savings Reviewed.

R. G. Dun & Co. prophesy

bright financial and commercial prospects for La Grande and Union counties during 1914. The financial horoscope, the famous Chicago financial seers say, points to prosperity and thrift. The sixth semi-annual trade review is just out, and in it Dun & Company go into details of the northwest with considerable attention and the underlying strain that real estate values must adjust themselves and soon. The prologue to the edition and the reviews for Union and Wallowa counties, follow:

Agricultural and industrial production has continued to show an increase during 1913, but there is an admitted decline in commercial activity.

In common with the general business world much has been heard regarding "tightness of money."

The situation is perhaps better described by saying that exchanges of property and merchandise are not readily made on former terms. The Postal Savings bank by its moderate growth does not indicate that the public generally had refrained from using the deposit facilities previously existing. Bank statements do not show any withdrawal from circulation; deposits and loans have grown in fairly uniform proportion.

For a number of years prior to 1911 capital was spent freely in the development of natural resources. New canneries and lumber mills were built. Much new land was brought under cultivation. Railroad construction was extensive and in the cities many millions of dollars were spent in business buildings, sewerage systems and paving. There was a rapid advance in values of all classes of real property and a very great increase in the volume of trade.

There has been a reaction. Rightly or wrongly the public came to assume that values were placed too high and holders were unable to secure customary advances. During 1912 and 1913 many commodities, as well as much real estate, which had previously been easily transferred, became practically unsalable. Real estate values receded or remained stationary; railroad construction has been confined to the completion of projects in hand. While some lines of merchandise show a considerable falling off, the slowing up is not so noticeable in the total volume of trade as in the failure of merchandising operations to expand in proportion to the increase of industrial products.

Further readjustment of the values not only of real property, but of the securities based thereon, will be necessary to restore a free movement. The wealth of the country as a whole has not diminished, nor are the natur-

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