

La Grande Evening Observer

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BOYS OF 12 OR UNDER FORCED TO ENTER ARMY

SOLDIERS TEAR THE CHILDREN FROM MOTHERS' ARMS IN CAPITOL CITY.

SQUAD SWEEPS DOWN ON HELPLESS BAND

Mothers Plead With Huerta to Leave Them Their Boys to Run Farms—Boys and Mothers Had Come to Market Places With Their Goods When Recruiting Soldiers Appear.

Mexico City, Feb. 27.—Boys twelve years of age have been torn from their mothers and fathers and forced to serve in the federal army. Two hundred of these so far have been compelled by a merciless conscription to leave home and dear ones to fight the battles of the dictator. The children had come from the country to the market place today with their provision carts and were seized by the representatives of Huerta and made to serve a losing cause. There were many women with them but few men, for most of the men have been drafted. The commander of the drafting squad with his allies surrounded the market place and secured every place of egress before those inside had any suspicion of what was going on. A picked squad then invaded the building and laid hands on all male children past babyhood.

The commotion among the women was heartrending. They besought the soldiers to leave them in possession of their boys, claiming they were left without any protection whatever and had no one to care for the little farms that surround the city on all sides. But they had no ears to the pleas of sobbing mothers and took them to the barracks where they will be drilled and fitted out with the accoutrements of war. The soldiery was armed and compelled the mothers back from the line at the point of bayonets. Mexico is astir over this latest conscription and many are beginning to compare it with the children's crusade.

PENDLETON QUINT HERE

Fast Contest Will Develop On Local Court Tonight.

Members of the Pendleton basketball team arrived this noon on No. 6 determined to wrest the honors from the local quintet won at the Pendleton game. The locals are as determined that they shall not and since this is the first time in a decade that La Grande has won from Pendleton and the High School giants want to make doubly sure that they are the best team the game is bound to be the fastest and most furious of the season and spectators are bound to get their money's worth. The game is scheduled to take place at the High School gymnasium tonight at 8 P. M.

CHARITY FOR NEEDY CASE.

Charity Box in City Treasurer's Office Gives Up \$2.25

Charity donations for the city needy in the form of money were taken from the box in the city treasurer's office this week. The sum was \$2.25 which was used in a confinement case, which came to the notice of members of the Neighborhood Club and which received their careful attention. The box will remain there and persons will help a good cause by making small donations when at the office.

JULIA FLAKE.

Galesburg (Ill.) Girl Who Figures In Murder Tragedy.



MOTHER ASKS FOR DAUGHTER

VICTIM OF E. W. HORN TO BE SHIPPED EAST.

Jury Returns Verdict In Keeping With Nature of Yesterday's Crime.

Mrs. Oscar Johnson, of Oxford, Iowa, awaits the arrival of the remains of her daughter, May Johnson Horn. Answer to a telegram sent by Coroner Bacon yesterday was received today and merely requests that the body be shipped to Iowa City. The telegram sent by Coroner Bacon yesterday notified the Johnson family to inform the Horn family, which resides near there, of the whole affair, but word from the Horn family was delayed.

The bodies were set out in the Henry & Carr chapel this afternoon and hundreds of persons have viewed them.

While not well supplied with funds the burial can be paid from their own resources and the cases are not in any sense public charges. A certificate of deposit for \$100 was found in Horn's personal effects yesterday.

Brief evidence was heard yesterday, afternoon at 4 o'clock in the coroner's inquest to determine the nature and the causes of the death of E. W. Horn and his wife May Horn. Miss Rose Bishop was the principal witness. There was little to learn except names and residences of relatives, and this the jury obtained readily enough. "That May Horn was murdered by her husband and that Horn committed suicide," was the text of the verdict returned by the jury consisting of C. L. Mackey, Sam Parker, George Seely, Chas. Crandall, Emil Neiderer and I. R. Snook.

ALASKA RAILROAD CONTESTED

House Will Not Hear of Bond Issue—Senate Wants It Kept In Bill.

Washington, Feb. 27.—When the conferees of the Alaska railroad bill met they discovered that they were farther apart than ever. The House stands solid against the bond issue. Senators and other friends of the measure are determined to keep the issue in, fearing that next year's appropriation will be decreased and the work crippled. The House is stubborn about the amount, insisting that it be only \$35,000,000 and the Senate insists that it be raised to \$40,000,000.

OREGON-ELECTRIC CONDUCTORS AND BRAKEMEN GIVEN THE WAGE STANDARD ON THE STEAM LINES

Conductors And Brakemen On Steam Roads Of Northwest Win Request

Portland, Feb. 27.—Conductors and brakemen on the Oregon Electric railway, of the United railways and the Hill lines have been granted a raise in pay equal to the standard wage paid on the steam lines. Contracts were signed by Manager Scott. Conductors now getting from \$105 to \$150 per month will get from \$165 to \$200 per month and the brakemen who get from \$75 to \$110 will get \$92.50 to \$106.

SENATE MAY CURB PARCELS POST

Washington, Feb. 27.—The senate could not be considered in connection with the postoffice bill. An amendment forbidding that official from increasing the weight above 50 pounds was then introduced by Senator Blankhead of Alabama.

EX-GOVERNOR FOLK PROMOTED

Jumps From Five Thousand Salary to Ten Thousand Dollar Man.

New York, Feb. 27.—Joseph W. Folk, ex-governor of Missouri and solicitor for the state department resigned his position in that department and accepted the position as chief counsel for the Interstate commerce commission. His salary in the state department was \$5000 but the salary of the new position is \$10,000.

Webber Is Located.

New York, Feb. 27.—"Bridgie" Webber, one of the principal witnesses against the four gunmen, convicted, and sentenced to be electrocuted by the court of appeals has been missing. It has developed, since former Police Lieutenant Becker was granted a new trial by the same court, that Webber has been found working in a box factory in Passaic, New Jersey.

CENTRAL SCHOOL PERFECTS ITS PERMANENT ASSOCIATION

The meeting for the purpose of forming a parent-teachers organization for the Central school held at the Central school last night was a pronounced success, not only from the point of attendance, but from the spirit that was shown. The school children carried to their parents written invitations to be present at this meeting and the response was more than gratifying. Fully a hundred took part in the deliberations and election of officers, and of these 65 or more signed the organization rolls. A short program was given consisting of vocal selections by Mrs. C. M. Lockwood, Professor Maris and Rev. Fyke.

A committee had been named to draft a constitution and this was formally adopted. After its adoption officers were elected. The following will be the official heads of this organization for the Central school: president, Mrs. Geo. Cochran; vice-president, A. S. Geddes; secretary, Miss Ethel Bork; and treasurer, Mrs. H. S. Brownston.

Professor Prince, who acted as temporary chairman of the meeting made a short address. Another meeting is planned for the near future at which time some of the real problems will come up for discussion. All or nearly all of the teachers employed in the Central school attended the meeting and made great progress in getting acquainted with the parents of their respective pupils. In this respect the organization has accomplished a great deal of good and further meetings will enable the parents and teachers to come to understandings concerning the children.

A feeling of co-operation pervades the air and all who attended this meeting feel that the first great step towards child betterment, active elimination of things that tend to make children delinquent and later on subjects for juvenile and criminal courts, have been accomplished.

This afternoon another important organization for the Riverside school took life when the preliminary committee met at 3 P. M. at the Riverside school for a like purpose. Preparations have been made and a program has been arranged. Superintendent Jno. Girdler of the city schools is scheduled to speak. Field officer, J. C. Kilpack, well known in this section of the county, whose business it is to look after the welfare of children deserted by their parents or who are in surroundings that are conducive only to crime, will likewise address the mothers.

Those who have not yet signed the charter roll may do so by applying to the secretary, Miss Edith Bork, for the Central school and to the secretary who will be elected for the Riverside school.

Exchange Has New Manager.

Portland, Ore., Feb. 27 (Special)—G. C. Gaede, until recently Assistant to General Manager Julius B. Meyer,

JOSEPH E. DAVIES.

Wisconsin Man United States Commissioner of Corporations.



Photo by American Press Association.

WOMEN GIVEN FAIR BOARD JOB

SUCCEEDS N. C. MARIS, FAIR FIELD AGENT.

Well Known Oregon Woman Is First Lady to Serve On Board.

Salem, Feb. 27.—Governor West today appointed Mrs. Edith Tozier Weathered of Portland, a member of the state Fair Board to succeed N. C. Maris. She is the first woman to serve on this board and many things are expected of her. She passed through La Grande last year on her maiden Oregon campaign and has been more or less active in state affairs for many years. Mr. Maris is the father of Homer Maris of the science department of the La Grande high school.

of the Hamburg-American Line at New York, has been appointed Manager of the Atlantic Division of the Export Department of the Northwestern Fruit Exchange at New York.

Mr. Gaede's business experience covers more than seventeen years in steamship transportation. During these seventeen years he has come in contact with every important division of freight and passenger traffic and is intimately familiar with the requirements of the fruit export traffic and capable of much initiative in the development of this business. It would be difficult to find a man with a broader grasp of possibilities. His activities in later years have also embraced the planning and organization of cruises and the managing of the cabin traffic in general, including the handling of a large force of agents and determining to a large extent the policy to be pursued with regard to them.

WATER METERS FOR PORTLAND

Vote of Three to Two Puts System On Economic Basis.

Portland, Feb. 27.—Portland will have water meters. The city commission by a vote of three to two definitely established this policy for the city in spite of the opposition of the Oregonian. The new system is inaugurated for the purpose of eliminating waste and conserving the supply of the city's water.

The new basis will do away with the inequality whereby consumers of great quantities of water paid no more than the person using only for domestic purposes. Economy is the basis of this system.

WHITE SLAVER SUSPECT HELD BY UNCLE SAM

STORY TOLD BY GIRL IS PARTICULARLY DISTRESSING IN EVERY WAY.

MARRIED AN INNOCENT GIRL OF SEVENTEEN

Two-day Romance at Salt Lake Leads to Marriage and Then to Trail of Crime. Asserts Girl—Suspected Slaver Caught Here Sunday On Account of Suspicious Actions.

White slavery to a degree almost unprecedented—black with awfulness of human soul traffic—is told in an outpouring of anguish from a Provo, Utah, girl, held in the city jail since last Sunday night. Federal authorities have the case in hand, and upon the confessions of the girl, claim to have sufficient evidence to convict Nick Polumas, a Greek of 19 years, of one of the most aggravated cases of white slavery that has come to light along this overland Salt Lake-Spokane-Portland white slave trail.

The victim is a girl of less than 17 years, brought up on a Utah farm in financial ease but educational oblivion. Her every act and word reflects innocence and ignorance in the same breath, but not a hint of immorality. Insufficient education—sex, moral and scholastic—crop out in her every act yet though it all there sparkles virtue in breeding.

Her story is pathetic—good women of La Grande who have clothed her and dressed her in comfortable clothing, have wept over her story. Her confessions have been prolific and complete but her mother living on the Utah homestead knows not of her daughter's plight, and, if her daughter can prevent it, she never will. Both were held in jail pending the arrival of the federal officials. They tell somewhat similar stories yet when the criminal phase is reached, they differ, of course.

On the 17th of January this year, Nick Polumas, variously employed in theatres and railroad offices of Spokane, Pocatello and Salt Lake, met an innocent, ignorant girl employed in a Salt Lake restaurant. On January 22 he was married to her in Salt Lake in the presence of several Greek friends. At that point the stories diverge and never again reunite except that the two came to La Grande Sunday.

Girl Sworn to Secrecy.

Polumas says that he had been advised, just at that time, that his father and brother, whom he left five years ago, had been killed in Greece, and that his mother was anxious for his return, offering to send money via Spokane for his return. But Polumas was married and claimed he had to take his wife, and therefore, being unable to borrow money from his friends in Salt Lake, started for Spokane in hopes of getting a job, rent a furnished house and eventually return to Greece. They started immediately. The girl has said in her outpourings of grief, that they left Salt Lake without her mother's knowledge and the moment they left she was threatened with death if she spoke to a white person or communicated with them in any way. She says that she was taken from one Greek camp to another, continually

(Continued on Page Eight.)