

La Grande Evening Observer

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INTENSE EXCITEMENT RUNS THROUGH LOWER HOUSE AS FINAL TOLL VOTE IS AT HAND

Washington, March 31.—Speaker of the House Champ Clark threw soothing powder on a seething house today when, on the even of the final vote on the President's demand that the free toll clause in the Panama bill be repealed, the speaker said:

"I am voicing my objection to the repeal but there is no personal issue between the President and myself. There never has been any at any time, and I trust there never will be. I have at no time ever uttered a word of criticism against the President and at no time, so far as I am informed, has the President criticized me. In the nature of things a man who is worthy to hold high office, must believe other public servants are actuated by the same high courageous patriotic motives whereby he believes himself to be moved. I have never for a moment entertained any opinion that the President is actuated in this instance by any but the highest motives."

Humphrey of Washington was bitter in his attack on the repeal. As the time for the vote draws nearer, the interest in the house is intense, and the first big battle between the Democrats since the present administration is now at its apex, probably.

When the house convened this morning, it was freely admitted that the vote would commence at 5:45. Two roll calls are looked for—one on the motion to recommit the Sims resolution, and one on the measure of final passage. The first will show the exact strength of the President's following. The final result will be known by 7:30, Washington time. The odds admit they will probably be defeated.

Early in the day the galleries filled,

admission being by card. Members of the cabinet were present and the diplomatic corps was strongly represented.

GOVERNOR ACCUSES WILL KING

Charges Neglect of Office and Political Activity in State Against Law Enforcement.

Salem, March 31.—Asserting that Will R. King chief counsel for the reclamation service was quite active politically during his recent visit to the state, and that he had been sending telegrams into the state since the adoption of his law enforcement policies and candidates supporting them, Governor West sent the following telegram to Secretary of the Interior Lane:

"If Will R. King spent less time dabbling in local Oregon politics, and would devote more time to his duties as an officer of the reclamation service our chances for less whiskey and more water in Oregon would improve."

PRISON FOR LIFE.

Handsome Murderer of Mrs. Kraft Will Repent at Leisure at Joliet.

Chicago, March 31.—Handsome Jack Koetter convicted of the murder of Mrs. Emma Kraft, was sentenced to life imprisonment this morning. When the sentence was pronounced Koetter paled. His parents and sisters who were in court, wept profusely and had to be helped from the court room.

SUIT FOR \$25,000 AGAINST CITY OF LA GRANDE FILED BY COLEMAN

A suit has been filed against the city of La Grande by C. N. Coleman of this city for \$25,000 damages for injuries received while working in a trench on Northeast Jefferson Avenue on July 7th, last year. The complaint filed by Cochran & Eberhard, attorneys for the plaintiff, alleges that the plaintiff came to his injury through the negligence and neglectful commission of agents of the city, in not properly bracing the walls of the water main trench in which Mr. Coleman was working at the time of the injury.

They will allege as a fact that the trench took in part of an old trench that had been filled in during a previous digging and that for this reason the soil was more susceptible to caving in than if it had been a newly made ditch. They will allege an absence of proper inspection of the character of the soil, and warning the plaintiff that the soil would easily cave in. They will allege that it was the proper duty of the defendant to guard against a possible cave in by bracing and cribbing and such other means as are in use in cases of this kind, that it was the duty of the city to take out all of the made earth in the old trench so as to guard against a possible accident by reason of the peculiar character of the soil relative to its firmness, and that the city wholly failed to do this.

They will further allege that the plaintiff came to his accident through the negligence of the city, and that he

was severely injured. They will allege that he was made unconscious through the cave-in, and that his body was mangled and bruised, that he sustained a severe injury to the left knee necessitating an operation; that he had no use of his limbs for a long period of time and that he was again operated on the 19th of December for the same injury, and that he was unable to be about until the month of February of this year, when he began to move about on crutches.

They allege that he is unable to support himself by physical labor which was his only means of livelihood before the accident and that he will, permanently be disabled to perform manual labor.

The Plaintiff's earning capacity, measured on a possible lease of life likewise enters into the complaint on which he bases his claim for damages. He recites through his attorneys that his paternal grandfather lived 85 years, his maternal grandfather 88 years, and his father 72 years, and that he therefore has an expectancy of life of 12.26 years.

Based on these facts the plaintiff sues the city for \$25,000 damages and costs of the suit. Mr. Coleman is now 63 years of age and has a wife and one daughter to support. The case will come up in the June term for trial.

The papers were served today and the city has not had time to file its answer to the allegations of the plaintiff.

KING OF ENGLAND, UPON WHOM HANGS HEAVY HIS POLITICAL PRES-TIGE CROWN, BECAUSE OF ULSTER FRACAS.



Late likeness of England's king and queen. It is generally admitted that the Ulster question has never been as serious as it is now, and upon the king depends largely a satisfactory settlement, pacification of all and yet maintaining the dignity of the ruler and his administration.

Erief Noonday Services Excel

SUFFERING OF CHRIST IN GETHSEMANE RECITED.

REV. DRAHN SPEAKER TODAY

Rev. E. B. Fyke Is Speaker Tomorrow Noon — Public Welcomed.

Agonies of Jesus Christ in Gethsemane, pictured as far more severe and gruelling than the pains on the cross, formed the keynote of the 15-minute address by Rev. W. C. Drahn of the Lutheran church at the second of the noon-day services today. The ability to pray—in deep distress—"Thy will be done" is, the speaker said, the acme of religious faith and power.

As will be the rule throughout the two weeks the services stop at 12:25 on the dot, and workmen, clerks and all other walks of life are invited to attend. Dr. E. B. Fyke of the M. E. Church will lead tomorrow. Services for the balance of the series are:

Tuesday, March 31.—He endured the agony and bloody sweat.

Wednesday, April 1.—He was betrayed.

Thursday, April 2.—He was denied.

Friday, April 3.—He was mocked, despised, rejected.

Saturday, April 4.—He drank the cup of sorrow.

Holy Week.

Monday, April 6.—The Cross, the revelation of man's sin.

Tuesday, April 7.—The Cross the revelation of God's love.

Wednesday, April 8.—The Cross our assurance of pardon.

Thursday, April 9.—The Cross our assurance of peace.

Good Friday, 12:05-1 P. M.

I.—"Behold the Lamb of God."
II.—"In the Cross of Christ I Glory."

Silo Promoter in City.

C. H. Smith of Milton, who is a well known builder of silos, is in La Grande today on business matters.

WATER FILING FEES ARE VALID

TAX FOR FILING CLAIM FOR WATER RIGHT UPHELD.

Zeek vs. Masters-Ewold Lumber Co., and Others, Up for Hearing.

Judge Knowles handed down an important decision this morning in the case of The Pacific Live Stock Company vs. Geo. Cochran. The plaintiff in this case brought suit to recover certain moneys that had been paid to Mr. Cochran as member of the board of water control. The law requires that when persons make application to the board for water rights, they pay a certain sum per acre. This sum is 15 cents for the first 1000 acres and 5 cents for each additional acre. The money was paid and then the livestock company brought suit to recover the money on the ground that the law is unconstitutional. Their contention was that the law could require a filing fee, but could not collect at tax. The revenue derived from this source is paid into the general fund the same as any other tax and to this the plaintiffs objected stating that they had once paid the tax on the land and could not be legally held to pay a second tax.

To the complaint the defendant filed a demurrer, which Judge Knowles sustained.

In sustaining the demurrer he sustained the contention of the defendant the law is constitutional. The defendants are owners of some 250,000 acres of land which they use in raising and feeding cattle.

Timber Case Is On.

The case of E. O. Zeek vs. H. Eichenger, The Masters-Ewold Lumber Co., is on for hearing.

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REPEAL OF FREE TOLLS DAMAGE TO THIS STATE

COMMERCIAL CLUB ENDORSES ACTION TAKEN BY COMBINED CHAMBERS LATELY.

CLUB RENTS LOCATION IN DEPOT STREET OFFICE

Repeal of Free Tolls Will Subject the West to Unnecessary Expense and Curtail Benefits of the Canal, is Voice Expressed in Club Resolution—Exhibit Plans Mature.

Opposition to the proposed repeal of the free toll clause for coastwise American ships through the Panama canal, took the form of a resolution passed by the La Grande Commercial club last evening at a special meeting. The resolution endorsed heartily a resolution previously passed by the Combined Chambers, of Commerce conference held a few weeks ago. In that resolution the loss that will no doubt result to the consumer on the coast through requirement of toll, of American ships was pointed out, and the Oregon delegation in Congress was urged to request to vote against the repeal of the free toll clause. The house votes on the matter today and then the senate takes it up and the La Grande resolution will be conveyed to the Oregon senators along with the other Pacific coast resolutions. The American Pacific coast points had looked to the Panama canal to reduce the cost of living to a great extent, but tolls on ships coming West with produce, will simply mean that the consumer on the coast will have to pay the toll, and that railroads will add the cost of the toll to the overland shipment by freight.

Every commercial club in the coast states that has taken action, is signing the petition protesting against repeal of the tolls it is said.

The session last evening was an important one. With expenses reduced to about \$50.00 per month instead of \$200 as formerly, the club today went into a new era. The office of the manager-secretary—D. M. Clark—will be located on Depot adjoining C. J. Black Co., and membership business meetings and meetings of a public nature will be held there.

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BETTER TRAIN SERVICE LIKELY

MOTORCAR PLAN REJECTED BUT ANOTHER LOOMS.

Regular Train to Run opposite Main Branch Train Is Scheme.

Agitation started some time ago for a motor car service on the branch line from La Grande to Elgin has been sifted down to the point where the railroad company is now seriously considering a proposition to put on a train to run from Elgin to La Grande on about an opposite schedule to the regular branch line. At the meeting of the commercial club last evening the matter was reported as progressing satisfactorily. The motorcar service had been practically rejected by the company but on the new basis of negotiations, consideration is up and final orders will be issued in a few days. That the service, if put on, will give round trip each way each day is admitted to be the nature of the plan.

BANDIT SLAYER HELD IN JAIL

TATTOO MARKS ON HAND CORRESPOND TO MURDERER

Sheriff Fears Lynching and Keeps Constant Guard at Jail.

Mount Vernon, Washington, March 31.—Chas. Hopkins, the tattooed bandit, charged with murdering three persons is believed to have been caught in the town of Concrete. The sheriff fearing that the man would be mobbed, refused to give out any information, but it is known that Marshall Glover of Concrete during the night arrested a man whose description corresponds to that of Hopkins. The tattoo marks on the hand of the bandit are like those of Hopkins. The town is all excitement over the capture of the one suspected of carrying the blood of three persons on his hands. The jail is being constantly guarded.

NEGRESS IS LYNCHED.

Slayer of White Man Is Hanged to Telephone Post by Masked Whites.

Wagner, Okla., March 31.—Mary Scott a negress was hanged to a telephone post by a hundred masked white men. She had stabbed Lemuel Peace, a white man last Saturday, of which wounds the man later died.

Frenchman Flies High.

Paris, March 31.—Aviator Garaix with nine passengers reached an altitude of one mile here today and remained in the air 54 minutes.

KING DRAG WIZARD HERE.

Good roads as made with the D. Ward King drag, will be explained tonight at a meeting in the City Hall under auspices of the Automobile club and the Commercial club. Walter H. Reed, representing D. Ward King the famous drag inventor and road builder, will be the speaker. To build good roads by the split log drag method costs an average of \$4.00 per mile it is claimed and it is to hear this wizard speak that the two clubs have staged this meeting. The public is invited.