

La Grande Evening Observer

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1914.

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ELECTRICAL STORMS KILL SEVEN PEOPLE

SEVERAL STATES IN THE EAST VISITED BY HEAVY LIGHTNING STORMS.

STORMS LEAD TO THE DEATH OF SEVERAL MORE

Ohio, Pennsylvania and Indiana Struck by Heavy Storms Today—Crop Losses Are Reported to Be Heavy in Big Area of the Eastern States—Several Negroes Killed.

Chicago, May 12.—From this point east, a severe storm has been raging during the forenoon. Delayed reports are coming this afternoon of crop devastation and fatal injuries to people in various sections of a district embracing Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana.

Train Kills Man.

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 12.—Confused by a terrific storm that visited this part of the state, Dr. George Goetz, a young man of 28 years, living at McKeesport, stumbled across the Pennsylvania tracks, and was instantly killed by a passing train.

At New Kensington a negro tenement house was fired by lightning and destroyed. One negro was instantly killed and five others were fatally injured in the resulting blaze.

Storm Visits Ohio.

Cleveland, O., May 12.—A terrific rain and hail storm visited all of Northern Ohio, and did many thousands of dollars of damage to crops and buildings. Mrs. Abraham Drake of Van Wert, was killed by lightning and Mrs. F. Elwart of Finlay, dropped dead from heart disease, caused by the excitement.

NORTH POWDER VOTES BONDS

TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLAR PROJECT FLOATED.

Good Water Protection Assured—Other Matters Acted On.

North Powder, Ore., May 12.—(Special)—At a special election held yesterday the citizens of North Powder voted for a water system for the town. The election was also for the purpose of amending the city charter so as to make a bond issue possible. Other amendments of minor importance were also voted. It is proposed to bond the city for the sum of \$20,000, the bonds to run for thirty years. For this sum it will be possible to put in a water system that will afford protection for every block in the town.

UNION BOOSTERS HERE.

Delegation of Horse Show People Make Swing Around the Valley.

Union county is today spotted with beautiful posters exploiting the Union horse show, June 4-5-6. A group of Union boosters yesterday made a swing around the circle and breezed into La Grande about evening. The association has some es-

pecially handsome posters—real works of art—and these were displayed in appropriate places during the trip. Those who were in the group were: Geo. Scibird, F. A. Bidwell, C. L. Cadell, C. J. Forsstrom, J. P. Meyers, M. L. Levy, J. W. Spencer, Herbert Hall and Ed Kline.

Prescott Funeral Held.

Mary Ann Moore was born July 4th, 1847, at Oakdale Mass. In 1867 she was united in marriage to John Hart Prescott, a civil war veteran, at Shrewsbury, Mass. Seven children were born to this union, five of whom survive. The children are: Austin F., a captain in the regular army, stationed at Texas City, Texas; Sherburn N., of Weiser Idaho; Mrs. Ella P. Oliver, of Cedaredge, Colorado; Fred L., of Fox, Oregon and Mrs. Jessie P. Nelson of La Grande. She is preceded to the Great Beyond by her husband and a daughter, Mrs. Aurilla P. Keffer and a son Auldin L. Prescott.

Mrs. Prescott moved with her family from Providence, Rhode Island in 1887, coming to Idaho where she resided for two years. In 1889 they came to La Grande where she has since resided. She was stricken with paralysis in February, 1908, and has been a constant sufferer ever since. Death came as a relief to her May 8, 1914, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jessie P. Nelson.

Mrs. Prescott was a most faithful wife, mother and grandmother, and never grew weary of doing good for others. She was a faithful active member in the Woman's Relief Corps for years and was loved by all who knew her. She leaves beside her children two grand children and a host of friends to mourn her loss. The funeral was held Sunday.

Supply Train Goes Out.

Division superintendent Wm. Bolons, and Assistant Superintendent Buckley with Division Engineer Lyons and division storekeeper of the O.W. left this morning on a western trip with the supply train. This is the monthly distribution of oil, fuel and other material, and the collection of waste and scrap. It is likewise an opportunity for the division officers to meet the men at the various stations along the route. The train made the cities between La Grande and Pendleton.

W. J. GARNER SUICIDES.

Aged Citizen Mourns Death of Wife and Becomes Despondent.

Elgin, May 12.—W. J. Garner, an aged and highly esteemed resident of Elgin, suicided last evening by shooting himself with a shotgun. Death was speedy. Mr. Garner recently was bereaved by the death of his wife and failing health has been his lot since that date, and it is presumed that he committed the rash act in a fit of deep melancholia. He is survived by three sons, Oscar A. of La Grande, Bert of Elgin and Fred of The Dalles. The grief stricken family has been summoned to Elgin.

Oscar A. Garner who resides at 811 Division street, this city, was notified last evening by telephone of his father's death. Mr. Garner's father is well known in this city, and county. No funeral arrangements have been made known today.

Larceny Charges Preferred.

James Daley, a one-legged man, was yesterday arraigned in Justice Williams' court on a charge of stealing a five-dollar bill in the Queen Restaurant. He was bound over to the grand jury on \$500 bond which he failed to raise. Ed Howse, charged with larceny in a railroad car near Bacon, was arraigned at the same time and likewise bound over on the same sum.

WHOLE POLICE FORCE TURNS IN STARS AND FOR A DAY THE CITY IS WITHOUT POLICEMEN

Chas. B. Orai Named Chief After Fracas Over the McCorkle-Bennett-Avant Incident

La Grande has been without a police force since last evening but before another night is gone, a well regulated force will again be on the job.

In the meantime, City Manager F. J. Lafky has patrolled the streets during the night hours and looked after police duties during the day time, having at his call the county officials, of course. Chief of Police Howard Avant and his entire police force resigned last evening when the municipal court set aside the Saturday decision in the McCorkle-Bennett-Avant fracas. The stars were turned in, the prisoners in the city jail released, and the police duties taken up temporarily by the manager himself. The resignations form probably the last chapter of a bitter antipathy against the force by B. A. Bennett and Chas. McCorkle—both former city employees—resulting in severe bruises in a fight at the city pound Friday night in which McCorkle and Bennett were arrested and jailed. During the day the matter of appointment of a chief and a new patrol force has occupied the attention of President. Wood and Commissioners Russell and Gardner, and the city manager. Many applications were rushed in during the morning and late this afternoon the commission is

to meet to solve the situation, at least temporarily.

Chas. Orai Is Chief.

Late this afternoon Chas. B. Orai, former deputy game warden was named chief of police but no patrolmen have been named at press time. They will be selected during the evening.

Row Leads to Climax.

The details leading up to the resignations are well known publicly. Chas. McCorkle and B. A. Bennett were arrested while removing a cow from the city pound that belonged to Bennett. McCorkle asserts he had permission to turn the cow out after having tried to get the poundmaster to the scene. A fight ensued in which McCorkle was beaten up and then, with Bennett was arrested. Bennett didn't get out until the following noon, though McCorkle was released shortly after his arrest. They were tried Saturday for resisting an officer and found guilty, and appealed. On Monday they were charged with taking stock from the pound and found not guilty by Judge Eakin.

Reversal Made Necessary.

Immediately after the trial last evening wherein J. P. Rusk and R. J. Greene appeared for the defendants, the matter of the Saturday decision came up. The law provides that it is not acrimie to resist an officer if

the citizen has done no harm or the officer has no warrant. There was no warrant, and the court held there had been no crime, hence there was no just cause for the arrest, no harm in the resisting, and consequently nothing for the municipal court to do but to reverse and set aside its former decision.

Manager Becomes Policeman.

Chief Howard Avant, Patrolman Tom Driscoll, Tom De Borde and Robert Barnhill and Poundmaster Lee Barnhill—who succeeded King Roe—immediately resigned because of the reversal of the court's decision. The resignations were effective immediately, and during the night the only police protection the city had was what City Manager Lafky could give. He was unable to get a temporary force, and until after midnight, he patrolled the streets and kept law and order without appeal to the governor's militia.

Burglary Reported In.

Shortly after Avant had resigned, and gone to his home for the night, he was called by James Birchell, on W Avenue, to help catch a house robber. Mr. Birchell was in distress, but not being an officer Mr. Avant could not help him.

"What can I do?" inquired Mr. Birchell, when told the cry was without police.

"I think you had better catch him and tie him to a tree until a force is appointed," laughingly advised the ex-chief. The robber persisted in trying to gain entrance into the home.

Ex-Chief Issues Statement.

When asked today for a statement, ex-Chief Avant said:

"We did our duty as we saw it, and in regard to the arrest of McCorkle, we thought we were in the discharge of our duty. We have aimed to enforce the laws and ordinances since myself and my men went into office, and we wish to thank the people for the kindnesses they have shown us during that time. My men were fellows who enforced the laws as they saw them, and I speak for them when I extend thanks to the public at large for their many acts of appreciation. Since December 9, 1913 there have been 397 arrests, about \$1,020.00 cash fines, 15 women asked to leave town and the minor laws and ordinances enforced to the best of our ability."

Pound Master Missed.

Early this morning a citizen rushed to the police station seeking the pound master. When told there was none, he inquired of the city manager what could be done to get his horse out of pound. "where it had been placed last night unlawfully."

"I really haven't the time to go with you, but you might knock the fence down and take your horse; that's the way they do now days," suggested the city manager. The upshot was that the man got the keys to remove his horse. Hence, the city administration has acted in the capacity of pound master and patrolman in addition to its regular duties during the past 24 hours.

Leaguers Elect Officers.

Last evening the members of the Epworth league of the M. E. church, holding the record of the largest in numbers in the district, elected the following officers for the ensuing term:

President, W. C. Wattenburg; first vice-president, W. C. Wicklin; second vice-president, Nellie Bradley; third vice-president, Mrs. W. F. Ashman; fourth vice-president, William Gieger, Secretary, Ray Winters, treasurer, Mrs. John Rudd.

The reins will be formerly handed over to the new officers on the evening of May 24.

Services at Perry.

There will be a service held at Perry Wednesday evening of this week by Rev. Drahn of the local Lutheran church. The services during the summer will commence at the hour of 8 o'clock.

ONE THOUSAND STEERS REACH LOCAL RANGES

RECORD SHIPMENT OF CATTLE BY INDIVIDUAL HAS ARRIVED HERE.

RUN FROM DILLON IS MADE WITH MUCH HASTE

One Thousand Head of Steers Raised in Big Basin District Sent to La Grande Today by Local Buyer — Taken to Stillwell Range South of the City to Feed During Summer.

Frank Stilwell arrived last night from Dillon, Montana with 23 cars of range cattle which will be pastured on the Stilwell ranch southwest of town. The shipment consisted of 1,000 head of steers, including some yearlings. The entire lot was purchased from one person, a woman rancher of Montana, and is the largest individual shipment of cattle ever brought to this country at one time.

This morning Mr. Stilwell started for the range with the cattle. Before reaching Dillon, Montana, the point of shipment, they had gone a distance of five miles overland. They were gotten from the Big Basin country and represent very hardy stock. The run from Dillon to La Grande was accomplished in the record time of 32 hours, or an average of 19 miles per hour, over a mountainous road. Owing to this speedy shipment, the shipper was not required to unload his cattle and feed on the way.

The deal is one of the largest individual deals ever consummated in La Grande in livestock. The freight alone on this train of cattle was in the neighborhood of \$8,000.

The average price of the cattle could not be learned.

NEW OFFICERS IN O. W. LIST

STOREKEEPER AND ACCOUNTANT CHANGES.

Local Railroader Going to Montreal —North Yakima Man Comes.

Several changes have taken place in the officers' roster for the La Grande division of the O.W. L. A. McAllister, formerly general storekeeper of the S. P. & S. of Vancouver, Wn., has been named division storekeeper to succeed J. H. Best, who retires from railroad service. The local superintendent's office also announces today the transfer of G. E. Ahlquist from North Yakima to La Grande as general division accountant to succeed O. B. Wood who has resigned to go to C. P. R. at Montreal.

Leadbetter Suicides.

North Powder, May 12.—(Special)—George Leadbetter, of this city, suicided at Baker last night by drinking carbolic acid. His brother Ed has gone to Baker today to investigate. He is survived by his mother an aged lady, who was seriously hurt a few days ago, and other relatives. He was single, and about 40 years of age.

One Way Shackleton Hopes to Avoid Scott's End In Antarctic



Photo by American Press Association.

THIS is the sort of tent Sir Ernest Shackleton will use on his trip to the antarctic this year. The tent is made of especially strong canvas and when erected is covered with snow, as illustrated in the picture. Shackleton can thus break camp quickly and can keep from freezing when on forced marches across the terrible frozen fields of antarctic ice.