

La Grande Evening Observer

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GUNS BARKED LOUDLY WHILE WORLD RESTED

CHRISTMAS DAY SAW NO CESSATION IN FIRING IN MIDDLE FRANCE.

FOGS RETARD FORCE OF WAR NORTH OF LYS

Warsaw Defense Said to be Most Bitter—Germans Admitted to Have Broken Through the Line at One Point, but Russians Assert They Have Been Holding Own Elsewhere.

Berlin, Dec. 26.—Repulse of the French and British in attacks in the Western war zone is claimed in an initial statement by the war office. It is said that at Festhubert the allies left 300 dead on the field and lost 19 officers. Eight hundred men were taken prisoners. In the Eastern war zone the situation is claimed to be unchanged.

Paris, Dec. 26.—A German Zeppelin dropped bombs on French frontier towns, including Nancy Friday it is announced, killing two civilians and wounding 20. It is reported the damage to property was small.

Paris, Dec. 26.—Fog is so thick that there is little fighting in Northern France today. This embraces territory as far south as the river Lys. Extremely little cannonading has been going on in that region. However, between the rivers Lys and Oise, it is declared a series of desperate German attacks have been repulsed by the allies. Mention is made of one entrenchment at Lihons which the French captured from the Germans, the Germans recaptured, and which the French finally wrestled again from the Germans.

Metz Being Bombarded.

It is reported that the French are bombarding the outer defenses of Metz. It is declared the French lines have advanced beyond Arnayville, through the La Priette forest. Germans have been cleared from the heights within range of the outer forts.

There was no cessation at the front for Christmas.

The Germans attempted to regain their lost position in Belgium but were repulsed, the British, Belgians and French continuing their mining and bombardment.

Russian Resistance Bitter.

Petrograd, Dec. 26.—Resisting, day and night, the attacks along the front from the Vistula river to Oroczo, the defense of Warsaw is holding the lines against Germans it is said here. The Kaiser's forces have launched assault after assault in massed formation but each time they were beaten back it is said. The Teutons, did, however, succeed in breaking through at one point by crossing the Bzura. They are directing their main attack midway between Sockaczec and Skierniewicz.

Czar Off for the Front

Petrograd, Dec. 26.—Czar Nicholas left last night for the fighting front in Poland. He had been at Moscow where he spent several days with the Czarina.

THREE PLEAD "NOT GUILTY"

THREE ARRAIGNED BEFORE JUDGE THIS MORNING.

Trials Set Down for Middle of the Coming Week.

Three of the men against whom true bills were found by the grand jury before recessing Wednesday, were arraigned before Judge Knowles this morning, all of them entering pleas of not guilty and their trials set for Wednesday of next week. Frank Murray charged with larceny, S. W. Watson charged with the larceny of two calves, and John Williams charged with robbery were the men who pleaded this morning.

LITTLEST OF THE LONDON SCOTTISH.



The London Scottish is the most popular of the British regiments in the war, and this photograph shows the littlest member. A soldier of the regiment who was wounded in Flanders returned and was placed in a London hospital. Soon he made friends with Willie, a little patient. Willie became so important a figure in the hospital that someone provided him with a full uniform of the London Scottish, and he is seen daily parading about the hospital to the amusement of the patients. However, his best friend is the wounded soldier whom he would emulate.

APPLE SYRUP PLANT MAY BE LAUNCHED IN THIS VALLEY

That the freezing system used at Hood River in producing apple syrup as a means of providing a by-product channel for Grande Ronde apples, is not efficacious, but that the theory with slight changes will work to advantage, as the belief of Geo. L. Cleaver who has studied out a plan with which to make apple syrup. He seriously considers launching a by-product factory that will produce a syrup at \$1.00 per gallon instead of \$1.50 as must be charged at Hood River. The Cleaver system provides for boiling rather than freezing, and pure sugar is added to give sweetness. The result of this process is declared by all who have tasted it, as being exceptionally fine. Speaking of the new syrup Mr. Cleaver said:

"I had the pleasure of studying the new machine at Hood River, which is supposed to force the pure syrup out of apple juice, and which is a success in so far as its operation is concerned. I will give you the process by which they are making apple syrup there and then state some of the reasons why I think it will not be a commercial success.

"The pure fresh apple juice is run into receivers the same as Mr. Roesch uses to make ice in, and frozen by the regular ammonia ice machine. The solid chunks of cider are then ground or mashed into the form of snow, or until it looks like snow. It is then put into the syrup machine. The syrup machine looks almost exactly like a beet sugar washing machine, which is revolved at a high speed the same as the sugar machines. This centrifugal force separates the water from the syrup or sugar and the two are drawn off into different vessels.

"As near as I can learn this process reduces the volume of the apple juice to about 1-6 or in other words, they get 16 2-3 gallons of apple syrup out of 100 gallons of good cider.

"The average box of apples will make two gallons of juice, which would have to sell for 25 cents per gallon to make 50c per box for the apples. The syrup would therefore have to sell for \$1.50 per gallon in order to make 50c per box for the apples, and \$1.50 per gallon is more than the trade will pay for syrup that is not especially palatable. For the above reasons I believe that the pure apple syrup will not pay a fair price for the fruit and will not be a product that will sell readily.

"As hinted at the beginning my plan is to combine the reduced apple juice with good clean sugar in such a way as to make an article that is mighty good and can be sold at \$1.00 per gallon."

Mr. Warnick III.

Arthur Warnick, aged 86, is seriously ill this afternoon. His son, Lee Warnick, city recorder, was detained at home on account of the senior Warnick's illness and could not be at his office.

North Powder Quarantined.

Diphtheria has again broken out in the Tolly family at North Powder and the schools have been closed again and all children under 16 years have been quarantined until January 4, says the Haines Record.

GOV. BLEASE CLEANING OUT PENITENTIARY AS HIS TERM IN SOUTH CAROLINA DRAWS TO A CLOSE.



Governor Cole L. Blease has not threatened to clean out the state penitentiary by January 1, but he says there will not be a prisoner left twenty-one days later when his term as governor is finished.

Since assuming office in January, 1911, Governor Blease has shown executive clemency to 1,440 persons, basing his action to a large extent on "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

EAST SHIVERS WHEN MERCURY TAKES TUMBLE

COLD SNAP EXTENDS AS FAR SOUTH AS NORTHERN FLORIDA SECTIONS.

MANY CITIES HAVE MORE THAN THIRTY BELOW ZERO

East and North, and as far West as Chicago in Grip of Zero and Below Zero Weather—Many Points Report Worst Drop of Mercury of the Present Winter—Suffering Intense.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The East and North are gripped today in the coldest weather of the winter. The cold wave extends as far south as Northern Florida.

Below-zero weather prevails in the following sections: Northfield, Vermont, 32; Albany, N. Y., 16; Peoria, Ill., 18; Boston, 2; St. Paul, 22; Kansas City 2; Davenport, Iowa, 2. Zero weather prevailed in Omaha.

Below at 9 a. m. in Chicago Chicago, Dec. 26.—The coldest weather of the winter prevails here. It was four below at 9 o'clock this morning. Patrick Hurley was found unconscious in the street and died from the exposures.

Greater New York Suffers.

New York, Dec. 26.—Greater New York is shivering in the coldest weather of the season. Charitable organizations are swamped with applications for relief.

Reports here say it was 32 below at Kerkimer, N. Y., this morning and at Little Falls the coldest weather of the winter is raging.

Storms at Stock Show Time.

Referring to the forecasts of Rev. Irl R. Hicks, recognized as an authority on such matters, we find that the first week in June is likely to be very stormy. Stock Show time. Hicks called the turn last year almost in every instance. Perhaps we had best take notice this year, says the Union Republican.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE PROBING NAVAL AFFAIRS.



Representative Lemuel P. Padgett of Tennessee is the chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, which is now investigating the condition of the United States navy. The work has been taken up largely because of the agitation inaugurated by Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, who had introduced a resolution for a special committee to investigate both army and navy. Already Mr. Padgett's committee has brought out some interesting facts concerning the readiness of the United States in case of war.

FIREMEN TELL OF HARDSHIPS

CHICAGO HEARING GIVES ENGINEMEN INNING.

Hostlers and Enginemen Set Out Their Grievances to Board.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—The man with the scoop shovel, and his hardships and poverty, was under the spotlight at the arbitration hearing, in which 65,000 employees of Western roads figure, in Chicago last week. The man in the locomotive cab who shovels coal into the fiery, red maw of his pet engine hour after hour and day after day, sometimes as many as thirty tons a day, told his story for the benefit of the arbitrators.

And beside him at the hearing was the railroad hostler. The hostler is the inconspicuous fellow who grooms and oils and cares for the locomotive while it rests in the roundhouse. It is said that few people ever hear of or see the railroad hostler but, according to testimony at the inquiry, if the hostler is incompetent or ignorant and turns the locomotive over to the engineer in an unsatisfactory condition at any time, a serious disaster may follow.

It was the scoop shovel artisan, however, who perhaps attracted the most attention. There was Henry Rose, a fireman the Chicago and Northwestern road, running out of Escanaba, Mich., who told the story of frequent layoffs, loss of seniority, long and tedious trips requiring a vast amount of shoveling, and low pay. It was Rose who said he had not been able to get work for a month or six weeks and if it had not been for aid weeks and if it had not been for aid

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SNOW FAMINE BROKEN WITH 2-IN. SNOWFALL

MOUNTAIN STREAMS WILL NO LONGER DIMINISH IN QUANTITY.

LA GRANDE IS PROVIDED WITH WHITE CHRISTMAS

Wheat Growers Look Upon Snowfall as Savior of Their Crops — New Marks for Snow Shortage Set — Chinook Winds Will Henceforth Bring Forth Added Water Supplies.

Precedent in the way of a "White Christmas" came near being upset yesterday but the elements entered into the game late Christmas day and sifted a few sparkling crystals of snow upon the Grande Ronde valley, in quantities sufficient to give La Grande a really white Christmas—but only part of the day it is true—and when Christmas dinners were over, and the greatest religious holiday of the year was about a matter of history the weather man withdrew the stops and snow fell to the amount of more than two inches. Again today the total was added to, and because the ground was firm underneath, it will require but a little more to make good sleighing.

Aside from the White Christmas feature, the snow marks the end—at least a halt—in the prevailing snow famine. It means there will be no further diminishing of the mountain streams and in case of warm or chinook winds, the streams will be replenished. Heretofore such winds would be of no avail for there was no snow to melt. The storm also marks the end of the longest season without snow in the mountains in the memory of may old settlers. This is true not only in this county but all over the northwest where the last of November and all of December usually see deep snow on the foothills and mountains.

The farmers look upon the storm as their savior. Wheat was in a precarious condition due to the long period of unprotection. Even as it is there has probably been some damage done. The blanket which fell last night will protect, while it lasts, the bounteous wheat fields of this valley and elsewhere as well.

The snowfall which was accompanied by a high wind yesterday, did not prevent La Grande from enjoying Christmas to the fullest extent. The church programs were well attended, the Elks tree yesterday afternoon was a great success and the Eagle's tree last evening was in every respect more than was anticipated. Charitable work was carried on to the fullest extent, and all-in-all it was a very enjoyable Christmas to everyone.

Eagles, and their friends, last evening enjoyed a visitation from Santa Claus at their lodge rooms. The evening was taken up with a program of children's recitations, music and other suitable numbers. Santa Claus brought a little gift, some oranges and candies to each child present, and made of himself a generally good fellow to the 175 children—and parents too, came in for their share. The Eagles sought out, in their respective neighborhoods, especially such children as were not overly well supplied with Christmas goodies at home.

Elks Treat 812.

The Elks played Santa Claus yesterday to 812 children of the city who had been invited to partake of the hospitality of the lodge at their annual Christmas tree. Including the older folks who were in attendance at the program it is conservatively

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BIG FILIPINO UPRISING AT MANILA NIPPED IN THE BUD

Manila, Dec. 26.—Eight Filipinos are under arrest and more arrests are considered likely in what appears to have been a concerted attempt at a local uprising in the native quarters yesterday.

It is said that army officers were warned in advance and that the number of conspirators are being placed at 19,000. The attempt was a complete fiasco.

All native gatherings were quickly dispersed in various places and today, from all indications, the authorities had the situation well in hand. The plot is attributed to activities of

Arenio Ricarte, a Filipino, who is in exile in Hong Kong.

Cupid Busy at Christmas Time.

Cupid has been a busy little body the past two days making hearts happy at the Christmas time, five licenses to wed having been issued from the county clerk's office since Wednesday noon. The contracting parties in the five events are Harrison M. Lewis and Bernice Oliver; John M. Crawford and Olive Johnson; Clarence E. Gibson and Nora V. Duckett; Oscar C. Butzien and Mary E. Williams; Charles Jordan and Mary Williams.