

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- PRINTS THE NEWS THE DAY IT HAPPENS

VOLUME XIV.

LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1914.

NUMBER 174

AMERICA TO DEMAND PAY FOR INJURY

Wilson Explains Note Sent to English

NO THREATS, HE SAYS, WERE MADE BY SUMMARY OF ALL COMPLAINTS.

FAIR TREATMENT DEMANDED OF ENGLAND TO OUR SHIPS

Startling Note Sent to England Yesterday is Explained in Detail by President Wilson Today—When the War is Over, Monetary Reimbursement and Restitution Expected.

London, Dec. 29.—That the British government would give the most careful consideration to the Washington administration's protests against past treatment of American commerce by the English fleet, was stated at the war office. Such emphasis was laid on this announcement that it is evident the English wanted the good will of the American people.

Washington, Dec. 29.—America intends, after the present war is over, to hold England to strict monetary account for violations of rights of American shipping. This was made plain by President Wilson today in discussing the dispatch sent to England yesterday by the United States government in which it was insisted that England immediately improve her treatment of American commerce.

Restitution Required.
Financial restitution, the president declared, will be demanded, although the note yesterday admitted that such action by England would not be sufficient—reimbursement was insufficient, better treatment was demanded.

No Threats Embraced.
The note sent to England, he said, carried no threat. It insisted merely that England apply the same right to Americans that England has heretofore insisted on in times of war when her own trade was effected. The president explained the note summarized comprehensively a series of complaints, though each individual case had been subject to concrete protest. These protests, he said, will form the basis for demands for damages after the war.

LONG TRIP PLANNED.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Dyal Will Visit the Southeast States.

Tonight Mr. and Mrs. Kossuth Dyal and sons, Kenneth and Komer, leave for an extended tour of the Southeast. They are routed to Jacksonville, Florida, but will stop at Mr. Dyal's old home in Hazlehurst, Ga. While they are in that vicinity Mr. Dyal expects to enjoy an extended hunting trip into Florida, going as far south, probably, as Gainesville.

"We expect to return in a month or two if I have luck shooting a wild turkey," said Mr. Dyal today, while buying his tickets. "I am not coming back until I get the wild turkey though, you can bet on that."

Mr. Dyal has not been home for seven years and the family looks forward with a good deal of interest in their journey.

Returns to Eugene.

George Wiles, who has been spending several months in La Grande, returned this morning to his home in Eugene. While here he has been connected in various ways with the Y. M. C. A., and clerked at the Golden Rule for a time.

County Commissioner Hutchinson Resigns and W. J. Townley Named

James Hutchinson, Union banker and rancher, has resigned his position as county commissioner and W. J. Townley, a Union merchant and stockman, has been named by County Judge Henry to succeed him, the transfer of titles becoming effective at once. Pressing business that kept Mr. Hutchinson away from both regular and special sessions of the court, is given as the reason for the resignation. Mr. Townley will serve two years, his predecessor having outlived just half of his four-year term to which he was elected.

"I accepted Mr. Hutchinson's resignation in view of the fact that he has been unable to attend the sessions of the court frequently," said Judge Henry today. "I also named Mr. Townley as his successor on the recommendation of prominent businessmen in Union. I feel Mr. Townley is well qualified, being a heavy taxpayer and a successful businessman."

The resignation was accompanied by the request that it take effect immediately, and such was the result.

BUSINESS IS CAUSE.

Union Man Says Ranches and Bank Occupy His Time.

Union, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—James Hutchinson today asserted the cause his resignation as county commissioner was that he was too busy with his own affairs. "As cashier of the Union National Bank, and in charge of my different ranch inter-



James Hutchinson, former County Commissioner, of Union, who has resigned his position and is succeeded by W. J. Townley.

ests, I find," said Mr. Hutchinson today, "that I have no time to give to the county and that is what I told the county court. I simply haven't the time to devote to the work, and decided it was best to resign."

W. J. Townley, who succeeds Mr. Hutchinson, is a prominent citizen of Union and like his predecessor, is one of the foremost citizens of Union county. He has not been actively engaged in politics for a number of years.

CROSSWALKS SANDED.

Streets in Slippery Condition Due to Frost Last Night.

Streets and sidewalks were so slippery this morning that it was found necessary to sand the crosswalks in the business section. At various places horses had great difficulty in maintaining foothold.

Street Car Company is Good.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Twenty-five hundred children of employees of a local street railway will be guests tonight of the company at a Christmas festival. The company will supply free transportation and have a Christmas tree with gifts for every child.

THAW, AGAINST WHOM SUPREME COURT RULES, ON FISHING TRIP IN HIS NEW HAMPSHIRE EXILE.



Harry Thaw, perhaps the most notorious prisoner at this time in the United States, who has been in New Hampshire since he escaped from Matteawan Asylum in New York state where he was sentenced for the murder of Stanford White, must be returned to that state. He escaped in an automobile with the aid of several notorious characters of New York City.

CUXHAVEN HOME OF LOCAL FOLKS

AERIAL AND NAVAL RAID SUNDAY INTERESTS MR. AND MRS. POLACK.

ISLAND AND CITY BOTH FAMILIAR TO LA GRANDE

Splendid Bath Resorts Have Been Leveled to Give Clean Sweep.

Friday's daring swoop upon Cuxhaven, Germany, by the English air and sea vessels, is of intense interest to E. Polack, proprietor of the City Grocery & Bakery, this city. He was born and raised in the seaport city at the mouth of the Elbe, and his mother and relations still reside in that city. From the back window of the Polack home in Cuxhaven, the Polacks look out upon the lower Elbe and out over the North Sea to Heligoland. In fact it is only two years ago since Mr. and Mrs. Polack gazed through those windows and walked completely around the red-sand island of Heligoland where the Germans were then building cement seawalls to protect the island from water erosion.

"On our last trip to Germany, two years ago," said Mr. Polack today in discussing the newspaper reports of the approach to Cuxhaven of the English fleet Sunday, "we went out to the fortified fortress and inspected it carefully. The island rises high in the North Sea and is fully protected and mantled with guns. This assures me that the English warships did not get very close to Heligoland, for the guns there could keep them away for a while at least. In view of the fact there was no fighting, it is apparent that the sea-going vessels either did not get close to Cuxhaven or else the fog was unusually heavy."

Bath Resorts Leveled.

"Two weeks ago I received letters from Cuxhaven and learn that it has been found necessary to level the splendid new bath resort buildings on the Strand. They were in the range of guns at the forts at Cuxhaven. The big lighthouse which I have seen daily for years, was also in range and in the way, and it too has come down, so that the monster guns at Cuxhaven and at Heligoland

WESTERN WAR CENTERS ON ALSACE TERRITORY

London, Dec. 29.—Weather having practically stopped all military operations in Northern France and Belgium, the most important war news today is coming from Alsace where General Pau's French forces are advancing, and a Paris dispatch indicates that they are victorious.

It is believed here that the British fleet is about to strike, just where being the secret. Naval experts said that the Christmas Day water and air raid on the Kaiser's naval base at Cuxhaven has proved that there is nothing to be feared from the German Zeppelins and today's advances were to the effect that the utmost activity prevailed in all of England's naval bases, especially those commanding direct routes to the Kaiser's sea stronghold at Heligoland.

may have clean sweep of the ocean and river.

Hamburg No Doubt Object.
"It is clear that the English would like to seize Elbe's mouth and steam into Hamburg. But how this could be done, I am sure I can not understand."

The gas tanks referred to in the news dispatches are evidently gasoline supply stations or Zeppelin stations some distance inland from Cuxhaven. There is only one gas station in that vicinity and that is right in the city."

In view of the fact that the citizens of Cuxhaven are largely well known to Mr. and Mrs. Polack, and in the further fact that their relatives live there, the further developments of sea and aerial attacks on that city will be followed with intense interest by the La Grande people.

Petrograd, Dec. 29.—Warsaw is no longer menaced, the war office unqualifiedly announced. The Germans are said to have attempted in many places along the battle front in Poland to check the Russians, but everywhere they have failed, the war office asserts. That the Germans and Austrians are putting up a stubborn fight, is acknowledged.

Two Miles Reported Gained.
Paris, Dec. 29.—More than two miles have been gained by the allies in Belgium, it is declared officially. The most important progress, it is said, is in the vicinity of Nieupoort, where Franco-Anglo-Belgian forces are reported to have charged German lines after French artillery had shelled them, driving the Teutons beyond St. Georges. Losses on both sides are reported to have been heavy.

Berlin, Dec. 29.—German gains in Russian Poland are claimed in war office reports, but it is admitted they are small ones. This is attributed to the weather conditions, which is reported as unfavorable and rapid progress is impossible. It is intimated however, that another important movement in the eastern war zone is going to occur soon.

The gains referred to are said to be along the lower Vistula and between the Upper Vistula and the Pilica rivers and Southeast of Klonowidz. The situation in the west, said the statement, is unchanged.

HOGS ARE KILLED.

Symptoms of Hydrophobia at Starkey Leads to Fight on Plague.

Additional swine on Starkey Prairie are showing signs of having been infected by the coyote which several weeks ago was slain at Starkey after having bitten several hogs in that vicinity. Some twenty or twenty-five hogs have been quarantined under state jurisdiction, and some of them have been killed and the carcasses burned. As fast as the quarantined animals develop symptoms of hydrophobia they are killed by the owners who are showing every co-operation in isolating the suspected cases and disposing of them as they arise.

Night School Planned for War.
Brainerd, Minn., Dec. 29.—So numerous have illiterate foreigners become since the outbreak of the war forced most foreigners from Canada, that the school board is considering night schools to teach them.

Quaker Collegians Refuse to Drill.
Madison, Wis., Dec. 29.—Military drills are compulsory at the University of Wisconsin. Nevertheless, there is a body of students who don't drill. They are Quakers, and in addition to defying the commandant they meet in the Y. M. C. A. building every Sunday and discuss the advancement of peace ideals. The young Quakers and the officials of the University have not yet settled their differences in this respect.

Braumbaugh Speaks to Teachers.
Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 29.—With education from all parts of Pennsylvania in attendance, the State Educational association opened a three days' convention here today. Governor-elect Martin G. Braumbaugh, of Philadelphia, was one of the principal speakers at the opening session. "Standards in Education; Material Phase," was the subject of discussion at both sessions today. The meetings were held in the Technical High School building.

MERCHANTS IN JUNKET MOOD

EXTENSIVE TRIP UNDER DISCUSSION AT PRESENT.

Merchants Conclave and Then "On to Frisco" Now Talked of.

More extensive in its scope, marked with a greater itinerary and giving La Grande such publicity as has not been her good fortune before, is the outline of a junket which the businessmen of La Grande have taken up in a tentative way. It calls for a businessmen's excursion to the Portland meeting of the State Retail association which met in La Grande last summer, and more than that, looks toward a trip to the Panama exposition at San Francisco. True, the scheme is entirely in an embryonic stage at present but is meeting with general approval. Two years ago La Grande made the state sit up and gasp when she sent a group of businessmen to Medford and into Southern Oregon for the merchant's convention. Not to be undone she repeated the next year with even a greater delegation, and landed the convention at the Albany conclave. Her treatment of the merchants last year rounded out the state-wide publicity, and now comes the even greater "stunt."

The plan as advanced is to attend the meeting in Portland, which is set for some time in February, and then continue the trip by going to the fair. If the plan works out as is suggested by some of the merchants, ladies are to be a part of the junket, and it is expected that many ladies will be seen in the party if it materializes.

The scheme has only lately been brought to life and is entirely subject to revision and revamping, but such as outlined stands the proposed schedule. February is deemed by all to be a satisfactory month for merchants to get away from their business for a protracted period.

Officials of the Merchants' association will be pleased to hear suggestions and opinions on the plan.

Texas Has a Birthday.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 29.—Admission of the "Lone Star" state into the Union 69 years ago today was celebrated.