

La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XIV.

LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1915.

NUMBER 100

FREE BOOKS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS GET BODY BLOW

HOUSE PASSES BILL WHICH REPEALS PRESENT OPTION-AL BOOK LAW.

SINGLE ITEMS VETO MOVEMENT GIVEN AID

Senate Votes to Send the Question to the People—Senate Kills Anti-Lobby Bill Which House Had Previously Passed Almost Unanimously—Senate Much Opposed to it.

Salem, Jan. 26.—Free text books in the state of Oregon were dealt a blow today when the House passed a judiciary committee bill repealing the present law giving each county the option of supplying free books or not.

The House also passed the Blanchard bill allowing civil war veterans to hunt and fish without payment of a license fee.

Amendment Submitted.

By a vote of 17 to 13 the senate passed the Kellaher resolution submitting to the voters the constitutional amendment giving the governor the power of vetoing single items in appropriation bills.

Lobby Bill is Killed.

The Schubel anti-lobby bill passed by the house almost unanimously a few days ago, was killed in the senate. Only two senators voted in favor of it.

LA GRANDEES ON 'SHIP.

Cole and Smith Families, as Well as Faulk Family, Interested.

Several La Grande families were intensely interested in the outcome of the explosion aboard the cruiser San Diego a few days ago. Not only is M. A. Faulk, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Faulk, on the ship, but Conductor and Mrs. Cole, of this city, have a son on the ship, and Mr. and Mrs. Smith of South La Grande have an adopted son aboard. Mr. Cole is a machinist. None of the parents have heard directly from their sons about the details of the recent explosion in which five were killed and many injured.

HORSE STEALING CHARGED

N. L. Halsey Gives Bonds for Appearance Before Grand Jury.

N. L. Halsey was arrested by Union officials yesterday evening on information from Wallawa county charging horse stealing. Halsey was placed under \$500 bond to appear before the February session of the grand jury. He gave bond and is now awaiting investigation into the charges.

Movie Films Take Place of Books.

Cleveland, Jan. 26.—Education under forced draught, founded on the theory that "seeing is believing" and taught exclusively with motion picture films is the purpose of the latest institution of learning here.

Reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, domestic science with all its branches and many other subjects will be taught with the aid of films. Pupils will be enrolled as in other schools. Pencils and paper will be used only for examination at various intervals, and all papers will be graded in the customary manner. The scheme is headed by C. G. Thompson, manager of a film service and is backed by representative business men.

T. R. to Lecture for Unemployed.

New York, Jan. 26.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt will lecture tonight on South America at the Metropolitan opera house for the benefit of the unemployed. He will preface his lecture with remarks upon unemployment. The colonel visited the Municipal Lodging House recently and it was there he got the idea for tonight's lecture.

2 DESTROYERS SUNK WITH ONE ENGLISH SHIP

GERMANS SAW BATTLE FROM THE AIR AND SAY DESTROYERS WENT DOWN.

ENGLAND ANTICIPATES AN AERIAL ATTACK TOMORROW

Reports Issued by Berlin Authorities Say That During Battle in the North Sea Sunday, Two English Destroyers Were Sunk and That Other Boats Were Badly Cut to Pieces.

London, Jan. 26.—England is prepared for a Zeppelin raid tomorrow, the Kaiser's birthday. Defeated in water, the Germans will undoubtedly take to the air, according to the belief of the British government officials. Foundation for the belief is seen in Switzerland dispatches reporting a movement of two new Zeppelins from Germany to the Belgian coast. Bad weather along the coast may delay or prevent the attempt but Britishers are taking no chances.

A fleet of aeroplanes is patrolling the Eastern coast of England and crews at the anti-airship guns have been ordered to remain on duty night and day.

Austrian Deathlist Here.

Washington, Jan. 26.—The Austrian ambassador has received from Vienna a series of printed lists of Austrian casualties in the war, for distribution in the United States. Seventy-five lists are included in the bunch and each contains from 50 to 70 pages. Attached at the embassy didn't estimate the number of soldiers lost but the figures will undoubtedly run into the hundreds of thousands.

GERMANY RENEWS CLAIMS

Says England Lost Cruiser and Two Destroyers in Sea Fight.

Berlin, Jan. 26.—Repeating the claim that a British cruiser was sunk Sunday in the battle in the North sea, and adding it has information that two British destroyers were also sent to the bottom, the war office has

(Continued on Page 4.)

Mother Jones and Rockefeller Hob Nob in Hearing Room

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION WHICH WITNESSED BURIAL OF HATCHET BETWEEN MOTHER JONES AND J. D. ROCKEFELLER JR., TODAY.



From left to right: S. Thurston Ballard of Kentucky, Austin B. Garrettsen of Iowa, James O'Connell of Washington, D. C.; Frank P. Walsh of Missouri, John B. Lennon of Illinois, and Harris Weinstock of California.

Chairman Frank P. Walsh of the Industrial Relations Commission, which has begun an inquiry into the huge Rockefeller, Carnegie, and Sage Foundations, has just made a radical speech in which he attacked aggregations of wealth. He insisted that coal

lands of the west had been stolen by corporations and should be returned to the people. The tenor of his talk indicated that he would use all his influence in the commission to have it decide the big foundations should be dissolved.

War Bulletins

London, Jan. 26.—The Copenhagen correspondent to the Evening Star says a hostile submarine attacked the German Baltic fleet off the coast of Sweden. It is reported that the German light cruiser Gazelle was torpedoed and reached Sassnitz in a sinking condition.

Copenhagen, Jan. 26.—Reports received from Malmö, declared the German light cruiser Gazelle was torpedoed in the Baltic Sea. The extent of the damage is not stated.

Paris, Jan. 26.—Brilliant victory by the British, West of LaBassee and between the Lys and Oise rivers, is announced by the war office. German assaults at these points were thrown back with heavy losses.

PORTER CHARLTON CASE SET FOR JUNE

WHOLE WORLD WILL WATCH
OUTCOME OF LAKE COMO
MURDER PROSECUTION.

VOLUPTUOUS WIFE WILL BE BLAMED FOR CRIME

Defense Has Announced What Line
of Argument Will Ensnare.

Rome, Jan. 26.—One of the tensest dramas ever staged in a court room will be enacted when Porter Charlton, the young American son of former Judge Paul Charlton of Porto Rico, is placed on trial for the murder of his beautiful actress wife, Mary Scott Charlton, at a lonely villa on the shores of Lake Como, June, 1910.

Because of the prominence of both young Charlton and his bride, whom he slew on their honeymoon, the trial will arouse international interest. Sensational charges and counter-charges will be hurled at the jury of

(Continued on Page 7.)

become a bar to the development of Oregon as well as a severe hardship on all of the taxpayers; and

Whereas, it is reported that the budget of appropriations for the maintenance of state institutions is one million dollars higher than the budget which was submitted to the Legislature two years ago; and

Whereas, most of the members of the Legislature have been elected on a platform of economy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LA GRANDE COMMERCIAL CLUB That it does most earnestly beseech each of the representatives of Union county as well as all of the members of the Legislature that they use every means in their power to secure substantial reductions in the matter of appropriations. That they consider the fact that Oregon cannot develop as long as it has the highest per capita tax of any state in the union, and the said members of the Legislature can do nothing which will be for the greater development of our commonwealth than to reduce the present excessive tax rate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That copies of this resolution be sent to each member of the Oregon Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That copies of this resolution be sent to the other commercial clubs which are members of the Oregon Development League with a suggestion that they take cognizance of the same.

TWO VESSELS COLLIDE; BOTH SINK QUICKLY

ONE MAN DROWNED BUT LINGER, STANDING BY, SAVES THREE SCORE.

IMPACT SO HARD THAT RESCUE IS DIFFICULT

Schooner Rama Into Steamer Washingtonian and Both Sink, the Steamer Going Down First—Crew and Passengers Saved With Greatest Difficulty—Escape Miraculous.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 26.—Two vessels were sent to the bottom and one man perished when the schooner, Elizabeth Palmer, collided with the steamship Washingtonian off Cape Henry today.

The shock of the collision was so great that the Washingtonian went down immediately and the Palmer foundered shortly afterward.

The liner Hamilton rescued the crews of both vessels, excepting one man. Extreme difficulty was experienced in getting the crews and passengers off the ships. Those who escaped say miraculous luck attended them. No blame has been placed even by the survivors.

Today is Great Day for Birthdays

Washington, Jan. 26.—Today is the birthday of a state, a library, and a senator. Michigan is the state, being admitted into the Union on Jan. 26, 1837. The library is the Library of Congress, the most complete institution of its kind in the world. Congress bought Thomas Jefferson's private library of 7,000 volumes for the use of Congress on Jan. 26, 1815. Senator Oliver of Pennsylvania is celebrating his 66th birthday. And, in addition to these, the Caledonian club and other Scottish organizations will honor tonight the memory of Robert Burns, today being his birthday.

Stenographers Seek Jobs with U. S.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Stenographers and typewriters for the government service are being examined throughout the country today. The entrance salary averages \$720 a year. Thousands are being examined.

FAMED 27 HEPPNER T-S CLAIM APPLICATIONS ARE CANCELLED

The land office has received a final order from the Secretary of the Interior, directing the cancellation of 27 timber and stone entries which have been in litigation under government proceedings for more than ten years. These entries are located near Heppner, Oregon, and practically all of the land involved is now withdrawn for national forest purposes and will be reserved from further entry. In connection with all these cases, the Northwest Timber company appeared as the transferee. This company was organized about 1903, by David Wilson, of Spokane, Wash., J. W. Scriber, formerly of La Grande and Cashier of The Farmers and Traders National Bank; S. W. Spencer and Harrison Hale, of Heppner, Oregon. The entrymen in these cases were located by Ayers and McSwords and Harrison Hale, of Heppner, Ore. The government appeared as bringing proceedings in the nature of a protest, but no action was taken for several years on account of the inability of the government to secure evidence. McSwords and Ayers the prominent factors in the location of these people, were both drowned in the Heppner flood which occurred on June 14, 1903.

In addition to the above 27 entries, unpatedented, there were 76 on which patent was issued. The government brought a suit in equity in the United States court for the cancellation of these 76 patents, and proceedings were brought in the Land Department

to cancel the 27 entries on which patent had not been issued.

Under this final order, in all probability, the money paid by the respective applicants to the government will be declared forfeited, and the Northwest Timber company will perhaps lose all the money invested in the purchase of these lands from the respective entrymen.

Church Workers Want Alabama Dry.

Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 26.—To frame a law providing for state-wide prohibition, hundreds of delegates to the Alabama Anti-Saloon League convention are in session here today. Church and Sunday school workers are predominant. The convention will last two days and will urge the passage of the law by the state legislature.

Durkee Woman Dies at Weiser.

Durkee, Jan. 25.—On a visit to her daughter, Mrs. E. A. Vansicklin, at Weiser, Mrs. Ellen Leonard died yesterday morning at the age of 70 years. The deceased had long been a resident on a farm near this place. Four children survive her, Mrs. E. A. Vansicklin of Weiser and Mrs. Sid Storey of Durkee, Wm. Leonard of Durkee and Edward Leonard of Tacoma.

COMMERCIAL CLUB DIRECTORS NAME J. G. SNODGRASS CHIEF

J. G. Snodgrass now heads the La Grande commercial club, the organization of the newly elected executive committee placing Mr. Snodgrass in that position last night, seconded by Fred B. Curry as vice-president and H. E. Dixon treasurer. A committee on membership was also named at this time to consist of Geo. Young, chairman; Fred Curry, E. S. Norris, A. V. Andrews and C. E. Emahiser. This committee will at once make a canvass of the city in an effort to bring the membership of the club up to where it should stand.

At the meeting last night it was also decided that it would be to the best interests of the club's work to move the office of the secretary to a location affording a window for the display of Grande Ronde valley products in connection with the "patronize home industries" campaign.

Resolutions were also adopted at this meeting condemning the extravagance which has produced the excessive taxation in the state and urging upon the legislators the necessity of economizing. The resolution, copies of which were sent to all members of



J. G. Snodgrass.

the legislature, reads as follows:

Whereas, taxes for State purposes in Oregon have increased 350 per cent during the past ten years with a corresponding increase of population of but 32 per cent; and

Whereas, the per capita tax of Oregon is now the highest per capita tax of any state in the union; and

Whereas, the excessive tax rate has