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GERMANS ARE USING LIQUID FIRE IN FRANCE

BOMBS THROWN UP BY MORTARS DROP SHEETS OF FIRE ON MEN

SOLDIERS SCREAM WITH PAIN FIRE OCCASIONS

Russians Have Opened a New Offensive in the Eastern Front Berlin Admits—Struggle in the Strait Approaching Constantinople Grow Worse and Fleet Gradually Works In.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Liquid fire has been used by Germans as an instrument of war against the French it is officially announced. It is declared this weapon of death was thrown on the advance French trenches near Bors de Malancourt between Argonne and the Meuse river. Several hundred French soldiers were burned by the flaming liquid which was dropped by bombs thrown up by German mortars. The clothing of the troops was set afire and they ran to other trenches screaming with agony.

Straights Fight Bitter. Athens, Feb. 27.—With parts of the land batteries along the Dardanelles destroyed the attempt of the Anglo-French fleet to force the straight guarding Constantinople was continued this morning. Two forts inside the straight are being subjected to a terrific fire, and although several vessels of the allied fleet have been hit, advice indicates the damage was slight. The last reports show the bombardment is increasing in intensity.

New Offensive Is Opened. Berlin, Feb. 27.—A new and powerful Russian offensive in Poland is announced. New Slav forces, it is admitted, have appeared on the fighting line and the Russians have started a series of violent assaults against various villages but these, the Germans say have been repulsed. A large force of Russians and Germans are battling in the swamps with no decisive result.

MRS. CROSSMAN DEAD

Former La Grande Lady Dies of Apoplexy at Walla Walla

Word was received in La Grande today of the death of Mrs. Adam Crossman at Walla Walla last evening. Apoplexy is announced as the cause of death. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Adam Crossman made their home in this city and they are remembered by a large number of intimate friends.

It is expected the funeral will be held at Walla Walla.

NEW SCHOOL LAWS

Teachers Have Several Changes to Adhere to Hereafter.

Important phases of the new school law, set out in circulars to the county superintendents of the state by State Superintendent Churchill, are announced to Union county teachers today. Mrs. A. E. Ivahoe, superintendent here, has codified such as are of the most importance. These include that effective May 22 this year, physiology will be substituted for physical geography in the one-year papers. The summer teachers' examinations will be held the last Wednesday in June instead of the third Wednesday as heretofore. These changes are set out in Senate bill No. 85.

Many Homestead Entries.

At the La Grande land office the following homestead entries were made today: Roy S. Dawson, Echo; William B. Hinton, Hamilton, Oregon; Aaron H. Davis, Baker, Oregon; Mamie S. Howard, Durkee. Guy B. Wyrick, of Pendleton, applied for two isolated tracts today in this land district.

TODAY'S ODDER STORY.

Creepie Creek, Colo., Feb. 27.—There are thirty hogs in the Bismark ranch pens that know all the joys of a "hog spree," and also the terrors of a "hang over."

A bottle containing a morphine solution is believed to have been thrown into their swill barrel by a prisoner in the county jail when authorities were making a search. After a hearty meal, the hogs staged a perfect "jag" in their pens. They slept an entire day in attempting to get rid of the hang over.

TRIST'S MEMORY IS DEFENDED BY DAUGHTER.



Lillie Jackson

The memory of the late John J. Jackson of West Virginia will be defended by his daughter, Miss Lillie Jackson, from implications of misconduct that have come up in the congressional investigation into charges made against Federal Judge Alston G. Dayton of West Virginia.

Judge Dayton succeeded Judge Jackson on the federal bench, and Jackson's name has been brought into the investigation.

DEATH CLAIMS F. P. CHILDERS

PIONEER CITIZEN AND EX-OFICIAL DEAD.

Illness of Several Months' Duration Comes to Sudden End.

After a prolonged illness of many months, but just after a very noticeable improvement which permitted the patient to play his violin a few days ago, and to dress and go to his supper last night, death this morning at 4:15 ended the life of Frank P. Childers. Bright's disease has held him a victim for months but of late he has shown some improvement.

Frank Childers was 56 years of age, August 15th. When he was 18 years of age he was married into the pioneer Baker family and his widow survives. Mr. Childers was himself a pioneer for he came across the plains with his parents in 1865 and lived in this county continuously. He was city marshal of La Grande for five years, and was sheriff for six. He was a member of the Odd Fellows for a period of 27 years and was also a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Elks. He was the youngest of a large family of boys, those still living being Cyrus of Arizona, John of California, James of Enterprise, and George of La Grande. He is survived by his widow and several children who are Mrs. C. A. Wagner of Lewiston, Miss Olive Childers, La Grande, Wallace of Portland, and Merrill of La Grande, one grandchild, Adlarose.

The funeral will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Methodist church under auspices of the Odd Fellows and Elks. The body will lie in state from 12 to 2:20 at the church. The funeral arrangements are being supervised by J. C. Henry, undertaker in charge.

F. S. BRAMWELL IS ILL

Enlarged Liver and Other Ailments are Reported.

F. S. Bramwell, formerly of La Grande, but of late one of the managers of the Hotel Oregon in Portland, is reported to be very ill and is confined to his bed. This message came yesterday to his son, F. C. Bramwell, of the land office, and last night Chester Bramwell, another son who is employed in the city ticket office of the O. W. R. & N. Co. left for Portland to be with his father.

An enlarged liver and other ailments are the direct cause of Mr. Bramwell's illness and while it is not thought his condition is dangerous, it is well known that he is suffering a great deal of pain and is a very sick man.

MAKING IMPROVEMENTS.

Lee's Grocery Joins the Procession of Spring.

Some very effective improvements are being made at the Lee grocery on the north side of the railroad. A thorough painting and renovating is being given the building and rearrangement of the stock adds much to the appearance of the store.

Portland Promotion Scheme Ends In Indictment of Nine Instigators

Worthless Stock Held by 4000 People Cost Million and a Quarter

Portland, Feb. 27.—Charging gross fraud and use of mails to promote it, nine former officers and salesmen of the defunct United States Cashier company have been indicted by the federal grand jury.

The indicted officers were Frank

Menefee, F. M. Le Monn and Thomas Bilyeau of Hillsboro, Oregon and Oscar Campbell of Eugene.

The indictments allege that 4000 persons own practically worthless stock which cost them nearly a million and a quarter.

GRAND PRIX RUN IN HEAVY RAIN ON SLIPPERY COURSE

San Francisco, Feb. 27.—The Grand prix automobile race, the feature of the opening month of the Panama exposition, was started at 10:30 at the exposition grounds today. Thirty cars began the long grueling drive. The total distance to be covered by the drivers is about 300 miles over an inclosed track 3.9053 miles long.

It took ten minutes to get the cars started and the fun was on.

The first prize is \$3,000; second \$2,000 and third \$1,500.

The track was slippery caused by a driving rain.

Resta in a Peugeot, was leading at the end of the 30th lap, having set a mark of one hour 57 minutes and 29 seconds, an average of 58 miles an hour. He was followed by the following drivers in the order named: Hughes, Alley, Grant, Wilson, Pullen and De Palma.

Following is a partial list of the starters:

Name of Car	Name of Driver
Stutz	Gl Anderson
Stutz	Earl Cooper
Stutz	"Howdy" Wilcox
Peugeot	Darbo Resta
Peugeot	Jack McCarthy
Peugeot	Eddie Pullen
Peugeot	G. E. Ruckstall
Peugeot	Louis Nikrent
Peugeot	Louis Disbrow
Peugeot	Jack Le Cain
Peugeot	Barney Oldfield
Peugeot	William Carlson
Peugeot	Ed. Rickenbacker
Peugeot	Edward O'Donnell
Peugeot	Tom Alley
Peugeot	C. R. Newhouse
Peugeot	Jack Gable
Peugeot	Lou Gandy
Peugeot	Captain Kennedy
Peugeot	Caleb Bragg
Peugeot	J. B. Marquis
Peugeot	Jim Parsons
Peugeot	R. C. Durant
Peugeot	Ralph DePalma
Peugeot	Arthur H. Klein
Peugeot	G. C. Bergdell
Peugeot	Thomas McKelvey
Peugeot	Eddie Hearne
Peugeot	Bob Burman
Peugeot	Harold Hall
Peugeot	T. A. Tomasini
Peugeot	Wilson

College Teams Meet.

Princeton, N. J., Feb. 27.—Princeton and Georgetown were to meet today in a two mile relay race and other events.

Off for His Ranch.

Lowell Williamson harnessed up his work team yesterday and with a camp outfit started for his ranch in the Lookout Mountain country of Baker county. He expects to remain there during the Spring and Summer and put in a crop. Lowell took up this land last year and is enthusiastic over the opportunity for developing one of the good ranches of Baker county.

Mat Experts to Clash.

New York, Feb. 27.—Yale wrestlers came to New York today to meet Columbia University mat artists tonight.

CARLE ABRAMS SUCCEEDS FERN

Salem, Feb. 27.—Governor Withcombe has accepted Fern Hobbs' resignation to take effect May 22 and has appointed Carle Abrams of Salem as her successor.

Mr. Abrams is connected with the Salem Statesman, being one of the well known editors of the state. Miss Hobbs was a West appointee.

Legislature Battle on One Cent.

St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 27.—Bitter debates and full legislative regalia

SAUCY TALK IN ENGLAND NOT RELISHED HERE

BRITISH ATTITUDE, IT IS ADMITTED, HASN'T LENT ANY OPTIMISM.

FOOD EMBARGO IDEA STILL HANGING FIRE

Now Believed That President and His Cabinet Have Taken Serious Thought Over the Embargo on Food to All Belligerents—Officials at Washington Still Secretive Over Notes.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The administration officials are still secretive regarding negotiations with England and Germany concerning protection of neutral commerce in the war zone in shipments of food to civilians in the belligerent countries. It is admitted the published advice regarding the attitude of Great Britain doesn't lend optimism to the situation.

Talk of establishing an embargo against exportation of foodstuffs continues. That such action has been considered by the president and cabinet is strongly indicated by the reticence of one official who ordinarily would deny it if such discussions had not occurred.

COMPROMISE BILL PUT UP TO CONGRESS

NO ATTEMPT MADE TO GET SHIP PURCHASE BILL THROUGH TODAY.

FURTHER DELAY ORDERED IN HOPES OF A VICTORY

Conference Committee Submits New Administration Ship Purchase Bill—Rubles Name Upheld Until Further Inquiry Has Been Made—All Other Nominees Have Been Sanctioned.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The conference of the house and senate has reported a compromise government ship purchase bill to both houses.

Administration leaders have decided to delay final action on the bill until next week instead of trying to push it through today. The conference report will come up in the house Monday and will probably be adopted there. Debate will undoubtedly be limited to an hour there.

Rubles Name Held Up.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Favorable reports on all the president's nominees to membership on the Federal Trade commission exception of George Rubles, was made by the special substitute committee appointed to investigate them. Further hearing of Rubles qualifications will be held Monday.

Seaman's Bill Passes.

The senate today passed the Seaman's bill without a roll call. It has already passed the house.

Big Diamond Sold.

The large diamond which was on display here when J. H. Pearce & Son held their jewelry auction last fall was sold a few days ago and a jewelry trade paper has the following to say regarding the sale:

A diamond weighing just 144 carats was sold in this city two weeks ago by Percy H. Greer. Considering the wonderful size of the stone, it was almost free from any flaw, except under a loup a very slight carbon speck could be seen. The stone is a veritable ball of fire and was beautifully mounted in a fine Tiffany-platinum setting as a ring, which a lady of this city will wear. The stone was once traded for a piece of real estate in Ocean Park, California. The real estate was appraised at \$4900. Four years afterwards the realty sold for \$10,000. The stone has changed hands since for \$3200 cash. What Greer obtained it for he does not state. Anyway he is chuckling over the fact that he sold the largest diamond that has been sold in many a year. Greer had the diamond in Oregon a few months ago, and a jeweler of Portland was willing to pay a certain sum for a loan of the stone for exhibition purposes.

Automobile Burned Up.

The large automobile belonging to C. J. Forsstrom was destroyed on the Homer Bidwell hill Saturday evening last, says the Union Republican. The car did not take the hill just right and Mr. Forsstrom got out to see what was the matter. Mrs. Forsstrom alighting at the same time. He went to the rear of the car and struck a match to light the rear lamp, when there was a puff and the machine was in flames in a moment. It is needless to say that the auto was entirely destroyed. Mr. Forsstrom has another machine on the way.

Two Down, Two Cigars.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 27.—The modern goblin of legislation is now after the old-fashioned "ball dodger" of amusement park and county fair fame. Assembly Mulligan believes engaging in this strenuous pastime should constitute a misdemeanor. His bill with such an effort is now pending in the state legislature. Mulligan declares that professional ball tossers have lately made the game exceedingly dangerous for white "dodgers" and even for their more popular colored brothers.

Superior Hears La Grande.

A postcard from Boise to O. M. Heacock of this city tells of a man in Superior, Wisconsin clearly hearing wireless messages sent out by Mr. Heacock here recently. As Mr. Heacock's name had not been entered on the last government guides. The Superior man wrote to the nearest point to La Grande which he knew and tells of distinctly hearing the La Grande messages. The distance is 1260 miles.

Plan Farm Bureau.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 27.—Plans for the establishment of a farm bureau here are today being perfected by the local chamber of commerce. The purpose of the bureau will be the reduction of the cost of living and the peopling of the vacant farms at Albany county.

AMERICAN FLEET READY FOR ALL EMERGENCIES.



The American fleet—all of it that counts for anything—is ready for action. It has rendezvoused off Cuba and Florida. Fortunately, the preparation for the parade through the Panama Canal has made it possible for the fleet to gather without exciting European imagination. This map shows the location of the great vessels. Many more are being fitted out at the navy yards. Civilians and naval men are working overtime at the New York navy yard, though no order has been issued to them to get ready.