

La Grande Evening Observer

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Chinese Accused of Shooting Wong Duck

DEPOSITION BY WOUNDED BARES FACTS

**AUTHORITIES ARREST HALF
DOZEN PROMINENT CHINESE
RESIDENTS TODAY.**

**ONE OF THOSE UNDER
ARREST IS IMPORTED**

Deposition Given by Man Now in Hospital Says White Men Had Nothing to Do With the Matter and that Tong War is Brewing is Clear—Innocence Stoutly Maintained.

White men did not shoot the aged Chinaman Sunday evening. Robbery was not the intent of the ones making the assault. Chinamen did the shooting, and the Commercial success of the store, was the cause.

These and other things are set out in a deposition given today by Wong Won Duck who lies at the hospital suffering from his wounds with little chance of recovery.

That he gave out the story of white men doing the shooting for the purpose of allaying the suspicion of the guilty Chinamen so they would not leave the city, is admitted by the injured man today.

Several Rounded Up. Late this afternoon Sheriff Hug, Chief of Police Orsi and deputies from both offices, rounded up and arrested a number of Chinamen who by the deposition of Wong made this morning are implicated in the attempted murder of Sunday night.

While several of the arrested Chinamen deny in the strongest Chinese dialect any connection with the crime, the sheriff decided to let the court thrash out the guilty ones, rather than take the Chinese statement of innocence.

The arrests this afternoon are based upon the sworn statement of Wong Won Duck made at the hospital this morning. Behind this deposition is common knowledge of the enmity existing against the old man and his commercial enterprises.

Jim Livermore, one of the arrested, has been connected with a store, grill and tenement house here for several years. Later he imported William Eng, another one of the arrested, a Chinaman from Chicago, who has been actively engaged with Livermore and whom, it is understood, has stood in Livermore's place in many of the local Chinese rows.

Another of the arrested Chinamen is Fong, a stranger Chinese, who is thought to have been imported recently in connection with brewing Chinese tong wars in this city. Fong is a heavy set, fat man, and has been on the streets but little since coming here. He is not one of the Fongs who make their home in La Grande.

The charges that the Chinese, brought in with the sheriff's drag net this afternoon, will have to answer probably are assault with intent to kill or conspiracy against the life of Wong Won Duck.

Tong War Apparent

There is now little doubt that La Grande has a Tong war. One Tong faction is opposed to the old man and his business as run by his nephew, and in times past has been threats made on the life of them both.

The new Oriental club seems to be antagonistic and it is asserted that spies have been set out repeatedly to watch the Chinese store that is so objectionable to the ones who operate the Oriental club.

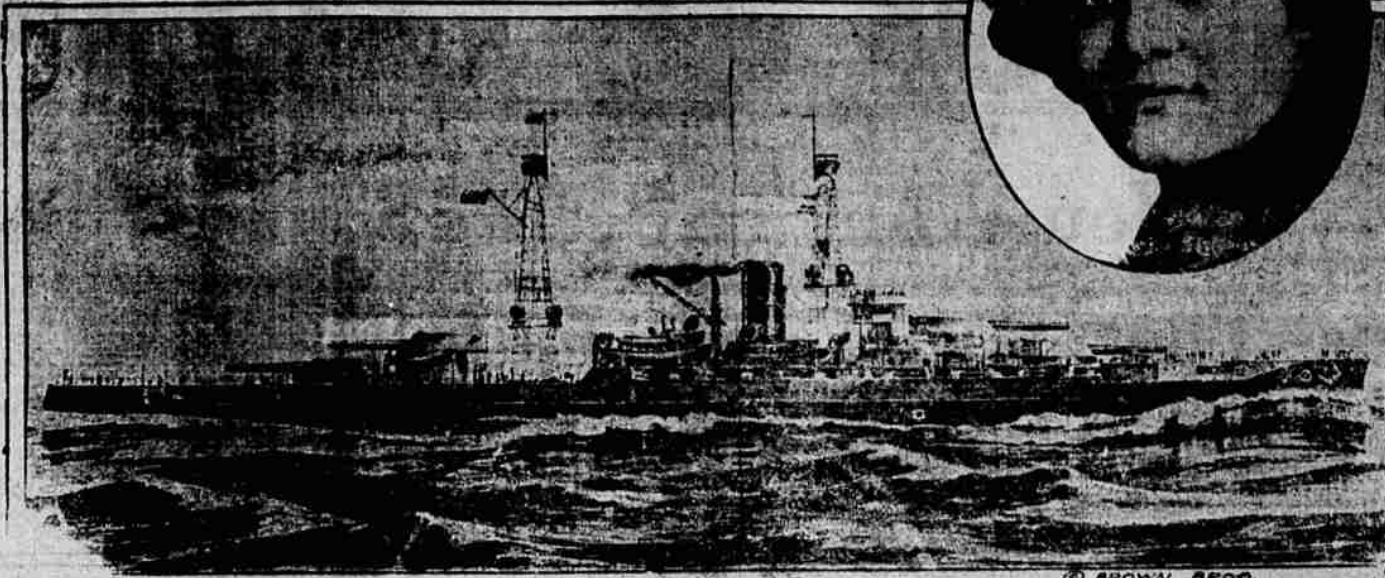
The competition among the Chinese has been very severe and to gain business from each other at any hazard has been the program.

It is admitted by all familiar with the Chinese section of the city that the old Chinaman who was shot and the China boys who stay at his store are quiet and peaceful and do not indulge in hostilities that have been in times past practiced by the other Tong faction.

At 4:10 p. m. Lem Yuen, clerk at the new Chinese store, was placed under arrest. He is a prominent Oriental club officer.

MASTER OF ALL AFLOAT

The Pennsylvania Slips From Ways and Wilson Hopes it Won't be Used



AMERICA'S GREATEST BATTLESHIP AND GIRL WHO CHRISTENED HER TODAY.

SNIPERS SHOOT AT AMERICANS

**CARRANZA MAY NOT KEEP HIS
WORD AGAIN**

First Reported Blockade Would be Raised, Then Doubled.

Galveston, March 16.—Passengers arriving here on the Steamer City of Tampico declare a boat from the American warship Delaware was fired on by snipers from Vera Cruz Wednesday night. There were no casualties. The boat had been calling at port for Captain Rogers and was fired on by a dozen rifles both going in and coming out.

Washington, March 16.—General Carranza has bowed to the demands of the United States and has raised the blockade on the port of Progreso, in Yucatan. John Stillman, special consular agent, has notified Bryan of this fact.

Carranza took this action following dispatch of the American note threatening to have the cruiser Des Moines prevent interference with American commerce. The action assures agricultural interests in the United States that there will be no shortage of sisal, the base from which binder twine is made.

Carranza May Change Mind.

Washington, March 16.—Fears that Carranza intends to renew the blockade at Progreso, the principal port in Yucatan, are expressed late this evening when the state department received messages announced the gunboat Zaragosa had left Vera Cruz Monday.

PISTOL SHOTS WOUND.

**Baker Woman Toys with Revolver,
and is Badly Wounded.**

Baker, March 15.—While toying with a 30 caliber Tuger automatic pistol at 8:30 o'clock last night, at their residence in the Modern Woodmen hall, Mrs. N. H. Stewart, wife of Dr. Stewart, shot herself through the left side of the body, the bullet piercing the stomach. She was rushed to St. Elizabeth's hospital at once and Dr. W. L. Parker, the attending physician, says that there is an excellent chance for her recovery.

The accident occurred at about 8:30 last evening, while Dr. Stewart was at the Eagles' club. Mrs. Stewart was alone at the time, and Dr. Stewart states that it was his custom to leave a gun with her for protection, whenever he was away. He says that she has been very nervous for some time.

Mrs. Stewart told her husband this morning that the shooting was entirely accidental. Her left hand was badly powder burned, indicating that she had both hands on the weapon at the time of the discharge.

Newport News, March 16.—To the accompaniment of cheers of a vast throng and the shrieking of sirens on vessels in the harbor, the United States dreadnaught Pennsylvania the most powerful fighting ship, was launched at the navy yard at 10:13 this morning. Despite the fact that the launching follows Britain's "Might makes right" declaration, establishing a blockade in Germany and putting restrictions on neutral shipping, Secretary Daniels of the navy department in his address declared "President Wilson hopes that the Pennsylvania will never be called upon to demonstrate her prowess in war."

Miss Elizabeth Kolp described by Governor Brumbaugh as the sweetest girl in Pennsylvania christened the ship.

Miss Kolp is a student at the National Park Seminary in Washington. She is the daughter of Louis J. Kolb, a former president of the Poor Richard Club of Philadelphia.

The battleship is 600 feet long with a beam of 97 feet; she will be just able to squeeze through the Panama Canal if she is sent that way.

to the Pacific Ocean. She is of 31,000 tonnage, considerably larger than the Queen Elizabeth, Britain's great new battleship, which has been chiefly instrumental in taking the forts of the Dardanelles. The cost of the vessel, when completed, will be about \$14,000,000.

W. A. JONES HERE.

Joint Representative Back in His District Business During Day.

Joint Representative W. A. Jones, a member of the last legislature, is in La Grande today on business. This is the first time he has been back in his district since the legislature adjourned, having been spending considerable time in Portland and Salem since then. Mr. Jones is optimistic about landing the secretaryship of the state fair board, and stated today the outlook was bright for him. A Portland paper yesterday announced that the board was for him, at least a majority of it, but another Portland paper yesterday evening predicted the election of Maris is in line for the position. As a result the contest has become all the more intense.

THAW'S FREEDOM DENIED

New York, March 16.—Harry K. Thaw will not be returned to New Hampshire from which he was extradited, to stand trial on a charge of conspiracy to escape from Matteawan,

upon which charge he was found not guilty.

The motion filed by Thaw's counsel when he was acquitted on the conspiracy charge, to the effect that he be set free, was denied by Supreme Justice Page today.

Brand New Auto "Thrown In" When Big Cove Ranch is Sold

Two hundred and eighty acres—some of the very best farms in Grande Ronde valley, was added to the Conley possessions last evening when F. J. Holmes, representing the F. J. Holmes estate, transferred the old homestead ranch near Cove to A. B. Conley.

It took Mr. Conley and Mr. Holmes just fifteen minutes to make the deal whereby this 280 acres changed title and \$28,000 passed from Mr. Conley to the Holmes estate.

When the agreement had been made, it is reported and has not been denied, Mr. Holmes said to Mr. Conley: "Well, A. B. I want you to buy a drink like they used to in early days when a big trade was made, but I will invite you to have a six-cylinder Studebaker car."

The oldtime chivalry of the paragon prompted Mr. Conley not to refuse a treat from his friend of a quarter century acquaintance, and he very gracefully entered the car, stepped on the accelerator and with "Here's good luck, Fred," road away.

Ranch Is a Fine One

The L. R. Holmes homestead was taken up 45 years ago and as time went on more land was added to the possessions until it amounted to 280

acres. During all of these years it has remained the property of the Holmes family. Improvements have been made from time to time until today the massive trees planted by the Holmes boys when they were youngsters ornament the farm. Spring water is piped to the various buildings and electric lights have been installed, making it an ideal country home.

George Holmes, who has lived on the farm for a number of years will remove to Enterprise where he has a large ranch.

In speaking of the transfer made yesterday F. J. Holmes, of this city said: "It was like parting with a member of the family. That was home to our family for a long time; every tree on the ranch carries the personal touch of the one who planted it; the springs, the paths, the meadow—all of these present themselves to me now that the property is passing from our name, and the happy boyhood days down on the farm once now seem a reality. I am glad that A. B. Conley is getting the ranch. No man in Union county appreciates a good piece of land more than I do."

F. A. HARMON ON THE STAND

**SAYS MUNICIPAL COMPETITION
WOULD RUIN FIRM.**

Rate Hearing at Baker Yesterday Centers About Harmon's Story.

Baker, March 16.—That the city of Baker by building a municipal power plant to enter the local field as a competitor of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company, could put the latter company out of business, was the testimony of General Manager F. A. Harmon, of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company at the hearing of the company's rate case before the state railroad commission yesterday. Mr. Harmon was one of the principal witnesses heard yesterday, being on the stand a portion of the time at both the afternoon and evening sessions.

Mr. Harmon's testimony was an admission that the city has the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company "over a barrel," and in reply to a question by Attorney John L. Rand, frankly admitted that a division of the business in Baker meant bankruptcy and receivership for his company. He further stated that the recent reduction in the rates was voluntarily made by his company, but that the city commissioners stipulated the rate the Eastern Oregon Power company must make, in return for which a special election to vote on a bond issue to build the municipal plant would not be called.

Relative to the possible raising of the present rates by the railroad commission when ruling is made in the present investigation, Mr. Harmon states that no matter whether or not the present rates are raised by the commission, it is not the intention of the company to take advantage of it, but to let the rates remain where they are. "Frankly speaking," said Mr. Harmon, "competition with the city in selling electric power to the consumer of Baker means ruination for the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company. Figuring that competition between my company and the city would divide the business equally, we could not operate at a profit. The situation is such that we have no alternative but to make the best terms we can in order to keep the city from the field as a competitor."

Mr. Dixon, city attorney of La Grande, interposed at this point and asked Mr. Harmon if a similar reduction would be made in La Grande if the city threatened to build a municipal plant and become a competitor of the company in the Union county metropolis. "We will not cross that bridge until we get to it," was the reply.

Mr. Harmon testified that when the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company purchased the interests of

ITALIANS BAN MONEY ORDERS INTO GERMANY

**AUSTRIANS CUT OFF BY SIMILAR
ORDER FROM HOME LAST
NIGHT**

**PORTE STRENGTHENS ITS
BOSPHORUS FORTIFICATION**

Allied troops landed and are now marching overland toward Smyrna, and Constantinople will double barricaded against the Black Sea fleet.—Germans win a point.

Rome March 16.—Money order service between Italy and Germany was suspended today by a formal order of the Italian minister of post and telegraph. The action followed a similar action in relation to telegraphic money orders with Austria, issued last night. Traveling post offices on trains to the Austrian frontier which indirectly affected communication with Germany, from Italy, are also ordered suspended.

London, March 16.—Halting by British of the first neutral vessel, marking the enforcement of a blockade of the entire German coast, announced in their latest order-in-council, is hourly expected. The vessel will be conveyed into the nearest port and the first test of the strength of the order in neutral protests will follow.

Great activity is evident at the admiralty. Preparations are being rushed to make the blockade "airtight" before many hours and it is announced that enough British and French warships will be off the German coast to make the blockade effective. The purpose of the newest frigate in the blockade is to shut off the shipments to Germany through the Scandinavian countries or through Holland.

Text Reaches Bryan.

Washington, March 16.—Secretary of State Bryan has received from Ambassador Page at London the official text of the British order-in-council, establishing a blockade in Germany. The document consists of about 1800 words. It is understood that the press version announced yesterday represented it correctly.

Athens, March 16.—Fervish preparations to defend the straits of Bosphorus against an attack by the Russian Black sea fleet, are being made by Turkish officials, according to advices received here.

Guns of enormous caliber are being mounted on the heights near Scutair and other elevations, supplementing the permanent fortifications along the narrow passage.

Expedition Now on Shore.

Reports are circulated that a part of the allied expeditionary force recently sent to participate in the fighting in the near-east, has been landed in Asia Minor and is proceeding overland to Smyrna.

Germans Unseat English.

Berlin March 16.—(via Saville) After three days of fighting Germans have driven the English from their position on the heights near Sainte Eloi's South of Ypres. An engagement is also said to be in progress for the possession of the cliff on Loerette hills northwest of Arras. "Renewed French assaults" continued the statement, "have been repulsed. Several trenches have been captured at Argonne."

LAWRENCE CARVINNESS ILL

**La Grande Physician Called to
Joseph Hurriedly Today**

Dr. C. T. Bacon went to Joseph this morning in answer to hurried summons from Mrs. Lawrence Carvinness of Joseph, saying Mr. Carvinness was seriously ill. The telephone call arrived at 7 o'clock and barely gave Doctor Bacon time to catch the branch line. The nature of the illness is not known. Mr. Carvinness is a son of J. L. Carvinness of this city.

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