

La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XIV.

LA GRANDE, OREGON,

TUESDAY, MARCH 23 1915

NUMBER 245

Wilson Worried Over Japanese

VITAL ISSUES AT STAKE IN THE FAR EAST

NO ANSWER RECEIVED TO HIS POINTED DEMAND FOR STATEMENT.

WILSON FREELY ADMITS QUESTION IS VITAL ONE

Visitors at White House Today Advised That American Note to Japan Was Firm But Friendly—Answer Awaited With Considerable Anxiety at Washington—Discuss Blockade.

Washington, March 23.—Vital issues are involved in the recent American note to Japan, said president Wilson to visitors at the White House today. So far there has been no reply received. It is known that the note in effect asked Japan to make a statement of her purposes and intentions in connection with the present negotiations with China. President Wilson would not discuss the note but had no hesitations that it referred to vital issues. He looks upon the matter seriously. The note expressed demands in friendly, but firm, tone. President Wilson is still working on his reply to the British blockade order. He has prepared a text himself after a long conference with Counselor Lansing, of the state department.

BAKER ATTORNEYS HERE

Settle of Kelsey Estate and Haines Divorce Case to Come up.

Senator W. H. Strayer of Baker is here today on legal matters and tomorrow will argue two cases before Judge Knowles. He represents the heirs of the L. S. Kelsey estate in a suit brought by L. S. Goff, who is seeking to gain title of 600 acres of land, a part of the estate of the deceased, which Goff claims by verbal agreement between himself and the deceased, by which he was to receive the land for certain work performed. His claims are denied by the heirs, whom Mr. Strayer will represent in the argument of the case before Circuit Judge Knowles.

The Baker attorney, assisted by Charles F. Hyde, will also appear for the plaintiff in the divorce suit for Toney vs. Toney. These people are from Haines but Mrs. Toney commenced the case in this county.

ASSESSMENTS BEGIN

I. R. Snook is Already Taking Valuation of City Property

Assessing of La Grande property for the current year has been started. Deputy Assessor I. R. Snook who has the La Grande precincts in charge has already commenced the work and will prosecute it vigorously until the big task is completed.

Begin Work on New Station.

Chicago, March 23.—Thousands of unemployed men were put to work today on Chicago's mammoth new Union station, a \$6,000,000 project which will be completed December 18, 1918, according to plans. The new plant will house the Pennsylvania lines, on Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, and the Chicago and Alton. It does not mean a consolidation of any of the railroad terminals, simply the replacing of the structure at Adams and Canal streets with a great plant. The erection of the station embraces several difficult engineering feats, chief among which is the straightening of the Chicago river for several blocks. The new station is going up to the south of the present one, occupying the blocks between Adams and Jackson streets and Clinton and Canal streets, a space two blocks east and west and one block north and south.

The main building will be ten stories and have three sub-basements. It will be an imposing structure with great massive columns and will cost \$6,000,000 exclusive of land, sheds, power plant, and interlocking costs.

War Bulletins

Berlin, March 23.—(Wireless via Saville).—Athens papers assert five warships of the allies' fleet were sunk and four badly damaged during the fighting in the Dardanelles, Thursday. Other advices from Athens state that Phillip Moore, commander of the Inflexible, was killed in the same engagement. The allies announced three boats lost on that occasion.

London, March 23.—The war office tonight officially announced German aviators bombed Lillers, Slomer, Estaires, and nearby points, killing three women and four men, all civilians. Six other civilians were wounded by the aerial bombs.

Berlin, March 23.—(Wireless to Saville).—Not only have the Russians been driven from Memel, a German port on the Baltic, and have been thrown back violently 12 miles across their own frontier, but Kretzingen, a Russian province in Kovno, has been occupied by the Germans. In announcing these three successes, the war office declared the flight of Slavs from Memel was precipitate. The Kaiser's troops pressed them so hard that there was no opportunity to scatter the Slav columns and the retreat degenerated into a rout.

Paris, March 23.—The war office announces a German aviator soared over Rheims and dropped two bombs, killing three civilians. Shelling of towns.

EASTER PLANS CHANGED ABOUT

Knights Templar of Eastern Oregon will abandon their old-time custom of a general assembly for Easter services this year and each commandery is to conduct its own Easter service. This is the agreement reached by the respective lodges. Heretofore it has been the custom to meet in the various cities each Easter Sunday.

La Grande's commandery will this year observe the day with a service at home, attending a religious service in the Presbyterian church in the afternoon. Rev. W. S. Seeman, formerly pastor of the Presbyterian church in this city, and now a member of the order, will come from Portland to preach the principal sermon of the day.

Servian Slashes Family.

Spokane, March 23.—Because of jealousy for his wife who divorced him recently, Pete Gekick, a Servian, forced an entrance to his house, cut the throat of the woman's youngest son and then his own, both dying in a few minutes. He attempted to shoot the woman but the cartridges failed to work. The woman is an American and much older than he.

Will Take Music Course.

Miss Gertrude Halley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Halley, left last evening for Portland where she will take an extended course in vocal music. Miss Halley has had considerable success in music, though still young.

TODAY'S ODDDEST STORY

Danville, Ky., March 23.—Because he thought a train, the first he had ever seen, a "huge varmint" charging down upon him, George Mason heaved a rock at the "Royal Palm" on the Queen and Crescent route near here. Ray Fagan, of Sandusky, O., who happened to be in the path of the missile, sustained a slight scalp wound. "I thought the god dern thing was one of them monsters you see in the picture books," Mason told the police. "I never seen one of 'em afore, and I was so derned scared, I jest lammed a rock at the pesky thing." Mason was so emphatic in relating the motives that actuated him that the officers released him.

MUTINY BEHIND SURRENDY OF GALICIAN FORT

REIGN OF TERROR DROVE COMMANDER TO GIVE IN TO RUSSIAN FORCES.

ORDERS TO EXECUTE REVOLTERS DISOBEYED

Hungry and Sick, Fortress Soldiers Refuse to Proceed Farther, and Orders to Attempt Sortie as Last Resort, Flatly Disobeyed by Various Units—Austrians Called Valiant.

Petrograd, March 23.—Mutiny was the real cause of the fall of Przemyśl which was announced yesterday. The truth of the last 24 hours of terror within the walls of the great fortress became known today. Human endurance had reached its limitation. Starving, sick, cold and miserable, the victims of the six-months siege at last revolted, and turned like hunger-crazed wolves upon their masters. It was only when they faced destruction from within that General Kusmanek, the valiant defender of the fortress, succumbed to unrelenting iron rings without.

Last Sortie Hopeless.

It was late in the afternoon when Kusmanek gave the order for the final dash for liberty. He summoned 20,000 men and prepared for the sortie, with a forlorn hope of cutting their way out and letting at least a portion of the army escape.

Own Men Revolt.

Then news reached the general that several units had flatly refused to obey. His threat of execution was disregarded and finally he surrendered rather than bear the disgrace of a mutiny.

Russian Troops Inspired.

Inspired by the fall of Przemyśl, half a million Russian troops are pushing forward toward Besskwa, determined to strike a crushing blow against the Austrians. War office dispatches declare a gigantic movement is in progress along the line from Durka Pass to the Rumanian frontier, Slavs driving forward through the Carpathian mountains.

Military leaders are anxious to seize the opportunity to crush the enemy before they can recover from the surrender of the great Galician fortress after the long siege.

ROSE THRIVES HERE

C. C. Penington is Having Marked Success With Roses.

Clyde Penington is today trimming his rose bushes and otherwise beautifying his property on Main avenue. Mr. Penington asserts without reservation that La Grande produces as beautiful a rose as any point in the Willamette valley, and he urges every property owner to plant a few of the beautifiers in parking and on grounds around the home.

KAMELA WOOD CONTRACTOR DIES

Frank Crok, a prominent wood contractor of Kamela, died last night. It is expected the remains will be brought to La Grande for interment tomorrow.

Mr. Cook has lived in Kamela for a dozen years or so, having at one time

PROFESSOR KEEPS BUSY

Mr. McClellan Gives Recital and Visits Mills in Few Hours

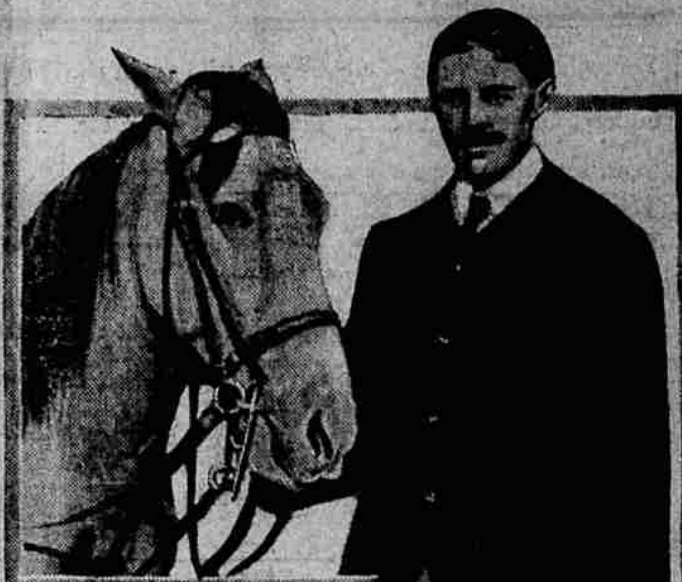
Prof J. J. McClellan put in a busy forenoon today prior to his departure for Salt Lake after his trip throughout the Northwest taking him to Spokane. This morning he gave an informal recital at the Methodist church at which a few musicians of the church and some of Mr. McClellan's friends had been hastily summoned when Mr. McClellan graciously consented to the plan. After edifying his audience with that rare gift of his he departed for Perry, the guest of George Stoddard and visited the saw mill there, then catching the train at Perry for Salt Lake.

Are Becoming Educated.

Chicago, March 23.—Newspaper publicity has forced the professional

Villa Apologizes to Uncle Sam

AMERICAN KILLED IN MEXICO BY ZAPATA'S MEN.



Washington, March 23.—Representatives of Villa formally apologized to the United States today for the murder by Zapatistas of John McManus, an American, in Mexico City recently. The apologies were presented by the Brazilian minister at Mexico City.

BEAUTY SPOTS IN CITY, DISCUSSION

CIVIC BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL CLUB PROPOSED.

Meeting Will Be Held Tomorrow for Purpose of Going Over Proposition With Women of City.

With intention of interesting the ladies of La Grande in the formation of a Civic society, the Commercial club, at a meeting last night, set Wednesday at 2:30 as the time for holding a mass meeting of La Grande women in the city hall.

It is expected that there will be a society formed at the meeting the purpose of which will be to beautify La Grande and see that vacant lots are planted to grass or gardens. The parking will also be a factor to be considered and in a general way the city's appearance will be looked after by the ladies who will in turn give their orders to the male section, or Commercial club, and plans will follow to interest the entire population in the work.

BOY IS KILLED BY TRUCK

George Beaudette, 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Beaudette, who for years lived in Perry where Mr. Beaudette was employed as a machinist by the lumber company, died a victim of a logging truck accident at Clinton, on the Columbia river near

Astoria, Sunday; his body was brought to La Grande today by the parents, brothers and sisters, and interment will take place tomorrow at 10 o'clock from the Catholic church. Mr. Beaudette was a machinist having charge of the engines on the logging road operated by Chas. Minnaugh, formerly of Wallawa. Word of the accident reached Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Kelley last evening, and the sorrowing family arrived here on the noon train today. W. C. Kelley is a brother of Mrs. Beaudette.

The boy and two men were sitting on the rails while switching was going on in the logging yard and it seems one of the engines was releasing steam that startled the group as the train approached. The two men jumped into a creek and escaped without harm but it seems the boy was confused, and was knocked down by a bumper on the logging truck, and dragged between the frogs and the crossing. Mr. Beaudette, who was about 300 feet away at the time, was the first to reach the scene, but George was dead even that soon after being struck. Three other children, Mary, Virgil and Lillian, came to La Grande with the parents.

Superintendent at Intake.

Water Superintendent L. M. Hoyt is at the Beaver Creek intake supervising the installation of Roger E. Deal as caretaker there to succeed Ed Propeck who is moving on a home-stand.

Fountain Chief Here.

W. R. Lewis, late of Salt Lake, has arrived to assume superintendency of the soda fountain in Silverthorn's drug store.

SPIES REACH TRENCHES TO GET WAR MAPS

GERMAN SPY SYSTEM FOUND TO BE MOST COMPLETE AND EFFECTIVE.

RADER TELLS HOW A WOMAN WAS DISCOVERED

Demille, Famous Spy, Met His Waterloo Because of a Dog—Soldiers Suffer Anguish When Compelled to Part With Their Faithful Companions—Spies Paraded Before Death.

Note.—This is the fifth article of the series of narratives by Phil Rader of San Francisco, former United Press correspondent, who is now serving in the trenches with the French foreign legion.

By PHIL RADER

(Written for the United Press.) London, March 6.—There was a little old woman of French nationality whose little cottage was about a mile from our trenches. She has a huge supply of cider and when one of us got money, and a chance, we would sneak through the trenches back to her little house, knock on the shuttered window until she opened it and handed out a big cup full of apple juice.

"My good old husband," as she described him, was killed in the cottage by a German bullet. We buried the body for her and asked why she did not move.

"No, no," she exclaimed. "This is my home and I die anywhere, I die here."

One night we saw three little flickers of light come from a chink of the shuttered window. On a hill far away in the German lines we saw a tiny light blink three times. For three nights we watched the sparkling chink in the window of the widow's blind. We didn't want to believe she was a spy, because, if she was taken away, we would miss our cider. But at last we had to act. We caught her one night in the deed and our officers sent her away. I do not know where. She had sold her country for German gold.

Her's was only an instance of the thoroughness of the German spy system. One day we found a telephone wire running the beetfields from the German trenches to a point far behind our lines. It ended at a poplar tree where a German spy, hidden in the branches, had been telephoning the enemy all the details of our movements.

But Demille was the spy of all spies. He lived with us in our trenches, he shot at the Germans and cursed them as we did. But all the time he was sending messages to them. And when he was caught in the act, he kept silence like a man. Our officers took charge of him and he disappeared—executed, we heard.

In those early days of the war, when foreigners in Paris were forming a foreign legion, Demille, a splendid looking, big man, with a beard that gave him a distinguished appearance and a manner that was the essence of courtesy, got his name into the list and was accepted. He had money in unlimited quantities and before he departed from Paris to the front he gave parties right and left to little groups of comrades. His profession was that of an engineer of a sugar making machine and he knew every inch of the sugar beat country in which our regiment was finally stationed.

It was a collie dog that proved the undoing of Demille, a fine, long-haired animal. All the stray dogs which made their home in the trenches had the most friends among the men, but the collie liked Demille best. We found out afterwards that Demille used to save his food and even go hungry himself in order to keep himself high in the collie's good will.

How Demille ever got the dog to go to the German trenches from ours we were never able to figure out, but we first suspected him when we saw him lift the dog to the edge of our trench and send him on his way by throwing a stone towards the German lines which were only one hundred and fifty feet distant.

When the dog came back that night a sentry caught him and searched him. Under his collar was a map

(Continued on Page 4.)