

La Grande Evening Observer

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AUSTIN, TEXAS, HIT BY FLOOD AND TORNADO

LOSS OF LIFE BIG-AND PROP-
ERTY DAMAGE HEAVY AT
MANY POINTS

INHABITED DWELLINGS FLOAT DOWN STREAM

Fully a half hundred people have been killed during past 24 hours in and about Austin; Oklahoma and Texas have suffered equally. Bad from tornado and wind storms.

Austin, Tex., April 23.—From 40 to 60 persons are dead and several hundred are homeless, with property damage at a quarter million, as a result of a flood which has enveloped Austin and vicinity for the past 24 hours. Rivers and creeks, are rampaging and hourly reports bring news of further loss of life.

Houses with people clinging to them are seen floating down stream. The low lands are inundated and scores of villages are partly under water. Besides the flood a tornado has swept Texas and Oklahoma, doing damage and causing loss of life.

CLEANUP NEARLY DONE

Eighty Loads of Rubbish Will Have Been Hauled Away

Street Superintendent Hendricks reports that the annual cleanup is about over. Eighty loads will have been hauled away when the final box is hauled off, and though there were some alleys not cleaned, it was because the rubbish had not been sacked or boxed. On the whole the citizens joined in the work commendably well.

BAKER CELEBRATION FADES

Neither Fair nor Fourth of July Affair Contemplated

Baker, April 23.—So far as the merchants committee of the Commercial club is concerned, there will be no Fourth of July celebration. "It's all off," said Chairman A. A. Hansen of the committee last evening, when only three merchants appeared at the meeting at which final action was to have been taken.

While many have signified their desire to help finance the celebration, those who in past years have put their shoulders to the wheel do not seem disposed to do so again, and the lack of interest is apparent in the failure to attend the meetings.

A canvass of the committee members shows that only about half are in favor of the celebration, some are indifferent and some directly opposed. Those present last evening were of the opinion that nothing can be done, inasmuch as several efforts to get the movement started have all proven dismal failures.

Chris Johnson, who recently claimed that North Powder was a land of freaks, citing his one Percheron mare weighing 2375 pounds as an example, is happy in the possession of a Percheron colt, of which his "freak" became the mother a few days ago. Dr. F. T. Notz of this city says that Chris is pretty sore because there will be no county fair this year so he can show his stock to the people of Eastern Oregon. However, he will "make" the other fairs and Union "hook" shows and with his high spirit of stock is sure to bring home some blue ribbons.

THAW SCORES DECISIVELY

GETS NEW TRIAL TO TEST SANITY

Prisoner Considers Decision Forerunner of Freedom

New York, April 23.—The supreme court has granted Harry K. Thaw a new trial by jury to determine his sanity. The trial is set for May 17th. This is the first real victory Thaw has won since he was captured after his escape from Matteawan. Thaw is over his victory and foresees freedom from further imprisonment.

LODGE HOME ACCEPTED BY ARCHITECTS

INSTITUTION TAKEN OVER BY
LODGE TODAY AT NOON AS
FINISHED

NOTABLE WORK EXPECTED TO MARK DEDICATION

Architects Passes O. K. and Splendid Home is Given to the Lodge—Dedication Plans Already Discussed and May be Combined With Two Other Notable Events During June

At noon today the magnificent new Elks home in La Grande was officially turned over by the contractors and architects to the building committee of the lodge.

For several days Architect Houghtaling, of the firm of Houghtaling & Dougan, and W. F. Tobey of the Palmer-Elsion Construction Co., have been in La Grande arranging for the final turnover of the building. As in the case of the erection of every Class A building, a few very minor things such as scratches on woodwork, protruding nailheads, etc. were found by the architect and it was necessary for the construction company to perfect all of these minor matters before the building would be accepted. All this has been done, and today the building committee took charge of the structure and both contractor and architect surrendered their possession.

That it is a firstclass job in every particular no one can doubt. Its construction has been watched with much care not only by the engineer and architect, but by the different members of the building committee.

Today La Grande Elks feel very proud of the new home just completed, and lodge furniture is being displaced ready for installment in the new home. The new furniture for the building throughout with exception of the lodge room proper, is here. Carpets are made up, draperies are boxed and labeled for their proper places all of which means that furnishing the new building will be done quickly. In a few days the Elks will not climb the old stairway of the wooden building which has done service for many years, but will enter the elevator of the home and be carried to whichever floor he may designate.

Dedication to be Big Event
One of the red letter days of La Grande and surrounding country will be the dedication of this new \$85,000 home. While plans are not yet definite, it is probable dedication will occur along about the middle of June.

Preparations for this will be very elaborate. Large delegations of Elks from Pendleton, Baker, Walla Walla and Boise will be here and there is a reasonably well founded rumor now that Portland will run a special Elks train for its members to attend.

Gun clubs of the state hold a shoot here on June 16th and the Northwest Motor Cycle races take place on the La Grande course on June 17th. It is probable that the Elks may take advantage of these two days and dedicate the new building then for many of the gun club members throughout Oregon are Elks and many of the Motorcycle fans are Elks, which will add to the pleasure of the great event.

The dedicatory service will consist not only of the formal service, but a large class of candidates from all over Eastern Oregon are being arranged for initiation here on that date. This will be followed by a grand dedicatory ball which will be society's great opportunity to enjoy its first occasion in the new building. Then the services will close with an Elks stag on the following night.

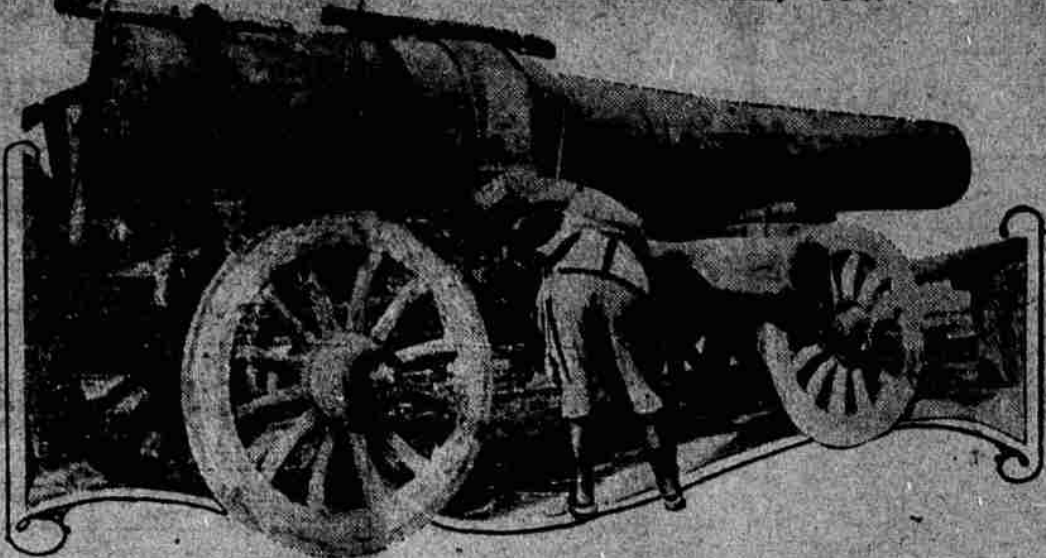
With all of these things on the calendar it is little wonder that every Elks is jubilant today and is making preparations to take part in the festivities that are to follow the acceptance of the new home.

CAR TIPS, NONE HURT

Party of Five in Auto Accident and Escape Injury

Phil Conley's big eight cylinder Cadillac, loaded with a crowd of five people, struck a railing on a little bridge on the Island City road last evening, and was thereby shunted to the grade and tipped over. The machine turned over twice, but in spite of it, there was no not injured. All were badly frightened for the time being.

ITALY HAS A FEW "BUSY BERTHAS," TOO.



PREPARING TO SHIP A GIANTIC ITALIAN SIEGE GUN, SLIGHTLY LESS POWERFUL THAN THE TERRIFIC 42-CENTIMETER GERMAN HOWITZERS, BUT OF THE TYPE WHICH THE BRITISH CALL THE "BUSY BERTHAS."

GRANTS PASS ROBBER ESCAPES

Grants Pass April 23.—No trace has been found of the robber who late yesterday threw the contents of a bottle ammonia into the face of E. R. Rosser, cashier of the State Bank of

rogue River and escaped with \$600 of the institution's funds.

A mysterious automobile which is thought to have played a part in the robbery has been accounted for. It contained a party of Medford people.

BARNES IS CALLED JEKYL-HYDE

Syracuse, Apr. 23.—Political Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, in the person of "Boss" Barnes, were pictured by Colonel Roosevelt in his testimony today during the libel suit. He was on the stand for cross examination by Attorney Ivins for Barnes. Roosevelt alternately made "Speeches" and engaged in spirited verbal passages

with the questioner and then presented his opinion of Barnes for the jury to consider.

The Colonel declared that for years he had tried to develop the good traits in Barnes and make of him a "useful citizen" but abandoned hope. He said Barnes had two moral standards—one for the public and the other for his private life.

GEN. HUERTA AS HE ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES.



General Victoriano Huerta, some-time dictator of Mexico, and perhaps the strongest man who has appeared there for years, arrived in New York the other day, and found no trouble landing. Despite efforts of some of his enemies in Mexico, the immigration

authorities did not hold him up. They fear that he has come here to begin a new propaganda looking to his re-establishment in power. The general, of course, denied this. But the importance of his visit was fully recognized by the Mexicans in New York.

TWO ZEPPELINS AGAIN SCARE THE ENGLISH

ALARM FELT THAT RECONNOITER FORERUNS ATTACK BY GERMAN AIRCRAFT

CZAR VISITS FRONT TO INSPECT THE LINES

French Reports that Hill 60 Has Not Been Lost to Germans After It Was Taken By the Allies—Snow Melting and Rains Fall With Result That There is Little Eastern Action

London, April 23.—Two Zeppelins were sighted off the Northumberland coast this afternoon. No reports were received of bombs being dropped however. It is believed they were reconnoitering. Four British aeroplanes ascended to determine whether the approaching dirigibles foreran the zeppelin raid that has been promised, and to learn if the pending attack is nearing.

Czar at Lemberg
Petrograd, April 23.—Czar Nicholas is at Lemberg, en route to the front to inspect the Russian lines in Galicia and the Carpathians. With this announcement it is accepted that Russian forces are being prepared for an offensive against the Austrians and Germans in the Southern front. Because the snow is melting and spring rains prevail, the campaign is generally at a standstill.

Zeppelins Destroyed
London, April 23.—An attack upon German zeppelin sheds at Ghent by 19 allied aviators during which two and possibly more dirigibles are believed to have been destroyed, is announced by Field Marshall French in the weekly report to the war office. French confirmed the reports that desperate attacks were made by Germans in attempts to retake Hill 60, an important height captured by the British. The enemy was thrown back with heavy losses. Denial is made of the claims that Germans succeeded in recapturing the heights. In the region of La Bassée, Germans are attempting offensive movement, employing sappers.

Grimsby, England, April 23.—The trawler St. Laurence was torpedoed and sunk in the North sea, it is learned. Two of the crew were drowned. Those rescued found refuge on another trawler and landed at Grimsby.

Mad Dog Killed
Mt. Glen, April 23.—A dog, evidently from this community, was killed this morning by Mr. Flek because the canine gave evidence of being mad. It had chewed a rope in two by which it was tied, and pieces still dragged a portion of his shackles. The dog was badly bitten up itself, indicating a fight either with other dogs or with coyotes.

"Hangman's Friday"
Los Angeles, Cal., Apr. 23.—Two Los Angeles men are scheduled to pay the death penalty today for murders committed here. They are Louis Bundy and Burr Harris. Bundy is scheduled to be hanged at San Quentin and Harris at Folsom prison.

Bundy is only 19 years. He killed Harold Ziesche, a school mate and robbed him of \$20. He said he wanted the money to buy a Christmas present for a little girl.

Harris, a negro, murdered Mrs. Rebecca P. Gay, a Christian Science practitioner in her office here.

IMPRESARIO'S WIFE DYING

HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS SEE NO HOPE

Wife of Late Impresario Drowns Sorrow in Poison

Portland, April 23.—The condition this afternoon of Signorina Ida Bonora recognized as the wife of Mario Lam-bardi the grand opera impresario who had a stroke of apoplexy yesterday, is very serious. She took bichloride of mercury with suicidal intent last night while grief stricken. Hospital physicians say she cannot recover.

PORTER SAVED FROM BEATING

JESS WILLARD BARELY ESCAPED PREMATURE FIGHT

W. R. Jones Home After Long Trip, Telling New Yarns On World's Champion Boxer

How Jess Willard came near whipping a negro to a queen's taste before he stepped in the ring at Havana with Jack Johnson, has come to light with the return of W. R. Jones of this city, today, from a two months' trip through Texas before the big fight took place. Jess Willard boarded the train one evening, and spent the night in the same Pullman that Mr. Jones occupied. During the night someone had kicked the side of Willard's suitcase in—an imitation leather, but valuable nevertheless. Mr. Willard had reason to suspect the porter had done it out of spite work, and it took a whole lot of smooth talk on the part of the scared negro to save himself from a whipping. The porter knew Willard and the latter thought Mr. Negro was doing his little nite toward defending the prowess of the colored race against the big white.

That cotton fields are rapidly disappearing in Mississippi where he owns part interest in two desirable pieces of property, is the assertion of Mr. Jones on his return. The howl weasel is laying waste many fields this Spring but wheat and corn are taking the place of the cotton fields, and a more varied South is certain to follow.

After visiting in the south Mr. Jones went north to Iowa where he found a farm he once owned now worth \$12,000 more than he sold it for. He got as far north as Milwaukee but stopped at Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, and other big cities. On his way South he visited the fairs at San Francisco and San Diego, and had the pleasure in the latter place of being a guest of Dr. Molitor, formerly of La Grande. Dr. Molitor took him through the surrounding country in an auto.

Business generally is picking up he found, though still quiet. Spring is pretty well advanced in the middle west and with it, business seems to be recouping. The traveler has been gone nearly two months and is much delighted to reach home again.

ELGIN TEACHERS CHOSEN

C. T. Kronenberg Is Superintendent of Schools at Elgin

Elgin, April 23. (Special).—At the last meeting of the Elgin School board the following teachers were elected for the coming year. C. T. Kronenberg, superintendent; Helen W. Gleson, English and History; Ethel Metzler, Domestic Science; Miss Cora Warner, eighth grade; O. C. Maxwell, seventh; Miss Ethel Smith, Sixth; Miss Florence McDonald, Fifth; Mrs. Carrie Adams, Fourth; Miss Nellie Pugh, Third; Miss Blanch Ferdine, Second; Miss Stella Mayfield, First; The manual training department will be handled by C. T. Kronenberg, superintendent-elect.

TWO GIRLS FINED

Ten Dollars Each Is Penalty for Conviction of Disorder

Alberta Gates and Ida McFall were tried before Municipal Judge Eakin last evening and convicted on a charge of being disorderly. They were fined \$10.00 each and though notice of appeal was filed, it is stated there is no appeal for fines under \$20.00 Each girl has \$50.00 bond money in court and a settlement of the issue will probably be made soon.