

La Grande Evening Observer

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OTHER NEUTRAL POWERS JOINED WITH AMERICA

TRUMP CARD PLAYED BY WILSON DISCLOSED DURING THE DAY.

NO ANSWER THIS WEEK
BECAUSE OF ITALIANS

Not Expected Reply Will Be Sent to Wilson Until Next Week—Other Nations, Neutral, Suffering by the Lusitania Episode, Asked to Join With President, and are Doing So.

Washington, May 18.—Pressure from other neutral powers is the trump card the United States has played in an attempt to force Germany to accept the position of the United States regarding the submarine attack on neutral ships and passenger-carrying vessels of belligerent nations.

It is learned copies of Wilson's note were placed at the disposal of neutral countries whose citizens were lost on the Lusitania. It is reported these nations have endorsed the issues as outlined by the president. It is presumed that is what the president had in mind when, in his New York speech yesterday, he said: "We ask only that which we have the right to ask for all humanity."

Delay Is Expected.

Berlin, May 18.—There is a possibility Germany may not reply to the American submarine war protest this week. It is admitted the Italian situation has served to focus the official and popular attention to such a degree that the American note has become a secondary consideration. At the foreign office it is stated the entire matter is now in the hands of Chancellor von Bethman-Hollweg.

"Mother Day" at Exposition

San Francisco, May 18.—Mothers from all parts of the world began gathering at the Panama Pacific Exposition today for the big conference of mothers, at which all the problems of infant culture will be scientifically discussed.

The California Section of the congress held its first meeting today. The National Congress of Mothers and Parent Teachers Association starts its session May 20.

Among the delegates are Miss Mary Ledyard of Foo Chow, China, Madame Ali Kula Khan, wife of the Persian Ambassador, Madame de Ortiz Coffigny of Havana, Mrs. Abel Remyard, Buenos Ayres, D. A. Furnajeff of Bulgaria and Dr. Elizabeth Chessner of England.

Larson Returns.

"Pete" Larson, entered in the half mile and the pole vault at the Eugene interscholastic, returned home this noon. Glen Conkey is expected home tomorrow. Mr. Larson speaks highly of the entertainment afforded by the University of Oregon. He pulled fifth in the half mile, negotiating the distance in 2:05, his best time. Although he was tied for fourth in the pole vault he allowed the place to go by default, thinking fourth didn't count in points.

Bluerockers to Dance.

This evening the La Grande Gun club gives its first annual ball at Rex hall. The public is invited and the proceeds will be used to meet the expenses of the bluerock shoot to be held June 16 here. "The club needs the money," said one of the promoters today, "and we will give all who come tonight a delightful time."

WOOL SALES TO BE POSTPONED

RAIN HINDERS ORIGINAL SCHEDULE.

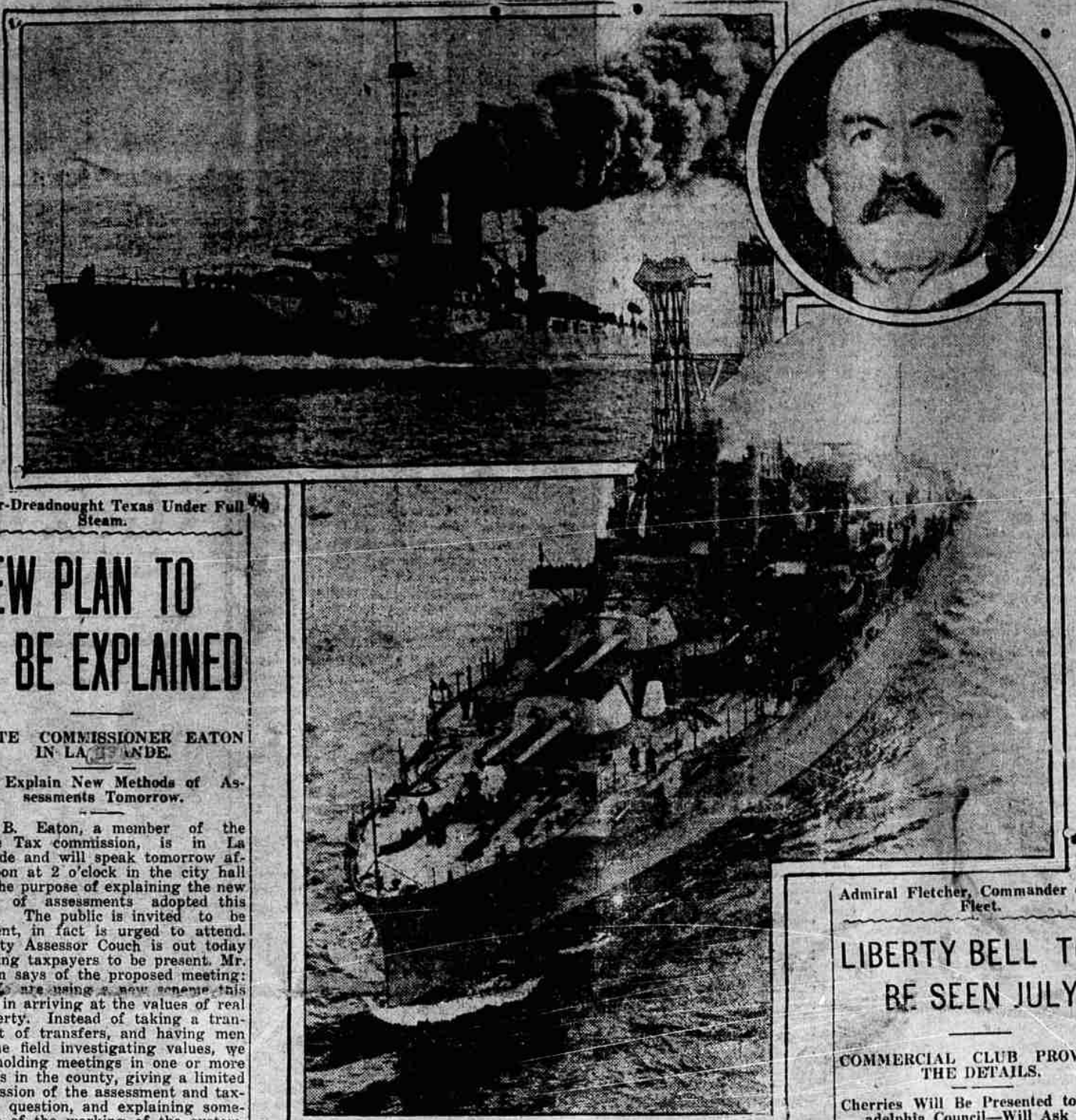
Pendleton and Echo Dates Alone Remain Unchanged.

Pendleton, May 18.—Wool sales dates for Pilot Rock have been changed from May 26th to June 10th, and Condon from June 10th to June 22. This was announced today by State Senator J. N. Burgess, local member of the executive committee of the Oregon Woolgrowers' association. Echo and Pendleton dates remain as originally set, May 25 and 27.

The change in dates at the other points is due to the rain which caused shearing camps to be idle for the last 10 days. At Echo all wool is said to be in except four clips and totals about a half million pounds.

Great Naval Review Closes With Spectacular Parade

TWO WARSHIPS IN HUDSON RIVER SUPERIOR TO ANYTHING IN GERMAN NAVY.



NEW PLAN TO BE EXPLAINED

STATE COMMISSIONER EATON IN LA GRANDE.

Will Explain New Methods of Assessments Tomorrow.

J. B. Eaton, a member of the State Tax commission, is in La Grande and will speak tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock in the city hall for the purpose of explaining the new plan of assessments adopted this year. The public is invited to be present, in fact is urged to attend. County Assessor Couch is out today inviting taxpayers to be present. Mr. Eaton says of the proposed meeting: "We are using a new scheme this year in arriving at the values of real property. Instead of taking a transcript of transfers, and having men in the field investigating values, we are holding meetings in one or more points in the county, giving a limited discussion of the assessment and taxation question, and explaining something of the working of the system. After which we have the meeting choose a committee of five or more from those present, who are acquainted with conditions and values, to meet with me and try to arrive at the values of such property as I have descriptions of. All the boys along the line enthusiastically endorse the plan, and it has worked successfully so far. I have talked to Taxpayers' leagues, Fruit-growers associations and citizens meetings and in every instance found those people much interested in the subject and more than willing to work with me."

Denver Municipal Election

Denver Colo., May 18.—Single tax and prohibition were issues decided in a municipal election today after a bitter campaign. The single tax amendment seemed certain to defeat.

The liquor issue came up under an amendment providing that Denver shall stay "wet" after the remainder of the state goes "dry" next January. A provision of the state constitution giving Denver home rule was the hope of the liquor interests, but the anti-saloon league promised to carry the question into the courts again, the supreme court having declared that state liquor laws are enforceable in municipalities. Further litigation is just what the Denver "wets" desire, hoping that an injunction will permit them to do business even after the state goes dry in January.

Denver is normally in favor of saloons, a 10,000 "wet" majority being returned in this city when Colorado was voted dry last fall.

Eight other amendments and three city offices were purely local issues. Women have tried to back a single woman candidate for commissioner of social welfare but the election of a woman today was doubtful.

Today's Oddest Story

Boston, May 18.—The nervous female seen in years at Harvard, took a seat in the gallery of the dining hall, in full view of the 500 diners evidently unaware of the boys' aversion to her presence of women. Rapping, followed by shouts to disturb her, but upon being informed by a flurried waiter that she was the cause of the rumpus, she rose, calmly surveyed the scene and made a low bow to the howling crowd. Then she deliberately strolled out.

No battleship in the German navy equals either of these great super-dreadnoughts of the American navy, now assembled in the Hudson River. In fact, they are surpassed by no vessels in the world except the five recently turned out by the British admiralty, among which the Elizabeth, now in the Dardanelles. They are only part of the fleet of sixteen battleships in the Hudson River. But the American navy has more, for there are the Pennsylvania, just launched, the Arizona about to be launched, and the California, in course of construction.

What the 14-inch gun can do was recently demonstrated by William Ruf, one of the gun pointers on the Texas, who in the practice held off the Virginia Capes, broke the world's record, making six straight hits at a moving target being towed fourteen miles distant. Previously the Arkansas, sister ship to the Wyoming, had made six hits out of six shots from a 12-inch rifle in the incredibly short time of fifty-seven seconds.

New York, May 18.—President Wilson said good-bye to the fleet today. The departure of the warships was the most spectacular event of the entire review which President Wilson has witnessed. The executive reviewed the fighting from the deck of the Mayflower which was anchored adjacent to the Statue of Liberty. Steaming 10 knots an hour each ship fired the presidential salute of 21 guns as each came abreast of the Mayflower. The Mayflower with President Wilson aboard put out to sea at 2 this afternoon en route to Washington. Great crowds witnessed the review from shore.

From New York the great American fleet will assemble off Newport for a "battle game." The war practice will last until May 30 when the ships will depart to their home yards to be overhauled before their long cruise through the Panama Canal to the San Francisco Exposition. The fleet is scheduled to assemble at Hampton Roads on June 21 and to sail for the Canal June 25. It is planned to celebrate Fourth of July at Colon.

KITCHENER ASKS FOR 300,000 RECRUITS; ENGLISH TO USE GAS

London, May 18.—Lord Kitchener has issued a call for 300,000 additional British army recruits. In addressing the house of lords, Kitchener announced the allies will soon emulate the Germans by using gas bombs in making attacks on the enemy.

Many Germans Killed.

Paris, May 18.—Two thousand Germans were slaughtered by shell fire from French guns when they made their last stand on the west bank of the Yser. Allied artillery demolished several bridges over the canal over which the Germans were endeavoring to withdraw. The remaining bridges were jammed with retreating forces. Some detachments endeavored to carry away their wounded officers, but became caught under the French fire.

Italians Confer With Bryan.

Washington, May 18.—The Italian ambassador has conferred with Secretary Bryan, presumably regarding the United States representing Italy in Austria, should Italy declare war.

Admiral Fletcher, Commander of the Fleet.

LIBERTY BELL TO BE SEEN JULY 12

COMMERCIAL CLUB PROVIDES THE DETAILS.

Cherries Will Be Presented to Philadelphia Council—Will Ask for 20-Minute Stop.

La Grande's Commercial club and the city commission will petition Mayor Blankenburg and the Philadelphia city council to give La Grande a 20-minute inspection of Liberty Bell when that famous relic of early American history passes through La Grande July 12th. The Philadelphia council, according to advices reaching La Grande yesterday had assigned 10 minutes to La Grande and 10 minutes to Baker, for which the public in La Grande is indeed grateful. The Observer is advised from Philadelphia that the tremendous claims for stops swamped the council, and La Grande was fortunate to have the bell stop here at all.

A considerable celebration will be put on for the edification of the La Grande school children. Arrangements to handle orderly processions past the bell, and to meet the members of the Philadelphia council who will accompany the bell as custodians of it, have already been commenced by the commercial club here. In the interim between now and July 12, the Commercial club will likely receive explicit directions as to how to handle the crowds for the best advantage of all, but it is now planned to respectfully ask the council for a 20-minute stay.

A cherry feast for the visiting delegation is one of the plans provided, and the valley's best will be placed before the custodians of the bell by the Commercial club. A banquet and a short automobile trip had been contemplated as a tribute to the Philadelphians but this has been abandoned in view of the brevity of the period during which the visitors will be here.

The bell train is due in Baker at 11:40, July 12th, due out in 10 minutes again but likely to be held until 12:00; due in La Grande at 1:35 p. m. on the same day, and it is here that the stay is desired to be made into 20 minutes instead of 10.

The train will go North from Pendleton swinging down to hit Portland on July 15th, and then go south after six hours of rest there.

Texas Bankers Convention.

Waco, Tex., May 18.—State bankers meet here today in annual convention. Among the speakers listed were W. P. G. Harding of the federal reserve board; E. B. Clair-Avery of the Merchants Laclede National Bank of St. Louis and George Woodruff of the First National Bank of Joliet, Ill.

Peace Day at Dallas

Dallas Tex., May 18.—Peace Day was celebrated by peace organizations throughout the state. The newly organized Dallas Women's Peace party had special ceremonies.

LABOR UNIONS URGE MOVEMENT TO GET ROADS

FOUR DIFFERENT ORDERS PRESENT COMMERCIAL CLUB WITH PLEA.

OVER ONE HUNDRED IN SESSION LAST NIGHT

Citizens and Taxpayers, Members of Four Different Labor Organizations, Present Plan to Commercial Club to Emulate Multnomah County in Building Roads While Labor Is Dull.

Resolutions from four political parties and labor unions were presented last evening to the La Grande Commercial club, and some 125 members of these institutions and other men were present to talk over a policy of road building and municipal projects.

The Crux of the Petitions. Summarized, the four petitions urged:

That the Commercial club used its best efforts to start some public improvements, and follow Multnomah county's plan to build roads and give workmen something to do that they might prepare for winter;

That sewers, pavement and county roads be constructed along the plans of Multnomah county on the basis of America for Americans;

That the county follow Multnomah's policy and provide work for those who are jobless that they may provide themselves for winter;

The local of the socialist party embraced in its petition: That they do endorse the movement now on foot to furnish work for the unemployed of this county by building good roads throughout Union county provided the following resolutions are included, to-wit:

That the county court shall have said work done by direct labor and not by contract;

That all workers employed on said roads must be citizen residents of Union county provided such labor is to be had, and if not, the county court is to go elsewhere for it;

That \$3.00 be the minimum wage;

That the Socialist call upon the county court to call a special election at their earliest convenience for the purpose of voting sufficient bonds for the above purpose;

That this general outline be followed by the court or the party will withdraw its endorsement.

The petitioners were members of the Socialist party, the Barbers union, the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Painters' union, all of this city. They were desirous of propagating a new departure in road building and to urge permanent road projects. During the discussion that followed the various municipal projects contemplated, were discussed as sources of employment, which is now a problem everywhere. The upshot of the meeting was the appointment of a committee of five from the Commercial club to meet with a committee of the laboring classes to formulate some tangible plan of procedure to work upon. Dr. M. K. Hall, last night elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation from the board of John Collier, now in Portland, was made chairman of the committee, and C. S. Dunn, likewise elected to the board last evening, A. V. Andrews, Fred B. Curry and E. S. Norris form the five who will meet at a nearby date to take up the matter of formulating plans.

The meeting was entirely decorous. The men simply stated they wished to confer with the club directors over the matter, and only at one time was there a ruffle on the discussion, when one man objected to the number on the formulation committee from the

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LINER DODGES UNDERSEA BLOW

PASSENGERS TELL OF ESCAPE.

Zigzag Course Said to Have Saved the Big Steamship.

London, May 18.—The liner Transylvania, carrying nearly 900 including many Americans, narrowly escaped the fate of the Lusitania on the voyage which ended yesterday at Glasgow.

The passengers on the liner arriving here from Glasgow said a submarine fired a torpedo at the Transylvania Sunday. The torpedo passed 30 yards to the stern of the liner.

Passengers believed that if the vessel hadn't taken a zigzag course she would have been struck.