

La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XIV.

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1915

NUMBER 294

NEBRASKAN EXPLOSION PROBABLY A MYSTERY

Specific Statement From Captain Indicates
There Is No Solution

NAVAL ATTACHE MAKES STUDY OF DAMAGES DONE

Washington, May 27.—"We had no warning; we saw nothing." This is the assertion from Captain Green of the Nebraska which was hit yesterday by a mine or a torpedo, made to Consul General Skinner at London. This is regarded as most significant, the statement containing the latest information regarding the explosion which damaged the American ship. It disclosed the uncertainty which promises to make the incident a mystery that may be beyond solution. The Nebraska was torpedoed by a German submarine, the attack is an act of war. Officials admitted this afternoon this is true, based on precedent. However, there is no evidence the Nebraska was torpedoed by a submarine. Administration officials are hopeful, despite the declaration of British admiralty that the American vessel struck a mine.

Other Steamers Sunk.
London, May 27.—The Montreal steamer Morwenna, and the Danish steamer Betty were torpedoed but a submarine, probably German, in the North Sea yesterday, the admiralty has announced. One member of the Montreal steamer's crew was killed and three wounded. The Morwenna was shelled as well as torpedoed. The remainder of the crew drifted in small boats several hours before being picked up. The Betty's crew was rescued and landed near New Castle. Both vessels were of considerable size.

London, May 27.—Under instructions to make a thorough investigation of damage done to the American ship Nebraska by the explosion off Fastnet, a naval attaché at the American embassy has left for Liverpool. A wireless to the admiralty stated the Nebraska would reach Liverpool this afternoon or tonight. No further details have been received as to the explosion, but the admiralty stands on its original announcement that it had been torpedoed.

ELKS DECIDE ON JUNE 16
Elegant Lodge Home to Be Opened to Public Then.

One of the biggest events in La Grande this season will be the opening of the beautiful home built by the Elks on the corner of Depot and Washington streets to the public on June 16th. The order has definitely determined that the 16th shall be the date for the big event which will be participated in by all lodges of the state and possibly Elks from Washington and Idaho.

EXERCISES WILL BE PUBLIC.
No Charge to Be Made for Commencement This Evening.

It is probably not thoroughly understood that the exercises at the high school auditorium are to be free. There is to be no charge whatever for admission to the Commencement exercises. Following the program a reception for the graduates and faculty will be held in Honan hall. All friends and relatives of the graduates and the faculty are cordially invited to attend.

HOLIDAY ARRANGED.
Postoffice to Be Closed Part of Day Next Monday.

Monday, May 31, is Memorial Day, and the postoffice will be closed that day. There will be no city or rural deliveries. The office will be open one hour, from 9 a. m. to 10 a. m., for the delivery of mails and for registry and insured business.

BOLD ZEPPELIN RAID KILLS TWO WOMEN 40 MILES FROM LONDON, INVADER ESCAPING

London, May 27.—Sailing within 40 miles of London, a zeppelin bombarded South-End-On-The-Sea last night. Two women were killed and a child injured by bombs dropped but little material damage was done to property, the official statement announces. The zeppelin was believed

Hawaiians Enjoy Autos
San Diego, May 27.—The Hawaiians who have their palm and banana and pineapple filled village on the Isthmus of San Diego Exposition, wearied the other day of village life. Early in the morning all the men decamped quietly and took an automobile to La Jolla, a beach suburb north of San Diego, carrying with them long wooden structures which mystified the natives until they were unloaded at the water's edge and revealed the surf-riding boats of Hawaii. In ten minutes the suburb's total resident and floating population was on the sand. By noon the Hawaiians were back at the Exposition, singing placidly the love songs of the island.

Coal Plant Auctioned
Pittsburgh, May 27.—Coal land holdings of the Pittsburgh-Buffalo Coal Company were to be offered on the block today to satisfy claims of the Union Trust Company, of this city, as the conclusion of foreclosure proceedings instituted several months ago. The Trust Company claims to hold mortgage and notes for accrued interest totalling nearly \$400,000. The largest of the five properties is the Marianna, in Washington county, comprising 5,328 acres of land with mines, miners' homes and office and other buildings of the company. This is valued at about 80 per cent of the combined holdings of the Company. The Hazel mine and the Francis mine, also in Washington county; the Johnnetts mine in Allegheny county and the Bertha, at Bruneton, are the other properties.

Telegraphic Tournament
San Francisco, May 27.—The annual Telegrapher's tournament which begins here today for a three day session is staged by the Panama Pacific International Telegrapher's Tournament Association. It is promised by the committee to conduct the tournament along the same lines as were the Boston and Philadelphia tournaments. A contest between wireless operators and between "bug" or mechanical hand sending will be added features.

WARDEN APPOINTED
Portland Man Named Game Warden Yesterday

Salem, May 26.—A saving of \$500 a month was made by the State Fish and Game Commission here today by a readjustment of the office force of the department. Numerous positions were abolished, it being the unanimous opinion of all members that the funds should be expended as far as practicable for the actual production of fish and game.

A. H. Lea, of Portland, was named State Game Warden; R. E. Clanton, of Portland, was reappointed Master Fish Warden; William Finley, of Portland, present State Game Warden, was appointed State Biologist, a position created by the board, and F. M. Brown, of Brownsville, was appointed chief clerk of the Game Warden. Mr. Clanton and Mr. Lea will receive salaries of \$2500 a year each and Mr. Finley \$2400. Mr. Brown's remuneration will be \$150 a month. The commission also created the office of superintendent of commercial and game fish hatcheries, the official to have charge of all hatchery work. Mr. Clanton will have charge of the enforcement of the fish laws.

It is probable that superintendent of hatcheries will be appointed at the next meeting. F. M. Warren, commissioner, will make a report regarding this office at that time. G. P. Putnam, private secretary to the Governor, was appointed secretary of the board, his duties being simply to keep a record of the official meetings.

to have been reconnoitering for a possible attack on London, but upon being met by British aviators, confined its activities to bombarding the seaside resort. The British aviators chased the zeppelin but the admiralty admits the ship escaped.

Lower House of Prussian Diet Meet
Berlin, Germany, May 27.—The Lower House of the Prussian Diet is scheduled to meet today. This was the date selected, when they adjourned March 9.

THE COMMANDERS WHO WILL LEAD ITALY'S FIGHTING MEN.



ABOVE, A GROUP OF OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE ITALIAN ARMY AT MOBILIZATION CENTER. BELOW, IN CENTER, KING VICTOR EMMANUEL; AT LEFT, DUKE D'AOSTA, COUSIN OF THE KING AND ONE OF THE RANKING GENERALS; AT RIGHT, DUKE OF THE ABRUZZI, IN COMMAND OF THE FLEET.

UNION LAWYER SEEKS OFFICE

EIGIN MAN ALSO ADVANCED
FOR PROSECUTOR.

R. J. Kitchen of Union Has His Name
at Petition's Head.

R. J. Kitchen, of Union, once Bull Moose but of recent years realigned with Republican forces, is an active candidate for the office of county prosecutor to succeed F. S. Ivanhoe, resigned. This is the fifth lawyer actively seeking the county job, and another "receptive mood" man has been brought forward from Eigin. L. Denham, an Eigin attorney of the Republican faith, stated today in a telephone interview with the Observer that he had not until then been advised that some of his friends were talking him up for the position; that he had made no application for the position, but if it were tendered him might accept.

At Union, however, Attorney Kitchen is making an active campaign. He is the head of a petition going the rounds in Union asking for his appointment. It was rumored in La Grande today that L. Z. Terrall, likewise of Union, was a candidate, but it appears Union has centered upon Kitchen—at least Kitchen's friends are the only ones making an open campaign. The Observer could not raise Mr. Terrall this afternoon to verify his candidacy.

The blackhorse theory crept out last night, but old time politicians say that the office of county prosecutor has been of custom and precedent kept at La Grande for years past and though precedent is easily broken, many claim this would tend to keep the appointment at La Grande.

Another day has passed and the opening of circuit court therefore one nearer, further emphasizing the need of a speedy appointment of a prosecutor here.

BRITISH WARSHIP SUNK

London, May 27.—British Warship Majestic was torpedoed and sunk off Gallipoli Peninsula. The Admiralty announced tonight. The crew was taken off, but not all were saved. The loss of life is not yet known.

Norwegians Gather At the Fair

San Francisco, May 27.—There are as many Norwegians in the United States as in Norway—2,500,000 at told, and their representatives were gathering here today for a Norwegian Exposition Memorial Auditorium tomorrow night. At the celebration will be delegates from the Norwegian Singers of the Pacific Coast, the Synod of the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, the Federation of Singers of the same church, the Young Peoples' Association of the Synod, the Sons of Norway, Daughters of Norway, and many similar organizations. The Lutheran College Concert Band of Decorah, Iowa, just returned from a tour of Europe, assisted by a chorus of 1500 Norwegian singers, will sing at the Exposition.

Portland, May 27.—Arrested on a charge of attempting to defraud a chauffeur, Theodore Feary, Jr., suicided in front of the information desk in the police station by stabbing himself through the heart with a pocket knife. Feary collapsed while the arresting officer was making his report. It was not known that he stabbed himself until he had been taken to the elevator on the way to an emergency hospital when the knife was found still sticking in his left breast. Financial troubles are believed to be the cause. His parents reside at Newberg. He died on the operating table.

SWIMMING HOLE CALLING YOUTH

SCHOOL BOOKS TOSSED ASIDE
TOMORROW.

Commencement Tonight and School
Closes Tomorrow—No More Study.

Tomorrow is the last day of school—no more books to lug, only fishing poles, no more clean hands and faces, only sandpiles and swimming holes. Marking this stage of affairs however is the highly important function tonight, that of commencement. The graduates will get their sheepskins, the commencement address will be delivered, and after tonight the class of '15 will be cut loose from high school life. There remain a few examinations to be given but on the whole school is practically over now. Tomorrow night the teachers commence to pull away from work and vacation will be on in reality.

Commencement exercises will be held in the high school auditorium this evening at 8 o'clock. The program will be largely that of the address of the evening, some musical numbers and formal opening and closing of the program.

ROBBERS SEARCH HOUSE.

North Side Home Ransacked for Valuable Yesterday Noon.

Daylight robbery was successfully attempted, though with little remuneration, when, yesterday noon, the B. A. Rogers home at 2802 North Greenwood was robbed. The family took dinner at the home of their daughter, locking their house securely before going. It is probable the intruder used a pass key. A purse with but little change in it was taken, but otherwise there is no discernible loss of property.

Child Labor Convention Meets

San Francisco, May 27.—New laws to abolish child labor will be formulated and discussed tomorrow when the National Child Labor Committee's four day convention opens at the Civic Auditorium here.

Hundreds of delegates, representing every part of the United States, were here today ready for the opening session. Actual conditions in the shops of child labor employing industries will be demonstrated by moving pictures.

Men and women of national prominence are to speak on child labor and its remedies. This is the first time the Committee has convened west of the Mississippi.

HEROES DEAD TO BE HONORED

G. A. R. AND W. R. C. PLAN CEREMONY.

Decoration Day to Be Observed Next Monday by Orders.

The G. A. R. and W. R. C. memorial services will be held at the First Baptist church on the corner of Sixth and Spring avenue, Sunday, May 30. Rev. R. E. Close of the Baptist church and president of the Ministerial association will preside, other pastors of the city participating. Rev. Leon L. Meyers of the Christian church will deliver the memorial sermon. Musical numbers will be furnished by Mrs. Hal Bohnenkamp and Mrs. R. J. Cotner. Further details will be announced later.

Decoration Day Monday.

Decoration Day will be observed by the G. A. R. and W. R. C. Monday, May 31st at the First Baptist church corner of Sixth street and Spring avenue. The G. A. R. and W. R. C. will march in a body from the K. of P. hall to the church where the memorial services to the "Unknown dead" will be held on the lawn, the weather permitting, at 2:30, immediately preceding the Decoration Day program. The public is cordially invited to participate in the exercises at the cemetery Monday morning with the G. A. R. and W. R. C. and children. The line will form in front of the K. of P. hall leaving promptly at 10:30.

Anyone having space in their auto or wishing to donate their auto for use should notify Phone Red 971. The merchants of the city are respectfully requested to close their stores during exercises. A committee will wait on them. Program for Decoration Day is as follows:

Song—Baptist Choir.
Prayer—G. A. R. Chaplain.
G. A. R. Exercises.
Lincoln's Address at Gettysburg—Victor Morgan.
Song—By the Baptist Church Choir.
Prayer—By G. A. R. Chaplain.
G. A. R. Exercises.
Lincoln's Address at Gettysburg—Victor Morgan.
Vocal Solo—Mrs. J. F. Corbett.
"The Flag They Loved So Well"—Herbert Leslie.
Memorial Day Selections—Mary

(Continued on Page 5.)

AUSTRIANS AWAIT FOE

STRONGLY ENTRENCHED, THEY
PAUSE UNTIL TRENTINO
FORCES BEGIN.

TURKS REPORTED READY TO SUE FOR PEACE

King Enthuses Italians by Sending
Promises from the Front that He
Will Lead His Men to Victory and
Restore Lost Provinces—Battle in
Trentino Developing.

Berlin, May 27.—A battle of great proportions on the Trentino border is imminent. Dispatches from German correspondents with the Austrian army assert. Austrians are said to be strongly entrenched just inside the frontier and are awaiting the Italian attack. Constant clashes between the invaders and Austrian outposts are reported and the main bodies of the two armies are said to be separated by only two miles.

Italian Submarine Invades.
Milan, May 27.—An Italian submarine penetrated the Pola harbor in Austria and severely damaged an Austrian auxiliary cruiser, it is acknowledged in unofficial reports. The submarine is declared to have fired eight torpedoes at the Austrian warships in the harbor.

Turks Reported Faltering.
London, May 27.—Athens dispatches declare Djavid Pasha, former Turkish minister of finance, has left Constantinople for Berlin to inform the German government that Turkey is unable to continue the war. Germany will be told it is necessary for Turkey to conclude for separate peace, the dispatchs said.

More Reserves Called.
Amsterdam, May 27.—Germany has called all untrained members of the Landsturm over 35 years of age to active service, according to Berlin advices. Entrance of Italy in the war is believed to be responsible.

Eastern Sweep Continues.
Berlin, May 27.—A terrific battle is now raging in Galicia as the Austro-German army of General Von Hackensen is sweeping steadily to the south toward the Russian main artery of retreat about Przemyel. An official statement concerning this failed to confirm the reports that Austrians and Germans had reached a railway running from Przemyel to Lemberg. The battle is a most violent one.

Rome, May 27.—The king has assumed command of the Italian land and sea forces. From general headquarters, near the frontier, the king has telegraphed his soldiers and citizens the general orders of the day. The king declared he will "lead Italy to victory over the Austrians, restoring the nation its lost provinces of Istria and Trentino."

The announcement was the signal for renewal of patriotic enthusiasm in Rome.

Class to Dallas' Jitney Service

Dallas, Tex., May 27.—New York may boast of its four hundred—the social elite—but down here in far away Texas is another Four Hundred of which this city boasts.

This four hundred knows not what extensive wealth means, but some day if business keeps up they, too, may own a brownstone front, or better yet, perhaps, a cozy California cottage in Dallas' beautiful residence section.

[This four hundred is the Jitney Drivers brigade.

From early morn to very near next dawn, they're hustling from one end of the city to the other, gathering jitneys as they go. Three hundred of this four hundred compose a solid union, as member of the Chauffeurs organization.

And strange to say, four of the four hundred are women, and they, too, hold union cards. You can spot a woman driver if you're fast asleep. They don't take chances. They pursue an even—and safe course while many of their male co-workers tear along like mad.

But the lady drivers contend that they get there just the same—and the popularity of their cars indicates strongly that a pretty girl at the steering wheel makes up for a multitude of slowness.

Today's Oddest Story

Geneva, O., May 27.—Bald-headed men! Attention! Here's a chance to serve your country. Charles Tibbets hasn't any hair on his head, and he's a hero just the same. Learning that 100 flies killed now means just 1,000,000 less on August 1, Charles made an offer to the ladies of the welfare league.

During the next two weeks Charles says he'll wear a thin coating of molasses on his head. Civic fly swatting efforts are to center about him.

NEWBERG MAN SUICIDES IN FRONT OF POLICE DESK IN PORTLAND FOLLOWING ARREST

Portland, May 27.—Arrested on a charge of attempting to defraud a chauffeur, Theodore Feary, Jr., suicided in front of the information desk in the police station by stabbing himself through the heart with a pocket knife. Feary collapsed while the arresting officer was making his report. It was not known that he stabbed himself until he had been taken to the elevator on the way to an emergency hospital when the knife was found still sticking in his left breast. Financial troubles are believed to be the cause. His parents reside at Newberg. He died on the operating table.