

La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XV.

LA GRANDE, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1915.

NUMBER 146

HUNGARY WANTS PEACE SAYS LONDON

GENEVA ITEM CLAIMS NEWS WELL FOUNDED

ENGLISH FURTHER FROM PEACE
THAN BEFORE VON
HOLLWEG'S SPEECH.

TRIPOLI IN DANGER AT
HANDS OF REVOLTERS

Naval Battle Reported Off Albania
Between Italians and Austrians—
News Not Followed by Details—In-
terviews in London Show Lack of
Peace Support There.

London, Dec. 10.—Hungary has
resolved on peace without consent of
Austria and Germany, according to a
dispatch from the Exchange-Tele-
graph's Geneva correspondent today
who said it was "learned on reliable
information." It is said peace de-
monstrations are occurring through-
out Hungary.

Naval Battle Rumored.
Athens, Dec. 10.—It is believed a
naval battle may have occurred off
Albania. Yesterday a report was cir-
culated that an Italian squadron ap-
peared while Austrians were bombard-
ing Giovanni and De Neura. No de-
tails are given out.

Italians in Africa Suffer.
Constantinople, Dec. 10.—Well-
organized bands of Tripolitans and
Hinterland natives have revolted, se-
verely defeating Italians in Africa ac-
cording to reports here. Italian losses
are reported at 6000. Rebels are re-
ported to be within two-hours' march
of the city of Tripoli.

Want Waterways for Preparedness.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Resolutions
demanding sufficient appropriations
from congress for the continuation of
the development of the waterways of
the country were passed at the clos-
ing session of the National Rivers
and Harbors Congress here today.
The resolutions declared that in view
of the demand for national defense,
waterways development should be
pushed to place industry in a position
where it could withstand a war. Of-
ficers were to be elected and con-
gressional committees appointed.

Wilson Scheduled in Columbus Today

Columbus, O., Dec. 10.—President
Wilson is expected to deliver two ad-
dresses here today. He is to talk on
peace and business before the Colum-
bus Chamber of Commerce at noon
and on the social and religious needs
of farm life before the Commission
on Church and Country life and the
Federal Council of Churches tonight.
On the program at the Country Life
conference today are:
The Rev. E. Tallmadge Root, Bos-
ton; Dr. W. C. Clippinger, West-
erville, O.; Rev. John M. Moore, Nash-
ville, Tenn.; Henry Wallace, Des
Moines, Ia.; Rev. George N. Luccock,
Oak Park, Ill.; Prof. Shailer Mathews,
President of the Federal Council of
Churches and Bishop William F. An-
derson of Cincinnati.

Keep Up Fight on Uncle Sam's Step.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Mrs. Wil-
liam Kent, wife of the independent
California congressman, advised the
Women Voters' convention here to-
day to keep active headquarters
open in Washington until congress
passes the suffrage constitutional
amendment.

Students Talk Tuberculosis.

Chicago, Dec. 10.—All public and
private schools in Chicago today de-
voted a certain period to the study of
the prevention and cure of tubercu-
losis. The day was named by Mayor
Thompson at the request of the Na-
tional association for the Study and
Prevention of Tuberculosis, which
designated the week of Dec. 6th as
Disease Prevention Week.

WAR BULLETINS

BOY-ED RECALLED.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Ambassador
von Bernstorff this afternoon notified
the state department that Germany
had recalled Von Papen and Boy-Ed,
German attaches at the New York
consul. Germany asks for safe con-
duct home.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The War
College special defense report was
submitted today to Secretary Garri-
son. It designates Puget Sound, Cal-
ifornia and the Atlantic coast as
three "critical areas." It advocates a
far greater program of prepared-
ness than the administration does.
One division of infantry and a bri-
gade of cavalry for the Puget sound
region is recommended.

Erie, Pa., Dec. 10.—Five hundred
and fifty thousand bushels of Cana-
dian grain consigned to the Allies
burned in a fire destroying three An-
chor line elevators. Authorities are
searching for the possible fire bug.

though the owners believe it was
spontaneous combustion.

Petersburg, Va., Dec. 10.—Autom-
obilists have brought word that work
of rebuilding Hopewell has already
begun. Practically the entire town
was wiped out in yesterday's fire.
Thousands of homeless were brought
here. Practically every business
house was destroyed.

Washington, Dec. 10. It is learned
authoritatively today that the Amer-
ican note to Austria protesting de-
struction of the liner Ancona, with
American lives, is practically an ul-
timum. It is stated reliably Amer-
ica placed herself in position to sever
diplomatic relations unless Austria
accedes to demands made.

Grant Proposition Made.
Salem, Dec. 10.—The Oregon-Cal-
ifornia Land Conference committee
has decided to submit to the "Espee"
a provision to pay them \$2.50 per
acre plus the amount of taxes ex-
ceeding that sum that have been paid.

STATE LEVY IS REDUCED

WHOLE TAX TO BE CUT OVER
HALF A MILLION.

Union County's Share Above \$13,000.
Less Than for the Last Year.

Salem, Dec. 10.—A full mem-
bership of the state tax commission to-
day approved the state tax levy as
submitted by the commission's active
members. This means the tentative
figures issued last night are final.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 9.—To operate
the state government and state insti-
tutions next year will require \$2,550,-
000 according to estimates of the
State Tax Commission, which today
announced the tentative amounts
which each of the 35 counties in the
state will be required to contribute.
With the return of the Governor and
State Treasurer to Salem tomorrow,
the figures prepared by the commis-
sion will be ratified and the respec-
tive counties notified.

In fixing the amount necessary for
the coming year, the commission has
been able to cut \$562,000 from the to-
tal levied for state purposes this
year. The total state tax in 1915 was
\$3,112,000.
On a mileage basis, the average state
levy for 1916 expenses will be 2.73
mills, as compared with 3 1-3 mills in
1915.

Union county's apportionment of the
tentative requirements of the state for
1916 is \$51,349.35 as against \$64,412.17
for the present year. This is a re-
duction for state tax from this coun-
ty of \$13,063.82 and on an assessment
of twenty millions amounts to six-
tenths of a mill, or 60 cents on each
thousand dollars of assessment.

Civil War Veteran Dead.

Cottage Grove, Or., Dec. 9.—Chas.
Bohn, a resident of Oregon for 25
years and a Civil war veteran, died
Monday night after a long illness, as
the result of a fall on November 17,
when his hip was dislocated and fr-
actured. He was aged 75 years, 3
months and 5 days. Funeral services
were held yesterday under the aus-
pices of the G. A. R. He was born in
Germany August 3, 1840, and was
married at Buffalo, N. Y., October 20,
1877, to Regina Reitz, who survives
him. He enlisted May 1, 1861, in the
Twenty-first New York Volunteers;
was wounded at the battle of Antietam
September 16, 1862, and was hon-
orably discharged February 13, 1863.
His wife and two of four children
survive. The children are Charles
Bohn of Drain and Mrs. R. W. Wat-
ers of Medford.

M'CORMICK SELLS OUT.

Interests in Pool Halls Disposed of
to F. E. Ware.

C. C. McCormick has disposed of
interests in pool halls in La Grande.
F. E. Ware of the La Grande Busi-
nessmen's club is the buyer and takes
over the McCormick interests in both
the Club and the Foley hotel pool
rooms. Mr. and Mrs. McCormick ex-
pect to leave soon for their former
home in Eugene.

HOBOS WON'T LIKE GOTHAM

SURPRISE IN STORE FOR
WEARY WILLIES.

Hotel de Gink Won't Be There to
Welcome Hoboes During the
Winter.

New York, Dec. 10.—(Special)—
The hoboes coming to New York
this winter, intending to be fed and
lodged by the charitable institutions
of the city, are doomed to an un-
welcome surprise. There will be no Ho-
tel de Gink to offer accommodations,
such as was in existence last year
when the number of men out of em-
ployment who came to this city from
different parts of the country had
reached such large proportions that
the city authorities turned over a
building to them for their use. Of-
ficials of various city departments
upon whom falls the burden of tak-
ing care of the indigent have mapped
out a campaign which it is believed
will tend to keep away the greater
number of tramps and vagrants who
flock here annually to swell the army
of unemployed. It is proposed to
pick up every tramp on the street
and put him at hard manual labor,
and to make every vagrant com-
mitted to an institution work for his
food and shelter. The municipal
lodging house has accommodations for
2500 homeless men where they can
get bed and board and a chance
at employment. If a job is obtained
and refused, they will be put to work
on streets, docks and wood yards.
There is also need for manual labor
at the Staten Island farm colony,
and in cleaning ground and digging
the foundations for new buildings at
Rikers Island. While no doubt there
are many who will welcome these op-
portunities of existing during the
winter, should employment be scarce
and the weather severe, it is believed
that they will act as a damper to
the professional tramp and vagrant.

MYSTERY SHROUD IS NOT LIFTED

San Diego, Dec. 10.—The disabled
freighter Minnesota, towed by two
tugs passed San Diego this morning,
evidently heading for San Pedro. As-
sistant Harbor Master Mugler in-
formed the United Press to that ef-
fect this morning after making a
fruitless trip to sea to extend cour-
tesies of the port to Captain Garlick of
the Minnesota.

The Minnesota remains as much a
mystery ship as ever. Garlick per-
sistently refused to be seen or state
the destination of his ship or what
transpired aboard.

PUBLIC CHRISTMAS TREES.

Pendleton Plans on Having Two on
the Streets.

Pendleton, Ore., Dec. 8.—Pendleton
will have two municipal Christmas
trees, with presents for every child

PROHI LAW IS HELD TO BE A SOUND MEASURE

MUCH-MOOTED WASHINGTON
DECISION HANDED DOWN
AT OLYMPIA.

DRY MEASURE BECOMES
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST

Decision Over Which Portland Jour-
nal Made Premature Announce-
ments finally Handed Down and
Upholds the Dry Law—Decision
Has Bearing, It Is Contended, in
Oregon.

Olympia, Dec. 10.—A decision has
finally come down in the Washington
prohibition law case, and the law is
upheld by it. This is the opinion
that was prematurely discussed in the
Portland Journal, in which it was
stated the court had ruled against the
law.

The decision today finding the law
valid, means that the prohibi-
tion law goes into effect January 1st.
Although it was generally under-
stood that the Washington decision
would be a precedent in the Oregon
case, both laws are not identical nor
were they put into being by quite the
same means. However, the decision
is generally looked on as a precedent.

A majority of justices concurred in
the opinion written by Judge Barker.
Two wrote separate ones arriving at
the same conclusions. One did not
participate. The court held:

That the prohibition law didn't fail
of publicity;

That the inter-state commerce ac-
t wasn't violated;

That there is no inconsistency in
that the people's law and the initiative
amendment provided different dates
on which the law must become effec-
tive.

REGISTRATION GOING ON

While Necessity Can be Looked After
Monday, Best not so.

Arrangements to register those who
overlook to register prior to the city
election Monday, has been made by
city officials and anyone wishing to
vote Monday must be registered, but
can do so at the city hall that day—
no where else. Four extra clerks will
be available, but these can handle
about 200 people only in a day, so that
it is safest to register prior to elec-
tion day. Blank A, whereby voters
are sworn in at the polling places,
have been abandoned entirely under
the new statutes.

DELEGATES ATTEND MEET

Two La Grande Men and Several
Boys Go to Ontario.

With several boys with them, Rev.
G. L. Clark of the Presbyterian
church and Roy Clark, secretary of
the Y. M. C. A. left today for Ontario
where they will attend the boys' con-
ference. Among those who left with
the two men today were Ken-
neth Williamson, Albert Curry,
Jerry Hopkins and Allen Hunter.

in the city. A large choir of mixed
voices is practicing to sing Christmas
carols Christmas eve, in a grand
spectacle on Main street.

One tree will be placed at the cor-
ner of Main and Court streets and the
other at the corner of Main and Alta
streets. A programme will be given
and the streets will be lined with ever-
greens and red, white and blue cluster
lights. Two dinners are being arrang-
ed for the poor.

Recovering From the Grip.

Mr. and Mrs. George Jacobs, of
South La Grande, who have both been
down with la grippe, are on the road
to early recovery.

Baker Coming Tomorrow.

The bowling match between Baker
and La Grande scheduled for a week
ago, will take place tomorrow night
at the Club alleys commencing at
9:45.

HITCHING POSTS LIKELY.
Very Likely That Adequate Facilities
Can Now Be Provided.

Commercial club officials have
about closed negotiations for suitable
hitching rack parking. After work-
ing on the plan for months, failing to
obtain leases on close-in property
where farmers might have their
hitching racks, the club has about
closed with owners of vacant prop-
erty near the Sawyer-Clark ware-
house in the wholesale district. While
the place will not be as centrally lo-
cated as both the club and farmers
would like, it is the best obtainable.

PHY DEFINES ROAD POLICIES

DIRT ROADS HAVE PROVEN
THEIR MERIT.

Trunk Roads Desirable But Should
Be State Project Says Judge.

So much has been said recently
about public highways; the impor-
tance of the question is so apparent;
the seemingly under current at work
in the interest of hard surface high-
ways, which in turn will mean heavy
expenditures that must be met either
by direct taxation or a bond issue, the
latter of which has met with the
strongest criticism from many tax-
payers; that in view of these condi-
tions, the Evening Observer today
called on County Judge Phy for his
views on the road question.

Better Roads Demanded.

"I fully realize," said Judge Phy,
"that better roads are needed and de-
manded and I also realize that taxes
at the present time are too high.
After traveling over most of the roads
of Union county and making a study
of the situation I am convinced that
the well made dirt road, and the
rock and gravel road at best, will
constitute the major part of highway
mileage for years to come.

Large Amount of Work Planned.

"When the present county court
took hold of things we saw that road
work was very essential. Investiga-
tion of every process and material
that we had at our command convinced
us that the dirt road, properly graded
and drained, with the systematic and
continual use of the road drag would
bring about much better highways. We
have accomplished considerable, al-
though the start was made late in the
season, as all know. Any fair minded
person must admit that the roads
worked as above described have shown
remarkable improvement. For the
coming year extensive work along the
same lines has been planned.

"While this work is slated to be
done and while we are using our ef-
fort to make better dirt roads in
Union county, I am mindful of the
fact that quite a number of heavy
taxpayers are anxious for hard-sur-
faced highways. This was shown at
the last meeting of the county court
when a delegation attended the meet-
ing and requested a three mill addi-
tional road tax be levied on Union
county. As I have stated, I believe
taxes are now too high, and I am op-
posed to building permanent hard
surface roads in county units.

"A short time ago I traveled over
the Columbia highway and it is a
magnificent piece of work, and as I
was riding over that road the thought
presented itself to me again, for I
have often expressed myself on it—
that the state of Oregon should as a
state build the trunk lines. By this
I mean that no county should un-
dertake to hard surface a road
through it, but that the state as a
whole should levy a tax on all prop-
erty in the state and build the road.
"If the Columbia highway could be
extended through from Hood River to
Eastern Oregon and the Idaho state
line it would vastly improve and be-
nefit the entire state. There is no argu-
ment against that. But if Union or
Baker counties should either of them
build a highway through its own con-
fines and then that highway fail to
connect with the Columbia highway
because some county refused to do its
part, the work would in a measure
be useless.

"Should my plan for the state as a
whole to build the trunk lines and
the state as a whole pay for those
lines ever be adopted Union county
would have something like fifty
miles of hard surface road. Then if
the people of the county decided they
wanted permanent hard surface roads
to connect with the trunk line the work
of building them could be shared by
the county from Elgin, Summerville
and Cove and other points and extend-
ed from year to year as the people

(Continued on Page Five)

FARMERS VOICE OBJECTIONS TO PREPAREDNESS

COSTLY ARAMADAS NOT WANT-
ED BY FARMERS UNION
MEETING AT WEISER

UNION COUNTY CROWD
BANNER FROM OREGON

Union County Farmers Bring Home
Report of Successful Meeting at
Weiser — National Marketing
Scheme Heartily Endorsed and
Farm Week in La Grande Well
Liked.

Preparedness insofar as it means
expenditure of huge sums for "arma-
das" was resolved against, rural
credits urgently supported, and na-
tional marketing was endorsed in a
list of resolutions adopted at Weiser
yesterday by the Farmers Educa-
tional & Co-operative union which had
delegates from Oregon and Southern
Idaho at Weiser this week. The an-
nual convention closed last night and
Union county's representatives have
returned. This county, by the way,
had the banner list of delegates pres-
ent of any county in Oregon.

Delegates returning today pro-
nounce the meetings the best ever
held.

Farm Week Discussed.

During the convention Farm and
Homebuilders' week to be held at La
Grande was discussed and advertised
considerably, and the union heartily
endorsed the plan of bringing the
college courses from Corvallis to La
Grande for the week.

Among delegates attending from
Union county were J. M. Gilkeson,
North Powder; E. S. Norris, Walter
M. Pierce and C. D. Huffman from
La Grande; Mr. and Mrs. John Wells,
Mr. and Mrs. McGoldrick, Mr.
Skillings of Imbler; Mr. and Mrs. W.
J. Case, M. E. Walsinger, S. G.
Ruckman and wife of Allice, Mr.
Wealty and W. O. Parks of Elgin.

Most of the old officers were re-
elected. J. D. Brown is again pres-
ident, Frank Bartholter of Coquille,
vice, S. F. A. Sykes of Corvallis sec-
retary-treasurer. Two retired from
the board, Mr. Boowy of Boise suc-
ceeding himself and Mr. Keeney of
Corvallis succeeding Mr. Davidheiser,
of Joseph.

All speak very highly and with
much praise of the treatment accord-
ed the delegates by the businessmen
of Weiser—everything was free and
plenty of it.

Resolutions passed by the conven-
tion include the following:

Resolutions.

Another milepost in the advance-
ment of the Farmers' Educational
and Co-operative Union of Oregon
and Southern Idaho has been passed,
and we find ourselves growing in
numbers and gaining in strength and
influence. Much of the credit for this
is due the efficient crops of servants
at the head of the organization, and
we extend them our hearty thanks
for their faithfulness to duty and the
cause they have so ably and con-
scientiously represented.

Believing in the Fatherhood of God
and the Brotherhood of man in the
broadest sense, we proclaim an un-
selfish desire to better the conditions
of mankind in general, and as it is an
economic truth that all wealth comes
primarily from the soil, we ask the
co-operation of all citizens of rural
communities in our struggle for bet-
ter markets for what we have to sell,
lower prices for some of the things
we have to buy and a lower rate of
interest on the money needed to de-
velop our farms, to the end that the
local business and professional men
as well as ourselves may enjoy a
greater measure of the wealth and
prosperity of our common country.
The wastage in marketing must be
done away with, and the sagacious
rural merchant will unite with us in
our plan to do away with countless
middlemen—as unnecessary as a
fifth wheel to a wagon—who are
reaping the profits from our toil.

Notwithstanding the great demand
for the products of the farm, incident
to the great struggle going on in Eu-
rope, prices have been reduced to the
bare cost of production, and in some

(Continued on Page Four)