

La Grande Evening Observer

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AUSTRIA SAYS NO NEED EXISTS FOR A QUARREL

"KEEP COOL" IS ADVICE GIVEN TO WASHINGTON THROUGH MUTUAL THIRD PARTY

UNITED PRESS INTERVIEWS MAN CLOSEST TO JOSEPH

Strong Man of Austria Admits Austrians Were Surprised at Tone of American Note, but Admonishes Uncle Sam to Keep Cool, Saying no Quarrel Need Occur at This Time.

BY CARL W. ACKERMAN. Berlin, Dec. 21.—There will be no quarrel between Austria and America if Washington keeps cool. Count Stephen Tisza, Austria's strongest man, next to the emperor, gave me a statement on my visit to Budapest last week.

"Sheer nonsense," Tisza said following a conference with the emperor. "I must confess, however, that we were surprised by the American note. But it is far from our intentions to quarrel."

"Keep Cool" Is Advice. He pointed out however that matters do not depend upon Austria alone. He counseled coolness at Washington.

Dumba's Successor Studied. He said Austria is now considering a successor to Constantin Dumba, recently recalled on request of the United States, indicating that apparently the Austrian government is not contemplating possibility of a diplomatic break.

MULTNOMAH AGENT SHOOT.

Robber, Unidentified, Probably Fatally Shot While Robbing Till

Portland, Dec. 21.—An unidentified robber last night was shot three times and probably wounded fatally in a revolver duel with J. D. Stewart, night operator at Multnomah Station. The robber was attempting to rob the till when Stewart started the shooting scrape. He was taken to a hospital.

James Ireland, formerly a La Grande real estate dealer, is now day trick operator at the Multnomah Station.

CORN PLANT EXPLODES.

Death and Injured Toll of Corn Products Plant Accident.

New York, Dec. 21.—One was killed and two missing with eleven injured in an explosion that wrecked the building of Corn Products plant at Shadyside, New Jersey. The fire was extinguished. The loss is \$100,000.

THE THREE BIG TOWNS.

Easy to Get Big Figures on the Five to One Basis.

A Pendleton paper recently figured the population of that place on the basis of "five-to-one" on the number of school population. Of course the proportion is too high, but let it go at that. La Grande, apparently is in "the middle" geographically and with respect to number of inhabitants. The Baker Herald comments on the school returns of the three largest towns in Eastern Oregon as follows: "These are the school census figures for the three largest Eastern Oregon cities: Baker, 2468 children; La Grande, 1822; Pendleton, 1636. This shows Baker to have nearly 30 per cent more population than its next rival La Grande, and more than 50 per cent more than its second rival, Pendleton.

"Pendleton has claimed that at the five to one ratio it has 8,180 population. Ontario with its 660 school population claims 3,300 population. As we have said, this is too optimistic, but if we accept their method of figuring we can again see the comparison in population. Baker would have 12,340; La Grande 9,110 and Pendleton 8,180 people."

AUTO BATTLES SNOW.

Enterprise-La Grande Trip Frought with Hardships.

Snow, wind and hills conspired against progress of an automobile party that left Enterprise Sunday morning for La Grande. The conspiracy succeeded in the end for the autoists reached Elgin and there gave up the efforts and came to La Grande on the train.

The members of the party were Frank E. Voight and Charles F. Alderson, insurance men, and Orton E. Goodwin, Portland newspaper man. Hardships recited by the men tend

to chill winter automobiling sport. Drifts were piled in numerous places, especially after climbing the Wallowa hill, and it was disastrous to stop the machine as the terrific gale blowing would almost instantly stall the automobile. The Wallowa hill climb was probably the worst bit of the whole undertaking. The men would shovel the drifted snow away from the machine for a short distance and then one would guide and the others push. Thus the battle with the elements continued most of the day and the arrival in Elgin ended one of the worst trips, probably, that any auto party has undertaken in this neck of the woods in many years.

To add to the grief of the trip, one of the party was dropped off and left "mired" in a snowdrift. It happened that a fairly good stretch of road was reached and the machine was speeded up. After driving for three or four miles, at a rapid clip, another series of drifts was reached and the machine clogged. Mr. Goodwin and Mr. Voight occupied the front seat and when they stopped, expected their companion Mr. Alderson to step from the running board to help them shove out—that was where he stood when they saw him last time, but alas he wasn't there. Fearing to retrace the distance with the machine lest they lose ground already gained, they left it in the drift and hurried back afoot. Some three miles away they met their fellow traveler plodding through the snow in utter dejection. A sudden swerve of the car had tossed him from the running board and his shouts at the time had been drowned by the gale.

GEARHART'S HOTEL BURNS

GEARHART-BY-THE-SEA LOSES FINE HOTEL.

Seaside Fire Department Arrives at Too Late an Hour.

Portland, Dec. 21.—The Gearhart hotel at Gearhart-by-the-sea was destroyed by fire at 5:30 this morning. No details are available because wires are down. The Seaside fire department was too late in arriving there to do any good. The blaze started in an engine room and a heavy wind fanned it.

HOUSE TO JOURNEY.

Colonel Will Represent Wilson Abroad Within a Fortnight.

New York, Dec. 21.—Colonel House is going to Europe within a fortnight unofficially the agent of President Wilson. He told the United Press he was going to take information to American ambassadors and obtain their viewpoints on phases of international questions. It is not to be a peace mission he declared.

CANVASS CHANGES LITTLE.

One Vote in Second Choice Only Error in First Count.

That the unofficial count of the recent city election published in the Observer was correct so far as first choices were concerned, is shown by the official canvass made of the votes cast. The error was in second choice for Mr. Coolidge, and the corrected vote is one vote less than the published totals.

Aged Milton Resident Is Dead.

Milton, Or., Dec. 20.—The funeral of the late Alonzo Gilham was held yesterday from the family residence, Rev. Milo Bentley, of the Baptist church having charge of the services. Mr. Gilham was a native of Devonshire, England, and has been a resident of the United States since 1850. He was 73 years of age and leaves a wife and four children: Harvey Gilham, of Milton; Alonzo, of Weston; Mrs. Lydia Ward of Medford, and Mrs. Elizabeth Myers of San Francisco.

UNION FEELS STORM.

Telephone Lines and Railroad Hurt During the Blow.

Union, Ore., Dec. 20.—One of the worst storms which has been known in this vicinity for several years, raged here all day yesterday and last night, playing havoc with the telephone and electric light wires and doing more or less damage along other lines. Tonight the weather is much warmer and a chinook is threatening.

The famous Telocaset hill was again a great source of trouble to the O. W. R. and N. tracks. The C. R. of O. also had their share of trouble and were piled up in the deep drifts during the night and part of today, as soon as daylight however a crew of men was rushed to the scene and soon had the tracks cleared.

Firm Changes Hands. The Marten Cigar store was purchased the latter part of last week by A. Hanson who is in the tailor business here and the stock was moved today to the building adjoining the tailoring establishment. Mr. Marten had moved to Cove some time ago but the business here was managed by John Vanhouten.

LOGGING ROAD ON ROCK CREEK PROMPTS SUITS

TAPPING LINE SAID TO HAVE DAMAGED PROPERTY IT CROSSES.

MT. EMILY COMPANY IS PLAINTIFF IN THE CASE

Grande Ronde Lumber Company Defendant—Damage Sought Is \$500—Temporary Injunction Dissolved—Pending Settlement in Circuit Court—Answer Is Filed.

Contentions over construction of a logging road through timber land owned by the Mt. Emily Timber company in the Rock Creek district, have led to circuit court litigation. The Mt. Emily Timber company has brought suit for \$500 damages against the Grande Ronde Lumber company of Perry, claiming in their complaint filed by attorney John Hodgkin, counsel, in circuit court that the defendant company built a logging road through their property, "destroying timber and meadowland" to a value of \$500. The answer of the defendant company sets out that but four acres were crossed when the Grande Ronde people built an extension to tap a large belt of timber otherwise inclosed and shut out from transportation; that the surface of the soil only was leveled off a distance eight feet wide, and that suit for condemnation has already been begun in which the plaintiff company would be paid value for damages done.

A temporary injunction was granted recently by Judge Knowles restraining the Grande Ronde Lumber company officials or employees from using the new road, but a few days ago this injunction was dissolved, and while the matter is in court, the road is open to use by the company in hauling out logs from the Rock Creek timber belt.

FEED DRAWS VISITORS.

Expected as Many as Fifty Will Come from North Powder.

Indications are that as high as 50 will come from North Powder tomorrow to be guests at the Wing, Fin & Fleetfoot club hassenpfeffer. Arrangements to take care of that many are now being made. P. A. Foley has the membership tickets in hand for those who wish to provide themselves with the wherewithal that will admit to the big feed tomorrow night.

KLAMATH SHOOTING AIRED.

Statements of Dying and Living Conflict Finds Jury.

Klamath Falls, Dec. 21.—The coroner's jury is in charge of investigation of yesterday's feud that saw death and fatal injuries inflicted near here. Mrs. Keuhne was killed and Lewis Lawrence is held as a participant in the fight. Mrs. Guy Hunter, wife of the wounded man, says she fired the fatal shot. The dying statement of Mrs. Keuhne said Lawrence shot her and then her son shot Hunter. A land dispute started the quarrel.

WAR BULLETINS

Alleged Libel Stopped.

London, Dec. 21.—Mrs. Asquith has won her suit against the Globe to prevent that paper continuing alleged libel. She took exception to stories she was friendly to German prisoners.

Decisive Victory Claimed.

Berlin, Dec. 21.—The Constantinople war office has claimed a great victory in battle when the British were withdrawn from Gallipoli. The enemy was defeated at Anafarta and Ariburnu. The British countered at Seddulbahr but were repulsed.

Two Vessels Sunk.

London, Dec. 21.—The British vessels Huntley and Belford were sunk by a submarine. The crews were saved.

Greeks Fire on French.

Berlin, Dec. 21.—Greeks at fort Karaburnu were fired on a French detachment which failed to heed a command to halt, according to dispatches. The French are reported to have fled. The Greeks hold the fort despite a French request to deliver it to the Allies.

Million More Wanted.

London, Dec. 20.—Premier Asquith

HOLIDAY MAIL VOLUME ATTAINS GREAT TOTAL

EIGHTY-TWO SACKS OF MAIL HANDLED IN LA GRANDE OFFICE IN A DAY.

CHRISTMAS BUSINESS IS BOOMING IN EXPRESS TOO

Last December's Record Far Eclipsed by Current Business in Express—Average Total of Sacks to Handle One Night Is Seven While 82 Went Out of Here Yesterday.

Some notion of the amount of Christmas mail—packages and letters—that leave and arrive in La Grande even as early as four days prior to Yuletide itself, is reflected in the fact that the La Grande postoffice yesterday handled 82 bags of mail. The customary quota of sacks to go out of here in the same period is seven sacks a night on an average. The average weight of these sacks is hard to estimate as the parcels post are generally more bulky than weighty.

But Uncle Sam is not the only concern doing a terrific business in the Christmas shipment line. While carriers, rural and urban, and mail train clerks are fairly swamped with packages and mail, the American Express company is doing a big volume of Christmas business.

"Our December business this year will be far ahead of last year's total" said Local Agent Buck this afternoon. "There is a tremendous increase."

Sommer Hotel Has Truck.

George E. Good, proprietor of the Sommer hotel, has purchased the Merton Kiddle Kisselkar and converted it into a very serviceable truck which will be used as a general utility vehicle for the hotel.

TREES "IN DITCH"

Christmas Decoration Material Delayed in Transit.

Because the logger which was to bring in pine boughs and trees for street decoration, had grief yesterday, the city was unable to finish up its extensive decoration project last evening. However the lights were turned on in the central trees and they presented a very attractive appearance.

War News of One Year Ago Today.

Germany's "crushing Russian victory" claim was exploded. The Allies' western drive was checked by the Kaiser's men. The French chamber of Deputies met in Paris for the first time since last August. Admiral von Tirpitz said German submarines might blockade England and starve her into submission.

NEW LOCKERS COME

Y. M. C. A. Classes of All Kinds Grow and Flourish.

The Young Men's Christian association in conducting its gymnasium classes, educational classes and social work is not alone in this field. Many other organizations are also doing a splendid work in this direction. But the place where the Young Mens

is seeking to call a million more men to English standard.

He has introduced a bill bringing the total troops to four million. He explained Lord Kitchener counseled the Dardanelles and the withdrawal. In withdrawing England suffered only slight losses. Esquith said Derhys plan has succeeded and conscription was unnecessary.

TARANTALA CAPTURED.

O. R. Stageberg Has Close Call from Venomous Insect.

A large tarantala, captured from a bunch of bananas, is on display in the George Young confectionery. It was captured by O. R. Stageberg who found the very venomous insect while handling some bananas in the La Grande Fruit company warehouse. He had handled that particular bunch several times before he saw it. The bite from a tarantala is deemed well nigh fatal until instantaneous anti-dotes are given. Mr. Stageberg captured it however with considerable ease as the low temperature had deadened it somewhat.

Christian association is unique in its work in its religious activities. No other institution makes for its ideal the three fold development of character as does the Y. M. C. A. Its religious educational work is non-sectarian in character and therefore acceptable are all classes of men. During the past year over 30,000 young men were registered in the Bible study classes of the Y. M. C. A. The local association has recently organized a Bible class to study the "Life of Christ" and other classes along the same line will be organized after the first of the year. A special class for High School students has been formed to study "High School Students' problems" this will not deal with any religious subject, but particularly with those things that are problems to the average student in the line of character building. Entrance to these classes can be obtained by applying at the Y. M. C. A. office. No fee is charged.

The mid-winter term of the Y. M. C. A. night school will start January 3, 1916. It is hoped there will be a large registration for this term. Special rates will be given to those students who desire to register, who are not members of the Y. M. C. A. The new steel lockers secured from the Baker Y. M. C. A. have arrived and will be placed in position today. Mr. Clark promises some rare sport in the businessmen's class after the first of the year. A round robin schedule will be run off in the volleyball tournament which promises to be exciting enough for any of the fans. Soon after the first of the year the local fast team will go to Baker to play a matched game with that city.

MARRIAGE NOT TEACHING BAR

Supreme Court Rules for Women. Portland Case Decided and School Board Is Loser.

Salem, Dec. 21.—Marriage is insufficient grounds upon which to dismiss a school teacher, the Supreme court held today in the case of Maud L. Richards against the Portland school board.

She married Oren Richards, a lawyer, last January. She was discharged and her husband brought suit against the school heads.

GRANGE OFFICERS INSTALLED

Important Meeting of Mt. Fanny Membership in Cove.

Cove, Oregon, Dec. 20.—(Special) Mt. Fannie Grange met in regular session on Dec. 18. One application for membership was presented and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ingram and Marvin McNeill were initiated into the order and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Simmons were admitted by demit. They came from Medical Springs grange. There were 35 members, four children and three visitors present. A Christmas dinner was served to the "Shirkers" by the "Workers" of the literary contest for the year 1914.

The officers for 1916 were installed. Mrs. Pease taking the office of Po-mona instead of June Chadwick, who is unable to attend this winter on account of school work. After the regular routine of business the lecturer, Miss Mary Carter, took charge of the following program:

Song, by Grange.

Composition, "In China"—Mrs. E. M. Sweet.

Vocal Duet, "King of Glory"—Mrs. J. K. Lantz and Mrs. E. W. Pease.

Recitation, "Sunshine"—Edward Dalton.

Composition, "A More Beautiful Cove"—Mrs. T. F. Organ.

Recitation, "Christmas Verses"—M. L. Carter.

Reading, "Shopping"—Mrs. L. J. Chadwick.

Recitation, "A Progressive Santa"—Howard Gasset.

Story, "That Girl of Mine"—Ernest Organ.

Recitation, "Y'our Fired"—J. W. Ingram.

Recitation, "A Flood in the Ark"—Alfred Ingram.

The day was too short so all the program was not given. The Eclipse division of the literary contest won. The winning side having 3500 points while the Comets were there with 3490. Next time there will be an open meeting with a New Year's dinner.

Body Is Found.

Chehalis, Wash., Dec. 20.—The body of A. E. Snider, a one-armed man who was drowned in the Cowlitz river near Salkum, October 26 last, when attempting to cross the stream in a dugout with Archie Eckstein and a Mr. Steiner of Ethel, was found Saturday three miles below the scene of the accident. The widow identified the body, and it will be buried here. The other two men in the dugout saved themselves.

Found Dead in Home.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 20.—Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock, over 80 years old, an Oregon pioneer, was found dead in her home at Silverton where she lived alone, this afternoon. She had been dead two days, a physician believed, and he attributed death to heart failure.

FORD ILL IN NORWAY; PARTY WAITS FOR HIM

POSSIBLE THAT ILLNESS IS SERIOUS; CONFINED TO HIS BED.

NEWSPAPERS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARD HIM

Spies from Belligerent Nations in Christiania to Learn if Any Ulterior Motive Prompted Ford's Trip—Move Indicative of More Than Passing Interest.

Christiania, Norway, Dec. 21.—Henry Ford is ill in bed. It is very likely that his condition is serious. At any rate, until his recovery the peace party will remain in Christiania. Sentiment is in his favor now. Norwegian newspapers now call him an admirable personality. At the same time spies, sent by belligerent nations, are here to find out if any ulterior motive prompted Ford's action.

This interest in his move is held by some to be indicative of considerable significance of the trip in warring nations' circles.

BUT ONE "VINCENT" TOWN.

Place in Umatilla County Has Adopted Another Name.

The postoffice officials have decided that one place in Oregon named "Vincent" is enough. Our "Vincent," although located in Wallowa county and named in honor of "Our Vincent" Vincent Palmer—remains unchanged. But a town over in Umatilla county seven miles west of Freewater, will have to hereafter shed its odor under another name. That name is to be "Umapine." This name is given by the postoffice authorities and was chosen from a number of names submitted following a request for a name with a historical meaning. Umapine was an old Indian chief who at one time in the early days saved Pendleton, it is said, from a disastrous fire.

QUIETUDE ABOUT PRESIDENT.

Double Guard of Secret Service Men Brings Desired Result.

Hot Springs, Dec. 21.—President Wilson and his bride are keeping quiet here. A double guard of secret service men are constantly about the suite of rooms occupied by the president.

SPAIN BUYS MUNITIONS.

Twenty Millions to Be Spent for Munitions and Machinery.

New York, Dec. 21.—Spain will buy \$20,000,000 worth of munitions and machinery in America, Consul Salas said today. A military commission of five is now here.

STORM ON SOUND.

Danger Warnings Out Though No Harm Reported Yet.

Seattle, Dec. 21.—A 60-mile gale is raging along the coast and fear is felt for shipping. Storm warnings are up and wires are down. No storm damage is reported by wireless at noon today.

LICENSE RECORD BIG.

Hymeneal Endeavors Have Been Flourishing During Year.

With several days yet to go on, Dan Cupid will have a flourishing record in Union county for 1915. Today noon, County Clerk Ed Wright had issued 164 licenses for "wedding purposes."

SHORTEST DAY TOMORROW.

Sun Will Reach Southernmost Point at 2:08 p. m. Wednesday.

Tomorrow is to be the shortest day in the year—Tonight the longest night. The sun tomorrow at 2:08, Pacific coast time, will shine directly down upon the tropic Capricorn. The Winter solstice is often fixed for the 21st of December, but erroneously; the date is December 22, but the actual hour and minute varies.

Wants \$10,000 Damages. Salem, Or., Dec. 20.—Damages amounting to \$10,000 are asked for in a suit brought here by Peter Rasmussen against F. Hasselbacher. Rasmussen alleges that he was arrested at the instance of Hasselbacher on an unfounded charge of insanity. He declares he was held in jail two days pending an examination, and that it resulted in his dismissal.