

La Grande Evening Observer

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

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ENGLAND IN THROES OF A FAMILY ROW

CONSCRIPTIONISTS FORCE AS-
QUITH TO THE WALL FOR
A SHOWDOWN.

SEVERAL BRITISH BOATS SUNK IN PAST FEW DAYS

War Situation Centers Today Upon
Family Rumpus in England, and
Appeal to Roumania to Join with
Allies—Boats Go Down With Many
Lives Is Report Sent.

London, Dec. 28.—The British cabinet faced the gravest internal crisis of the war when it met today to consider the momentous question of conscription. It was rumored several members would resign unless some form of compulsion is agreed on. Also, it is said Asquith, and possibly Lord Grey, will quit if pro-conscriptionists won. In that case Lloyd George will probably be premier. Parliament meets tonight following the cabinet session. It is possible the most serious charge yet made is to be directed against the Dardanelles and Balkan campaigns.

London, Dec. 28.—The British steamer Van Styr, 3,000 tons, was sub-
merged. The crew was rescued.

Paris, Dec. 28.—The French liner Ville de La Ciotat was torpedoed with a loss of 80 lives reported sunk by Germans believing Castelnau, French chief staff aboard. Castelnau recently went to Saloniki.

Roumania Appealed To
Rome, Dec. 28.—The czar sent Ambassador Schelko to Bucharest with a personal message to the King of Roumania asking him to join the allies, it is reported.

Kaiser May Feel Knife.
London, Dec. 28.—The Kaiser will undergo a throat operation in a few days, Swiss advices say.

SPITE WORK ALLEGED.

C. E. Tuckey Claims He Met With
Temporary Upset Only.

"Spite work, entirely," is the way that C. E. Tuckey of this city explains the difficulty he fell into at Haines when he went about it to liquidate some paper against a Haines saloon. "I wasn't running a saloon and my arrest was entirely spite work," said Mr. Tuckey in speaking of the matter after his return. I was inconvenienced to be sure, but I see no reason why I should not collect the amount due. A Haines dispatch in this connection this morning says, among other things:

"The local saloon mix-up, which resulted in the arrest of C. E. Tuckey last week on charges of selling liquor without a license, will be aired in court today before Justice of the Peace Roberts. Tuckey was released on \$150 cash bail Saturday afternoon. J. D. Toney, who gave Tuckey a bill of sale for the saloon stock, was running the saloon yesterday."

"Tuckey brought suit against Toney to recover \$600 on a note assigned to him by Toney's former wife, the stock being attached and the saloon closed. Toney gave him a bill of sale of the stock which attempted to open the place without securing a transfer of the license, and was promptly arrested by City Marshal Heninger."

LONG TRIP ENDED.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ball Have In-
teresting Visit in South.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ball have returned from a four-months' trip through Southern Oregon, California and Arizona, visiting relatives and many places of interest. They spent about four weeks in Southern Oregon and one in Sacramento, one in San Francisco, two at Los Angeles and the balance of the time at Thatcher, Globe and Miami, Arizona. Globe and Miami are in the great copper belt. The Inspiration mine at Miami is the second largest copper mine in the world. This Miami copper mine is where a few years ago about 10 acres of the surface sank into the mine, killing 50 men and injuring many more.

"One can hardly walk over the ground now without keeping watch, to see that it is not going to sink," said Mr. Ball today in speaking of the place. "The Inspiration mine when running full blast puts out nearly 50 tons of copper a minute. Arizona should have plenty of valuable mines as a great portion of it is not good for anything else."

"The Exposition was a big thing and well worth seeing. One of the most interesting sights we saw was the Odd Fellows parade when 20,000 Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and orphan children march in a body."

The couple enjoyed good health on the trip except for a few days when Mr. Ball was suffering with a bad cold.

LA GRANDE BOY BADLY MAULED

C. O. KEASTER SUFFERS AT
HANDS OF "PAL"

Trio Held at Baker Pending Investi-
gation of Alleged Assault
in Box Car.

Baker, Dec. 28.—His face and head a mass of cuts and bruises, C. O. Keaster of La Grande, is being held by the county authorities as a witness, while John Meade, a youth of 19, his alleged assailant, is being held in the county jail on a charge of "assault, with intent to kill," as the result of a one-sided fight which took place in a box car of a speeding east bound freight at about 3 o'clock yesterday morning, between Wingville and Baker.

According to the story told by Keaster and substantiated by Roy Sargent another occupant of the car, who is also held here, the aggression came from Meade. Keaster asserts that he was awakened from his sleep by the flare of a match and had barely turned his face away from the light when a heavy blow, presumably from a "billy," afterward found in Meade's possession, landed back of his right ear, almost stunning him. A rain of heavy jolts followed and the pain partially restoring his consciousness, Keaster staggered to his feet and grappled with his assailant. As they struggled about over the floor of the lurching car they fell over Sargent who awoke and assisted Keaster in relieving Meade of the loaded club and of an iron bar, which he had wielded in either hand during the fray.

The lights of Baker had just come into view when Meade was subdued, and the trio were taken to the county jail at Baker. The three were taken into custody, Keaster's wounds dressed and this morning Meade was turned over to the county officials.

Meade attempted to excuse himself by saying that he is an epileptic and remembered nothing of the incidents on the train, but Sargent states that Meade knew what was happening and begged not to be hit, after the tables had been turned on him. Meade is more than six feet tall, weighing in the neighborhood of 180 pounds, while Keaster would weigh some 40 pounds less.

Keaster asserts that Meade had been boarding at his home in La Grande, but had failed to pay room rent. He says that in order to rid the house of an unwelcome guest, he induced Meade to start out with him for Weiser in search of work.

Indians Poor Fighters.

New York, Dec. 28.—Withdrawal of Indian troops from France, announced yesterday, is said to be due to their comparative failure as fighters. They lacked moral stamina.

NEW BRITISH COMMANDER



General Sir Douglas Haig.

Hailed as the "man of the hour," General Sir Douglas Haig succeeded Sir John French as commander of the army in France and Flanders on Dec. 16th. General Haig is only fifty-four years old, the youngest commander in the present war. He is a Scotchman, born in Fifeshire, is tall, powerfully built, dour and masterful, and so close a student of his profession that he was nicknamed "von Haig" by his friends.

YUAN PROBABLY WON'T TAKE THRONE JUST NOW

Pending Revolutions Deter Emperor--
Separate Dynasty Proposed

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—Receipt of Peking cablegrams had led Chinese leaders to believe Yuan Shi Kai is heading revolutionary rumblings and will not ascend the throne New Year's day. It is rumored that Yuan, nan province calling all sections to revolt against the monarchy, has deterred the emperor.

Bishop Bushfort, head of Methodist missionaries in China, reports secret pressure has been brought to bear since the outbreak of the European war to return to a monarchy.

"People in China as a whole are pleased with the republic" said Dr. Bushfort.

Separate Dynasty Proposed.

London, Dec. 28.—General Tsai Ao, leader of the Yuannan rebels, proposed to found a separate dynasty, according to a telegraphic correspondence. It is reported anti-monarchistic revolutions have spread to Kwangsi. General Tsai Kun is leading government troops against the revolters.

COMPENSATION ACT IS VALID

Salem, Dec. 28.—The supreme court today upheld the Oregon Workmen's Compensation act. Justice McBride declared it would be a reflection on republican government if a bill which passed legislature almost unanimously and was affirmed by vote of the people, was permeated with rottenness and unconstitutionality.

The suit was brought by an injured workman who would get but a trifle from the compensation fund, he claiming his right had been abridged by the act.

Taken to the Hospital.

Will R. Hamilton, employed with the Levy-Vogel drug company, was taken to the hospital this afternoon for an operation for appendicitis which was performed by Dr. Hall.

Elgin Couple Married.

Frank Hallgarth and Stella Glasson both of Elgin, were married at the parlor of the Savoy Hotel Monday, December 26, 1915. A. C. Williams, justice of peace officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Hallgarth will make their home in Elgin.

ONE BRAKEMAN STOPS 12 CARS LAWMAKERS IN FEDERAL GRIP

FREIGHT TRAIN BREAKS AT
KAMELA.

Brakeman Brings Cars to Halt After
They Travel Two Miles.

Twelve freight cars, two of them loaded, broke loose from an extra east this morning at Kamela and ran a considerable distance down the grade before being stopped by Brakeman Wilson who was on the cars and by his bravery and coolness of head was responsible for the entire lack of accident.

Extra 541, eastbound, Conductor Leffel and Engineer Larcom, with 23 loads and 10 empties, arrived at Kamela at 9:45 a. m. with meet orders on No. 17 at Casey. In making the stop at Kamela they broke a knuckle and to avoid delay to No. 17, the conductor cut out the engine to go to Casey and bring No. 17 up to Kamela. Shortly after the engine started for Casey, two loads and ten empties on the head end of the extra started down the hill. Brakeman Wilson was on these cars and stopped them at the yellow board at Casey. No damage resulted and the west bound passenger continued on its way with little or no delay. The cars had traveled two miles.

EAGLES TO HAVE CLAMBAKE.

Good Time in Lodge to Mark the Clos-
ing Night of Year.

The Eagles lodge is to celebrate the passing of the old year Saturday night will a clambake and general feast for the families of the order and invited guests. Speech making, music and general social features will constitute the program of the evening and all Eagles are looking forward to Saturday night with much pleasure.

DECISION IS REACHED.

C. M. Humphreys Determines Defini-
tely to Run in Primary.

After having thought the matter over with careful consideration for some time, during which period it was generally reported that he would be a candidate, C. M. Humphreys this morning announced definitely that he seeks the Republican nomination to the office of county clerk. "I have had the proposition under consideration for some little time, and had, in fact, made up my mind several days ago to become a candidate. I am, therefore, now in the race to stay."

JITNEY LAW HOLDS.

Constitutionality Upheld by Salem
Supreme Court.

Salem, Dec. 28.—The supreme court held today the Portland ordinance regulating jitneys is constitutional, reversing the decision of Judge Bagley.

K. M'CORMICK AMONG RACERS

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK WILL
BE CANDIDATE

Anna Alexander, Also Deputy. An-
nounces Unwillingness to Enter
Politics.

Announcement was made today from the county clerk's office that Anna Alexander would not run as successor to Ed Wright, but that Mr. Kenneth McCormick, deputy in the office, would make the race.

Friends of Miss Alexander have been besieging her to run for the office ever since Mr. Wright definitely announced his intention of running for Commissioner on the Public Utilities commission, and she has considered the matter carefully. Today she gave out the following interview on the subject:

"I do not wish to be a candidate for the office of county clerk," said Miss Alexander, "because I feel it is a position better suited for a gentleman to fill rather than a lady. Mr. McCormick and myself understand the work in the office and I feel that if he should be elected the business of the clerk's office will be run just as it has been in the years past under Mr. Wright."

McCormick Announces Candidacy.
Kenneth McCormick, who for four years has been deputy under Ed Wright, announced that he would make the race for the office.

"It is my intention," remarked Mr. McCormick, "to run for county clerk and I now announce myself for the place. I have been with Mr. Wright and Miss Alexander for four years and promise the people that if elected the work in the county clerk's office will be continued under the efficient plans and policies installed and adopted by Mr. Wright."

Mr. McCormick is of Union and is well known over the valley. In the position that he has held he has come in contact with all who transact business at the clerk's office and he has made many friends who doubtless will support him.

The Union people seem to be strong for McCormick and many have volunteered their support when they found that Mr. Wright would not again be a candidate. It is understood that Marion Davis, ex-postmaster of Union, will not be a candidate for the office of county clerk as was at first reported. Mr. Davis joining with the Union people who are supporting McCormick for the place.

Every Seattle Cafe Sold Out.

Seattle, Dec. 28.—With the last day of legal drinking looming, cafe managers are preparing for the biggest night in history. The prosecutor's office is a veritable mecca for seekers after loopholes in the law.

Every cafe table and lots of liquor have been reserved.

Portland Famine Near.

Portland, Dec. 28.—Liquor famine is threatened for the last day before prohibition. Stores and saloons have sold or shipped their best grades of liquor and dregs are being sold cheap.

Soil Is Burning.

From the Boise papers we learn that there is an underground fire out at the Herbert Lempi ranch in Crane creek gulch, and that about an acre of soil has been burned to a white ash. A depression has been made in the soil over the burned area. Mr. Lempi has come to the conclusion that the soil contains gas or oil, which has caused it to burn. Perhaps Mr. Lempi's future home has come up to meet him.—North Powder News.

NEW PICTURE OF THE KAISER REPORTED FACING AN OPERA- TION.



Kaiser Wilhelm (at right)

A very recent photograph of the Kaiser, taken in northern France, riding with one of his generals.

SALOON MEN CASTING ABOUT FOR NEW JOBS

ABOUT HALF TO GO INTO NEW
BUSINESS IMMEDIATELY
SHOWS CANVASS.

FEW MAY OPEN SOFT DRINK EMPORIUMS SOON

Comparatively Few of the Number
However, Have Definite Plans in
View for the Future—Brewery
Owner to Spend Considerable Time
in California Next Year.

Half of the men now in the saloon business in La Grande expect to abandon their buildings now occupied by them; a few of the remainder have in mind opening soft drink and cigar stands while the remainder are much unsettled and do not know just what will be their future course. A complete survey of the situation disclosed that just about half are to take up other lines of endeavor completely, and will desert their present quarters as soon as the year ends and the state becomes dry.

Herman Roesch, who operates a saloon on Depot street, expects to close down for a time but may open a soft drink and cigar stand soon. In case he does he will have considerable repair work done, tables installed, and make use of the present fixtures as far as possible. This is not at all certain, but such at least, are his prospective plans.

Pat Foley, of the Foley hotel, says that he has disposed of practically all the liquors he has had on hand and will meet the dry period with nothing more to be disposed of as far as stock is concerned. "It is a peculiar fact," says Mr. Foley, "that nine-tenths of my sales of the past few weeks have been to prohibitionists and to those who have prohibition proclivities, while there has been but little supply to those who take a more liberal view of the liquor traffic as a business. I know that my sales of stock, where they have been of considerable quantity, have almost all been taken by those who decry liquor and its professedly abhorrent uses."

George Good, proprietor of the Sommer hotel bar, says: "I have been conducting a bar as an adjunct of the hotel business for many years and I am glad to get out of it. The retail liquor dealer has always had the worst of it in the public estimate and in the general things which have been thrust upon him, such as excessive license and inquisitorial suspicion and public disapproval for which he was not responsible. The man behind the bar proposition has always had the worst of it, and consequently, I am glad to get out of the business."

Julius Roesch, proprietor of the La Grande Brewery, a concern which has been one of the institutions concurrent with La Grande's history for many years, has no definite future plans to make public. Mr. and Mrs. Roesch are preparing to leave in a short time for California where they will remain several months. The big brewery will, of course, be closed and further than this there are no plans that have taken sufficient stage of consideration to base any announcements. These matters will presumably be left for more definite particulars after Mr. Roesch returns from his contemplated trip.

Chris Wright will close his place of business for the present and expects to remove all the bar fixtures. He has no definite business plans for the present and will simply take a holiday for a month or two.

George Weisenberg will close out entirely and quit business.

Julius Fisher expects to take a trip on the coast for a while and has little to bother in a business way. He has the lodging rooms over his place of business which are at present leased out. He has, also, about 1700 acres of farming land in the valley which is mostly under lease. All of his residence property in La Grande was sold and traded some time ago. After his return from the trip to the coast he expects to keep himself busy but will probably not be a permanent resident of La Grande, but will remain a resident of Union county.

Jack Kerr has already disposed of the most of his stock and will quit business altogether.

Ulrich Lottes has no announcement to make at present, except that his place will be closed for the time being.

R. Kelly is going to "quit it cold," and has no particular business occupation in view for the present.

FLOUR WILL ADVANCE.

Portland, Dec. 28.—Flour prices will advance 20 cents a barrel in the local market shortly, milling interests said.