

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## AMERICAN SOLDIERS CAPTURED

### MEXICAN BANDITS CROSS BORDER AND SEIZE SQUAD OF YANKEES.

### SEEMINGLY VERIFIED REPORT STARTS CHASE

Other Cavalrymen Sent Across to Mexican Territory to Hunt Those Captured—Senate for the Present Will Hear No More Discussion of the Mexican Situation—Committee Fight Hot.

El Paso, Jan. 19.—It is reported Mexican bandits near Hachita, New Mexico, have captured seven American cavalry in skirmishes. The cavalry at Newberg was sent in pursuit. Officials here and Jurez are without confirmation.

Story Verified. Douglas, Jan. 19.—Pasengers arriving on an eastern train said a Villista band crossed the border and captured seven American soldiers of the 13th cavalry. It is reported cavalrymen have gone to Mexican territory in pursuit.

Senate Tabooes Gringo Talk. Washington, Jan. 19.—After a hot fight in foreign relations committee, administration members have succeeded in keeping further discussion of the Mexican affairs off the floor of the senate.

Question Put to Wilson. Washington, Jan. 19.—In a resolution in the senate, Senator Sherman asked the president whether there was any agreement with other American powers not to interfere in Mexico without their approval.

### MARRIAGE NOT LEGAL.

Baker Wife Deserter Is Not Lawfully Re-married.

Baker, Jan. 19.—That a vacating of the decree of divorce issued this month in the case brought by A. R. Burford of this city, would not be necessary to make the marriage of Burford to Miss Georgie Lawrence of Ontario void, is the opinion of Circuit Judge Gustav Anderson. "The mere fact of the marriage having taken place before the six months specified by statute, had elapsed, makes the marriage unrecognized by law as such," he said this morning.

W. H. Leasy, postmaster at Keating and father of Burford's first wife, has left for Caldwell and Ontario to secure details of the marriage and supposed flight, as well as to find out whether or not Burford actually left with his 18-year-old bride, for Honduras, as at first supposed.

### DIRECTORS ORGANIZE.

La Grande National Pick Old Officers to Serve New Year.

Yesterday afternoon directors of the La Grande National bank, who were chosen at the annual stockholders' meeting a week ago, met to perfect organization for the coming year. Old officers were re-elected, as follows:

Fred J. Holmes, president; C. C. Pennington, vice president; F. L. Meyers, cashier; Earl Zundel, assistant cashier; H. E. Coolidge, assistant cashier.

### JAP BOMB PLOT FOUND.

Explosive Discovered in Imperial Palace—Arrests Made.

Peking, Jan. 19.—Numerous arrests have been made as the result of discovery of a plot to bomb the emperor. An explosive was found in the palace and the plot is undoubtedly the work of revolutionists.

### LIEUTENANT TO MOVE.

Mae Flack Gets Marching Orders Toward Washington City.

Lieut. Mae Flack, who has been assisting Ensign Olive Childers, in the Army work here for the past six months has received marching orders. She will have her farewell meeting at the barracks Sunday night. She takes up her next work in Anacortes, Washington.

### ALASKA WORK FAVORED.

House Appropriations Committee Generous With Its Money.

Washington, Jan. 19.—The House appropriations committee has recommended continuation of work on the Alaska railroad and placed \$2,000,000 appropriation on the emergency bill.

### WANTS TO BE PRESIDENT.



Henry D. Eastabrook.

Henry D. Eastabrook, a well-known New York lawyer, has begun a campaign for the Republican nomination for the Presidency. Friends have established press bureaus in Washington and Chicago and say they will conduct a strong campaign.

## FLOOD VICTIM LIST GROWING

### PATROLS SCAN FLOODS FOR MORE BODIES.

Hundreds of Homes Taken in by Neighbors—Loss \$3,000,000.

Riverside, Jan. 19.—The railroad agent here has received telephonic warning of a cloudburst at Lytle Creek, in the San Bernardino mountains, sending a nine-foot wall of water down the canyon. It is feared this will cause damage and loss of life at Colton.

Los Angeles, Jan. 19.—Patrols in the flood zone have watched for bodies of more possible victims of the Southern California storm. The latest figures showed five persons are positively known to be dead, and four are reported dead. Owing to the great number of ranches devastated, it is believed likely unreported deaths have occurred.

Despite the fact hundreds of homes are abandoned and some were swept away, there is little suffering on that account. Neighbors have housed the homeless and charitable institutions have cared for the Mexicans. Damages are figured at \$3,000,000.

### CAMP MEETING THRIVES.

Salvation Army Services Attaining Marked Success.

The "Mid winter camp meeting" at the Salvation Army, is growing in interest—all services are well attended. Wednesday evening Rev. Edwards will preach, his subject "The Glory of the Cross." Thursday evening Rev. and Mrs. Lumper will have charge of the service. Meetings begin at 8 o'clock.

### WANT MORE SOLDIERS.

Continental Army Plan Denied by General Wood Before Senate.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Demanding a regular army of 210,000 men, General Wood told the senate military committee that Garrison's continental army plan is a makeshift, entirely ineffective, and its adoption would lead to national humiliation.

### Forest Tim Sold.

The district forester at Portland, Oregon, has just announced the sale of 28,686,000 feet of timber on the Olympic National Forest to the Columbia National Forest, the Co. S. Borg Mill & Timber Company of Seattle, Washington.

The timber is situated on the Doso-walla river in T. 26 N., R. 3 W., on the Olympic national forest, and consists of 23,490,000 feet of Douglas fir, 2,840,000 feet of cedar, 2,000,000 feet of hemlock, and 330,000 feet of grand fir.

The prices paid are \$1.10 per M feet for the fir, \$1.50 for the cedar, and 50 cents per M for the hemlock and grand fir. The company will have until March 1, 1919, in which to remove the timber.

This is the second sale this fiscal year on the Olympic national forest, the first one being to the Snow Creek Logging company of Seattle for 98,000,000 feet.

## Russian Offensive Stopped, Says Rumor

### ED REYNOLDS PUT ON STATE FAIR BOARD

### SUCCEEDS N. K. WEST, RESIGNED, BY APPOINTMENT THIS MORNING.

### WEST AND BOOTH ARE OPPOSED TO NEW HEAD

Al Jones of Joseph Loses Position as Secretary and Two Members of the Board Resign Forthwith—Governor Regrets Resignations but New Men Appeal to Him.

Salem, Jan. 19.—With the State Fair Board, in uproar yesterday evening, over the failure of that organization to re-elect W. Al Jones of Joseph as secretary of the State Fair board, new reorganization has taken place. While N. K. West, of La Grande, who stood by Jones through it all, has resigned, another La Grande man takes his place. J. E. Reynolds has been named by Governor Withycombe as successor to West and A. C. Masters of Roseburg succeeds Booth, the other minority member who resigned at the same time.

In announcing the appointment of the successors, Governor Withycombe said today that he regrets resignations of the two men but believes the new appointees are remarkably competent.

N. K. West has tendered to Governor Withycombe his resignation as member of the state fair board. And he has his reasons for so doing and does not hesitate to proclaim the same. For some time there has been a division among the state fair directors as to the election of a secretary. Director West and Director Booth, of Roseburg, favored the retention of W. Al Jones as the secretary. The other members of the board, M. L. Jones, Edyth Tozier Weathered and W. H. Savage, voted for A. H. Lea, of Portland, who was elected. It is understood, also, that the governor favored Lea.

The explanation which Mr. West makes is that under the Jones management the state fair has been a success, there having been a surplus of several thousand dollars the last year and the meeting was an unequalled success in every way, outside of the question of judicious financing. Both West and Booth claimed that with Jones retained as secretary the fair would still be a success, an outcome which could not be expected if secretaries are to be changed every six months. And they both gave out their intention of resigning from the board, not caring to take any further responsibility for the future success of the state fair.

## 130,000 BUSHELS VALLEY WHEAT BRING \$130,000

One hundred and thirty thousand bushels of wheat, bringing an even dollar each bushel, were sold yesterday by a score of ranchers to the Kiddie interests. After the purchase which cost the millers \$130,000 even, wheat sank a cent in Chicago today during the noon hour. Scores of wheat men were holding for a dollar and most of them let go the moment that price was quoted.

Following are those who disposed of all or portions of their grain yesterday afternoon:

M. L. Carter, C. C. Welch, Chas. Playle, Frank Miller, Frank Conley, Lon Ayers, Peter Allen, Robert Clark, Ed Myersick, William Miller, Mrs. Lindsay, J. W. Lytle, Winn Williamson, August Erickson, Ed Jasper, Sven Johnson, Lloyd Carter, Everett Walsinger, Kirk Willis, J. P. DeLong, Perry Woodell, Jim German, Joe Palmer, Lee Smith, Ed Elmer, John Wells, Arthur Hammon and Nip Conley.

### Laymen's Convention in February.

Portland, Jan. 19.—The greatest religious meeting ever held on the Pacific coast will convene at Portland, February 13, and will remain in session four days. It is known as the "Laymen's Missionary Convention," is non-sectarian in character and will be attended by the male members of every church in the state of Oregon,

### Association Formed to Promote Good Roads

There was formed last evening in this city the Union County Good Roads association which is to be divorced from all Commercial clubs, granges and Farmers Union but to draw its members from all these organizations. Temporary officers were elected, to be called next Friday evening for a permanent organization. A constitutional committee was appointed to draft a constitution for that meeting. This is composed of Dr. M. K. Hall, Colon H. Eberhard and A. V. Andrews.

The session last evening began with a speechfest and ended with the temporary organization. Toward the close it became a round-table affair in which Rufus Holman, chief speaker of the evening, was bombarded with questions and quizzes concerning the construction of good roads. In addition to Mr. Holman, L. B. Tuttle of Elgin, Hugh McCall of Cove, Roy Clark, Y. M. C. A. secretary, A. W. Pearly, O. W. efficiency expert, Turner Oliver and others spoke on the subject. The talking end of it over, the club was tentatively created with a membership of 50, and these like others to come in, will pay no dues nor meet assessments.

Among the men from out of town were:

Cove—Hugh McCall, S. H. Weimer, Chris Stackland and Karl Stackland and Elmer Fulp.  
Elgin—W. J. Henry, L. B. Tuttle.

### ELKS DANCE POSTPONED.

Monday Night Instead of Friday Night Is the Date Now.

The Social committee of the Elks lodge announced today that the dance, which was scheduled for Friday night of this week will not be held until Monday night of next week. This is due to a conflicting date with the Gaiety club and the Elks held their social event over.

### FIRE AVERTED.

Blaze in Northwestern School of Music Creates Fright.

Fire originating probably from a cigar stub, this noon created considerable excitement in the La Grande National bank building. A student at the Northwestern School of Music on the second floor of the building found the front room of the studio filled with smoke and the fire ready to burst out. She ran down stairs and gave the alarm. F. L. Meyers and J. D. McKennon were the first ones to reach the scene and in spite of the great volume of smoke were able to stamp out the blaze.

### Cold in Iowa.

Robert Clarke, of R. D. No. 1, today received a letter from his daughter, Miss Blanch Clarke, who is a teacher in the schools of Maquoketa, Iowa, stating that their weather has been cold in the middle states. Miss Clarke is nicely located in the Iowa town having the position of superintendent of art in the city schools. She is well known in La Grande and her many friends are glad to know of her success.

L. Denham.  
Palmer Junction—Bert Oakman.  
Portland—Rufus Holman, A. W. Pearly.  
Salem—Rhea Luper, engineer connected with State Waterboard.  
Mr. Holman, who is chairman of the commission building the monster interstate bridge at Vancouver, president of the County Judge's association, and a county commissioner in Multnomah county, was the first speaker called upon by Master of Ceremonies M. K. Hall.

Mr. Holman prefaced his address by regretting the absence of ladies, contending that they are wise in counsel and level headed, usually, and, being enfranchised in this state, should be present when a matter like good roads comes before any meeting. Further, Mr. Holman said in part:

I have always wanted to come to La Grande and at last, in response to your kind invitation to attend this dinner, my desire is gratified. I have heard so much of the beautiful and fertile Grande Ronde valley, that I would like to see it in the spring-time or when the harvest is being gathered. In 1852 my grandfather's train of prairie-schooners drew off the

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## 2 CANDIDATES ENTER PRIMARY

### WELL KNOWN LA GRANDE DEMOCRATS SEEK OFFICE.

### National Delegateships in District and State Being Sought.

La Grande has two prominent democrats actively seeking election to the office of national committeeman to the national democratic convention next June at St. Louis. T. H. Crawford, veteran attorney, is going before the Democratic primaries in May as a candidate at large throughout the state. Fred J. Holmes, merchant and banker and president of the local Woodrow Wilson club, will enter the Democratic primaries as a candidate in the congressional district. Both have definitely announced their candidacies, and are already receiving flattering encouragement from fellow Democrats throughout the respective territories in which they are to become candidates. Mr. Holmes is one of three candidates already in the field, and as two are to be elected, a race is already in sight. The expenses of the trip must this year be borne by the delegates themselves, a fact that is raising a barrier to many who otherwise might be active candidates.

County Judge Bilyeu at Enterprise and Will Peterson at Pendleton are the men who are opposing Mr. Holmes in this district at present. Two will go, and one must stay home. Friends of Mr. Holmes contend that his wide acquaintance in Wallowa county and his standing in Union county make it almost foredoomed that he and Bilyeu will be the selections in Wallowa county. In Pendleton, seers argue that Mr. Holmes will draw a liberal vote along with Mr. Peterson, while the farther west in the district one looks, the stronger Mr. Peterson ought to be while to the east and interior counties, Mr. Holmes should draw the heavier vote. Mr. Holmes has business and personal acquaintances throughout Baker, Grant, Harney, Klamath, Lake, and Malheur that should give him a lead there. Counties in which the Pendletonian might have a shade the best of acquaintances might be Umatilla, Sherman, Wasco, Hood River, Morrow and Wheeler. There are 16 counties in the district.

The Holmes-Peterson-Bilyeu race is a peculiar one. In view of the fact two are to be elected, the vote will be paired greatly. Hence in view of the conditions, it is natural to suppose that in Umatilla county Peterson and Holmes will be paired, in Wallowa Holmes and Bilyeu will pair, in Union Holmes' opponents will split up for both are favorably known here. The farther into the interior the analysis is carried, the less defined this pairing will become however and a more acute triangular fight will be developed. In Umatilla and Wallowa however, the vote is expected to run strictly in pairs, rather than tri-angularly.

In the state Judge Crawford, by years of law practice and political affiliations that have long since ranked him as a counselor and adviser to powers of state nature that he, would tend to give him a comfortable start. He has been assured by Portland Democrats that he has their backing; the same is true from down the Willamette valley and into Southern Oregon. Judge Crawford at the last election received a most flattering vote

## CZAR DENIES REPORT WITH A VENGEANCE

### EXACT SITUATION ON THE EAST NOT CLEAR IN VIEW OF CONTRADICTION.

### NEW GOVERNMENT MAY BE FORMED SHORTLY

### Motenegro, and Portions Shorn from Serbia, Likely to Be Made Into a New Nation Under Austrian Protection—King Reaches Nish—Greeks Withdraw Border Troops.

Constantinople, Jan. 19.—The Russian offensive is halted, it is officially announced. It is claimed Turkish reinforcements have repulsed the enemy with heavy losses. The general situation is favorable, despite the eight-day offensive by superior forces. Sharp Denials Made.

Petrograd, Jan. 19.—Official denial that Russians have been defeated in Caucasus, Persia, were made today. Contrary to reports, new offensives at both fronts are developing favorably. Suffering only small losses, they made heavy captures and annihilated whole regiments.

### Peace Negotiations Halted (?)

London, Jan. 19.—Peace negotiations between Austria and Montenegro have stopped, according to an unconfirmed wireless from Rome. It is said reports of the surrender of the Montenegrin army were premature. This report is accepted cautiously and reservedly, because Montenegrin diplomats at Rome, and Paris confirmed the surrender.

### Greeks Need Coal.

Athens, Jan. 19.—All Greeks except a battalion will be withdrawn from the Bulgarian frontier, it is officially announced. Difficulty of provisioning them is the cause. Simultaneously it is announced England has agreed to export 6000 tons of coal to Greece, eliminating the possibilities of a tieup in railroads. A British transport loaded with Siberian troops has reached Salonika from Albania.

### New Kingdom Forming.

Rome, Jan. 19.—It is reported Austria is planning to unite Montenegro and part Serbia into a new kingdom under Austrian protectorate. Germany is said to have sanctioned the plan. Emperor Josef is considering the selection of a ruler who will conciliate the Serbs and Montenegrins and remove forever the Balkan danger on Austria's flank.

### Kaiser Able to Travel.

Berlin, Jan. 19.—The Kaiser has arrived at Nish today. King Ferdinand warmly greeted him.

### MORE PIPES FROZEN.

Though Above Zero, Past Night Caused Much Suffering.

Suffering to the extent that such a thing is a possibility where all men and women have shelter, went hand in hand with last night. While the government instruments recorded one above, more pipes were frozen and more discomforts experienced in homes of La Grande than during some of the more colder nights previously this month. A bitter wind that kept up its howl all night, was largely responsible for blowing the cold ozone through available cracks to sleeping rooms, and water pipes.

### EXPLOSION ON BOAT.

Italian Liner in Mobile Drydock Blown Up From Within.

Mobile, Jan. 19.—An explosion aboard the Italian tanker Livietta in drydock, killed four of her crew.

### English Keep Death Tab.

London, Jan. 19.—German casualties in the war are 2,525,768, Secretary Tennant has announced in the Commons. This included 613,000 killed, 1,566,549 wounded and 346,159 missing.

for supreme judge without an ounce of effort on his part, voters merely writing him in spontaneously. This movement was state wide and his friends take that as a cue to their conclusions that he will poll a flattering and winning vote throughout the state. Two delegates at large are to be elected.

Both men will file their \$15.00 fees and affidavits with the secretary of state at once and thereby become candidates without circulation of petitions, a previous requirement that has been dropped.