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NEW YORKERS DENY E. ROOT ENDORSEMENT

STATE G. O. P. CONVENTION
ALSO RAPS GOVERNOR WHIT-
MAN IN FIRST VOTE.

ROOT STOPS EFFORTS TO FORCE ENDORSEMENT

Republican Convention in New York
Sees Root's Campaign for Republi-
can Presidential Nomination Punc-
tured When Committee Refuses to
Endorse Ex-Senator.

New York, Feb. 16.—Republicans of New York, assembled in the state republican convention, today refused to endorse Elihu Root for the presidential nomination. The resolutions committee of the state convention reported unfavorably at the same time to endorse Governor Whitman for re-election but this movement may be taken up separately. If it is probabilities, are Whitman will win out.

Root Draws Line.
Root supporters, after their defeat, sought to force an endorsement of the veteran ex-senator, but this Root refused to permit.

The vote in the committee against Root was 36 to 8.
Mr. Root was temporary chairman of the convention yesterday and charged the present Administration with "the lack of foresight to make timely provision for backing up of American diplomacy by actual or assured military force," with "the forfeiture of the world respect for our assertion of rights by pursuing the policy of making threats and of failing to make them good," and with "a loss of the moral forces of the civilized world through failure to interpret truly to the world the spirit of the American democracy in its attitude towards the terrible events which accompanied the early stages of the war."

"These," said Mr. Root, "were the Administration's three fundamental errors."

Depew Lauds Root.
Chauncey Depew, former republican leader, lauded Mr. Root before the convention, calling him the greatest American statesman.

Baile Deems Him Fit.

Nicholas Murray Butler completely agreed to the fitness of Root, when the committee discussed the wisdom of commending Root as the most fit candidate. Differences of opinion existed as to the wisdom of pressing the resolution before the convention proper in an effort to override the committee.

Root Boom Seems Dead.
It is generally believed that this puts the quietus on the Root presidential boom.

Barnes Scores Over Foes.
The refusal of the committee to endorse Whitman is construed as a victory for "Boss" William Barnes, who is out to beat the Governor.

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY HEARD.

Damage Case Nearing Jury Late This Afternoon It Seems.

Rebuttal testimony is being taken in the Clarence Batterson damage suit against J. B. Fisher and George Young in the sum of \$16,500 for damages following an accident in the basement of the Fisher building while the plaintiff was in the employ of Young, which case went before the circuit court yesterday morning. In the natural course of events, the case will be in the jury's hands to-night or tomorrow morning—probably the latter.

Completes 26th Year

Dayton, O. Feb. 16.—Clinton Cyster, today completed his 26th year as a motorman on the Dayton city lines. This is a record for continuous service by an Ohio motorman. It is estimated that if all Cyster's trips were put in one stretch, he would now be approaching Dayton on his fortieth trip around the world. It is figured that to date Cyster has traveled 996,540 miles. During the 26 years he has been late to work twice and was laid off once for running ahead of time. He was reprimanded once for bumping another. Otherwise his record is 100 per cent efficient.

JUVENILE ROAD DESIGNERS WIN

RALPH POSTON KING OF THE
COUNTY.

Elgin and Kamela Grade Students
Given Awards.

It is decided that Ralph Poston, a junior in the La Grande high school is the champion road designer among Union county high school students. His essay contributed along with 73 others at the call of the La Grande Commercial club for these on that subject was awarded first money by a set of judges yesterday, a week later than had been hoped for. The award of prizes was to have been made in conjunction with Good Roads day at the recent Farmers' & Home-makers' week which went by default on account of snowdrifts. The Commercial club divided \$25.00 among the students who won first and second prizes in high schools of the county and first and second among seventh and eighth grades. Seventy-four students competed. Rev. G. L. Clark and Rev. C. A. Edwards of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches respectively, and Attorney C. A. Small put in a whole day going over the essays, awarding the prizes on thought and expression.

The second prize also went to La Grande high, Alfred Johnson, likewise a junior, taking second honors.

Rural schools are represented on the winning side. Laura Adams of the Elgin grade school took first among grade students and Irene Swauger of Kamela took the second prize. The essays were so well written that it was extremely difficult, judges say, to make the selections.

Due to the excessive snow and lack of transportation, the essays were not sent forward to the county school superintendent at the time first stipulated, but additional time was allowed due to the conditions then existing.

The prize money will be awarded and the prize essays read at the big roads meeting conducted by the commercial club February 24th.

DEATH OF MRS. KENYON.

Funeral Will Be Under Direction of Blue Mountain Grange.

Mrs. S. E. Kenyon died at 2 o'clock this morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George Groat, two miles east of La Grande. The deceased has been a resident of La Grande for a long period and leaves besides her daughter a son, Alfred Kenyon.

The funeral will be held from the Groat home tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. Miss Olive Childers will deliver the funeral discourse and the other ceremonies will be in accordance with the ritual of the Blue Mountain Grange.

BENHAM QUILTS AS FIRE CHIEF

CLAUDE MACKAY TEMPORARILY
IN CHARGE NOW.

Retiring Chief Remains to Teach
Electrical Phase to New Head.

B. A. Benham, chief of the fire department since the reorganization and installation of a paid department a few years ago, last night tendered his resignation as chief to City Manager F. J. Lafky. Claude Mackey, president of the volunteer organization, is temporarily instituted as chief this morning after the temporary appointment last night of Acting Captain L. L. Snodgrass who officiated in that capacity during the night.

While Benham's services as chief have terminated with the city he is now employed as an electrician to teach the intricate workings of the alarm system, a plant costing several thousand dollars and delicate and complicated. Mr. Mackey is receiving these instructions from Mr. Benham today, that men versed in the working of the plant may be in charge. Mr. Mackey is of course thoroughly familiar with the principles of fire fighting having been long connected with the volunteer department.

Concerning the resignation of Mr. Benham, Mr. Lafky said today: "While there are rumors afloat of flagrant irregularities in handling fire department supplies by Benham, a check of the stock reveals that only one hand flashlight is missing and that has been covered by his personal check to the city. Furthermore, the city has had the use of his personal tools and electric equipment since he has been chief, and for which he has received no remuneration. His knowledge of electricity has been an asset to the city, extending so far as to operate the electric pipe thawer, wholly outside of his department."

An inventory will be taken in connection with the change in chiefs. Mr. Benham affirms there is a balance in his favor in his accounts with the city, that he has supplied the city with more electrical goods than the value of the flashlight and that for this he has received no pay.

RUSSIANS BEGIN SEIGE ON IMPORTANT TURK FORTS

Nine Forts Before Erezerum Taken by
Charge--Final Tussle Begins.

London, Feb. 16.—Petrograd dispatches this afternoon declared Erezerum has been captured.

Petrograd, Feb. 16.—Nine forts in the defense of Erezerum, a principal city in Turkish Armenia, have been captured, it is officially announced.

Zero Weather Charge Wins.
The Russians charged up the mountainside in zero weather, under intense fire, and stormed the forts. But their work is only well begun. To capture the remaining forts will be a severe task. Artillery guards them.

The Turkish garrison of 150,000 is reported inside the walls of the city.

Long Siege Predicted.
The fall of Erezerum will pave the way for a Russian spring advance through Armenia and perhaps force Turkey to sue for separate peace. Erezerum is one of the strongest fortified cities in the east. Her surrender is not expected before weeks of artillery and infantry attack.

Drastic Measures Taken.
London, Feb. 16.—Issuance of two new orders-in-council were announced today. One gives the government control of practically all merchantmen after February. The other forbids importation of tobacco, furniture, woods, hardwoods, veneer, slate, and materials for making paper. The government intimated the nation has decided on a series of aggressive measures designed toward more vigorous prosecution of war. Premier Asquith announced England is preparing to exert her maximum war strength and therefore is investigating her financial and industrial reserves.

London, Feb. 16.—Stormy weather has stopped artillery fire in the western front, though furious infantry attacks were made around Ypres and Champagne—without results. Berlin announced English has thrice attacked new positions at Ypres, but was repulsed and lost 100 prisoners. It is said the French attacks in the northwest Taire area failed. Paris has claimed no important activity.

Deep snow has prevented fight in the eastern front.

MRS. ELLA JONES DEAD.

Early Settler in Grande Ronde Valley
Laid to Rest.

Mrs. Ella Jones died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ella Collins, in La Grande, on the morning of February 10, 1916. The deceased was born in Franklin County, Illinois, on the 8th day of June, 1847, and was married to James Marion Jones on the 27th day of March, 1867. They removed with their family from the state of Missouri to Idaho, in 1878, and later to Oregon, settling in the Grande Ronde valley, where they have resided ever since.

Mrs. Jones' maiden name was Ella Daniels, and she was known to all as a loving wife and mother and her life was that of a good Christian woman, who was always ready to help with service, advice or means, not only her own family but all others worthy of assistance. Her loss to her friends and all who knew her is deeply felt.

She leaves surviving her, James Marion Jones, her husband, and six children, five of them girls and one boy. Her son, Archie Jones, resides at Aberdeen, Wn. Her daughter, Mrs. Emma Peterson lives at Essex, Mont. Katie Brooks, a daughter, resides in Portland, Oregon, while her other daughters, Mrs. Ella Collins, Mrs. Lulu Carlton and Mrs. Lizzie Carlyle all reside in La Grande. She was the mother of four children now deceased. Her surviving brothers and sisters reside at Mountain Home, Idaho.

Her remains were laid to rest in the Island City cemetery.

ONLY BABY CAPTURED BY GERMANS ON APPAM.



Baby Amiel and Mother, Mrs. Reilly. Miss A. B. Donaldson.
This was the only baby the Germans captured when they took the British liner Appam off the Canaries. Baby Amiel Reilly and Mrs. Reilly, as well as Miss A. B. Donaldson, who was a great friend of the baby, were on their way to England when the German raider took their vessel.

LOST BOY IN FILM PLAY.



His mother believes this is little Jimmie Glass, who mysteriously disappeared from Greeley, Pa., May 12, 1915, but she is not any nearer finding him than before she saw his face and figure on the film. She was invited to see a production of "Judy Forgot" at the rooms of the Universal Film offices in New York City the other day, because those who had seen the pictures thought the boy resembled photographs of Jimmie sent out months ago. "I am sure it's he," said the mother, whose home is now at 13 Lienau Place, Jersey City. The film pictures were taken in New York City. But the company did not keep a record of the child's name. A woman offered him as an actor for the pictures and took him off when they were finished.

LATEST PROPOSAL COMES.

Now Up to President Wilson to Say
the Final O. K.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Germany's latest proposal in the Lusitania case were presented to Secretary Lansing today. Acceptance or rejection is now up to President Wilson and Mr. Lansing. Ambassador Von Bernstorff declined to discuss the situation after a brief conference. It is understood that if a final settlement is reached the department won't announce it until Berlin cables London.

WOMAN FINED FOR VIOLATION OF LAW.

Pendleton, Feb. 16.—Pleading guilty to the charge of violating the prohibition law, Cleo Adams, landlady of the Empire lodging house, was yesterday afternoon fined \$75 by Justice of the Peace J. H. Parkes. The fine was paid.

SUSPECT BACK IN LA GRANDE

EVANS RETURNED IN SUIT HE
GOT HERE.

La Grande and Pendleton Salesmen
Responsible for Capture.

Wearing the clothes, it is said, that he got from a La Grande store Saturday on the strength of an alleged balance due him on what purports to be worthless sight draft for nearly \$30.00, W. C. Evans, the man who demonstrated what police say was well-oiled machinery of fraud, was brought back to La Grande by La Grande authorities today noon. It is probable a preliminary hearing will be held tonight or tomorrow.

How Evans was arrested in Pendleton forms an interesting story. Gail Sturdivant of this city spent Sunday visiting his brother Glen Sturdivant who is a salesman in the Folsom furniture store at Pendleton. During Sunday the La Grande man was telling his brother of the clever ruse put over by a stranger in La Grande whose manipulations were outlined in yesterday's Observer.

Fully conversant with the La Grande incident, Glen Sturdivant became a Doctor Watson the next morning when a man walked into the Folsom store attired in corduroy. He announced that he was a signal inspector for the railroad company and had been transferred from Spokane to Pendleton. The same story was localized in La Grande. He said he had rented the Ferguson home on South Main street and desired to furnish it. Thereupon he bought in a very few minutes \$228 worth of furniture to be delivered next week. He wished to pay \$120 down and tendered a check on a Spokane bank for \$185, asking for the difference in cash so that he could buy a stove. Later, when he did not get the cash, he asked for an order so that he could get a watch.

Sturdivant, suspecting him to be

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TWO VESSELS BURNED WITH A 4-MILLION LOSS

ENGLISH BOATS IN RUSSIAN
TRADE DESTROYED AFTER
HOLD EXPLOSION.

MEN ON THE SHIPS SAVED BY JUMPING OVERBOARD

Part of Brooklyn Pier Burned Too—

Loss Will Prompt Investigation of
Supposed Bomb Plot—Fire Boats
Unable to Handle the Situation
During Blaze.

New York, Feb. 16.—Fire early this morning destroyed the steamships Bolton Castle and the Pacific, and burned a portion of the Brooklyn pier lying between them. The damage is four millions.

No one was killed.

Fifty naked men were rescued from the barge.

The fire started about one this morning and seemed uncontrollable, and despite efforts of all available firemen and fire boats, soon spread to the pier.

Explosion Precedes the Fire.
Engineer Johnson, of the Castle, declared he heard a heavy explosion in the hold while walking on the forward deck and the fire started immediately. Johnson was forced to leap overboard.

Both ships are English, but recently engaged in Russian trade. Authorities are investigating a bomb theory.

American Club Burned.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—One is dead and two are seriously hurt as the result of a supposedly incendiary fire which destroyed the American club. P. I. Hurston, of Dallas, Texas, was a guest of the club and perished. The caretaker and paymaster of the American legion were badly hurt.

An explosion preceding the fire shook the building. The loss is estimated at \$50,000.

FALL RIVER FIRE COSTLY.

Combined Departments From Three
Cities Long in Battle.

Fall River, Mass., Feb. 16.—Fire, starting with an explosion in the basement of the Steiger department store, wrought a million and a half damage before combined apparatus of New Bedford Tauton and Newport fire departments could control it this morning.

JAPANESE BOAT LOST.

Crew From Sunken Ship Lands at
Plymouth This Morning.

London, Feb. 16.—The Japanese steamer Kenkonmaru, eleven days out of Marseilles for Baltimore, foundered in a storm in the Atlantic. The crew has landed at Plymouth.

PENDLETON DUE THURSDAY.

Basketball Team Will Arrive on Noon
Train Tomorrow.

The Pendleton high school basketball team, which plays here tomorrow night with the high school, is due to arrive tomorrow noon. The game will be played at the high school gym.

FIGHT IS POSTPONED.

Moran-Willard Match Set Down for
March 25 Says Promoter.

Chicago, Feb. 16.—The Willard-Moran fight has been postponed until March 25th, Tom Jones has announced.

WINS GOLD MEDAL.

Iolanda Klees Honored for Her
Polished Ability.

Miss Iolanda Klees, who is at present in the employ of Dr. Hall as stenographer, was recently awarded a gold medal by the Remington Typewriting company.

The examination was conducted by Mr. Allebaugh, the Remington representative. The test was held at the Academy of the Sacred Heart where Miss Klees has been attending school for the past few years, having graduated in June, 1915.

Miss Klees deserves special credit from the fact that her school work has been continued the past year after office hours and is the result of hard earnest efforts to secure a high rate of efficiency as a typist.

The medal together with an engraved certificate from the Remington company was presented this afternoon in the presence of her classmates from whom Miss Klees received hearty congratulations on her well-merited success.