

La Grande Evening Observer

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Congress-Wilson Deadlock Over Germany Remains Unbroken

WILSON ARGUES WITH LEADERS IN THE HOUSE

MORNING CONFERENCE SIMPLY DELAYS ACTION IN THE HOUSE FOR THE DAY.

SENATE BRINGS UP GORE BILL WARNING PUBLIC

Wilson Won't Budge and Congress Seemingly United in Opposing Wilson's Plan to Make Germany Withdraw Merchantmen Decree—Jones' Bill Tabled.

Washington, Feb. 25.—After prolonged arguments with house conferences this morning President Wilson and congress are still disagreed over the armed merchantmen decree, the President still maintaining the decree transgresses international law. Speaker Clark, Representatives Kitchen and Flood were in the conference.

Wilson Won't Budge.
Wilson emphatically declared he wouldn't budge from the plan insisting that Germany must recognize every American right. Speaker Clark replied just as positively that the house overwhelmingly favors issuing a warning to keep off armed merchantmen.

House Action Held Up.
After much argument, all promised President Wilson the house would take no action today.

Flood and Clark said they heard rumors about Germany postponing operations of the decree.

Gore Jumps Into Fight.
Immediately after the senate convened today, Gore introduced a bill making it illegal for Americans to travel on armed vessels during the war, and also a resolution warning them to refrain from such travel.

Jones' Bill Tabled.
The senate tabled Jones' resolution requesting the President not to sever diplomatic relations with any nation and not to place America in a position where she couldn't honorably avoid war.

The senate confirmed the nomination, in between decree debate, Henry Fletcher as ambassador to Mexico.

LANE OPPOSES CHANGES

Reports Adversely on Bills Introduced By Borah and Myers

Washington, Feb. 25.—Secretary Lane has submitted to the senate public lands committee an adverse report on bills introduced by Senators Borah and Myers to amend the homestead law so that improvements placed upon the land may be accepted as a consideration for patent in lieu of cultivation. Senator Borah's bill provides for improvements to the value of \$1.50 per acre, and Senator Myers' bill specifies the improvements at \$150 for a homestead entry of 160 acres. Clearing the land or slashing timber upon the land is to be considered in the nature of an improvement, and the secretary in his adverse reports asserts that such clearing and slashing would often be entirely inadequate as substitutes for cultivation. He recommends that the bills should not be passed.

PAGEANT PLANNED.

Presbyterian Church to Have Unique Program Sunday.

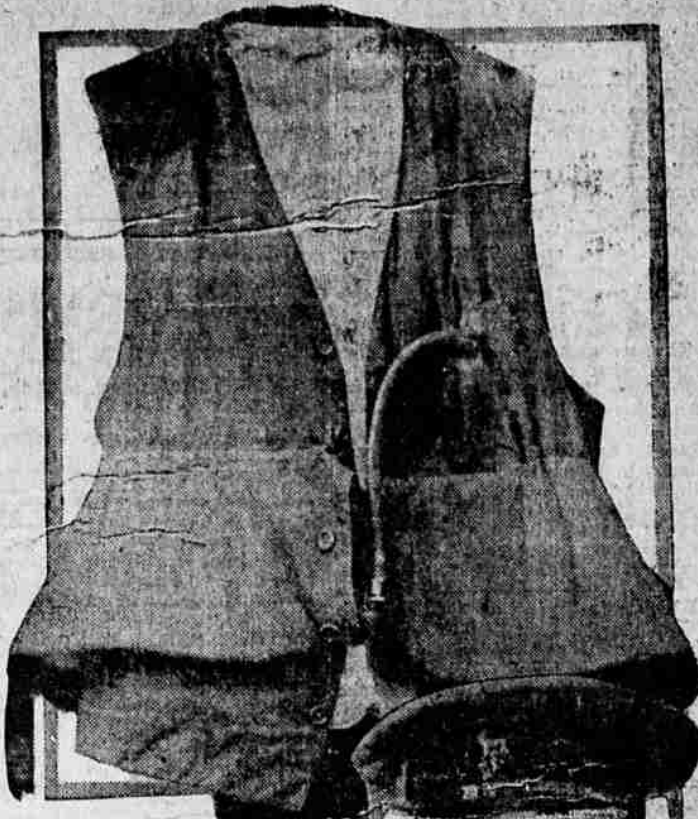
The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church has prepared an interesting program for next Sunday evening at the church. Miss Honeyman has kindly consented to give her lecture on "Immigration" that has been so highly spoken of wherever she has given it.

The lecture will be illustrated with slides and followed by a pageant—"Pilgrims of the Night," showing the hopelessness of women in non-Christian lands. The first part of the pageant will consist of "Hopeless Oriental Women" and the second part of "Singing Angels," the two forming a cross on the platform as a beautiful and inspiring climax.

A silver offering will be taken to help the society meet the extra calls for help that have been made upon them this year.

A full program will appear in tomorrow's paper.

INFLATED WAISTCOAT SAVED HIM ON THE PERSIA.



Lord Montagu and His Inflated Waistcoat.

This peculiar coat saved Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, who was a passenger on the steamship Persia, which was blown up in the Mediterranean. When he was thrown into the water he blew up the coat and he floated safely for hours until rescued.

UNION COUNTY BOY SETS MARK

THREE WORLD'S RECORDS SET AT SAN DIEGO.

Floyd Smith Was Born at Ladd Canyon, and Raised on Union Ranch.

Union county has reason to be proud of the achievements of one of her sons—Floyd Smith, born in Ladd Canyon, and raised at Union. It was Floyd Smith who, a day or two ago, established a third world's record as an aviator. About 15 years ago J. M. (Cayuse) Smith left Union for his future home in San Diego. He died a few years ago, but his widow survives and was a spectator at her son's wonderful performance recently.

Frank Hall of Union is intimately acquainted with Floyd and the whole family for that matter, and is one of those who follow Floyd's adventures with interest. Concerning the recent efforts of the former Union boy, a San Diego dispatch goes on to say:

Another world's hydroaeroplane record, the third made by him since January 16, was achieved at the (Continued on Page Four)

ARMED BOATS PATROL THE WATER FRONT AT SEATTLE

Seattle, Feb. 25.—Three armed patrol boats have scouted the water front today to prevent the expected outbreak of organized arson gangs against war shipments. The police and private guards have been doubled. A mysterious message signed "Detective for the allies" said German dynamite and arson headquarters have been moved from San Francisco to Seattle.

DELEGATION DISAGREES

Chamberlain and Hawley Appose Different Bills

Washington, Feb. 25.—Supporting opposing bills in the land grant cases, Senator Chamberlain and Representative Hawley appeared before the house committee today. Chamberlain doubted the power of congress to convert the land into forest reserve because of settlement of rights conferred by the granting act. Hawley thought congress was powerless to resume.

LINCOLN ADDRESS SUNDAY.

Dr. Edwards to Give Address on Abraham Lincoln to Y. M. C. A.

Sunday afternoon Dr. Chas. A. Edwards of the Methodist church will deliver his lecture on Abraham Lincoln, heard at the Methodist church a



WHEAT RECOUPS IN CHICAGO PIT

SENSATIONAL SLUMP OVERCOME TODAY

Confident Attitude Shown in Pit in Early Trading

Chicago, Feb. 25.—After a sensational slump yesterday, wheat advanced sharply in the early trading this morning. The market seemed more confident. May wheat sold at \$1.19 1-4.

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MACOMB FOUND GUILTY

Verdict of Murder in Second Degree Found in Half an Hour

Baker, Feb. 25.—"Guilty of murder in the second degree" was the verdict brought in by the jury at 6:40 last evening, 32 minutes after retiring, thereby condemning James Macomb to life imprisonment in the Oregon state penitentiary for the murder of Leonard Goul in this city on the 18th of November, 1915.

Macomb was brought in and was seated between his attorneys, C. H. McCulloch of this city and B. F. Mulkey of Portland. When the verdict was read by Clerk of the Court Chas. E. Baird, the murderer smiled slightly, glancing at his attorneys and shaking his head. He was pale and nervous before the jury came in, twirling his thumbs and glancing about in a half hesitant manner. Asked by the court if they had anything to say after the verdict was read, his attorneys made no statement.

TRAIN ROBBER GANG ESCAPED IN FAST AUTO

POSSES OUT AFTER MEN WHO HELD UP TRAIN NEAR TACOMA

EXACT AMOUNT OF THE BOOTY UNKNOWN AS YET

Five Thousand in Negotiable Paper From Tacoma Alone—Oriental Mail Sacks Among Those Taken—Express Door Withstands Dynamite—Fleeing Car Seen.

Tacoma, Feb. 25.—It is believed bandits who robbed the Northern Pacific train No. 2 near Covington last night, escaped in an automobile following the robbery. The train crew reported that a half hour after the robbers disappeared an automobile, going at a fast clip, passed the train en route to Seattle.

The machine came from the direction of Ravendale and it is believed waited there for the bandits. The actual amount of booty taken is unknown. Five packages of registered mail were taken, this including mail from the Orient. Post office officials do not know the contents of the pouches. The express safe withstood the dynamite.

It was learned this afternoon that more than \$5000 in negotiable paper and registered mail sent from Tacoma alone was part of the booty. Post office inspectors have checked records. No word has been received from railroad agents with posses searching for the two bandits. A doctor told the officials one of the mail sacks con-

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FOUR SPECIMENS OF LATIN-AMERICAN BEAUTY.

Left to Right, Top Row—Mme Carolina de Geurra of Mexico, Senorita Cora of Ambrosotti of Argentina. Left to Right, Bottom Row—Margareta Herrera, Ruth Campos.



Here are four specimens of Latin-American beauty. These young women have lately been in Washington, where they attracted much attention. At social functions they compared well with the belles of Washington society.

Verdun Drive Slackened French Expect a Renewal

Germany Claims Heavy Enemy Losses French Maintain Crest of Drive Reached

Berlin, Feb. 25.—French losses around Verdun have been heavy while the German losses are only such as might be expected, headquarters have announced. The amount of booty has not been compiled.

Fortified villages and farms for five miles north of Verdun were stormed, and captured. Prisoners taken in the drive thus far will number 10,000. Towns taken include Champneuxville, Cottellett, Marmont, Chambrette and Ornes.

BRIDGES ARE IN GOOD SHAPE

Henry Davis, county bridge superintendent, has just finished making an inspection of the condition of the county roads and bridges. He finds that the bridges, approaches, filling and other bridges appurtenances are at present in good condition and are not in immediate danger. In most of the places this ice has cleared away and the only thing to now cause trouble is high water.

Will Clean Out Drift.
In one locality there is a heavy drift and that is in an old river channel near Ed Myersick's place east of La Grande. In order to obviate future trouble from overflow or from back water as far as it is possible to do so this jam will be blown out and cleared away. This work is to be done tomorrow.

Pile Driver Repairs.

A four horse team went out today to bring back the county pile driver which is at the Puckett bridge on Catherine creek. All the necessary repairs will be made on this machine including a new derrick of thirty-two feet. This will be done so as to have the machine in readiness in case of

Paris, (Feb. 25)—German offensives against Verdun are slackening, it was announced this afternoon. There were no attacks last night, and artillery firing is less violent. The French artillery is holding its own along the 25-mile front and every indication points to the conclusion the offensive has been checked, temporarily, at least.

French are organizing new positions behind Beumont Heights, east of Champneuxville. South of Ornes, and near Verdun. They are preparing to meet the expected renewal of the drive.

sudden need. In the high water period there is no telling when and where the driving of a few timbers may be required to save damage. Mr. Davis' idea is to have this part of the county equipment ready for action on a moment's notice.

Repaired Wallowa Bridge.

Mr. Davis has finished the work of making some repairs on the Wallowa bridge at Minam. In dragging a donkey engine outfit over this bridge not long ago the cable was fastened to the bridge with the result that the bridge was left in a twisted and dangerous condition. This bridge is now wholly the property of Wallowa county on account of the re-established boundary line. Wallowa county officials had Mr. Davis do the work of repairing and that county will settle the cost of the same, which is estimated will amount to a couple of hundred dollars.

WOULD CHANGE NAME.

Former La Grande Man, Familiar in Courts, Makes Offer.

In various courts, oft and anon, J. R. Bumgarner, formerly of La Grande, now of Baker has broken into print again. This from a Baker paper:

Alleging that when she married her former husband, J. R. Bumgarner, in North Carolina in 1893, his real name was Gardner, Mrs. Nannie Bumgarner filed a petition in the circuit court today, asking that her own name, and the name of her eight children, Orrie, Wilbur, Fred, Della, Earl, Venie, Elsie and Ethel, be changed to Gardner. The date for hearing in the matter was fixed by Judge Gustav Anderson for February 26.

Mrs. Bumgarner secured a divorce in March, 1913, after she had been driven from the house by her husband, who, afterwards adjudged insane, had poisoned the well on their Baker home.

She sets forth that he probably gave his name as Bumgarner at the time of their marriage, because of a state of mental unbalance existing at the time.

CONSPIRACY TRIO TAKEN

FORMER REPRESENTATIVE AMONG JAILED.

Three Held to Answer Tuesday for Labor Conspiracy.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Former Representative Fowler, Herman Schulteis and Henry Martin have been arrested, and refused to give \$5000 bail. Commissioner Taylor held that they must answer Tuesday to a New York indictment charging them with conspiracy in the national peace council of the Labor party.

FIRE AT ELGIN.

Morelock & Son Lose Pool Hall and Confectionery Store.

Elgin, Feb. 25.—(Special)—Fire early this morning completely destroyed the Dan Sommers building housing Morelock & Son's pool hall and confectionery. The origin is a mystery. The loss will be heavy though partially covered by insurance.

Prize Winner Goes Home.

Miss Laura Adams returned to Elgin this morning after having come to La Grande to read her essay on good roads which took first prize among grade students.