

# La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XV

LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1916

NUMBER 220

## SHOW DOWN NEAR; SOME BACKING DUE

PARTIAL SUPPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION ANTICIPATED BY LEADERS

MODIFIED RESOLUTION EXPECTED IN SENATE

That Wilson Will Not Be Completely Spurned Is Indicated On Eve of Test Vote to Protect Americans and Ascertain Attitude of Congress Over Armed Merchantmen.

Washington, March 1.—Congress will soon go on record as to the administration's course toward Germany. Leaders have approved President Wilson's proposal to Representative Poy, that a test strength be taken on whether to warn Americans to avoid armed merchantmen. Even while taking steps for a show down, some disbelievers in congress, especially the house, is willing to support the President wholeheartedly.

"Faulty Obedience" Cited—Representative Kitchen remarked caustically this morning that "Faulty obedience had been very highly developed in the house."

Senator Stone intimated the resolution would be limited endorsement of Wilson's course on the armed ship controversy, and would not refer to other phases of the foreign policy.

It is believed congress will back the president in what has been done thus far.

German Attitude Explained—Berlin, March 1.—(Copyrighted, Wireless to Sayville) "Germany's memorandum declaring armed merchantmen in the future will be considered warships, doesn't change the pledges of Ambassador von Bernstorff to America because when they were given, no such thing as armed merchantmen was thought of," declared Baron Conschwarzensten, of the foreign office today. "When Germany made those pledges she never dreamed that British would instruct merchant ships and liners to conduct an offensive warfare. Therefore the two German statements remain distinct and separate. The first applies to liners conforming to international law and unarmed for offensive purposes. The second memorandum applies to ships armed for offensive purposes contrary to law."

Washington Surprised last Night.—Washington, D. C., March 1.—President Wilson decided that he cannot proceed with German submarine negotiations while dissension in congress weakens his position before the world, so he called for a showdown; pending proposals to warn Americans off merchant ships armed for defense. Making clear that he considers the president and not congress charged with conducting foreign affairs, he wrote Representative Poy, acting charge of the house rules committee, asking him to provide preliminary means for bringing the agitation into the open on the house floor for full discussion and vote. Later he summoned Senator Stone and Representative Flood, the chairman of the foreign committee, and Senator Kern, majority leader, for conference tomorrow, at which he will request the resolution to be acted upon by both houses.

Administration leaders are working steadily strengthening their lines and counting upon Republican support and are so sure of their positions they intend to end all agitation with a vote of confidence in the president. This course was decided upon after a cabinet meeting.

Prompt action is desired, particularly in the house, where the agitation has been most turbulent, and where Speaker Clark predicted anti-administration resolutions, when first introduced, would have passed two to one. There never has been any question of the administration's control in the senate. The adoption of the pending resolutions practically amount to congressional repudiation of the president's policies throughout the submarine negotiations with their defeat and a vote of confidence in the president's course, the president's supporters say he will be able to continue to contend for the principles of international law with the same force he did before the congressional minority weakened his position.

Administration leaders are working steadily strengthening their lines and counting upon Republican support and are so sure of their positions they intend to end all agitation with a vote of confidence in the president. This course was decided upon after a cabinet meeting.

Prompt action is desired, particularly in the house, where the agitation has been most turbulent, and where Speaker Clark predicted anti-administration resolutions, when first introduced, would have passed two to one. There never has been any question of the administration's control in the senate. The adoption of the pending resolutions practically amount to congressional repudiation of the president's policies throughout the submarine negotiations with their defeat and a vote of confidence in the president's course, the president's supporters say he will be able to continue to contend for the principles of international law with the same force he did before the congressional minority weakened his position.

## "SAVING LIGHT" WILL BE WINKED

LIGHT COMPANY PROVIDES SPECIAL FEATURE

Neighborhood Club Announces Baby Week Features of National Character.

"The Saving Light," already prominent throughout the United States, will be in evidence in La Grande during the National Baby Week which is to be observed here by the Neighborhood club.

The ladies of this city had thought it was not possible to install this light, but when the light company was consulted it immediately assured the club that the light would be ready when the week opened.

The Saving Light is a red light prominently placed in the business section. It is so arranged that every ten seconds the light goes out, indicating that some where in the United States or Europe a baby is dying. This illustration is for the purpose of bringing home the stern facts and is bound to have a strong effect on every person who sees the light wink out so often. To know that a little life has gone with light will shake many a sturdy heart and cause general desire to know what can be done to lessen this terrific death rate.

## OLD "WHITE" SCHOOL RAZED

HISTORIC LAND MARK WILL BE REMOVED

Contractor Tearing Down School Building Built in 80s.

Contractor Ed Kammerer commenced work today tearing down the old White school house on Second street in south La Grande. He will receive the material taken from the building as a consideration for doing the work of demolition.

The White school building is an old land mark. It was first used for school purposes thirty-one years ago and was for a long time the La Grande high school. The building and grounds represented an outlay of about \$7000 and the structure in its time was considered quite a burst of enterprise for a locality the size of La Grande.

The building has been on fire two or three times but on no occasion was there much damage resulting. With the construction of the next high school building on the old Blue Mountain University site and now used as a grade school, the White building was used for several years for the grade classes, and a system was employed by which pupils were required to spend only a portion of the grade period in the wooden structure, which was heated by stoves and was very much less attractive than the newer building with modern heating and ventilation.

The structure finally became too much antiquated for school purposes and for several years has been abandoned altogether.

Today's Oddest Story.

Lansing, Mich., March 1.—For 95 years John N. Bush of this city has been a staunch member of a certain political party and he "hasn't scratched yet," but said today that after nearly a century of thinking it over, he's going to "scratch" at the next Presidential election.

Washington, March 1.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, wears English cut clothes.

County Court Meets

Commissioners W. J. Townley, of Union, and C. A. Galloway, of Elgin, are here in attendance at the March term of county court. The business today was largely that of examining claims against the county.

Woman Inherits Odd Fortune

Cleveland, March 1.—Mrs. Minnie Link, 42, is administering perhaps the strangest legacy ever inherited by a woman. The legacy included five children, four girls and a boy, made orphans by the death of their father, Frank B. Baresch, a carpenter, a lot of debts, \$2700 cash, and a grandmother aged 83.

Mrs. Link, a neighbor woman, was Baresch's intended wife. So he left her all his worldly possessions, provided she furnish a home for his children "as long as a home shall be needed by them." He did not ask her if she would accept the legacy.

"All I can do now is to carry out his wishes," said Mrs. Link. "We were to have been married several months ago, but his illness prevented. There will not be much money left after the debts are paid. We'll probably have to sell the cottage that was his home. But I'm glad to accept the legacy of five blessed children. The grandmother can stay too. We'll manage somehow."

The orphans are: Dorothy, 15, Francis 14, Lillian 10, Florence 8, and Jimmie aged 5. Their mother died over a year ago.

## THOMPSON'S POWER WANES WITH SPEED

CHICAGO'S MAYOR CRIMPED AT SEVERAL TURNS IN PRIMARY ELECTION.

SULLIVAN'S SATRAPS WIN OVER DUNNE COMBINATION

In Spite of Fact Ninety Thousand Women Voted, Mayor Thompson of Cleanup Fame Has Narrow Call—Lost Seven Important Wards and Anti Thompson Men Seated in Council.

Chicago, March 1.—As a result of yesterday's primaries it is shown that Mayor Thompson lost seven important wards, and two anti-Thompson candidates for alderman were nominated.

Mayor Thompson, touted by many as a presidential possibility, and the man who closed Chicago on Sunday, won only two of nine contests. In the Democratic fight, "Boss" Sullivan candidates won 27 of 35 wards from the Dunne-Harrison group.

Ninety thousand women voted yesterday, and it is said that many of them opposed Thompson's cleanup crusades by opposing him in the primaries.

FINISHING FOR CONCERT

Students Ready to Give the Best in Them at Recital Tomorrow.

Highschool students under the direction of Miss Hindman have been polished up for the big student recital at the high school auditorium tomorrow night. All is in readiness and La Grande people are going to hear some first class music.

F. B. Hubbard Is Re-elected.

Centralia, Wash., Feb. 29.—F. B. Hubbard, president of the Eastern Railway & Lumber company, was re-elected at the annual meeting of the stockholders of the mill company Saturday night. Mrs. D. F. Davies and Reid F. Hubbard were re-elected vice president and secretary treasurer, respectively. Jay Agnew, of this city, was elected to the board of trustees to succeed J. D. Good.

FORMER PANTRY BOY RULES BRITAIN'S ARMIES

Sir William R. Robertson, once a pantry boy, is believed to have succeeded Lord Kitchener in charge of the operations of all the British armies in the field against the Teutons. Kitchener, it is believed, has virtually been deposed, though the cabinet is reluctant to admit it. Sir William is a Scot. He began his army career as a private of dragoons in 1888. Tradition says he was a footman, and before that a pantry boy. It took him ten years to win his commission. He is known throughout the army as a mercurial worker, a sworn enemy of red tape and "frills" and possessor of a marvellous gift for getting work out of other people. He is fifty-five years old.



Sr William R. Robertson

## WAR BULLETINS

London, March 1.—Last night and today saw many vessels sunk, and several hundred lives lost by mines and submarines. The 1800-hundred ton British steamer Thronaby was sunk and her crew perished, Lloyd's dispatches say today. Stockholm announces that a 500-ton Swiss vessel, the Thorborg, was submerged in the Mediterranean, and that the crew landed at Leghorn.

La Provence was Submerged.—Paris, March 1.—The auxiliary cruiser La Provence which sank Sunday was a victim of a German submarine, it is officially announced today. The figures now say that only 696 were saved of the 1800 aboard, though possibly some Greek fishing boats saved others. It was confirmed today that the La Provence was the former Palatal Atlantic liner.

New York, March 1.—Because of the German campaign against armed merchantmen, insurance rates on trans-Atlantic ships engaged in Mediterranean service rose sharply today.

Berlin, March 1.—French have evacuated Fresnes, southeast of Verdun, the Lokal Anzeigers correspondent has reported.

Rome, March 1.—A strong party was prepared to advocate war with Germany when Parliament opened today. No action is expected for several days pending the outcome of foreign office conferences.

Amsterdam, March 1.—German declaration of war upon Portugal is impending, Berlin advices stated today.

Berlin, March 1.—An official statement has said German aeroplanes stopped a military train at Bensacon-Jussy road with bombs and then successfully attacked it with machine-guns, forcing the crew to alight. This is the first instance of its kind in history.

Excited Crowds Ready for Game

SPECIAL TRAIN LEAVES LA GRANDE AT 7:15.

Band, Songs Yells and Players all Ready for Big Contest at Union Tonight.

With its basketball team fit as a fiddle, the rooters schooled and drilled in songs and yells, and a band ready to lead them, the M. I. A. 100 strong, is ready this afternoon to entrain at 7:15 this evening for Union. At that place the championship of Eastern Oregon club teams will be worked out with finality. Last evening members of the Mutual Improvement association met to go over their new songs and yells, and to stir up special interest. A large number who are not members of the association but are anxious to see La Grande win the distinction sought, will accompany the team and rooters on the special train.

Several members of the Union team were over last night and report that every inch of floor-space will be utilized by the crowd which promises to be the biggest in the history of the sport there. A dance will follow the contest.

LIONLIKE MARCH OPENS

Bearded, roaring, vicious and stormy, all same lion, March began today with a slushy blast and if the old adage is true, the last of the month will be balmy. "In like a lion, out like a lamb," runs the old weather saw, and March 1st was very much vicious.

trans-Atlantic ships engaged in Mediterranean service rose sharply today.

Berlin, March 1.—French have evacuated Fresnes, southeast of Verdun, the Lokal Anzeigers correspondent has reported.

Rome, March 1.—A strong party was prepared to advocate war with Germany when Parliament opened today. No action is expected for several days pending the outcome of foreign office conferences.

Amsterdam, March 1.—German declaration of war upon Portugal is impending, Berlin advices stated today.

Berlin, March 1.—An official statement has said German aeroplanes stopped a military train at Bensacon-Jussy road with bombs and then successfully attacked it with machine-guns, forcing the crew to alight. This is the first instance of its kind in history.

## STOCK CASES BEFORE COURT

CHILDERS AND BURKE WIN A VERDICT.

State Case Against Scott (Goodall) Occupies Attention.

Stock litigation is taking up much of the midweek in circuit court. Yesterday evening the state case against James Childers and L. Burke was concluded when the jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendants. This morning court took up the case of State vs. Scott Goodall, a case appealed from the Union justice court in which a fine and jail sentence was attached to Goodall, at one time a resident of La Grande now in the stock business, for alleged cruelties to animals.

FLAG DAY MATINEE

If You Bought a Flag Wear it Saturday Afternoon.

If you purchased a flag on Flag day wear it Saturday afternoon for if you don't you will have to buy another. That is about the sum and substance of the present order, for the ladies are going to finish selling their supply of flags that is on hand next Saturday. There is no desire to sell two flags to one person but it is best to wear the one you have and thus save a lot of explaining, or if you prefer buy another.

Funeral Date Set

The funeral over the remains of the late Mrs. E. E. Slater, will be held Thursday afternoon at the Episcopal church. The casket will not be opened at the church but friends may view the remains at the family home on Penn. street between 10 and 12.

FATE BRINGS REPRISAL

Prisoners Who Turned Joke, Are Themselves to Suffer.

A few days ago some boys from Baker happened to be locked up in the city jail and some long-termers already there made life miserable for the youngsters at night by telling them fabrications about crazy men in adjoining cells, and about Chinese murders, etc. The joke went big but last night these same jokers got their punishment. Officer Christensen picked up an escaped lunatic from Pendleton, and said lunatic saw to it that none of the city prisoners slept last night. Now the long termers say they will joke no more with fellow prisoners.

CLYDE STRING BROKEN.

Leadbetter-McKennon Clydes Will be Put on Market.

A bunch of Clydes, and a Shire or two, which singly, and collectively have put Union county on the horse map in many states by sweeping fairs and horse shows in the Northwest, is to be broken up and scattered, if a plan of action adopted by Leadbetter & McKennon Alico purely-bred horse breeders is carried to fruition. The men expect to sell the entire lot singly or in pairs, and it is their belief that when the sales and this noted string will be found in all corners of this and Wallawa county. While the great majority are Clydes, there is one Shire among them, the famous Goria Fashion, which is for sale. In order that farmers and embryonic breeders may be able to acquire parts of this string the dealers are taking work mares and horses in part exchange. By this means stock men foresee a great impetus to the widespread campaign of "better farm horses" that has already made Union and Wallawa counties famous. There are several fine strings of yearling stock in the two counties and some farmers want to see a number of these winners so that a small community may profit.

## GUNS SILENT NEAR VERDUN

SINISTER MEANING HINTED AT BY FRENCH DISPATCHES TO LONDON

SERIAL ENGAGEMENTS ARE REPORTED AT 3 FORTS

While Verdun Canonading Is Silenced Today, French Do Not Believe That Offensive Has Been Broken—Fighting Going On in Various Other Localities Agree Dispatches.

London, March 1.—After days of furious struggle, fighting around Verdun came almost to a complete stop last night, official statements agreed today. Paris uttered a warning that Germany probably is preparing for a further offensive on a colossal scale. New drives against Pepper Heights, north of Verdun, and against Forts Devanne and Devaux are believed to be pressed.

Berlin has reported artillery fighting on the whole front, and no infantry attacks around Verdun. Paris said there is intermittent bombardment northwest of Verdun. German concentrations at Pontamousson were repelled by artillery, and both sides claimed minor serial activities.

Dondon, March 1.—A Paris wireless message reports a lull in the battle around Verdun. It warned however, that there is no reason to believe the offensive has been abandoned. An English statement reported the artillery is battling there, but did not mention important infantry engagements. An English bi-plane was shot down near Menin, and two French bi-planes were shot down near Sison.

TOM THUMB WEDDING.

Conductress Arrives to Take Charge of the Rehearsals.

Miss Charlotte Hune arrived today and will take charge of the arrangements for presentation of "Tom Thumb's Wedding" which is to be given at the Methodist church Friday evening. There will be about sixty-five of the youngsters of La Grande in this performance and rehearsals will now be held daily at the church. The time for the rehearsals is 4 o'clock in the afternoons.

Strange Names On Cruisers

Washington, D. C., March 1.—Answering a blood call perhaps, the below named enlisted men of the United States Marine Corps are sailing away o'er the seven seas:

- Corporal Swan on the U. S. S. Machias.
- Private Haddock on the U. S. S. Castine.
- Private Seals on the U. S. S. Delaware.
- Private Pike on the U. S. S. Prairie.
- Private Sturgeon on the U. S. S. Utah.

Gold In Crow

Baker, March 1.—Ed Bowen received an order several days ago from a local restaurant for a nice, fat turkey, so when he came to town yesterday he brought the bird along and made delivery as per agreement. When the fowl was dressed a pure gold nugget, weighing approximately 46 worth of the yellow metal, was found in the crow. Hereafter he will sell turkeys dressed, says Edward.

The ground on the Bowen place contains considerable gold. The fact has always been known, but it is the first nugget of any size ever turned up. It is undetermined whether the gold is from a lode or from a placer. The owner is figuring on prospecting his flock of turkeys to see if they will all turn out to be gold.

Julius Fisher

Julius Fisher, who has been staying in the city, will be in the city for a while. He is a well-known horse breeder and is interested in the horse business. He is a native of La Grande and has been in the city for some time. He is a well-known horse breeder and is interested in the horse business. He is a native of La Grande and has been in the city for some time. He is a well-known horse breeder and is interested in the horse business. He is a native of La Grande and has been in the city for some time.

(Continued on Page 8.)