

Storm Breaks Out In Senate Stone Defines His Policies

CONFLICT OVER WILSON POLICY GROWING TENSE

STONE TUMBLES ISSUES TO
FOCUS BY INTERRUPTED
MINOR DISCUSSION.

VOTE MAY COME AT
LATE HOUR TONIGHT

Debate Conducted Amid Scenes Un-
paralleled Since Spanish-American
War Days—Atmosphere Charged
With Tension During Prolonged
Debate Over Merchantmen Issues.

Washington, March 2.—While
President Wilson waited today for his
country to force Congress to support
him in the international situation,
the storm over his policies broke in
the senate this afternoon. Scenes at-
tending the debate were unparalleled
since the days of the Spanish-American
war discussion.

There was tension in the air.
Senator Gore electrified the senate
with the declaration that President
Wilson was ready to go to war with
Germany if necessary.

Washington, March 2.—After debat-
ing an hour and 40 minutes, the sen-
ate today didn't act on the armed mer-
chantmen issue. The conflict between
the President and congress broke when
Senator Stone, (Dem.) interrupted a
discussion on the Shields waterpower
bill and made a statement about the
Gore resolution which asks congress
to repudiate Wilson's stand. Lodge,
(Rep.) agreed the question should
come to a vote immediately. Presi-
dent Wilson sorely needs the aid of all
senators, regardless of party, especial-
ly since his edict last night that no
half-way support is wanted, that con-
gress must either stand by in full or
repudiate him in full.

Senator Stone admitted he and the
President didn't agree. He said: "The
President is disposed to support the
contention that merchantmen were
armed for defensive purposes. He
doesn't say what defense is and I don't
know. If a real merchantman is sub-
merged and Americans suffer, I would
hold the offending government strict-
ly to account."

Stone's Plan Outlined
"If Germany persisted, I would call
the matter to the attention of Con-
gress, the war-making body. My
viewpoint is that if merchantmen are
armed, transporting munitions, contra-
band or troops, they are warships."

He declared it was essential the
President know Congress is behind
him to make a satisfactory solution
of problems with Germany and Eng-
land.

Stone favored a vote on the Gore
resolution late today, but requested
Congress to adjourn tonight to meet
earlier than usual tomorrow.

MEXICAN EXILES IDEA

American Intervention Would Be Use-
less He Believes

New York, Mar. 2.—Don Francisco
de la Barra, who was Provisional
President of Mexico for six months
and who has been living in Paris for
the last three years, arrived here yester-
day from Falmouth, England, on the
steamship Nieuw Amsterdam. His
son, Francisco, who is twenty years
old, came with him. He says he shall
be here two weeks only, being on a
business trip, and will not go to Mex-
ico.

"I can't tell you anything about
Mexican politics," he added, "as I
have had no direct communication
with my country. I am an interna-
tional lawyer now residing in Paris."
"I can say that nothing would be
gained by United States intervention
in Mexico. It would never do from
the viewpoint of Mexicans. Yet peace
can never be restored while Carranza
is President. Unfortunately he has
not the confidence of the people."

Asked for his opinion of Villa, de
la Barra shook his head and laughed.

COUNCIL WARRANTS CALLED

With the call for warrants is-
sued by the city administration
today, all debts incurred by the
council government preceding
the commission form are wiped
out. The present government
hereafter will be concerned only
with such incumbrances as it
has itself incurred.

LEGAL TUSSLE IS UNDER WAY

COMMISSION AND NORTH 2d PEOP-
LE MEET.

No Agreement Reached and Meeting
is Continued a Week.

Legal tussles which in the end will
either adjust distribution of costs to
abutting property owners on North
Second street, or establish the validity
of the new charter which empowers
the commission to reassess a street
where errors or irregularities existed
in the original, began last night in
the City Hall when some property
owners on North Second, filed ob-
jections to the distribution of bene-
fits. The upshot of the evening was
that after considerable discussion,
the meeting was continued one week.
The objections, which in this case are
not to be confused with remonstran-
ces, contend in their statements
filed, and made through Attorney T.
H. Crawford and F. S. Ivanhoe, that
the supreme court having invalidated
the first proceedings, the commission
cannot even under the new charter
reassess. In the informal discussion
that went on, it developed that the
citizens and the commission are far
apart as to the opinion of benefits
accruing. On the one hand, tax-
payers contend that little or no bene-
fits result to them; the commission
takes the diametrically opposite
viewpoint that all or nearly all
assessed benefits are real and materi-
al. The commission exhibits a mood
to negotiate and compromise in the
costs, which the general public be-
lieves is greater than the benefits.
The question now seems to be, "Can
the will the property owners and the
commission reach an adjustment by
the give and take method?"

FRIDAY STUNTS DELAYED.

Bad Weather and Lack of Time Calls
Off Temporarily Student Show

Owing to threatening weather, lack
of preparation owing to this being
the first of the month, the Industrial
Parade, which was to be held tomor-
row noon under the direction of the
Athletic Association of the high school,
has been postponed until a
later date. The committee in charge
of the affair are still perfecting their
plans and when the parade is held
sufficient time will be given the mer-
chantmen so that they can prepare more
elaborate advertising than what they
could have done if the original plans
were carried out and the parade given
tomorrow.

The merchantmen as a whole have
favored the plan and will give the
parade a boost when it is held, which
according to the committee in charge
will be about the middle of March.

MAKES NEW RULINGS

Safety First Regulations Adopted by
Labor Commissioner

Salem, Or., March 1.—Labor Com-
missioner Hoff today announced a
ruling requiring all water-gauge
glasses less than ten feet above the
working floor to be guarded with
either one-fourth inch glass or with
a sheet metal guard with a quarter
of an inch slot running the length of
the glass. The use of wire screens
as water-gauge guards must be dis-
continued, he declares.

He further announced that where
two or more steam-driven units ex-
haust into a common system there
must be a valve placed on the ex-
haust of each unit; that toe boards
must be put on all walkways and
platforms where practicable; that
solid webs must be put in all exposed
printing press fly wheels, and that
circular saws which are cracked more
than one-half and inch deep, must not
be used. After March 1, 1917, the
use of square jointer heads will also
be barred.

J. T. Jeffries Named as Constable.
Baker, Mar. 1.—To fill the vacancy
made by the resignation of Claud
Bowman, the Baker county court
meeting in regular monthly session
this morning, appointed J. T. Jeffries
of this city, as constable of justice
district No. 1. The action was taken
on a petition signed by 21 Baker
residents.

THOMAS HOME DAMAGED.

Fire Breaks Out in Defective Switch
While Family is Out.

Fire originating in a defective wire
connection in the kitchen, this after-
noon did considerable damage to the
Ed Thomas home on Second street.
The blaze was discovered by the B.
B. Benham family, Mrs. Thomas hav-
ing gone to visit South La Grande
friends for the afternoon. The
flames crept up the wall space and
spread in the loft where it required
water to conquer it. While there was
considerable damage done by fire in
the loft the chief harm in the kitchen
and dining room came from water.
Firemen kept the furniture moved
away from the dripping fluids so that
little harm was sustained on that
score. Insurance is carried on the
property.

The wiring became short circuited
and when the department men turned
on the chemicals in the kitchen, all
received healthy shocks that came
near flooring a couple of them.

SHAFFER FUNERAL TOMORROW

Services At Imbler and Interment in
Summerville Cemetery

Oliver Shafer arrived from Texas
last night with the remains of his son,
Orin, whose death occurred recently
following an irreparable injury in
an accident two years ago. The fun-
eral will be held tomorrow. It is ar-
ranged to take the remains to Imbler
on the morning train and the funeral
will be held at the church in Imbler
immediately after the arrival of the
train. The interment will be in the
Summerville cemetery.

La Grande Man in Portland.

W. B. Olson of La Grande is regis-
tered at Hotel Benson, Portland.

SUSPECTS ARE UNDER ARREST

BELIEVED TO HAVE ROBBED THE
COVE POSTOFFICE

Trio of Yeggmen Held Under Bonds
At Pendleton

Pendleton, Mch. 2.—Charged with
burglaring the postoffice at Cove,
Oregon, three alleged yeggmen picked
up here recently by Sheriff T. D. Tay-
lor were yesterday afternoon held by
U. S. Commissioner S. A. Newberry
under \$1000 bonds and, being unable
to furnish the bonds they are still
in the county jail.

The men give the names of James
Frank Clark, Harry Ford and William
Murphy, though it is probable these
are but aliases. The sheriff encoun-
tered them recently and noting the
 earmarks of the professional yeggman
about them, took them in custody
while he investigated them. He
checked them up and found reason
to suspect that they were connected
with the Cove burglary.

Yesterday J. S. Swenson, postoffice
inspector out of Spokane, arrived and
swore to a complaint against them. It
is charged that they secured \$150 in
money and several hundred dollars
worth of stamps in the burglary.

Henry Peacock, postal inspector of
La Grande, was also here assisting in
the investigation of evidence against
the three men.

CHESS TEAM BOOKED.

Cove Will Bring Five Players to La
Grande Monday Evening.

One of the first chess tournaments
that has been arranged for in this
city in a good while, is to take place
next Monday night when a five-man
chess team comes from Cove to meet
five La Grande players. George H.
Curry, chairman of the chess and
checkers bureau of the Y. M. C. A.,
has local arrangements in hand and is
dealing with Mr. Forsstrom at Cove.
It is anticipated that Cove will bring
a stiff proposition in the way of
players.

\$11,000 DAMAGE SUIT OPENS

Suit for damages sustained by the
Mt. Emily Timber company, it is al-
leged, through fires started from
sparks from an O-W locomotive, began
in circuit court this morning. The
timber company is suing for \$10-
\$91.47 damages, and the case prom-
ises to be fought with keen legal war-
fare. A considerable area of Mt.
Emily Timber company timber land
was burned over in August, 1914, and
the company attributed the fire to lo-
comotive sparks. For some time the
dispute was negotiated forth and back,
eventually going into court. John S.
Hodgin is handling the timber com-
pany's case for Manager J. T. Wil-
liamson. C. E. Cochran is counsel for
the defendants.

LULL IN VERDUN LASTING; FRESH ATTACKS LIKELY

RUMORED DRIVE WILL BEGIN
AT ARGONNE BUT BERLIN
DOESN'T VERIFY.

FRENES CAPTURE NOW
REPUDIATED BY PARIS

Amsterdam Messages Says Devaeux
Near Verdun Has Been Evacuated
by Germans—This Too Berlin
Doesn't Admit—Lull in Slaughter
Manifest More Marked Than Yes-
terday.

London, March 2.—A lull in the
slaughter around Verdun continued
against last night. Paris and Berlin
dispatches agree.

Paris mentioned a bombardment,
apparently in preparation for resump-
tion of the struggle.

Berlin has failed to confirm an
Amsterdam message saying Devaeux,
near Verdun was evacuated, nor that a
big drive in Argonne is about to start.

Attacks against Frenes, southeast
of Verdun, repulsed, Paris has said,
discrediting the Berlin claim of a cap-
ture at that point.

GRANGE WILL OPPOSE BONDS

BLUE MOUNTAIN GRANGE
PASSES RESOLUTION.

Wants to Improve Roads and Will
Meet Taxes for Such Willingly.

Blue Mountain Grange, composed of
farmers in the vicinity of La Grande,
have passed a resolution condemning
road bonding. At the last regular
meeting of that grange, the following
resolution was adopted:

Whereas there is an attempt being
made to vote a bond issue to construct
hard surface roads in Union County;
After full investigation and consid-
eration Blue Mountain Grange No.
345 has unanimously decided that it
is opposed to bonding either the state
or the county for the purpose of build-
ing roads or for any other purpose
except for the immediate safety of
the country. However, Blue Moun-
tain Grange is unanimously in favor
of good roads and is willing to sup-
port an increase in taxation for the
purpose of constructing the same.

FAST GAME FRIDAY

Anticipated That Baker Will Give La
Grande a Fast Game

Owing to the fact that Friday
night's game of basketball with the
Baker high school ends the season for
the local high school team interest
in the game and the team is develop-
ing rapidly. Baker has always given
La Grande a hard tussle in any kind
of a game which may be played be-
tween the two schools and the back-
ers of the local team are going to be
on hand to see that they have all the
support from the side lines that they
need. Tickets are in the hands of
the students now and are selling fast.
Contracts for the game, along with
the list of players were received from
Baker yesterday and that the tie
game of football last fall will be
fought out on the basketball floor is
probable as several of the members
of Baker's football team are playing
on the basketball team.

WAR MOVES TODAY

London, March 2.—Married men
between 19 and 27 who volunteered in
the Derby campaign, will be called to
colors soon, it was announced today.
Conscription became effective today.
Preparations for calling bachelors
and widowers immediately have be-
gan. Large posters announced that
henceforth they will be regarded as
soldiers and drafted when needed. The
first nine groups will be called March
14th.

London, March 2.—The 2800-ton
Russian steamer Wentzel sunk yester-
day was the first victim of Germany's
new submarine campaign on armed
merchantmen. Eighteen of the crew
were lost and 11 rescued. A French
mine sweeper was submerged Tues-
day and the crew saved. Four fishing
smacks were sunk but the crews
landed.

PORTLAND SHIP FIRM SIGNS UP

MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLAR
BOAT ORDERED

Steel Concern Ready To Begin Con-
struction of Danish Craft

Portland, March 2.—The steel ship
building plant recently formed, today
closed a deal to construct an 8500-ton
steamer for the A. O. Anderson com-
pany, Danish ship owners.

A deal for a second steamer of this
sort is expected to be closed within a
week. They will cost \$1,200,000.00
each.

NEW ARMY PLANNED.

Vocational Training Recommended
by Editor.

Chicago, Ill., March 2.—An outline
of how his proposed Vocational Army
training school plan, endorsed by
President Wilson, may be economical-
ly, efficiently and quickly started
throughout the country, has been writ-
ten by W. D. Boyce of the Boyce pub-
lications. In brief, Mr. Boyce sug-
gests that a vocational and army
training school be added to each state
college under federal aid and guidance.
Concerning the plan, President Wil-
son, in his recent western trip, said
in part:

"We ought to have in this country
a great system of industrial and vo-
cational education, under Federal
guidance; and it will be perfectly
feasible and highly desirable to add
to that and combine with it such train-
ing in the mechanism and use and care
of arms, in the sanitation of the camp,
in the simpler forms of maneuver and
organization, as will make these same
men industrially and individually ser-
viceable for national defense."

"The point about such a system will
be that its emphasis will lie on the in-
dustrial and civil side of life, so that
men will think first of their families
and daily work and their services in
the economic fields of the country, and
only last of all to their serviceability
to the nation as soldiers and men at
arms. That is the ideal of America."

Mr. Boyce in part says:
"To start the Army Vocational
Schools, all that is necessary is for
United States Army training barracks
(for drilling and living purposes) to
be added to the state colleges, with
a corps of military instructors, equip-
ment, etc., all of which can easily be
provided by the Federal government. All
the expenses of this addition must be
borne by the United States, which
furnishes board, lodging and clothing
for the young men who take the
course. The government does this in
exchange for the student's services
while he is being trained to be a fit
soldier. The state furnishes the in-
struction in the trade, profession or
occupation which the student elects to
take. He is put to no expense and he
remains in the Vocational Army
School two years or more, going to
his classes like any student in a col-
lege, but being under regular army
discipline and living in barracks. After
his graduation he is subject to the
call of the United States government
for military service, but he goes into
the trade, profession or occupation in
which he has been instructed and in
which he is a finished product."

"We have frequently called atten-
tion to the fact that 85 per cent of
the boys of the United States are ob-
liged to go to work to support them-
selves at the finish of their common
school education, going without the vo-
cational training which they want and
need. The Vocational Army Schools
would give every boy, whether his par-
ents are poor, well-to-do or rich, an
equal chance to get a practical educa-
tion and at the same time fit himself
to help defend his country."

"The Federal Government would be
doing only what it now does, in fur-
nishing military instruction, board and
lodging, clothing and equipment to its
regular soldiers, and at half expense,
for it would not pay salaries to the
students. The states would be doing
only what they should do, in furnish-
ing education facilities for their citi-
zens. The young men attending the
Vocational Army School would not be
kept out of productive work, as the

BERLIN READY TO BEGIN WAR ON PORTUGUESE

GERMAN BUSINESS IN LISBON
FLEEC TO REFUGE IN
SPANISH CITIES.

GERMAN HONOR DEMANDS
AMENDS FROM PORTUGAL

Berlin Newspapers Can See no Escape
from War on Portugal Over Seizure
of Ships Recently Interned—Portu-
guese Councils Hold Long Night
Sessions Regarding Reply.

Amsterdam, March 2.—Germany is
prepared to declare war on Portugal
immediately, in the event of an un-
satisfactory reply to a note demand-
ing release of interned German ships
seized recently by Portugal, a Berlin
dispatch today said.

Germans Leave Portugal.
Lisbon, March 2.—Two hundred
German businessmen, it is estimated,
have sought refuge in Spain, fearing
Germany is about to declare war on
Portugal. It is rumored the Ger-
man minister will leave this after-
noon, though the embassy failed to
confirm this.

The president, cabinet and political
leaders conferred at a late hour last
night to frame a reply to Germany
which was dispatched last night. It
is rumored it refused to comply.

A majority of the German busi-
ness houses in Portugal are closed
already.

Portuguese council in Germany
have warned countrymen to prepare
to depart. Berlin newspapers say
Germany cannot allow the incident to
pass without disgrace.

COURT HONORS DECEASED

Out of Tribute to the Late Mrs. Slater
Justice Wheels Halt

While the funeral of the late Mrs. E.
E. Slater, wife of the late U. S. Sen-
ator Slater, and mother of ex-Supreme
Justice Woodson Slater who was pres-
ent at the services, circuit court ad-
journed this afternoon until after the
services.

INDIAN PLEADS WITH JURY

Tribesman Asks Justice and Mercy
For His Family

North Yakima, Wash., March 1.—
Simon P. Johns, a full-blood Scoot
Indian of British Columbia, and a
graduate of the Indian school at Van-
couver, B. C., charged with robbery,
addressed the jury in his own behalf
Monday afternoon, protesting his in-
nocence and making a fervid appeal
for justice for himself and mercy for
his wife and two little children, who
sat beside him in the court room.
After two hours' deliberation the
jury returned a verdict of guilty.

The man was charged with the
burglary of a residence and some of
the goods stolen were found in his
possession the day after the robbery.
It was the first time an Indian had
addressed a jury in the Yakima
court. Counsel had been appointed for
him by the court.

ASSIGNING PARTS TODAY.

Tom Thumb Players to be Announced
After Tonight's Rehearsal.

When this evening's rehearsal for
Tom Thumb's Wedding, to be staged
tomorrow night, is completed the cast
of characters and actors in the big
production will be announced. The
Observer will publish the list to-
morrow and give detail announce-
ments concerning the production
which is being put on by experts
under auspices of the P. O. E. Chapter
here. There will be about 65 juvenile
actors in it, and one of the most im-
portant portions is the wedding it-
self. Costumes will be assigned this
evening and by tomorrow morning
full announcements can be made. The
wedding will be put on at the Metho-
dist church.

regular soldiers are. When the sol-
dier goes back to civilian life, his pro-
ductive capacity is not increased, but
when the graduates of the Vocational
Army Schools go into their trades, oc-
cupations and professions, their pro-
ductive capacity and earning ability
will be increased many fold.

"Under the Vocational Army School
plan, 90 per cent of the youths of the
United States would become fit men to
defend their country in time of need."