

La Grande Evening Observer

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CARRANZA'S ATTITUDE IS A PUZZLE STILL

DIPLOMATIC POINT ONE OF TWO REASON FOR DELAY IN EXPEDITION.

FUNSTON WANTS TO BE PREPARED THOROUGHLY

In Spite of Carranza's Position, at Present, Government Hopes to Make Invasion Without Meeting Governmental Objection—Cunning Villa Makes Capital of Situation.

Washington, March 13.—Secretary of State Lansing announced this afternoon the state department had reached an agreement with Carranza regarding American troops entering Mexico, and on the military reciprocity proposition. During the debate in the senate, Senator Chamberlain of Oregon declared: "If we think we can whip Mexico in a few weeks, we will be woefully surprised. It is believed Villa will become a national hero and 60,000 men will rally about him."

Washington, March 13.—Two considerations are still halting invasion of Mexico in pursuit of Villa.

First, the government desires Carranza's consent.

Second, General Funston is holding his men back until completely ready to smash the hardest.

Army officials predicted today Americans will enter Mexico Wednesday at the latest. Misinformation given the embassy caused it to announce President Wilson has accepted terms of military reciprocity. The statement was withdrawn when the White House denied it. The embassy declared Carranza's manifesto published this morning was grossly misquoted. The copy which the embassy received was essentially the same as the letter sent to Secretary of State Lansing previously.

The administration believes it will be able to conduct an expedition against Villa without meeting Carranza opposition. Fear is expressed that should the President accept Carranza's note, Villa would spread reports that the expeditions are for the purpose to invade and subjugate Mexico. With this slogan he could undoubtedly rally many to his support.

ABOUT AN EVEN BREAK.

Change in County Boundary Leaves Assessments About the Same.

Figures received from the assessor of Union county by C. H. Allen, Wallowa county assessor, indicate that the change in boundary lines effected by the last legislature transferred 11,520 acres of land from Union to Wallowa, notes the Record-Chief. Of this, 3080 acres are deeded land, the remainder being in the national forest. The Palmer Lumber company owns the greater part of the deeded land, which is supposed to be timbered. The Minam townsite consists of 20 acres included in the total of 3080.

The change transferred less than half a section of land from Wallowa county to Union, but threw about a mile of railroad into Union county. The assessed valuation of the railroad is \$23,600, mile. According to these figures it appears that there is little difference in the assessed valuation of the two lots of land exchanged. As is well known, the change threw part of the road up Wallowa hill into this county.

L. A. STOOP ACQUITTED

Jury Ends Elgin Case By Returning Verdict For Defendant

The L. A. Stoop case which went to trial Saturday ended with acquittal for the defendant, who was accused of last Summer some time having sold liquor on Sunday.

The case on trial today is that of Oregon Co-operative company against Theresa Gettle, attempting to obtain settlement of a contract. The defendant returned to the plaintiff company a machine purchased from them alleging undesirability. The plaintiff company sues for settlement.

REGISTRATIONS STILL LOW

Less Than 2000 of a Total of 7000 Are Duly Registered

With approximately 7000 voters in the county and less than 2000 registered, and the primaries a comparatively short time distant, it is no wonder that County Clerk Ed. Wright is worried over the lethargy about registering. Figures struck this morning show that citizens will have to "whip up". The figures including Saturday night's registrations, are: Republican 1086; Democrats 639; Prog. 18; Prohibition 45; Socialist 75; Ind. 42; Mis. 2. Total 1986. Of these 1442 were males and 465 females, itself positive proof that women are giving little or no attention to their duties in the way of registrations.

PARK BRIDGE PIER CRACKED

WHOLE STRUCTURE SHUNTED BY WEAKENED SUPPORT.

Dynamite Used to Straighten Channel and Reduce Current Pressure.

The concrete pier at the south end of Riverside Park bridge has cracked under the weight of the bridge and on account of the washing out underneath the pier. The first visible evidence of the undermining of the pier was Saturday morning when a portion of the approach gave way. The bridge, itself, has been shunted about six inches northwest and this is ascribed to the fact that the south pier has been tilted by reason of the disturbed foundation.

A large force was at work all day Sunday piling rock and brush around the disabled pier and to prevent further washing. For this purpose rock from the old sugar factory foundation and many pieces of the cast iron grates of the factory furnaces were piled in the river on layers of willow brush. In this manner a fairly good bulwark for protection of the pier was constructed.

As a further means of protecting the bridge a point of ground above the structure on the north bank of the river was blown away with dynamite yesterday, this work extending until well into the night. The object is to divert as much as possible the force of the current from the southern pier.

The bridge was closed yesterday for travel with teams but pedestrians were allowed to cross.

The river is at a rather high stage but is not within three feet of the high water mark.

Trouble at Ladd Canyon. High water in Ladd Canyon has caused a jam in the creek and a large amount of rock and debris of one kind and another has been scattered over the road, practically blocking team travel. A force has been at work at that locality to put things in shape and no damage is expected to result.

TEXANS ORGANIZING AND WANT ROOSEVELT TO BE LEADER AGAINST VILLA

Mormons Reported Marching Across Desert to the Border in Bands

CARRANZA THROWING UP TRENCHES NEAR EL PASO

Washington, March 13.—Washington has ordered military authorities to hold Consul Gavira, representing the defacto government responsible for the safety of the Mormons now surrounded by Villa bands. Unconfirmed reports said the Mormons are marching afoot across the desert toward the border.

Carranza Men Defend

Carranzistas are digging trenches on the border east of Juarez. The entrenchments face El Paso. Mexican troops also occupied the island in the Rio Grande from which El Paso is easily reached. Soldiers from the seventh infantry and a number of special deputies armed with rifles, have been placed on guard opposite the Carranzistas.

Roosevelt May Head Texans

A thousand Texans are organizing and probably will offer their services to assist the invasion. Influential cattlemen in Western Texas plan on organizing and equipping a regiment of cowboys, and may offer the leadership to Colonel Roosevelt.

El Paso, March 13.—Threatened by organized resistance from aroused Mexico, expeditions to crush Villa are

still held in leash. Troops are en route on special trains from all branches of army life to participate in the invasion or replace the border troops sent across the line. The invasion is now expected to begin Tuesday, though General Funston's policy of thorough preparedness may cause further delay.

Opposites Tear Border.

Carranza's threatened opposition and Villa's flight toward settlements of American Mormons already at his mercy, have torn the border between anger and fear. Carranzistas have already experienced trouble in suppressing anti-American demonstrations.

Six Americans arrived from Chihuahua today and reported that Carranzista officers threatened their lives.

Expedition Over Country.

Twelve thousand Americans are mobilizing. The punitive expedition may avoid cities and prevent trouble with non-combatants. It is expected however that Americans will seize the Northwestern railway at Juarez and 90 miles below the border; the troops will leave the trains at Guzman and attempt to envelop Villa.

Returned From Trip South

Engineer Jack Thatcher has returned from an extended trip through California as far south as San Diego. In fact, he says that he visited all towns between La Grande and California's southernmost city. He secured a layoff early in the winter and has put in most of the time traveling. Mr. Thatcher will resume his run on the Joseph branch, probably going out on the next trip.

Swallowed Chicken Bone.

While seated at dinner Sunday Mrs. Atkinson of South La Grande passed through the distressing experience of a chicken bone lodging in her throat. It was necessary to have the assistance of a physician to dislodge the bone and this was accomplished only after the work of nearly a couple of hours.

Food Prices Gone Up 112.9 Per Cent

London, March 13.—European food prices are higher than before the war, according to the English Board of Trade Labor Gazette, by the following percentages.

England	47
Berlin	83.4
Vienna	112.9
Italy	31.2

The Gazette based its estimate on food staples in the various countries. It dates the increase from July, 1914. The percentages of increase are carried up to Feb. 1, 1916, in England's case and to Jan. 1, 1916, in the cases of Berlin, Vienna and Italy.

Attention is called to the fact that in Berlin and Vienna many prices are artificially kept from going still higher only by government order and that in such cases the articles purchased are to be had in nothing but limited quantities, and that some foods, like rind, beans, peas and lentils apparently are practically unobtainable at any price.

FIVE CONTEST CASES PENDING

LITIGATION IN LAND OFFICE HEAVY.

Monument, Hamilton, Echo and Enterprise Cases Up.

Five contests pend before the United States land office in this city. Three were filed this morning and two had previously been set down for trial.

This morning the following cases were filed, with service on interested parties and dates of hearing yet to be executed:

Rufus N. Phelps vs. Frank D. Sibley, of Monument, involving a homestead near Monument.

Hettie Smith vs. Peter Steffensen, concerning a homestead near Hamilton.

James Hutchings vs. Jessie I. Crisman, a homestead near Hamilton. Register Bramwell and Receiver Skiff have set dates for hearings on other contests as follows:

George H. Martin vs. Milton E. Whitmore, set for trial before Joe H. Parkes at Pendleton April 20. Involves desert land claim near Echo.

Thomas J. Williams vs. Mary Fairchild, set for hearing at Enterprise before the county clerk on April 20. A homestead near Enterprise is involved.

FRENCH STORM AND TAKE 200 WOODS TRENCH

CARMES FOREST BATTLE TURNS IN FAVOR OF DEFENDING ARMIES IS REPORTED.

AT LAPETRIE WOODS. GERMANS STOP ATTACK

Italians Become Aggressive Today Reports Say and Austrians Are Calling up Reinforcements to Halt the Attacks There—Besieged British Suffer Heavy Loss of Men.

Paris, March 13.—The French have

stormed and captured 200 yards of trenches in Carnes forest, taking 20 prisoners, a communique said. Intense bombardment is reported at Dousumont, Bethincourt, Woivre and Lapetrie Woods.

No infantry fighting occurred North of Verdun last night. The statement reiterated, never entered Fort Vaux and Berlin has admitted Germans no longer hold the fort.

Berlin Report Out.

Berlin, March 13.—Artillery fighting on the east bank of the Meuse as far as the Moselle river, is steadily increasing, it is officially announced. French attacks in Lapetrie Woods were defeated.

British Losses Heavy.

Berlin, March 13.—Five thousand British were killed or wounded in an unsuccessful attempt to relieve the beleaguered garrison at Kutalemar, Constantinople has asserted today. Fighting around Feleha is announced.

Italians Resume Action.

Rome, March 13.—After a long lull, Italians became aggressively active on the entire front today. Artillery duelling is reported from Carso Plateau. Italians have captured several trenches, and Austrians are rushing reinforcements.

Will Make Sea Going Train Reality

Stockholm, March 13.—Having practically completed plans for a railroad car ferry service between Gothenburg, Sweden, and an English North sea port, presumably Immingham, the Swedish board of trade is considering establishing a similar line from Stockholm and Abo, Finland.

With the system in running order, a car, or even a train, might make the run from Vladivostok to Abo, cross by boat from Abo to Stockholm, go by rail from Stockholm to Gothenburg, travel again by ferry from Gothenburg to England and unload in the latter country for the first time. The proposition is to run 10,500 ton boats on the Anglo-Swedish line daily in each direction.

Coos County Butcher Is Shot

Marshfield, Or., March 13.—James E. Hopson, a butcher, was shot in the wrist last night by Ted Michaels, aged 22. The shooting occurred on a ranche near Myrtle Point. The men quarreled about some calves. Michaels says he fired in self-defense. A preliminary hearing will be held this afternoon.

Peculiar Facts About People

St. Paul, Minn., March 13.—Mike Gibbons, probably the world's middle-weight champion, doesn't like to win fights by knockouts, although he has scored nine of them. Mike wants to be recorded in history as the world's greatest boxer not fighter.

Pathos Follows Joke.

London, March 13.—The following sidelight on war was seen on a London street today. A British officer, carrying his arm in a sling, was preparing to step off a street car when a young woman, dressed in deep mourning, a baby in her arms, stepped on the platform. The child cried "Daddy" with embarrassing enthusiasm on seeing the officer. The passengers grieved, the officer blushed but tears rushed into the eyes of the young widow. In an instant the tragedy of war was revealed to everybody. The wounded officer drew himself up stiffly and saluted the baby. This tribute to the dead father froze any further merriment and the incident was closed.



REP. JEFF McELMORE - TEXAS.

REP. EDWARD W. POU - N. CAROLINA.

Henry D. Flood, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee.

SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE BECOME PROMINENTLY IDENTIFIED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION PREPAREDNESS FIGHT



SEN. BORAH - IDAHO

SEN. LEWIS - ILLINOIS

SEN. STONE - MISSOURI

SEN. GORE - OKLAHOMA

SEN. REED - MISSOURI

SEN. JONES - WASH.