

La Grande Evening Observer

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GERMANS AND FRENCH SMASH AT TWO POINTS

DEADMAN'S HILL AND VILLAGE AND FORT OF VAUX SCENES OF ACTION.

FOES CLAIM REPULSE OF BOTH ATTACKERS

Berlin Says Deadman's Hill Charges Were Repulsed While Paris Says German Drives at Vaux Were Hurl-Back—Besieged Garrison in the South Unrescued.

Paris, March 17.—Germans hurled a series of attacks against the fort and village of Vaux again last night. The war department says French fire shattered two assaults on the town and two against the fortress. Failing there, the Germans under cover of darkness attempted a debouch from a sunken road southeast of Vaux. Terrific French fire forced an abandonment. Germans suffered heavily under the fire attacks the communique asserted. Bombardment of Beilincourt and Cumeres Woods has slackened. No attacks at Deadman's Hill are reported but there are artillery duels at Woivre. French attacked Hartmare Woods capturing some prisoners.

Constantinople, March 17.—It is officially announced that British attempting to relieve General Townsend's beleaguered garrison at Kute Al Mara has been defeated and forced to begin a general retreat.

French Attacks Fail. Berlin, March 17.—Repulse of two French attacks against Deadman's Hill are officially announced. The first assault reached the German lines. Survivors surrendered when they reached the entanglements. Artillery halted the second rush.

Amsterdam, March 17.—Affidavits of the first and fourth officers of the ill-fated Tubantia have declared that the vessel was torpedoed. They say they clearly saw the torpedo but none saw the submarine.

Papers favoring the allies have asserted positively that the Tubantia was torpedoed. Sympathizers of the German cause are equally positive she was mined.

Investigation Begins. Washington, March 17.—Investigation has been ordered as to the sinking of the Dutch liner Tubantia, with Americans aboard. Consular Polk of the state department so ordered today.

PRESIDENT'S TIE GREEN.

Executive Wears Pure Irish Shamrock in his Coat Lapel Too.

Washington, March 17.—President Wilson appeared at his office today wearing a bright green necktie, a suit with a greenish tinge, and a real Irish shamrock in his lapel.

ENTRIES COMING IN.

Colt Show Tomorrow Will Likely Draw Big Crowd to Imbler.

Albeit farmers are quite busy with Spring work, there is reason to believe a big crowd will attend the colt show tomorrow at Imbler. The entries are already encouraging and many more are anticipated tomorrow morning.

GOOD MANNERS TAUGHT.

L. D. S. Sunday School Order Has Vari-Natured Purposes.

Perry, March 17.—(Special.)—Wednesday, under the directions of Mrs. Geo. Stoddard of the Union Stake Primary association of the L. D. S. church, a primary association was organized here with Mrs. L. B. Stoddard, Naomi Morris and Margaret Davis as officers. The object of this association is the training of the children, not only in religious subjects but in practical ways. It takes the child of the ages from five to 12 years and teaches politeness, manners, neatness, and usefulness as well as religious principles. This class meets once every week after the school hour in the afternoon, and it is hoped it will meet with success, as it is the first attempt with an organization such as this in Perry.

ORANGE DAY NEAR

Grocers Commence Sales On Juicy Oranges a Day Ahead

Although National Orange day will not be observed generally until tomorrow, La Grande grocers commenced distribution of orange baskets last evening and again this morning on the sale price basis. The day is an important one, to the orange industry, and because La Grande has a sale on them, with two carloads to draw from, there is little or no danger of the supply running short, but brisk sales are indicated, even the day before the event proper.

The citrus industry of California represents \$200,000,000 capital invested and 10,000 growers, and 100,000 depend upon it for a livelihood. There are over 107,000 acres of orange-bearing trees in the state and 65,000 not yet bearing. Of lemons there are 19,000 acres bearing and 17,000 acres non-bearing.

The shipments of citrus fruits from California in 1913-1914 were 45,000 cars of oranges and 3,000 cars of lemons. The value of these shipments last season is estimated at least at \$25,000,000.

Is Now the "Bon Ton" Since the purchase of the Noodle Grill, on Fir street, Wong Dan, the new proprietor, has decided to change the name of the place to the "Bon Ton."

TWO COURTS IN SESSION TODAY

PENDLETON JURIST SITS ON ONE BENCH.

Judge Knowles Moves One Branch to City Hall Court Room.

Justice was dispensed today at two points in La Grande. One department of circuit court was conducted in the usual court house court room, under the direction of Judge G. W. Phelps of Pendleton, while Judge Knowles moved his department down town to the city hall. The double-barreled firing of justice kept jurors and court attaches busy, and for the day at least, La Grande smacks of "big-town" court news.

Judge Knowles' department, sitting in slightly cramped quarters in the municipal court room, took up consideration of the Western Phalaris Co., against Burnett, in which the machinery involved in the Oregon Co-operative company suit against Mrs. Gettle, is once more the center of contention. In both cases the plaintiffs seek to recover on machinery delivered to the defendants. Court Reported Hanna took the testimony in Judge Knowles' department while Reporter Beckwith of Pendleton took the testimony in Judge Phelps' department. Many spectators took advantage of the easy access of the court room, compared to the long trip up the hill, and the audience was large during the trial down town.

Big Hay Suit On. Two hundred and eighty-five tons of hay, burned last summer in the stack near Union, valued at \$6.00 per ton, form the basis of a rather complicated suit which Judge Phelps is hearing today. Messrs Hill-McKennon Coolidge, big ranchers at Union, are suing Frank Stillwell and Tom Profit for the amount. The two defendants had agreed to buy the hay for feeding purposes, but it was burned soon after by a fire starting in an adjoining field. Now the sellers want to collect for the amount. Some nice lawpoints are involved and the case promises to be a spirited one.

BIG CLASSES ENTERED.

Eagles Have Ambitious Movement Effort to Increase Membership.

That the La Grande aerie of the Eagle's lodge can add 100 members to its lodge in a month's time, is the ambitious plan entertained by the officials, and large classes are being taken in at each meeting to prove the foundation for the plans afoot now. Tonight another class will be taken in. Over half the big total has been realized already.

Water Plant Official Arrested.

Roseburg, Ore. March 16.—H. E. Burchfield, chief engineer of the Roseburg Water & Light company, was arrested yesterday for selling salmon without the required state license. Burchfield alleges that he took the order for friends, and collected the money for them. The salmon, he claims, was shipped, unknown to him, in his name. The fish were netted in the Umpqua river below Winchester.

NO CASUALTIES AND NO ENGAGEMENTS IN EXPEDITION THUS FAR

Villa Breaks Followers Into Small Detachments and Will Hide Out Alone.

San Antonio, March 17.—The American expedition into Mexico had suffered no casualties neither had the troops encountered Villistas at noon today. General Funston has announced. Two columns are still pushing south through the Chihuahua desert. One aeroplane and 100 Carranza scouts are with the vanguard.

Officers Are Apprehensive. United States officers continue to be apprehensive regarding the attitude of persons, ignorant of the real nature of the expedition. Many of them think it is a gringo invasion.

No Engagements Likely Today. Mormon scouts with General Pershing's column doubt there will be a contact with Villistas before tomorrow. It is indicated the object of the punitive expedition are hidden at Galena, and the expedition is expected to arrive there Sunday. Bridges on the Mexico Northwestern railroad near San Pedro are burned, further delaying rescue of the Mormons.

Covered 15 Miles Yesterday. El Paso, March 17.—The main column spent the night at Boca Grande water hole. Yesterday's march covered 15 miles, and the cavalry vanguard is expected to reach Guzman tonight. General Bertrams' Mexican cavalry is still there.

Mormons Become Impatient. Impatient over the delay, El Paso Mormons are sending a special train toward Pearson to rescue the colonists. General Villa was last reported at San Buena Ventura, south of Galena indicating he does not intend to molest Mormons at that point. Burned bridges may delay the special train. Civil officers here are still suspicious about Carranza followers, and they want to know why American troops were not allowed to use the railroad, and thus save the march through the hot desert.

Ammunition Reserves Mexican. Douglas, March 17.—Seven hundred thousand rounds of ammunition were transported across the border into Aguaprieta today. Consul Lavelier has branded as false the reports that troops at Cabullona have become mutinous. Despite assurances, uneasiness is felt since the ammunition got into Mexican hands.

Carranza Still Affable. Washington, March 17.—Through Consul Sillman President Wilson today received additional expressions and confidence from Carranza coupled with the willingness of the Mexican government to cooperate with the United States in the suppression of Villa.

The state department received advices stating that Villa had started southward toward the Mormon settlements at Casa Grandes.

Joint Bills Signed. President Wilson has signed the joint resolution in the house and senate providing for immediate increase of the army.

The cabinet met today to consider the ordering of mobilization of additional border forces, and asking for an emergency appropriation.

The senate has adopted a resolution assuring all Mexicans that the American expedition is not for the purpose of intervention.

Villa's Army Disintegrating. Consul Garcia believes Villa is

RIVERSIDE BRIDGE MAY BE SAVED

Henry Davis, county bridge man, will complete the work of protection of the Park bridge today. It is the belief now that the structure will be held safely for travel for the high water season unless some unusual occurrence takes place to destroy the work already done. An immense amount of rock and brush have been placed as a bulwark around the disabled pier and there has been brush rapping along the banks near the bridge.

Blasting has been resorted to nearly all the week to widen the river channel above the bridge, and in this work rock and gravel has been distributed rather liberally around the vicinity. One piece of rock struck a

porch at the Grider home on Spruce street and frequently good-sized pieces of gravel have fallen in the park.

As a final precaution for the protection of the bridge a heavy timber has been placed underneath and fastened with cables to afford support in the emergency that the broken pier gives away entirely.

In any case a new pier will be necessitated to take the place of the one which has been undermined by the water. This work, of course, cannot be done until after the river goes down and the cost of repairs is estimated to reach at least a thousand dollars.

DRIVE COMMERCES

Logs Coming Down the Grande Ronde From Jordan Creek Piles.

Perry, March 17.—(Special.)—The Grande Ronde Lumber Co., is now breaking down their log decks at the mouth of Jordan Creek, and the logs are beginning to come down the river. Several thousand feet of logs have already reached the dam at Perry and are jamming securely. The secret of holding the logs at the dam is to form a tight jam of the first ones that come down, and as they continue to come, the jam will become tighter and tighter. After the danger of high water is over they can then be sluiced into the pond from the river.

Guests at the Lake. J. B. Kennedy and Pete Peterson, both old residents at Pendleton, are at Hot Lake for a few days.

Melgard Leaves Hot Lake. Also Takes Bride Away From Sani-torium. C. G. Melgard, known to everyone as "Gus", has resigned his position as superintendent of the bath house at Hot Lake and today is shaking hands with La Grande friends before taking his departure for Arrowhead Hot Springs at San Bernardino, California where he has been employed in a similar position to the one he held at Hot Lake.

Hot Lake will not seem natural without Gus. For seven years and eight months he has been on the job early and late. His pleasant manner and reservoir of good cheer has helped many a poor sick chap as much probably as his scientific massage or the health-giving waters of the Lake, for Gus is a genuine good fellow. His friends here hope that the California location will suit him and then he will continue his youth among the southern poppies. His brother A. W. Melgard takes his place at Hot Lake.

While Gus tried to execute a clever coup and get out of town with a bride and not let his friends in on the stunt, the act, like murder, will generally come out. This afternoon Mr. Melgard and Bartha Gage, a charming young lady of Hot Lake, were quietly married by Justice of the Peace A. C. Williams. One or two intimate friends were "in on" the wedding and witnessed it. Mr. and Mrs. Melgard leave this evening for their new home, taking with them the goodwishes of many warm friends in this vicinity.

MESSAGE TRAVELS RAPIDLY.

Seven Minutes Elapse Between Filing Message Until Delivery.

Yesterday afternoon at 3:11 a man

filed a message at San Francisco for the La Grande Grocery company at La Grande; the message was given the usual once-over there, put on the wire, received at Portland, transferred to the La Grande wire, sent to La Grande and was received here four minutes later. Manager Sprinkle here handled the message to one of his messengers who wrote it up on the sheet, put it in an envelope, addressed that, entered the data in the delivery book—all usual procedures—mounted his wheel and rode eight and a half blocks to the wholesale district where Manager G. L. Harrison received and receipted for the message just seven minutes after the man in San Francisco handled it over the counter there. Watches were compared so that there was no confusion on that score and both men claim the record is authentic.

Manager Sprinkle said that the message was not a test out, but that there was no delay at any point and the seven-minute record was made in spite of any special effort to make time. Had it been a test the says, other Western Union facilities would have been employed to facilitate matters.

Possible That Long Litigation on South Fourth May End With Final Arrangements for Distributing Costs Next Saturday Evening—Witnesses Admit Some Good Results.

Property owners on North Second street, met again last evening to present evidence to the city commission tending to sustain their contentions that charges for macadam pavement on that street, placed in 1912, are exorbitant. The hearing was concluded so far as the property owners are concerned and Saturday evening the commission meets again to take up further discussion in an effort to determine a satisfactory distribution of the expense. Many believe that the present litigation is the closing episode in long, drawn-out and bitterly contested lawsuits and community discussion.

Some Good Admitted. The general trend of testimony offered by the property owners was to prove that the work was not standard and not worth the assessments charged the individual property owners. On the other hand none except one would swear that the improvements were worthless. In most cases the witnesses admitted the improvements amount to about 50 cents on the dollar—one witness thought 60 percent but wouldn't admit it was worth 70 per cent.

The commission has a heavy interest account on its hands in this connection. While the general public seems to think that the work is not up to standard and that the commission, to be just, should meet the property owners part way, the commission faces an item of about \$2800 for interest. Under the charter that portion of the entire interest item, which is much larger, can be charged to the property owners. Hence, the commission must adjust the costs and care for the interest too.

Some who follow the litigation claim that it would be equitable for all concerned to place the value of the improvements at two-thirds the costs, and add the \$2800 interest which would bring the total assessments to about 80 per cent of what the charges are.

The city rests its case on the testimony of the property holders, who admitted among other things that with some exceptions the curbing was substantial, that the grade was completed, etc.

NEUTRALITY FLAGS WORN Half and Half—American and Irish—Most Popular Flags Today

Wearin' o' the green was the popular pastime in La Grande today. Out and out Irish recently from the old sod, of course, stayed close with straight green gonnafons, but many unique little flags and buttonhole ribbons were displayed. One of the most popular badges seen on the streets today was a combination of Uncle Sam's flag on one end and plain green on the other.

In some instances these were worn by man of German descent, demonstrating their commendable neutrality, not only to America but Ireland in the face of the European war.

Coincident with displays of green in stores was the prevailing orange displays in grocery stores and several merchants mixed the green and orange schemes in a way that would probably start a riot in a more Irish community.

Roads Being Tested. Charles Miller, Will Hamilton and Bob O'Connell this forenoon drove to Summerville in Mr. Miller's automobile on a pleasure and business journey. The roads are rapidly becoming fit for travel with machines.

ALL EVIDENCE ON S. FOURTH PAVING READY

CITY RESTS CASE UPON TESTIMONY OF PROPERTY OWNERS ALONG STREET.

CONCESSIONS ARE LOOKED FORWARD TO BY PARTIES

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