

La Grande Evening Observer

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Dodd's Men Near Villa's Territory

El Paso, March 18.—A portion of Colonel Dodd's cavalry has arrived at Dublin today, removing danger of an attack on Americans Mormons there. Dublin is south of Casa Grandes. The 10th cavalry, mostly negroes, composes the unit of relief sent to that point. They have been riding continuously for 60 hours, with Mormon scouts leading. Army men said Dodd has worn his men out as well as fatiguing horses in his rush to save the Americans. It is deemed a splendid feat.

San Antonio, March 18.—An engagement between Americans and Villistas is expected soon. Dodd's main column is south of Casa Grandes. Funston has been advised, and Villa is only 30 miles south of Casa Grandes.

Villa May Make Stand. If Villa makes a stand, Funston expects a clash very shortly. General Pershing has his cavalry within supporting distance to Dodd. They may effect a junction tomorrow.

The distance between Hachita and Casa Grandes is 100 miles. Dodd is marching a distance of 50 miles daily, and is a splendid record, Funston affirms. Pershing has wireless to General Funston particulars regarding disposition of troops now pursuing comprising the main column.

Treachery Expected. Officials report that mining men have offered big rewards for Villa's capture and this might induce treacherous Villistas to sacrifice their leader's life. The mining men favor using every means to gain the desired end, and asserted that once Villa is permitted to select his hiding place, he will be captured.

San Dato, Carranza Commandant, declared it is impossible to capture Villa. "Mountainous country where he will go is impassable to American troops, which he well knows. He will get away, but after the chase is drawn into the interior, he will swoop down on the border again, and attack the United States."

Plea Made by Carranza. Washington, March 18.—Gen. Funston has asked President Carranza for permission to use Mexican railroads in supplying the American army with ammunition. It is understood the government is backing Funston's request. The use of railroads would solve the expedition's most difficult problem.

GERMANS WILL MEET

Social Affairs and Interchange of News From Fatherland Purposes

A social evening has been arranged by the Germans of the city and valley to be held at the K. of P. Hall on Wednesday evening of next week. While a program of song and music has been arranged the evening will be an informal one and it is not likely that any organization matters will be discussed. The object is mainly to get together in a social way and to hear from those, who through relatives or other channels, have a more complete and direct knowledge of conditions in the fatherland during the distressing turmoil in Europe.

Several short addresses will be heard and refreshments will be served by the ladies. There will be no charges as the committee in charge has personally assumed the expenses. Any and all who would be interested in and appreciate such a meeting are invited to come. It is not known that any Germans from outside of the county will be present, but an interesting program is assured.

TWO CASES ENDED

Both Circuit Court Departments Clean Up Cases Today

Both Judge Knowles and Judge

Phelps, the latter of Pendleton, sitting specially here, this afternoon are sending their respective cases to their juries. Judge Phelps heard the hay suit involving some 286 tons of hay burned at Union, Hill-McKennon-Coolidge being plaintiffs against Proffitt and Stillwell.

In the municipal court room Judge Knowles sent his case to the jury just before noon, the litigation being about the Western Farquar Co. vs. Burnett.

Monday Judge Knowles will return to his regular bench and Judge Phelps will return to Pendleton.

This afternoon the jury found for the defendant in the Knowles case.

La Grande Man In High Court

Washington, March 18.—The case of the Pacific Livestock company against the Oregon water board, involving the constitutionality of the state water code, was argued and submitted before the supreme court yesterday. Attorney General Brown, Water Commissioner Cochran and Will R. King appeared for the state, and W. T. Treadwell for the appellant.

Chief Justice White and Justice McKenna asked questions concerning opportunities given water claimants for judicial review, and the effect of the provision making findings of the water board prima facie correct.

Treadwell asserted that the law affords the power to deprive people of property rights on ex parte data, violating the "due process of law" guaranteed by the federal constitution.

Growers of Hood River Will Hear Tomorrow

Hood River, Ore., March 17.—Growers of the Hood River valley will meet tomorrow afternoon at the rooms of the Commercial club to hear an address by C. W. Moorman, a representative of the office of markets of the United States department of agriculture, who will outline the plans of the Growers' agency proposed to centralize co-operative efforts of Northwestern growers. Both local shipping associations, the Apple Growers' association and the Fruit Growers' exchange, have urged that their members attend the meeting.

Marshfield Woman Has Sister in War

Marshfield, Ore., March 17.—Mrs. N. D. Oswald, of this city, anxiously awaits word from her sister, Mrs. Fred Wulff, who was last heard from at Torreon, Mexico, from which place Americans have fled. She went there three months ago to look after property interests. Her last letter told of many depredations and the seizure of a plantation. "If Villa comes, God help us," says the letter.

Office-Holders Can Hold Notarial Commissions

Salem, Ore., March 17.—Stating that considerable confusion seemed to exist on the question as to whether officeholders could act as notaries public, Governor Withycombe today called attention to an opinion by Attorney General Brown holding that they could. Neither federal, state nor other office holders are prohibited by law from serving as notaries says the attorney general.

HORSES GO TO COLORADO

Good Prices Paid for Exceptionally Good Stock

C. W. Day, the Colorado horse buyer who has been in this section the past week, sent out today two carloads of horses to Denver. One car was purchased in Wallowa county, the Wade Brothers being the principal contributors from that section. The other car was bought mostly in this vicinity, although a few were secured near North Powder. The biggest purchase locally was from Chas. Playle, the Alicel farmer who furnished several head.

In most of these purchases \$200 per head was the price paid. On the face of the transaction this looks like a good, big price for horseflesh, but it must be remembered at the same time that these were exceptionally good horses—they were the Eastern Oregon kind.

EAST END STREAMS HIGH

North Powder Farmers Commence Work But Not Extensively

North Powder, Ore., March 17.—Farmers are beginning to plow. Homer Bidwell has started two outfits and others are beginning to follow his example as soon as the ground is dry enough for them to do so. The soil is in fine condition and everything gives promise of a bountiful crop.

The streams in this section have been the highest for the time of the year that has ever been known. Several bridges over the smaller streams have been washed out and ought to be replaced as soon as possible. "If bridges were larger and allowed more room for the water we would not have the bridges gone every time the stream gets out of its banks," said a North Powder citizen today.

NEW BOARD ELECTED

Big Attendance Out For Annual Meeting of Merchants' Body

(At the annual meeting of the La Grande Merchants' association held yesterday evening at the Y. M. C. A. there was a general discussion on the subject of "Bankruptcy" which was led by the secretary and participated in by several members of the association.

A resolution was adopted recommending to the new board of directors the advisability of holding meetings of the association once each month. The new board is: F. D. Halsten, Sam Harris, W. R. Jones, F. R. Lee, T. J. Ormond, C. D. Putman and W. G. Sawyer.

Over 30 businessmen were present, enjoying luncheon first, that being followed by the election and other business.

COLT SHOW ON TODAY

Cloudy Weather has No Ill Effect on Annual Event at Imbler

Imbler, March 18.—(Special)—Cloudy weather this afternoon did not mar the attraction of the annual Imbler colt show which is going on this afternoon. The attendance was good, the display of colts splendid, and although late in the season, at a time when farmers are busy in the fields, the whole affair was a credit to the promoters and to the colt breeders.

CELILLO POWER MAY BE USED BY BIG PLANT

N. J. SINNOTT STARTS A MOVEMENT TO HAVE THE ARMY INVESTIGATE

TEN THOUSAND ASKED FOR IN PRELIMINARY MEASURE

Possibility of Big Nitrate Plant at Celillo Pointed Out By Eastern Oregon Congressman While Introducing Bill in House Today to Begin Investigation of Possibilities.

Washington, March 18.—N. J. Sinnott, congressman from Eastern Oregon, has introduced a bill in the house appropriating \$10,000 for investment in investigation of power possibilities at Celillo, near The Dalles.

The direct objective of the investigation, if the money is appropriated, will be to look into the feasibility of a huge nitrate plant at that point. The Oregon congressman today set out that he believed this scheme very feasible and he asks in his bill that army engineers be instructed to investigate the matter. He is confident they will report favorably, and if they do, he intends to push legislation for appropriation of large sums for that purpose.

British Craft Suspected. Berlin, March 18.—Two British submarines were near the Tubantia the day before she sank, the Inche Zieitung Amsterdam correspondent has asserted.

London, March 18.—The admiralty has branded as untrue the report that British submarines were near the Tubantia when she sank or that day.

Amsterdam, March 18.—Thorough investigation has proved all were saved when the liner Tubantia sank, the liner's officers announce today.

BUTTON OFFICIALLY TOUCHED

New San Diego Exposition Is Now Under Full Headway

Washington, March 18.—Secretary Daniels, acting for the president, touched the button at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the White House which formally opened the new San Diego exposition.

PASTOR RESIGNS

Methodist Church at North Powder Is Now Without a Minister

North Powder, March 18.—Rev. Wickline the Methodist Episcopal pastor has resigned and that leaves the town without a pastor. It is hoped that one will soon be supplied. Of the situation here, one North Powder citizen said:

"It seems to be so much trouble for the different denominations to keep their church going and wonder why in a small town like North Powder that a union church is not organized and then a good pastor could be hired and everyone asked to contribute to his support. This has been tried in other places with good success and why not North Powder?"

WHY DON'T YOU REGISTER TODAY?

But little more than a month is left in which to register for the Primary Election. The registration books will close April 18th.

Every voter must register. This means those who registered at the last election, as well as all others. If you have not registered with the County Clerk or one of his duly authorized Registrars since the first of the year, you are not registered for the coming primaries. Do not confuse city elections and registrations with those of the county and state. They have no connection.

Registration has been very slow. Unless voters attend to the matter at once a rush is promised for the last few days before the books close.

Why not register today at the Court House, on in the afternoons at Judge Phyl's Office, Secretary Land & Saving company.

The permanent registration law is now in effect. Once registered under this law you will not be required to register unless you move from your precinct. DO IT NOW.

NORTH POWDER MAN FILES

Dr. Irvine Seeks Republican Nomination for Coroner

North Powder entered the political arena this week when Dr. Wallace Irvine, a physician there, filed his candidacy for the Republican nomination to the office of coroner.

WILL CUT OUT "BRANDER"

Wild West Show at Medical Springs to be Abandoned

Baker, March 17.—That the annual Medical Springs "Brander," the local wild west show, will be discontinued this year was the announcement made yesterday by P. J. Powers, manager of the Medical Springs resort, who was in the city on business. The decision to discontinue the show was arrived at after considerable thought, Mr. Powers believing that it would be for the best interests of the resort to do away with the show, and in consequence he will plow up the race course and seed it to grain. The fence will be left up and the lumber and material in the bleachers will be used for other purposes.

Many changes and improvements in the hotel and springs property are contemplated, and among other things work will start soon on a golf course and a fine nine-hole links will be offered to visitors this summer. Other betterments are also planned that will make Medical Springs more than ever a beautiful and attractive place to spend an outing.

Shipped Apples To Montana

George H. Chapman has returned from Butte where he accompanied a carload of apples. In the disposal of the lot Mr. Chapman reports that he did as well as could be expected. He brings the word that times are lively in Montana and the people have not the slightest realization of the meaning of hard times. The mines in the vicinity of Butte afford a payroll of \$2,000,000 a month, and there is a reason for the flush times in that country.

Will Return From Hospital

W. B. Denny, head man of the O. W. R. & N. freight warehouse, who has been at a hospital in Portland the past three weeks, has rapidly improved the past few days and his arrival home is expected within a short time.

VERDUN DRIVE HAS RELAXED IN MARKED DEGREE

GERMANY BLAMES MIST IN THAT VICINITY FOR A DECIDED LULL

PARIS INTERPRETS IT AS BEGINNING OF END

With Marked Lull in Firing, and Apparent Loss of Vim That Was Shown in Early Attacks, Firing in France is Retarded—Fighting in Air Bitterly Conducted by Frenchmen.

BY HENRY STEWART (United Press Correspondent)

London, March 18.—Marked slackening in violence of Verdun fighting has convinced critics that Germans are about to abandon the offensive. Paris has conveyed the same idea and hinted that German defeat at Verdun would be followed immediately by the greatest French smash of the war.

Late attacks about Verdun have lacked the spirit shown in early dashes—there is less artillery preparation preceding them.

More Efforts Likely. London critics do not share these beliefs. They think the Teutons will risk all on one more grand assault against Verdun before admitting their defeat.

German papers are devoting less space to Verdun fighting, and neutral papers are forced to rely on Paris accounts of the situation today.

German Cities Raided

Paris, March 18.—French aviators have made five raids on German cities and important military posts. This was done last night, and the birdmen engaged in 32 duels in the air above Verdun it is officially announced.

Germana Explain Lull

Berlin, March 18.—German attacks on Verdun are slackened on account of a thick mist which is hindering operations, headquarters have announced.

Birdmen Unusually Active

Paris, March 18.—Seventeen French aeroplanes attacked Conflans station, hurling forty bombs. German supplies to the Verdun offensive pass there. Fourteen machines raided the station at Metz and three fires were started at the depot, where numerous explosions occurred. German batteries opened a vigorous fire but aeroplanes escaped unharmful.

The third flotilla dropped ten bombs on the aerodrome at Dieux, and five more on Aernaville station. The French aeroplanes made 29 flights pursuing the enemy and damaged one Fokker. German trenches at Corbeaux Wood, and near Devaux were bombarded. Elsewhere it is quiet, the communique said.

Milton Bloch Building a Home

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Bloch who recently returned from a long wedding tour of the east, including New York and other cities of note, are arranging to be "at home" in La Grande for good. Work has commenced on a residence for them at the corner of X avenue and North First street. According to the building permit the cost of the structure is placed at \$1300.

SIX AMERICAN SOLDIERS MURDERED BY VILLA'S MEN IN RAID ON COLUMBUS.



FRED A. GRIFFIN

FRANK T. KENDALL

HARRY WISWELL

PAUL SIMON

MARK A. DOBBS

JOHN NIEVERGEIZ