

La Grande Evening Observer

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VILLA TAKEN SAYS RUMOR

SUBSTANTIATION IMPOSSIBLE
DUE TO BAD CONDITION
OF TELEGRAPH

CHIHUAHUA CITY HEARS REPORT OF THE CAPTURE

General Funston Claims to Have No
Verification Though Admitted that
Capture Is Expected Momentarily
—Desperate Condition from Wounds
Reaffirmed from the Southland.

El Paso, April 1.—Unconfirmed reports in Chihuahua City this afternoon said American troops captured Villa near Minaca yesterday. General Gaviira made the announcement public, declaring the information came to him from General Gutierrez, and he also reported the telegraph is damaged so it is impossible to confirm.

San Antonio, April 1.—Having no further reports since the battle with Villistas and American General Funston believes Colonel Dodo is hotly pursuing the shattered remnants of the Villa band. Army men have concluded that Dodo detoured west of Guerrero and is headed south to surprise the outlaws in their hiding place. Funston didn't pass his judgment on the report that Villa is captured.

Capture Now Seems Sure
El Paso, April 1.—Desperately wounded, Bandit Villa is believed to be hiding with the remnants of his defeated band in the fastnesses of the Continental ridge somewhere south of San Geronimo. General Bell's information was that Villa is wounded from fighting with Czerkinstan at Guerrero, one bullet shattering his leg and his hip crushed by a fall off his horse. His capture is believed to be a matter of hours.

Early News Expected
Washington, April 1.—With his capture crushed by Colonel Dodo's cavalry, news of Villa's capture and extinction of his band is momentarily expected. The standing offer of \$20,000 reward for his betrayal is believed to prove a strong temptation to his followers now that his prestige is broken.

American forces will withdraw from Mexico immediately after Villa is taken. The best of feeling is reported between American soldiers and the de facto government troops.

GERMANY PROMISES PROBE

Washington, April 1.—Germany has promised immediate investigation of the charge that German submarines have resumed torpedoing, without warning, of allied merchantmen carrying American goods, according to Ambassador Borchgrevink's report. It is said he is unable to say how soon the information will be obtainable.

BROTHERHOODS TO ACT

Cleveland, April 1.—Demands having been made by the railroads' executive committee, four trainmen brotherhoods will meet at Chicago April 25th to formulate a course of action. It is stated not all roads replied to the demand for an eight-hour day and increased overtime.

Wooden Nickels Prolific

April Fool's day was marked with numerous "escapades" today, and picking up wooden nickels and coins fastened to the cement was the chief endeavor of those who easily "fall" for tricks. The usual precaution was observed but often the crust of protection was inefficient, and many hearty laughs were indulged in at the capers, cut by victims of practical jokes.

Prominent Lumberman Arrives

Duval Jackson, president of the East Oregon Lumber company of Enterprise, arrived on last night's train from a business trip to Kansas City. Mr. Jackson was met at La Grande by J. H. Pollitt, manager of the company, and the two proceeded to Enterprise this morning.

George Conley Returns

G. G. Conley, one of the big farmers of the Cove section who has been in Portland the past few months in a hospital, arrived in La Grande on today's train. His condition has greatly improved.

Receiver Skiff Improved

Receiver Nolan Skiff of the U. S. Land office, who has been having a rough and tumble grapple with rheumatism the past few weeks, is again able to be out.

Visitors From Union

Mrs. J. R. Farley and Miss Cecile Farley of Union, are guests at the Hotel Foley.

TWO VIEWS OF DR. WAITE'S FELLOW STUDENT



Mrs. Margaret Horton.

Mrs. Margaret Horton has explained to the New York County District Attorney that Dr. Arthur Warren Waite, now charged with the murder of his wife's parents, rented a suite in the Hotel Plaza, New York, as a studio for them. She said they wished to study languages. Later she said she believed Dr. Waite intended to kill both her and her husband.

"WATCH US" SAYS JOHNS

PENDLETON MAN BELIEVES BONDS WILL BE DEFEATED

Movement Is Insane, Unjust and Confiscatory, Is His Claim

"Will Umatilla county bond herself to a paving company for hard surface highways to parallel already constructed railroad lines? I do not think she will."

"These were the words of James Johns, an old resident of Pendleton, who does business all over Eastern Oregon for one of the largest loan companies operating in the northwest."

"Opposed to the movement, well I should say I am," continued Mr. Johns, "and so far as Umatilla county is concerned it is insane, unjust and confiscatory. It will mean a shrinkage of values rather than an increase as claimed by the paving men; it will mean endless litigation, for good, substantial ranchers who have made their money honestly and by hard work are ever going to submit to such treatment even if the bond issue carries without fighting it in every court of appeal. I tell you, sir, and with this statement Mr. Johns got warmed up for action, 'I tell you, sir, it is high time for the sensible, careful business people to take hold of matters. We have been permitting the promoter and the floater to go too far, for the man who stays in the man who pays for all this embroidery. I sincerely hope Union county will defeat this proposition and I believe from what I hear when visiting different sections of Union county that the people here are alive to the situation and are determined to register a just rebuke to the movement by a large majority.'"

Girls Falls Over 200-Foot Cliff

Pendleton, March 31.—Falling over a cliff 200 feet high, little six-year-old Velma Fletcher, daughter of Robert Fletcher, a McKay creek rancher, had a narrow escape from death Wednesday. As it was she sustained a fracture of the thigh bone and a bad scalp wound besides innumerable bruises. The cliff was not perpendicular for the full distance else death would have been her fate. She was brought to Pendleton and Dr. Hatley attended to the injuries. She is at the hospital now and is reported to be improving.

BRANDEIS WINS IN 1ST ROUND

SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS CONFIRMATION

Main Judiciary Committee May Get a Vote Next Monday

Washington, April 1.—By a vote of three to two the senate sub-committee of the judiciary committee has recommended the senate to confirm the nomination by Pres. Wilson of Louis D. Brandeis to the Supreme court bench. The recommendation will go to the judiciary committee Monday.

It is expected Republicans will attempt a delay on the recommendation or indefinite postponement.

COW ESTABLISHES RECORD

Is Mother of Four Heifer Calves in Period of Ten Months

Mt. Glen, April 1.—(Special)—A. L. Waite has a cow which he believes has broken all records in Union county if not in the state. About ten months ago there was born two heifer calves. On the 25th of March there was born two more twin heifers. The peculiarity of this is that all four of the calves are heifers. They are all fine calves and are to be seen at the Waite place.

The cow is also fine for the dairy and Mr. Waite says that he has one cow that has paid for her hay this winter. He is planning on putting the cow and her family on exhibition at the Union county fair next fall. Four calves within ten months is an unusual record.

EGG HAS HANDLE

Fastidious Pullet on North Side Introduces Innovation

Laying eggs with handles on them for convenient consumption of hard-boiled eggs, is the innovation hit upon by a hen owned by Jack Cline, of the city water department. This hen yesterday laid an egg shaped like a Venetian vase. The normal egg has an inch handle attached to it of about a half-inch in diameter. Originally the handle was complete and perfect, but was so brittle that portions cracked when picked up. The albuminous covering of the yolk is still intact part way through the handle. All in all, it makes a strange freak.

Ten New Stalls Ordered

CROWN PRINCE SHIFTS ANGLE OF HIS BLOWS

EAST BANK OF MEUSE RIVER
IS THE NEW BASE OF
TERRIFIC STRIKES

VAUX VILLAGE FALLS INTO GERMAN HANDS

Different Angle of Attack Shifts Center of Attention in the Attack About Verdun—German Zeppelin Falls To Earth Near London—Crew Surrenders to Patrol.

London, April 1.—Twenty-eight people were killed and 40 injured in Zeppelin raids on England last night, the admiralty has announced.

London, April 1.—Again shifting the attack to the east bank of the Meuse, the German crown prince has gained a foothold on the eastern outskirts of Vaux village, Paris dispatches have reported.

The message also declared German artillery is conducting a terrific bombardment of the Malancourt-Bethincourt salients.

London, April 1.—German guns are bombarding the Verdun-Paris railway from Avocourt Woods, Paris dispatches declare. It is believed this is a prelude to a drive on the railroad and a general assault on the Northwest of Verdun. Aeroplanes are circling over the track signaling to the Crown Prince's Monners. These are being attacked by French flyers which have succeeded in driving them away several times.

Zeppelin Falls Near London

London, April 1.—One of the five Zeppelins which raided the east coast of England last night, was shot down by an aircraft gun, and fell in the water off Thames Estuary, 40 miles east of London. A patrol boat surrounded the wreck and the crew surrendered.

It is believed the same zeppelin was seen over London during the night. One bomb killed an entire family and wrecked two cottages but the inmates escaped.

"THE BARRIER" COMING

Home Talent to Present Well-Known Rex Beach Drama Here

"The Barrier," Rex Beach's popular Alaskan story, will be presented by local talent under auspices of the Elks' lodge April 10th. C. M. DeVore will have general direction of the play and the cast will be somewhat the same as was seen in the recent Elks' production here.

"The Barrier" is so well known and the possibilities for acting are so great that the play should be a tremendous hit.

OPIE READ, HERE APRIL 15

Is Humorist, Reader, Author and America's Favorite Entertainer

As the final number of the 1915-16 Redpatch lyceum course the Neighborhood club announces that prince of entertainers, Opie Read, who will appear in the high school auditorium on April 15.

Mr. Read is known from coast to coast for his humorous and interesting lectures, stories and books. This will be Opie Read's second appearance in La Grande and those who remember his former visit will not miss this second opportunity to enjoy his evening's entertainment.

Cheap Rates to Salt Lake

On account of the general conference of the L. D. S. church at Salt Lake cheap railroad rates between La Grande and Salt Lake are in effect from April 1 to 5, both inclusive. The rate is but one dollar in addition to a one-way fare, making the price for the round-trip under the special rate from La Grande, \$18.90.

Lee Childers Buys Ranch

Lee Childers has become the purchaser of the 160 acres, six miles east of La Grande, formerly known as the Ewing place, and has taken possession of the same. He and his brother, Dorsey, are now busy turning the soil for the spring crops.

WHERE ARE WE? QUERIES SCRIBE

"BACK TO THE FARM" DIAGNOSED BY WRITER

J. B. Stoddard Deals With Timely Topics and Current Problems of Farm Life

La Grande April 1.—(To the Editor)—You have a fine galaxy of correspondents on a wide range of subjects, and they not only exploit their peculiar fads and fancies, but they impart much valuable information of an expert and professional nature. Some tell us how to build roads to Mount Emily or race courses across the valley; others give legal advice on cases in which they may have a contingent fee. Travels in the Holy Land, lectures on horticulture, when the party has trees to sell, instructions from the county expert, prospectuses from promoters and discussions on every conceivable subject of public interest find plenty of room in the "Forum" of the Observer. Even the dignified person who scorns to sign his name sometimes breaks into print under cover of quotation marks, but each and all, whether it be "the poet of the Sandridge," the lawyer, promoter, advertiser, politician, reformer or the "profound J. B." usually have some personal, professional, financial or political interest in the matter they communicate to the public, so I will let it go at this and sign my name.

Development of Country and Town

It is a well known fact that the country should develop faster than the town, and that the healthy growth of a town is conditioned by the country tributary to it. Most people spend their time working and sleeping; these with "the pursuit of happiness" seem to be the chief object of existence. In its last analysis, life is the making of a living and resting.

It takes thousands of acres to make a happy hunting ground for an Indian, a herdsman can make a living on less than an Indian and a tiller of the soil can reduce the number of acres still more, until in the concentrated efforts of a community thousands can make a living on a single acre. Valuation of land increases in proportion to its intensified uses.

Build Many Stalls

Work will be commenced at once on a ten-stall addition to the railroad roundhouse in this city. This statement is verified by Superintendent Bollons, who yesterday returned from a stay of several days in Portland on company business.

"This improvement has been contemplated for the last two or three years," said Mr. Bollons, "but there has been no approval of the appropriation for this purpose until now. The additional stalls are now a matter of necessity on account of the increase in business and the sum appropriated for improvements in La Grande is \$40,000."

Liberal Portions Awarded

This amount was included in the three and a half million budget for 1916 expenditures approved by Judge Lovell in San Francisco last week.

The new stalls will be added to the existing round-house of 25 stalls, and will be located at the west end of the round-house, probably and will be of the largest size and of sufficient capacity to accommodate the Malancourt salients.

Another important matter in railroad affairs and one which affects La Grande more than any other point on the entire system was the conclusion at Portland this week of the revision of the schedule of pay for conductors and brakemen.

Bib Increases Given

The increase, which includes an entire rearrangement of the wage schedule, comes as a result of a secret conference between representatives of the Order of Railway Conductors, the general grievance committee of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and officials of the railroad company. The conference began January 1 and was concluded Thursday afternoon, when the final agreement was drafted and signed. It changes the schedule of wages that has been in effect on the O-W R. & N. for the past five years. The increases range from 30 cents to 90 cents per day and affect approximately 750 employees of the road.

The new schedule will increase the wage disbursements to the extent of \$39,000 per year, not including any increase pay for overtime. This agreement also is outside of any consideration of the proposition of an eight-hour basis for a day.

Railroad officials in La Grande estimate that of this increase now granted practically half will be disbursed from La Grande.

New Train On Hills

In the meantime there is an extra passenger train service allowed between Pilot Rock Junction, and Huntington and the conductor on the Joseph branch is allowed two days off in each month with no loss of time.

There is to be no restrictions as to the tonnage of freight trains, with the exception of the district between Hilgard and Huron and Baker and Durkee. Between these points there are mountain summits and the train tonnage is limited over the summit hauls to 2200 tons to the train.

ASTORIA RATE ORDER CHECKED

COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDS POSTPONEMENT
Parity Rates Will Not Become Effective May 1st

Washington, April 1.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today postponed, on recommendation of Commissioner Hartland, the order issued in the Astoria rate case. The order was to have been effective May 1st.

In announcing the postponement the commission said the railroads had asked for a rehearing but the petition had been delayed. Holding up the order will continue pending preparing of the petition.

CANDIDACY IS ANNOUNCED

George Huntington Currey to Seek Representative Post

George Huntington Currey has formally announced his candidacy for Republican nomination for Representative from Union county. Mr. Currey is a Real estate and insurance man, and has lately been chiefly interested in the development of the George Palmer Lumber company's logged over lands. He is a native of Union county and received his education in the La Grande public schools. Later he studied law at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. Several years ago he published a newspaper at Forest Grove. Since his return to La Grande two years ago he has taken considerable interest in public affairs and was active in the prohibition campaign of two years ago.