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PARRAL MOBS ARE AGAIN ON THE RAMPAGE

MINING MILL A WRECK; BRITISH SUBJECT KILLED

AMERICAN ENGINEERS TURNING ATTENTION TO DEFENSE CONSTRUCTION

HOUSE AGAIN CONSIDERS MEXICAN LEGISLATION

Carranza Attempts to Have Expedition Cut to 1200 Cavalrymen—Mexicans at Mexico City Acclaim De Facto First Chief When He Enters to Establish Capitol Say Reports.

El Paso, April 15.—Reported Mexican attacks on American property at Parral are confirmed by messages today. The half-million dollar Alvarado Mining mill was destroyed. Owners of the railroad have received urgent calls for help from the manager. It is stated offices were entered and records destroyed. The messages did not state the attitude of the Carranza garrison toward the mob.

Two Americans reported murdered at Guerrero are safe, Superintendent Ryon of the Cusi mine has reported. He confirmed massacres of Donald Magregor, British, and Herman Blankenburg, a German.

Britisher Killed
Washington, April 15.—An unconfirmed state department report says a British employe was either killed or injured in the attack on the mining property at Parral.

Washington, April 15.—A second fight between Americans and residents of Parral is reported today in consular dispatches to El Paso. No details are given. Gen. Funston's long code message which caused mid-night conference between President Wilson and Secretary Baker is believed to recommend radical changes in the Villa hunt.

Engineers Building Defenses
San Antonio, April 15.—Army aviators today located several thousand Carranzistas encamped in a pass between Bavispo Valley and Casas Grandes, General Funston has reported. It is evident the Mexicans have not moved for several days. It is thought their supplies are passing over the railroads. General Funston has predicted the rainy season will hamper operations and make motor trucks useless. He said he had done everything in his power to obtain use of the railroads.

Entrenchments are being constructed along the communications. Fifty-four new motor trucks arrived at Columbus last night. Army engineers have been diverted from repairing roads and started to building defenses.

Limited Expedition Sought.
Representative Rodenburg has introduced a resolution directing the President to stop further exportation of arms and ammunition into Mexico.

Carranza's protocol proposes reduction of the expedition to 1200 cavalry men. The state department has countered with demands for no limitation of size of the expedition and sought actual co-operation with defacto regime.

Mexicans Welcome Carranza.
Ambassador Arredondo has stated Carranza was welcomed with tremendous acclaim when he entered Mexico City yesterday to establish his capital. It is reported the constitutional army is near Cuernavaca a stronghold of Zapatista.

This is the fourth day since the first clash at Parral and still official reports are lacking.

WILL VISIT CALIFORNIA.

Lester Bramwell Will Take Vacation After Nine Years York.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Bramwell will leave tomorrow night for California where they will visit different points of interest during the ensuing month. Mr. Bramwell has principal charge of the railroad ticket office in La Grande and this is his first vacation after nine years of continuous service.

During his absence his place in the railroad office will be taken by F. J. Ferg, of Portland, who will be here tomorrow to enter on the duties of the position.

Shopping Brisk Today

La Grande stores are enjoying a brisk business this afternoon. Farmers, though on the Spring rush with seedling, were in town in large numbers.

CARRANZA'S NEW AGENT



Dr. Alfredo Caturegli, First Chief Carranza has appointed Dr. Alfredo Caturegli his special financial agent in the United States, particularly for the protection of American investors in Mexico.

HUGHES' NAME IS OFF TICKET

JURIST REFUSES TO LET NAME APPEAR

Thirteen Hundred-Name Petition in Oregon Without Avail

Salem, April 15.—Justice Hughes' name will not be on the primary ballot in Oregon May 19th. The jurist has telegraphed Secretary of State Ben Olcott today refusing to permit the filing of petitions urging his presidential candidacy. The petition bore 1300 names and was filed yesterday but the secretary refused to list them until Mr. Hughes ruled on the matter.

MILTON FARMER GUILTY

W. J. Martin Breaks Down and Weeps When Verdict Is Returned

Pendleton, April 14.—"Guilty as charged" was the verdict brought in this afternoon at 1:45 by the jury that hear the evidence in the case against W. J. Martin, accused of an attempted criminal assault upon 16 year old Celine Fery of Milton. As the clerk read the verdict, the defendant, his head resting upon his hand, trembled visibly and tears sprang from his eyes when the word "guilty" was reached. He appeared much shaken, but, when taken from the courtroom, walked hurriedly.

The taking of evidence was completed yesterday afternoon. The defendant was his own principal witness. He sought, by plain statements to make the jury believe that the girl had been a willing party to his alleged crime. He introduced three witnesses, one his own daughter, to testify that the girl's character was bad. However, Deputy District Attorney Keator had 11 witnesses to testify that her character was good. Also he had the evidence of a number of witnesses to the alleged attack besides the girl's own story.

The argument was made this morning and the jury retired at 10:55. The verdict was ready soon after lunch. The case against the man seemed conclusive and general satisfaction was expressed by the witnesses from the east end of the county. There was much indignation against the man at the time of the crime, and his wife has since secured a divorce from him in Walla Walla.

Sentence will be passed upon him Monday morning. The law provides imprisonment in the penitentiary from one to ten years.

Goes East as Delegate.

Winfield Eckley arrived from Corvallis this morning and will remain over a day on his way to Manhattan, Kansas, where he goes as one of the two Pacific Coast delegates to the bi-annual convention of the Sigma Tau, an honorary engineering society which meets at the Kansas Agricultural college town this year. He is a senior in the electrical engineering course at Corvallis.

Bond Question on Ballot

The county court has ordered in response to a petition that effect, to be placed on the ballot at a special election to be held on the same day as the primary election the question of voting bonds in the amount of \$400,000 for hard surface roads in Union county.

GERMAN NOTE READY MONDAY

REPUBLICANS TO HELP DRAFT THE REPLY.

More Americans, Including Portlander, Rescued From Sea.

Washington, April 15.—Carefully scrutinized affidavits of American survivors of the Sussex, put the final touches on the latest note to Germany. It is indicated the note will be dispatched Monday. Secretary Lansing has agreed to Senator Stone's suggestion that he permit Republicans to attend conferences over the proposed note.

Another American Rescued.
Washington, April 15.—Consul Skinner of London has cabled Secretary Lansing that John Harrison, steward on the steamer Margana Abbey, has been rescued.

British Steamer Mined.
London, April 15.—The British steamer Shenadoah was sunk and two sailors are missing. It is believed she struck a mine.

Portland Boat Sunk.
Queenstown, April 15.—William Ross, an American sailor, from the bark Inverlyon, sunk by submarine gunfire, was put in the hospital today suffering from long exposure in a life boat without food. Several others were rescued. A second boat containing eleven survivors is missing. The Inverlyon sailed from Portland in December with a cargo of wheat.

Arrivals From Cove
T. W. Conklin and Jud Geer are visitors from Cove today.

On a Visit From Meacham
Robert Wilkerson, school teacher at Meacham, accompanied by Mrs. Wilkerson, arrived last night for an over-Sunday visit in La Grande.

Rev. Ellis Recovering.
Word from Baker states that Rev. George T. Ellis, former La Grande resident, is recovering from an illness for a long period considered critical. Recovery is indicated by a blood test which revealed an enormous increase of red corpuscles.

Town to Start at Junction.

City Engineer Geary Kimball, of Pendleton, is laying out a townsite at Pilot Rock Junction for George Geankopolis, a Greek, who expects to put up a business house as a starter for a town.

Former La Grande Boy Arrives
Emile Bunte, son of Chas. G. Bunte and a La Grande raised boy, is here on a short visit. He and his father have been doing some development work on mining claims up the river. Mr. Bunte returned to Portland and his son came on down from the mines to La Grande.

HUMORIST ANALYZES POLITICS

Opie Read is more than a humorist; possesses other faculties than to start smiles and cause sideaches. An Observer interviewer learned as much about noon today when he surprised the genial laughsmith in his Sommer hotel room, dexterously manipulating one of those safety razors. Between the scratches moving whiskers and well modulated grunts emitted during that laborious task a rather stout man faces every morning—pulling on shoes—the interviewer got some new nubbins to nibble when the first breathing spell comes. For instance, Mr. Read is of the opinion that it would be a calamity for Justice Hughes to be a candidate for president. Why? It would politicize the supreme bench, the highest judiciary in the world.

"Today the bench is the end of political ambition—it is the greatest reward available to a lawyer. It does and should end his political career. Should Mr. Hughes come down from it and take a political job, opinions from that bench in the future will be political, stepping stones to other political ambitions," remarked the humorist.

"Moreover Mr. Hughes could not carry New York, nor Illinois and likely not Pennsylvania. Mr. Hughes knows he can't."

"A judge doesn't make a good president. He is schooled to revise, not construct; to find flaws, not to suggest remedies."

While on the subject of politics it might be well to recite that Mr. Read firmly believes Mr. Roosevelt will not be nominated at Chicago for G. O. P. never has kissed and made up with a bolter. "When a nation is on the brink of great crises, it has not, history points out, changed presidents," said Mr. Read in this connection. "Mr. Lincoln hadn't made good and cartoonists played him heartlessly and brutally but he was re-elected."

"Yes," concluded the speaker in answer to a query, "Mr. Wilson will be re-elected. The east is generally favorable to him but in the south little praise of him is heard."



Colonel George C. Squier.

Colonel George C. Squier, military attaché with the American embassy in London, has been recalled by Secretary of War Baker, it is believed, for the purpose of organizing the aviation service of the United States army. He may succeed Colonel Samuel Reber, who was accused in the senate of failure to handle the aeroplane service properly.

FUNSMITHS CARVE OUT HARPOONS

STUNTS WILL BUBBLE AT BIG BANQUET.

Committee Arranges Portion of Program for Next Thursday Evening's Amusement.

Stunts which will at the same breath harpoon and boost leading activities which La Grande as a community supports and manages—the Speed 'Em Up races, the chauntaus, the county fair, good roads movement and other ventures of the sort, including the proposed cannery—are being carved out by a committee from the Commercial club which met late yesterday afternoon to draft arrangements for the annual Commercial club banquet. The function will be held at the Methodist church. J. G. Snodgrass, retiring club president will preside, there will be ample music, and above all there will be fun from beginning to end. Secrecy will veil much of what the fun is going to be but there will be enough of it, the committee promises. There will be a few set speeches, but it is declared that this event will surpass anything ever attempted here when it comes to uncorking humor and wit.

NO CHANGES OCCUR IN VERDUN BATTLE FRONT

Artillery Fighting Heavy West of the Meuse and Elsewhere But Little of Advantage Develops—Austrians Surprise Russians and Win Victory—General Situation Unchanged in the West.

Paris, April 15.—Heavy artillery fighting occurred west of the Meuse last night and the dull infantry operations continued, it is officially announced. Near Melancourt Germans kept up an incessant cannonade. French artillery was particularly effective on the west of Cobbeaux woods and Forges Brook crossing. East of the Meuse and on Woivre Plain, intermittent bombardments are reported. French repulsed a reconnaissance north of Roye and defeated other patrols south of St. Marie mines and Vosges.

Grenade Attack Fails.
Berlin, April 15.—Besides reporting minor activities in the Verdun region, an official statement claimed a British grenade attack in the Steloir region was set back.

Austrian Victories Reported.
Berlin, April 15.—An Austrian surprise attack against the Russian advanced position at Buczac-Czorthow

Slight gains are claimed at the Italian front. Evacuation of an Austrian position is admitted.

RAGS A PREMIUM.

Conservation of Old Paper and Rags a Vital Necessity.

Few La Grande people realize the present unparalleled crisis in the rag market has become so acute it is regarded by roofing manufacturers as a question of national economics. There is money in the rag and junk business for any bright La Grande boy or man for that matter says a report urging people to save rags and waste paper and thus avert a threatened shortage. Smith E. Allison, Vice President of the General Roofing Mfg. company, issued a statement from the New York office of the company in which he declared that the collection of rags and waste paper should be regarded as a question of national economics. "Rag picking" is like gleaming gold nuggets.

"If the American people are going to be extravagant and careless in not saving their rags, it is going to compel them to pay a higher price for their roofing," said Mr. Allison, "and shelter is regarded as the second need of man kind. Prepared roofing, which is manufactured chiefly from rags, is an economical roof covering that is chiefly from rags, is rapidly coming to the front for building of all classes, and unless this shortage of rags is to be reckoned with as a question of national economics, the people will be deprived of a means of shelter that is now recognized as a necessary factor by all classes of people."

Asked what remedy he would suggest, Mr. Allison stated that a public appeal should be made by the business or civic organization of each city or town, urging the people to save their old clothes, stockings and other cloth materials when worn out and sell them to the rag men. He also called attention to the opportunities open to churches and charitable institutions to raise money by saving rags and waste paper and selling them to the rag men or to the rag collectors. Salvation Army people who are already doing work in the field, could increase their efforts and urge the entire national organization to stimulate the collection of these materials. Janitors of buildings could increase their income very materially by collecting the rags and papers thrown away by the tenants. If one million boys collected 10 lbs. of rags, their collection would be worth to the roofing industry at the present time \$400,000.00.

Speaking of the present day value of rags, Mr. Allison continued:

Prices are High
"Rag pickers can afford to pay 4c lb. for the average grade of mixed rags in their house to house canvas, although an investigation proved that they are not as a rule paying this price. It seems to me therefore that the rag collectors are the ones who are responsible for boosting the present prices. Where a sufficient quantity of rags are collected, however," said Mr. Allison, "our company and other roofing concerns are willing to buy direct or to put people in communication with rag and paper stock companies who are only too glad to pay this price."

Mr. Geo. M. Brown, President of the General Roofing Mfg. company at St. Louis stated that the present trouble in getting rags was simply another glaring example of the laxity of American methods of conservation of its raw materials. "I believe there is no real shortage in this country," said Brown, "but that the entire fault lies in the lack of systematic collection of these materials."

"Americans are accustomed to burn old clothes and other discarded clothing and waste papers. In Europe clothes are frequently worn out on both sides and then they are always carefully tucked away in the rag bag and carefully collected by the rag men. In America we don't particularly urge people to wear out their clothes to such an extreme, but we do urge them to save such materials and sell them to the collectors, or to give them to charitable organizations, who in turn should have a proper system of collection and conservation in order to secure the easy revenue, which would be of so much aid to them in their work."

"Based on today's prices," continued Mr. Brown, "and on 300 working days a year, it is costing the roofing manufacturers \$400,000.00 a day more for rags to make roofing than it did last year, and the American people should come to a realization of the situation and avoid the extravagance of this waste by taking proper steps to save rags and waste paper."

FUNDS WASTED ON MILITIAMEN

IDAHO SENATOR OPPOSES AMENDMENT BUT LOSES

Appropriation to Increase National Guard Efficiency Passes Senate

Washington, April 15.—Federal appropriations for militia have been shamefully wasted and sometimes embezzled, declared Senator Borah, attacking the amendment to Chamberlain's bill increasing pay of militia officers. He charged the quarter master general of the Texas instruction camp embezzled \$30,000, largest part of the funds paid to officers.

Amendment to... tetaoimfwyp
The amendment passed 41 to 14. Others declared we may need the militia within a month and should pass the appropriation to maintain a national guard of the highest efficiency.

WAS SURE AN ERROR

Nobody Could Sell Strawberries At Price Given In Ad

About a hundred copies of the Observer left the press yesterday evening when the fact was discovered that Pattison Bros. grocery advertisement announced "Big Luscious Strawberries, 10c a box."

There are such things as "palpable" errors, "egregious" and double blanked mistakes, but none of them could be any further out of the way than such a quotation on strawberries this time in the year. Of course the press was immediately stopped and the price "20c" was inserted where therebefore had been the ruinous quotation of "10c" cents.

DEATH OF MRS. BOWMAN.

Was Pioneer Resident of Baker and Wallawa Counties.

Baker, April 14.—Mrs. George J. Bowman, one of the oldest pioneer ladies of Baker county, died shortly after noon yesterday at the family home on Carter street after an extended illness, which reached critical stages several weeks ago. Mrs. Bowman was 81 years of age. She was born near Pittsburg, Pa., and lived there when a young girl, removing to Missouri with her parents. There she was married in 1854 to Mr. Bowman. On November 15, 1915, they celebrated the 61st anniversary of their marriage. In 1872 Mr. and Mrs. Bowman came to Baker and deceased had resided in this city ever since.

Besides her husband, deceased is survived by four daughters—Mrs. Kate Palmer of Baker, Mrs. W. H. Stalker of Bellaire, Ohio, Mrs. Myrtle Campbell and Mrs. Elizabeth Hallock of Eagle Valley; also three sons—Frank and John of Baker and Robert of Lostine.

Mrs. Bowman was one of the best known of the pioneer residents of Baker, and also of Lostine, in Wallawa county, she and her husband being among the earliest settlers there. She was a lifelong member of the Presbyterian church and when her health permitted, one of the most active workers in the interests of the church here, which her husband has served in numerous official positions.

"The rank and file never thinks. Like the sheep with its head down it follows the tinkling of the bell up in front. It would split the common voter in two to think. That is why political party lines are being drawn since Root and others began to criticize."

Journal Man Here

James B. Welch, representing the Oregon Journal, is transacting business in La Grande today.

(Continued on Page 8.)