

La Grande Evening Observer

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EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS EXPECTED

FULL PURPOSE OF EXPEDITION NOW REALIZED

ENORMOUS TASK HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED CITES ADMINISTRATION.

VILLA'S DEATH RUMOR WILL NOT WHOLLY DIE

Chihuahua Governor Claims to Have New Proof of Bandit's Demise, but General Bell Thinks the Story Was Invented in Jaurez—Soldiers Can Go No Farther South Without Rails.

El Paso, April 18.—General Gaviro announced this afternoon that he had received confirmation of Villa's death from Governor Enriquez at Chihuahua. Shortly before that General Bell told General Funston that he believed the entire story of the finding of Villa's body was manufactured at Jaurez.

Must Have Railroad Aid. San Antonio, April 18.—Advanced American detachments hurried toward Satevo today. Renewal of the chase after Villa is under way along new lines with diminished risk; as the sequence of the temporary lull in the hunt. General Funston said Americans couldn't go beyond the Satevo district with the present column and that it remains with the war department to obtain permission to use the Mexican railroad.

Withdrawal Again Considered. Washington, April 18.—Withdrawal of American troops from Mexico within a month and maybe without getting Villa, is likely, but won't come until orders to disperse Villistas hands are fulfilled or Carranza is able to assume the task. There is no change in policy yet determined upon but the administration is considering possibility of withdrawal without Villa's death or capture.

The administration feels it has already accomplished an enormous task. Troops have driven Villistas 400 miles to the interior, robbed Villa of his glory for being the first Mexican to invade the States and kill gringos. The government has also likely checked another revolution in North Mexico and virtually assured the border against raids and has nearly completed the job of scattering bandits under Villa.

R. L. MERRICK DEPORTED.

Portland Lawyer Must Leave State After Confession of Guilt.

Portland, April 18.—R. L. Merrick, former law partner of ex-Congressman Lafferty, today pleaded guilty to contributing to the delinquency of a young girl.

He was immediately paroled on condition that he leave the state and report monthly to the juvenile court in writing.

Shortage Threatens Allies.

London, April 18.—Lloyd George, minister of munitions, told the British cabinet today that the Allies' chance of winning is threatened by shortage of men.

SEATTLE "EPIDEMIC" BAD.

One Physician Alone Issued Over "200 Prescriptions."

Seattle, April 18.—This is no more the healthiest city in the world. Prosecutor Landin has discovered that ailments were so prevalent on St. Patrick's day that one physician issued 200 prescriptions to cure different diseases. Each prescription was some form of alcohol.

Doctor Emmonds has already been arrested.

UNION WOMAN DEAD

While Visiting in Pendleton Is Stricken With Pneumonia

While visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Lou Spangler, of Pendleton, Mrs. J. McCurry of Union, Ore., died this morning at 8 o'clock. She became ill with pneumonia shortly after her arrival ten days ago and could not shake off the disease. Funeral arrangements will not be made until the arrival of a brother. Besides Mrs. Spangler, deceased is survived by another daughter who lives in Helena, Montana.

OPEN UNTIL 9 O'CLOCK.

Because Portland and other towns are keeping the registration books open until 9 o'clock tonight as a last, and dying, breath appeal for more voters to register, County Clerk Wright announces the books will be at the Security Land & Savings offices again this evening. Last evening a force was maintained for over two hours and in that time a mere handful, some 30, came in to register. Hoping that the unregistered voters will recognize the need of preparation for the primary vote, the clerk's office has consented to keep the books open again this evening. After today it will be too late and on primary day you will wonder why people scowl at you when you complain about not being registered.

There are about 7000 voters and the total now registered is approximately 4400.

WANT G. A. R. MONUMENT.

Committee Appointed to Solicit Funds for Proposed Memorial

A movement is under way for the erection of a monument in memory of Grand Army Veterans and to be placed in the G. A. R. section of the Masonic cemetery. It is intended that a committee appointed from the Grand Army Camp and the Women's Relief Corps will make the selection of a site at the cemetery within a day or two. The proposed monument is expected to cost between \$100 and \$150 and the amount is to be raised by popular subscription. Those who have the subscription lists in charge are G. W. Allen, representing the G. A. R. and Mrs. Violet Morgan, representing the W. R. C.

PLOWING IS DELAYED.

Abundance of Moisture Retards Farm Work Near Island City.

That the Grande Ronde river when jammed and backed last winter, so moistened the fertile area around the Blockland and Pierce ranches that spring work is seriously delayed, has been developed by repeated efforts to begin plowing in that vicinity. For a time the river was backed up last winter over a large strip of territory, and it now appears that the overabundance of moisture is slow in leaving.

Further out, near the Sandridge, farming is on in full swing, but not so near the river.

AUCTION SALES TO BE OPENED

SALES TO BE CONDUCTED EVERY TWO WEEKS.

First One Set for Next Saturday at the Fair Grounds.

To inaugurate the custom of the middle and eastern states by holding Auction Sales every two weeks, is the mission of Colonel Ed Stringham, auctioneer, and today he announced that the first Market Day or Auction Sale will be held in the La Grande Fair Grounds next Saturday beginning at 1 o'clock sharp.

In speaking of the new system of exchange and interchange of live stock, machinery and any other kind of wares Col. Stringham said:

"This is to be a permanent feature every two weeks in La Grande. All over the Grande Ronde valley people have articles they do not need and would like to either exchange them for something else or turn them into money. That's my mission, and I have engaged the fair grounds of La Grande for this undertaking. Every two weeks on Saturday at 1 o'clock the auction block will be opened and everything offered will be run over the block. I will charge but a light commission and will guarantee the square deal to all."

All goods or articles may be listed at the Observer office or listed with Col. Ed Stringham at any time prior to the sale. When the sale begins on Saturday afternoon proficient clerks will be on hand to properly care for the records and besides giving a medium of exchange for all commodities offered it is intended to make this a meeting point for all ranchers and stockmen of the valley every two weeks.

Has Sold Ranch at Haines.

Leander J. Ferguson has sold his farm near Haines and is preparing to turn over the possession of the property to the new purchaser. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, who have been living on the place the past year or more, have no plans yet fixed for their future place of residence but they will remain in La Grande for a while.

IMPERATOR'S ATTACK FANS SEA QUARREL

POSSIBLE THAT NOTE TO BERLIN MAY BE DELAYED BY INCIDENT.

BERNSTORFF MEETS THE 'PREMIER' AT 4 TODAY

Final Conference Held Between President and Secretary This Noon—Communication May Reach Berlin Thursday or Friday. Possible the Dispatch May Be Delayed Some.

Washington, April 18.—President Wilson will appear tomorrow before the joint session of the House and Senate to declare what action he proposes to take on the submarine controversy with Germany. The joint session is called to ratify the note.

Washington, April 18.—President Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing held a final conference at 10 o'clock this morning over the latest submarine note. The communication is expected to reach Berlin Thursday or Friday.

Officials pointed out that the attack on the Russian steamer Imperator, wounding an American, is an alleged abuse of the law.

Ambassador von Bernstorff arranged for conference with Secretary Lansing at 4 this afternoon. The note was read to the cabinet meeting today. Afterwards it appeared possible the note might be delayed.

SHOP MEETINGS GROW.

Bad Weather No Hamper to Attendance—Singing and Talks Interest

Increased attendances and greater interest marked the second day of the religious services conducted during the noon hour at the Palmer mill and O. W. shops during the first half of Passion Week. At the Palmer mill today the attendance swelled to about 125 or 130. Rev. Tichner of the Baptist church was the speaker at that place. Songs were sung with the same enthusiasm as prevailed yesterday, and despite a heavy downpour of snow and rain, the meetings at both points were highly successful.

At the shops this noon twice the number of men who attended yesterday today listened to the second noon-day services. Songs were sung heartily and Rev. Ford of the Christian church spoke along the Passion Week program adopted for the occasion. More than 50 were present at the shops today and the meetings are certain to finish with a big spurt just prior to the community services Friday afternoon.

SUMMERVILLE MAN WEDS.

E. F. Combes of Summerville Married to Mary E. Leslie.

Yesterday afternoon E. F. Combs, mail contractor between Imbler and Summerville, was married by Justice A. C. Williams to Mary E. Leslie of Palmer Junction.

They will make their future home in Summerville.

OLD VETERANS ILL.

Three G. A. R. Members Precariously Ill in This City.

Comrades Deal and Shaffer of South La Grande, and Canfield of the North side, are three G. A. R. veterans who are dangerously ill. The first named is suffering with Bright's disease. Mr. Shaffer with cancer and Mr. Canfield with general breakdown. Mr. Deal has been taken to the hospital.

FILING DAY NEAR.

Constable and Justice Candidates in Race—Close Tomorrow.

Tomorrow the lineup of candidates for county offices will be completed. Among the eleventh hour candidates who have filed is A. C. Williams who seeks Republican re-nomination for justice of the peace. John Oliver has filed against I. W. Faulk for constable.

Portland Capitalist Here.

J. E. Cronan, president of the Bank of Ione, and head member of the Cronan Land and Loan company of Portland, was in La Grande this morning and went out on the branch line where he has business interests to look after.

OLD GUARD OFFICERS FOR REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.



LAFAYETTE GLEASON

WILLIAM F. STONE

Old guard Republicans who were in command in the last Republican National Convention have been chosen temporary officers of the coming convention. The sub-committee, on arrangements of the National Committee, has selected Senator Warren G. Harding of Ohio, as temporary chairman, Lafayette B. Gleason, of the old guard in New York, as temporary secretary, and William F. Stone of Baltimore, as sergeant at arms.

TWO BUILDING PROJECTS SURE

SOMMER STORE BUILDING WILL BE REMODELED.

Lease With O. W. for New Wholesale House on Elm and Jefferson Closed.

Construction of the new wholesale warehouses and offices for the La Grande Grocery company on an up town site, has now been assured after final signing of leases, which was delayed for a time. C. B. Miller, architect, has the plans and specifications in hand, and now that the site is assured, G. L. Harrison, manager of the company, announces that construction will begin within 30 days. The building will be 108x110, and will face on Jefferson diagonally across from the M & M company upon what would be the southwest corner of the block bounded by Elm, Jefferson, Fir and the railroad tracks. The building is to be complete in every detail, and patterned after the latest designs of wholesale houses. This will bring that firm several blocks farther west, than the prevailing location.

At the same time that negotiations looking toward a long-time lease from the O. W. for the wholesale house were closed, comes the announcement that extensive improvements are to be made at once on the Sommer building, occupied by Silverthorn's Drug store and other firms.

Mrs. Rosa Rosenthal of Spokane is the owner of the Sommer building, and the object of her visit from Spokane to La Grande is to make improvements and changes in the Sommer building on the corner of Depot street and Adams avenue. According to Mrs. Rosenthal's present plans the building is to undergo some extensive improvements all of which are to be on modernized lines. The up-stairs portion of the structure is to be remodeled entire, with new interior furnishings and the entire building is to be supplied with furnace heating which will also necessitate many changes in the basement. An architect of Spokane will do the work of inspecting the structure as it now is and then prepare the plans for the changes considered desirable to make the building complete and up to date in all respects.

RAIN HINDERS PORTLAND SHOW

PARADE AND GAME POSTPONED TODAY.

Weather Permitting Festivities Will Be Held Tomorrow.

Portland, April 18.—Rain did it. The big parade to open the baseball season on the home grounds between Portland and Salt Lake, had to be postponed. So was the game. The 20,000 fans were ready to break coast league records—but it rained.

Weather permitting, the parade and other celebrations will be held tomorrow.

DOCTOR IS ILL.

Union Physician in Critical State from Appendicitis Attack.

That doctors are not immune to appendicitis is shown by the fact that Dr. L. R. Bryan of Union is quite ill at the hospital. He has undergone an operation for appendicitis but is not passed the danger mark as yet.

"John Doe" Is Elected

Elysian, Minn., April 18.—Some practical joker placed the name of "John Doe" on the ballot as a candidate for Justice of the Peace. There was not a great deal of local interest in the election and "John" was elected at the polls. Now Hizzoner can't be found.

Auction Undelivered Presents.

Minneapolis, Minn., April 18.—Santa Claus may play a return date here. There are more than 200 dainty packages wrapped in filmy tissue paper and labelled "Merry Christmas," that remain undelivered because of wrong addresses on them. The postmaster may decide to auction them off, unsight and unseen.

Mexican War Veteran Dies.

Salem, Or., April 17.—M. H. Brown, who served as a private in the Mexican war of 1847, as well as in the Civil war of the '60s, died in the Salem hospital Sunday, aged 87 years. His wife died several years ago and he is survived by no children.

KAISER HITS FRENCH HARD ALONG MEUSE

PROTRACTED ARTILLERY FIRE PREPARES FOR DASHES BY FIVE DIVISIONS.

SOME TRENCHES TAKEN AND PRISONERS SEIZED

Verdun struggle Continued Again with

Violent clashes from the East of the Meuse to Douaumont Road—German Bodies Carpet Ravine Over Which the Charges Were Made.

Paris, April 18.—Germans from five divisions, aggregating 100,000 men, participated in yesterday's violent attack east of the Meuse, the morning communique stated today. The Germans penetrated the trenches north-west of Douaumont but French counter attacks partially ousted them.

Attack Violent and Long. The attack was violently staged along a front from the Meuse to the Douaumont-Ornes road. For 12 hours terrific gunfire prepared the way for the assaults. The first onslaught delivered the ravine south-east of Popper Heights.

Many times the Germans were swept forward and piled in bloody confusion against the French trenches. Shrapnel swept the ranks and the wooded slopes and the ravine were carpeted with corpses.

Bodies Choke Passage.

Dead bodies choked the gorge below. Defeated there, Germans attacked the flanks. A division marching southward from the West bank of the Meuse came under the fire and retreated. The heaviest blow was delivered on the east flank.

Two divisions were hurled into Chaffeur and Alblain Woods. Concentrated fire beat the first losses, followed by the heavy bayonet fighting.

Turks Push English Back.

London, April 18.—General Lake has reported that the British lines were forced back in fierce fighting with Turks south of the Tigris. Moslems recaptured some of the territory hitherto lost.

1700 Prisoners Taken.

Berlin, April 18.—Important French positions north and northeast of Verdun were captured with 1700 prisoners it was announced today. Works south of Houdremont farm, and 700 yards of trenches on the heights northwest of Thiaumont were taken.

Deathlist Is Five

New Haven, April 18.—Five are known to be dead and 31 injured, three of them seriously, as the result of a rear-end collision between the Giltedge express, and a local train on the New Haven railroad at Bradford last night.

The cause of the wreck had not been determined at noon.

Cargo of the Appam Auctioned Off. Norfolk, Va., April 18.—"One bag of coffee, undamaged by shot or shell. What am I bid?"

The cargo of the famous Appam, the British liner, which, commanded by a crew of Germans from the phantom Treston raider Hoewe, sailed over the seas and brought the smoky breeze of war to the shore of the United States February 3, today was disposed of at auction by the United States marshal.

The proceeds of the auction will be turned over to the federal court to be held until the prize court has determined whose property the Appam properly is—Germany's or England's.

Under the hammer, to the highest bidder for cash, went the following articles, originally consigned from the African East coast to England: 727 casks of palm oil, 19,804 bags of cocoa, 6,509 bags of kernels, 839 bundles of pisavva, 28 casks of shea butter, 3,755 bags of cottonseed, 4 bales of potash, 3,418 bags of maize and corn, 1 bag of coffee, 12 casks of rubber, 424 bags of copra.

Bidders were present from New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore as well as from Norfolk.

Lieutenant Hans Berg and German Consul E. M. Von Schilling have put in a claim for the cargo.

When the Poll Is Called at St. Louis.

Lincoln, Neb., April 18.—W. J. Cronan is a candidate for delegate-at-large to the Democratic national convention in today's Nebraska primaries. It is regarded certain that he will be named, though he has paid little heed to his own candidacy during the campaign, devoting all his energies to the nomination of the dry Democrats for the state offices and delivering sledge hammer blows at the liquor interests generally.