

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- PRINTS THE NEWS THE DAY IT HAPPENS

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LA GRANDE, OREGON.

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 1916.

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FRENCH CLAIM BIG GAINS IN VERDUN FRONT

SHARP DENIAL COMES FROM BERLIN IN FACE OF THE ALLIED ASSERTIONS.

PARIS ENTHUSIASTIC AS NEWS REACHES THE CITY

Fourth Convoy of Russian Troops Arrives in France—Trenches by Hundreds of Yards Reported to Have Been Taken—End of Verdun Campaign Said to Have Been Accomplished.

German press dispatches and cables from Paris this afternoon deny and claim advantages in the Verdun battle which the allies say are the beginning of the end of the Verdun campaign. In the face of flatfooted statements that French gain hundreds of yards and made brilliant advances, Berlin declares that no ground was lost, admitting terrific fighting however. The denial however doesn't mention Deadman's Hill. Further substantiation of both the claim and the denial will likely be needed before the truth of the situation becomes known.

Brilliant Gains Told Of. Paris, May 2.—French captured 550 yards of German trenches southeast of Douaumont, and 100 prisoners late yesterday, it is officially announced. It is also announced today the French captured 1000 yards of trenches, and advanced nearly 600 yards at Deadman's Hill Saturday.

Great enthusiasm is heard here. The statement is taken to mean the German drive against Verdun is definitely checked and it is believed the Verdun offensive has passed into hands of the French.

West of the Meuse there is incessant artillery fighting.

Several Steamers Sunk. London, May 2.—Thirteen were lost in the sinking of the British steamers Agoua and Nasturtium, the admiralty has announced.

Germans Deny Losses. Berlin, May 2.—Fierce attacks south of Douaumont, Caillotte forest were completely repulsed after hours of hand to hand fighting, it was announced today. It is claimed Germans maintained all positions.

Fourth Convoy Arrives. Marseilles, May 2.—The Fourth convoy of Russian troops arrived here today.

STOCKMEN CONVENE. First Day of Conventions in Baker Sees Large Attendance.

Baker, May 2.—With an attendance of close to the 300 mark and the wives and members of their families bringing the total in attendance to double that number, the third annual convention of the Cattle and Horse Raisers association got under way yesterday and all are unanimous in the opinion that it is the best meeting in the history of the association.

The first influx of the visitors arrived Sunday evening when the Prineville delegation and members from Pendleton and intermediate points arrived in special cars on east-bound train No. 18. They were met at the depot by Baker members and taken to their various stopping places. Yesterday morning the others began arriving by train and autos and by noon practically all were here, although late arrivals were struggling in during the afternoon and last evening.

Baker is in holiday attire to greet them and the business houses are making special efforts, with the result that some very appropriate, timely and excellent window displays are in evidence. Every effort is being made to show the visitors a good time.

The members showed their appreciation of the efforts of Wm. Pollman, president since the association was organized largely through his efforts, by returning him to office with a unanimous vote, of which Mr. Pollman spoke in appreciation, although declaring his willingness to pass the honor on to some one else. William Doby, treasurer, and S. O. Corvill, secretary, were recipients of the same measure of confidence and appreciation on the part of the members, both being unanimously returned to office. W. H. Daugherty of Portland was elected first vice president and Geo. Russell of Prineville second vice president.

At the court house addresses of welcome were made by Mayor Palmer in behalf of the city, Booster Meacham in behalf of the Commercial club and Judge Anderson was the spokesman for Baker county. Response was made by Hon. Walter Pierce of La Grande.

ANNUAL CLEANUP STARTED TODAY

FIRST LOADS HAULED AWAY TO THE DUMP.

Citizens in General Have Co-Operated With Officials in Cleaning Up Yards.

Annual transfer of rubbish from city property to the city dumpgrounds began last evening with the hauling of the initial load and this morning teams were dragging away load after load of rubbish and filth. Citizens on the whole have co-operated willingly with the city officials and have been diligent about piling up the rubbish and placing it where the city teams may pick it up during the present week.

The city hauled away 87 loads during the Spring cleanup last year, and after surveying the field this week City Manager Lafky and Street Superintendent Hendricks have come to the conclusion that the "tonnage" will be increased this year.

The Neighborhood club is very anxious for all citizens to promptly leave information of any uncleaned lots both in the business district and residence part—in the former area to the Commercial club and in the latter to the civic committee members of the Neighborhood club.

The appeal is to have everyone assist in every possible way to make La Grande as clean as a whistle this week.

"Get after the vacant lots" is another slogan. Utilizing such property for gardens is a desirable way of keeping weeds down.

CHINESE SUCCEUMS.

Oriental Passes Away After Attack of Hemorrhage of Lungs.

"China Sam" for a time proprietor of a Chinese restaurant here, and for many years a La Grande citizen, died late yesterday afternoon of hemorrhage of the lungs. He was 60 years of age.

The funeral will be held from the Henry Undertaking Parlors tomorrow at 2 o'clock.

TIMBER OWNERS HOLD MEETING

ANNUAL SESSION BEING CONDUCTED HERE.

Government Agents, Millmen and Private Owners Confering.

Timberland owners, millowners, government agents and others are in session in La Grande this afternoon to conduct the annual meeting of the Union-Wallowa Counties Fire association. President George Palmer is presiding and it is expected that enlarged plans to co-operate for further protection against forest fires will be part of the afternoon's business. Several forest supervisors are here in view of the fact the government, individuals and corporations combine for patrol duty, communication lines and other weapons of defense against fires. Aside from the mill and timber interests of the immediate vicinity, the following are in attendance at the meeting which took up at 2 o'clock this afternoon:

F. A. Elliott, state forester, Salem. Norman Jacobson, a representative from the U. S. District Forester's office, Portland.

W. W. Cryder, supervisor of the Umatilla National Forest, Pendleton. J. M. Schmitz, supervisor of the Wenaha National Forest, Walla Walla.

N. J. Billings, deputy supervisor of the Wallowa National Forest, Walla Walla.

G. E. Hayden, East Oregon Lumber Co., Enterprise.

S. A. Pursel, Union.

Jonas Trump, Wallowa county warden, Promise.

John G. Wray, Wallowa county patrolman, Wallowa.

NEW LAKE MANAGER. ✓

E. W. Wallington Becomes Head of Hot Lake Sanatorium.

After having active management of Hot Lake for a few years, Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Tape are to leave Hot Lake, and Oregon. Dr. Tape goes to Portland tonight to return Tuesday and then leaves with Mrs. Tape for Los Angeles to spend a month. After that they return to La Grande and then go east for an indefinite period of travel.

E. W. Wallington, connected with the business end of Hot Lake during the Dr. Phy regime, and who has been at the Lake for a time, becomes the new manager of the institution.

Curry County Lists 1079 Voters.

Gold Beach, Or., May 1.—The total registration in Curry county, as compiled by County Clerk Stannard, shows 1079 voters, being 293 women and 786 men, divided as follows: Republicans, 693; Democrats, 341; Socialists, 28; Progressives, 24; scattering, 15. The total vote of the county is now about 1500, making a little better than two thirds of the vote now registered.

DIPLOMATIC DEADLOCK IS CERTAIN OVER MEXICANS

Conference This Afternoon Certain to be Without Result--Embargo on Arms

Douglas, May 2.—An embargo on arms and ammunition is effective here today. Shipments to Carranzistas are prevented.

El Paso, May 2.—After receiving final instructions from Washington, Gen. Scott stated a second meeting with Obregon was scheduled for this afternoon on the American side of the international bridge at the immigration station.

The instructions confirm statements the conference will have no power to decide future movements of American troops in Mexico and there will be no immediate withdrawal of the expedition.

Deadlock Seems Certainty. Gen. Scott will advise Obregon Washington has refused to consent to discussion of withdrawal. Obregon is expected to politely decline to discuss anything else until the withdrawal question is settled. Then the conference must adjourn deadlocked.

Further Diplomacy Taxed. Obregon has said he would report the whole situation to Carranza and indicated failure of the conference will result in further diplomatic exchanges and not military operations. A break is considered unlikely.

Intervention interests are still busy along the border trying to induce a situation to make intervention inevitable.

Armies Near Each Other. Mexican and American armies are inactive and at some places only a few miles apart. There are now 17,000 Americans in Mexico and Gen. Funston is confident the Americans could hold out indefinitely against a larger force of Mexicans, taking the offensive if desirable.

F. L. MEYERS IS NAMED. Designated by Governor as Member of Fruit Committee.

Salem, Or., May 1.—In compliance with requests of people desiring to improve Oregon fruit conditions, Governor Withycombe has appointed a state-wide fruit committee. Its principal purpose will be to aid in raising funds to be used in perfecting organizations in unorganized sections of the state. This organization work will be done in co-operation with the Oregon Agricultural college.

"By definitely organizing the fruit sections, both as regards growers and selling agencies, it will be possible for Oregon to come under the new federal government plan and reap its many advantages," said the governor in announcing the committee. "The government plan contemplates a uniform contract system throughout all the fruit growing districts, which in effect will permit organized selling to protect the interests of the growers without conflicting with anti-price-fixing regulations. In my opinion the biggest reason for the failure of western fruit growers to realize maximum profits from their industry is their lack of organization, and this step toward co-operation should be enthusiastically encouraged in every quarter."

The committee is composed of the following: J. C. Ainsworth, Portland; Charles A. Brand, Roseburg; Leslie Butler, Hood River; A. H. Carson, Grants Pass; H. L. Corbett, Portland; Edward Cookingham, Portland; E. D. Cusick, Albany; W. D. B. Dodson, Portland; J. C. Holt, Eugene; L. H. Hodges, Portland; George Johnson, Dufur; F. H. Madden, Central Point; H. B. Miller, Eugene; F. L. Meyers, La Grande; David F. Morrison, Portland; J. M. Poorman, Woodburn; C. A. Park, Salem; A. R. Shumway, Milton.

Organization of the committee appointed by Governor Withycombe to aid in massing the apple producers of Oregon into a body to co-operate with the growers of adjacent states to handle the marketing problems, will take place this week probably. At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce trade and commerce bureau and Oregon development bureau tonight the

committee to represent the chamber will be chosen. It is expected the call for the organization meeting of the entire committee will be issued tomorrow.

TWO SUSPECTS RELEASED. Early Morning Search Fails to Reveal Stolen Articles.

The two suspects held in the Island City postoffice robbery have been released. Last night search warrants were obtained by the authorities to search certain premises but no arrests were made, no evidence to prompt such a move, being unearthed.

"I" CLUB TO PARADE. High Association Will Present Industrial Parade This Week.

Plans for the Industrial parade are practically completed, and will be announced in the Observer tomorrow. The "I" club, an organization composed of men of the student body who have earned their letter in some line of athletics, are promoting the parade and are working hard to make the event a headliner. The merchants are responding to the idea with enthusiasm and with very few exceptions are advertising through the medium of the parade. Further announcements will be made later.

Wasco County May Vote Bonds. Salem, Or., May 1.—Advices have been received by the highway department from The Dalles Chamber of Commerce that Wasco county has not yet abandoned the plan to vote bonds for the completion of the Columbia highway through that county. The highway department had agreed to appropriate \$90,000 for the construction of the Mosier link if the county votes bonds, and recently the commission was advised that there were no prospects of the county issuing bonds.

Huge Egg Seen. A hen's egg that measures 7 1-2 inches in circumference one way and eight the other, was sent in from the Lee Childers farm this morning and is being held at the Pattison Bros. store is a curiosity of the first water.

TRIAL OF THESE STIRS ALL PARIS.

Paris, May 2.—The trial of the two men charged with the assassination of the Russian czar and his wife, which began today, is expected to be one of the most important of the year.

The trial is being held at the Palais National, and is expected to attract a large number of spectators.

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RUSSIA WILL CONTINUE DRY

VODKA SALES WON'T TAKE UP AFTER WAR.

Czar Approves Prohibition Bill Now Before the Russian Duma.

Petrograd, May 2.—Russia will continue "dry" after the war, so far as vodka is concerned. The limited sale of beer and light wines will be permitted. The bill for both prohibition and limitations has been introduced in the duma and its passage is assured. The czar and his advisors approve it. Finland is not included. "It is forbidden to produce alcohol for vodka," says the bill, "or to import alcohol."

Alcohol production for mechanical and medicinal purposes is authorized only by the government. Its sale, except by the government, is prohibited. The order against production will include individuals, even though their product be only for their own household consumption. The sale of beer and light wines will be prohibited except in towns. Local councils may prohibit it altogether. The government also will limit the percentage of alcohol in both beers and wines.

Woman Breaks Leg. Milton, Or., May 1.—Mrs. J. F. Smith, of Milton, broke both bones in her right leg last Thursday afternoon while riding on a load of hay when a wheel came off the wagon and she was thrown to the ground.

ELKS TO JUNKET. Will Invade Union Friday Night With Band and Bards.

Next Friday evening, beginning at 5 o'clock, there will be a general exodus to Union of a bunch of Elks. The Elks' band will head the procession and will be followed by a string of automobiles carrying boosters in general and the "Barrier" berds in particular. A band concert will start things off; then comes a street parade and finally the show, it to be followed by a dance. The Horse show at Union is to be the host and part beneficiary of the cash receipts.

GERARD BACK AT EMBASSY. CONFERENCE WITH KAISER PROMPTS REPORT.

While German Reply Is Ready, Al-most, Secret Message Comes.

BY CARL W. ACKERMAN. Berlin, May 2.—Ambassador Gerard arrived today in Berlin from a visit to the kaiser at the front. The German reply to President Wilson's demands has been completed with a few alterations to be made in the test, but there are no changes in character. It probably will be cabled to Washington tonight or tomorrow.

The American embassy has received a message explaining President Wilson's interpretation of several points of international law involved in the note. The United States ambassador has cabled to Washington a long report immediately after returning from a conference with the kaiser. Whether it contained private messages from the emperor to President Wilson is unknown. It is officially stated nothing has occurred to materially change the situation since Wednesday.

CONVENTION DRAWS. Over Two Dozen Women Go to Walla Walla Lodge Conclave.

Lady Maccabees to the number of more than 30 from La Grande will attend the district convention of the order at Walla Walla. About two dozen left this morning in a group for the convention city and another delegation headed by District Organizer Mrs. Cross will take departure this evening. The reason for the delay on the part of some is the reception tonight to members of the B. of R. T. who are going to attend the national convention of that order in Detroit. By the time all have reached Walla Walla, about 30 will represent La Grande. It is one of the biggest turnouts the lodge has ever seen that far.

The deputy national commander will be present and the La Grande ladies are to have important parts to play in the initiation and ceremonies. Among those who left this morning were Miss King, Mesdames King, (Lady Commander here) Kimmel, Mackey, Woodell, Bert Carr, Hamilton, Spencer, Stanfield, Gore, Prior, Masterson, Day, Charboneau, Nelson, Ladd, Stephenson, Porter, Olvey, McNish, Steward and McDonald.

BISHOPS' PLUM SOUGHT. Washington and New York Eyed by Methodists.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y., May 2.—Just where the bishops will be assigned for the next four years is a subject of keen interest at the quadrennial session of the Methodist General Conference here today. Interest centers about who will be sent to Washington as successor to Bishop Cranston. Washington and New York are the most desired locations. It is believed the Washington "plum" will go either to Bishop Luther B. Wilson of New York, or Bishop William Fraser McDowell of Chicago. Bishop Wilson, however, may be returned to New York, where he has accomplished so much for Methodism, and Bishop McDowell may go to Washington. Dr. McDowell is vice chancellor of the Methodist University at the capital, and he is a close friend of Bishop Cranston. If Bishop Wilson is not returned to New York, the next incumbent likely will be Bishop McDowell or Bishop Frank J. McConnell, now resident in Denver. Dr. McConnell was consecrated only four years ago. Until then he was pastor of New York Avenue church, Brooklyn.



No. 1—Dr. Lombard.

No. 2—Dr. Labord.

Forty-seven persons, some of them very well known and heretofore believed to be patriots, are now on trial in Paris on the charge of having sold "medically unfit" service papers. Among them are Dr. Lombard (No. 1)

and Dr. Labord (No. 2). They are accused of having sold these papers at from 20 to 1,000 francs to persons who wanted to shirk military service on the ground of ill health. Drs. Lombard and Labord were said to be the

chief instigators. The latter was recently given a medal of honor which he persisted in wearing in the prison dock. Seven women were among the prisoners. They were defended by Mille, Germaine.